

a reduction by death and removal of 119 members, out of 589; on the other hand, 21 were admitted for the first time, and 62 from other congregations. From year to year, three-fourths of such congregations are exposed to these fluctuations; the members are constantly changing, and before a minister's influence can be adequately felt by them, or before they can be made really useful to the Church, they are often removed to other places. This wandering and unfixed condition, especially of the working classes both in England and in Scotland, has done much to deteriorate their religious character. In the ups and downs and inconveniences of a vagrant life, family and personal religion is frequently neglected, and habits of religious indifference are contracted, which often lead to the shipwreck of faith altogether. We know of no agency that acts with more fatal effect against personal religion in the manufacturing and commercial cities of the mother country, than the uncertain tenure of employment, and the consequently unsettled condition of a large circle of the population. From a different cause, the same fluctuations are found in our Colonial cities and churches, and have here equally injurious effects. It often happens, that young men delay uniting themselves to any church, and keep themselves aloof from Christian fellowship until they form settled plans or obtain permanent situations, and in this way their piety becomes deteriorated, and former religious impressions become defaced. To correct this evil, it would be well to direct the attention of Christian emigrants to the temptation to which they are in this respect exposed, and ministers should be careful to impress upon all who remove from their bounds the duty of uniting themselves with a Christian church immediately on arriving at their new place of residence.

But to return to our report. We find connected with this church a Congregational School in which a liberal education is provided for boys, of whom there are 112 in attendance. This is an indispensable appendage to every well-conditioned church in England. The Young Men's Society is another feature which we would notice, and which is very generally found in all the large congregations in England. This society makes no pretence of being unsectarian, as the common phrase is. It is strictly Congregational, and its efforts over and above those for the improvement of its members are directed to promote the welfare of the church. This is an Institution well worthy of imitation. Much as we admire Young Men's Christian Associations of a general kind, we by no means think that they are substitutes for Congregational Young Men's Societies, or that their tendencies, either personally upon the members themselves, or generally upon the circle of society which they influence, are so beneficial as societies of a Congregational kind. Young men may do much under the regulated organization of a Congregation to stir up one another to faith and to good works, and may find many ways by which the interests of religion may be advanced by their endeavours. The Report also informs us of Sabbath Schools well conducted, a Clothing Society for the poor very efficient, and above all that which we regard as a peculiar excellency—a Congregational Mission.; not a Missionary only, but a *Mission*; a domestic mission—a mission to neighbours dwelling in heathen darkness—the aim of which is to preach the gospel to the poor. In connection with this Mission there are a Lay Missionary, a devout, pains-taking man,—a Visiting Society of 17 ladies and 2 gentlemen, who visit the district weekly from house to house, comforting the sorrowful, administering to the wants of the perishing, rescuing the young from ignorance, irreligion and infamy—a Mother's Meeting in an efficient state and doing much good—a Bible Meeting on Wednesdays, in which the Epistles to the Romans and Ephesians, with the books of Isaiah and Daniel, were gone through—a Sabbath evening service, with a separate service for the children of the Sunday School—a Day School prosperous and efficient, with a regular at-