

that they are beyond the reach of the ordinary parish ministrations and an attempt was made two or three years ago to influence them by a mission specially intended for their benefit which, so far, has been attended with very great success. A chapel has been opened in the very middle of the district, and the difficulty which is too often found in inducing the very poorest to enter into the house of prayer has, to a great extent, been overcome. The congregations at the daily morning and evening services are very considerable, and on Sundays the chapel is always full. But the preaching of the Gospel is not the only benefit which the Mission has conferred on the district. The clergyman in charge of it, the Rev. Mr. Robins, to whose energy and discretion much of the success which has attended it may be attributed, has recently established what, for want of a more specific name, must be called an "Institution," which comprises within itself the various features of an orphan refuge, a needlewoman's home, a working man's Club, besides other minor objects such as a soup-kitchen, Bible-class, &c. :—

In the middle of Clare-market, in what is called the Colonnade, he has rented a row of old shops, and here, under one roof, may be seen at work all these different forms of practical philanthropy. The exterior differs in no way from the humble aspect of the surrounding houses. except that round the basement stories a series of Bible texts have been painted, expressive of the object of each portion of the Building. The interior fittings are of the plainest description, but plain though they be they are luxury itself to those whose only other home would be a doorstep or a dry arch. At one end is the Orphans' Refuge which occupies the site of two old shops. Here is provided accommodation for twenty-five orphans, who are boarded, lodged, and in some cases clothed and educated. Fifteen of them are boys picked off the streets in every stage of hunger and wretchedness, rescued from their temptation, often probably just on the eve of falling into a life of crime. After due probation of their honesty and steadiness, situations are found for them as errand boys and the like, and some few have been sent to sea. At the Refuge they are provided with all their meals, and at night each has his neat little bed in the dormitory above. Those who have time attend the evening-school attached to the chapel, and an ample library of useful books is provided for them in the good sized, airy apartment, which from a potato warehouse has been converted into a comfortable sitting-room for their common use. Each pays a small sum, according to his wages, for his maintenance.

It is with this part of the undertaking that there has been the most trouble. The vagrant habits which boys contract in a wild life on the streets are not always so easily shaken off, and in some cases it has been found impossible to keep them steady to a course of regular employment. On the whole, however, the results have been very encouraging, and the graitude shown by the boys generally is something remarkable. Mr. Robins reports that the humanising influence of such a home and the kindly treatment they meet with tells upon them at once, and even their very features become softened and improved. In one of the rooms are lodged