

when they attend at all, of some denomination of Protestant Dissenters, Presbyterians, Methodists, Baptists, or of Bible Christians.

Although I did not hear of any case of gross cruelty, I did hear of many cases of ill-treatment and hardship. A girl complained to me that "for temper" she had been sent to bed on Saturday afternoon and kept there without food till Sunday evening: a mistress told me that she had kept a girl on bread and water for three days for refusing to admit that she had stolen five cents: a master I ascertained had horse-whipped a girl of 13: I found the marks of a flogging on a boy's shoulders, the flogging having been inflicted a fortnight before: in reply to my question, "Why did you leave your former place?" the answer would very often be to the effect, if not in so many words, "I couldn't manage to please them; they were always scolding me; they used to beat me; I was very unhappy." The number of such cases that are unnoticed because not visited are, I fear, very considerable. It is very often said, and I have been assured with great confidence, that there is ample security against the ill-treatment of children in the watchfulness and sympathy of neighbours. Against gross, notorious ill-treatment that may be true. But I certainly was not prepared to find, in the face of such assurances, so many cases as I did in which people directed my attention to facts which they thought I "ought to be made aware of," but always with the condition that I was "not to mention their names," "I wasn't to bring them into it," they "didn't want to be making ill feeling between neighbours," and so forth. Even in the case of an accident which they thought Miss Rye ought to know of, three different persons in telling me of it, requested me not to refer to them. It was the case of a very nice little girl who had had the sight of one eye destroyed by the careless use of fire-arms by the children of the family. The neighbours were strongly of opinion that some compensation ought to be made to the child by her employers, but not one of them, so far as I could learn, had moral courage enough to inform Miss Rye or the other "legally constituted guardians," so that inquiry might be made as to whether it was a case for compensation or not. So my attention was often directed to cases simply by the remark, "I guess you ought to visit" so-and-so, or "that Rye child at——— has a hard place of it." Very often I failed to find the slightest ground for such insinuations, but occasionally they were fully justified.

There is one result, to which I have already referred, limited, I regret to say, as to numbers, of this system of emigration that may be spoken of with unqualified approval, that is, the adoption into families of very young children. The mere fact that people of good character apply for a very young child to adopt with a view to bringing up gratuitously as their own is in itself some guarantee that the child will be well done by. And well done by these children certainly are. I visited several, from children adopted into the families of gentlefolks to those adopted by small hard-working farmers, and I may say that without exception their condition was in all respects most satisfactory. From the very circumstances that lead to their adoption, to fill an empty place in the family, they are objects, as might be expected, of unusual affection. I could give striking illustrations of this that came under my own observation. It is enough, however, to say that that class of Canadian homes is the most perfect realisation of the principle of boarding-out that can be well conceived, and so far as these children are concerned Miss Rye and Miss Macpherson deserve the highest credit for originating such a method of placing out very young children, as do the ladies who represent them