

means to smooth their pathway through life. Each Conference could make a special work of caring for the little ones. Too often it seems almost a hopeless task to make an impression on some people, hardened as they have been by adversity and at war with the world, because of its apparent want of sympathy, but with the children our efforts will generally meet with better success."

We are pleased to note that in devising means to replenish our treasuries, nearly all the conferences have adopted the poor-box in the churches. This is a method now generally in use in the old country, and which was strongly recommended by the General Meeting of the Society held in Washington in 1886, as the safest and the best means of obtaining money for the poor. It was then reported that this plan had always worked well when it had been aided by earnest and periodical recommendations from the pulpit. It was pure charity, and whilst it supplied the Conference with funds and relieved them of much trouble and anxious uncertainty as to the means of keeping the treasury supplied, it was also free from all objections that might be alleged against some methods which might bring reproach upon the Society. This opinion is borne out by the experience of one of our city conferences, which reported last year that the box collections had for several years been sufficient to keep up the funds without having recourse to any of the other projects usually adopted—charity sermons, lectures, pic-nics—and that the members of the congregation had become accustomed to the poor-box and contributed regularly. This was no doubt due to the action of the pastor who constantly kept drawing the attention of the congregation to it as a means of complying with the precept of charity.

While speaking of the funds of the Society, a few remarks upon the necessity of keeping faith with our benefactors may not be amiss. A considerable portion of our resources consists of gifts from friends not members of the Society, and sometimes not even members of the Church. This money is given with the understanding expressed or implied, that it be devoted to the general purposes of the Society only. It would therefore be an abuse to apply it to any other object, however legitimate or meritorious. Last winter the President of the Council was asked by the Secretary of a recently established Conference if two well-known institutions were needy. The reply was both

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