

Mission Work in Griffintown.

So far as attendance at the services is concerned, this has been the most encouraging winter your missionaries have known. Not only has the attendance, especially on sabbath evenings, been *large*, but what is better, it has been *regular*. The renovations recently made in the building have done much towards brightening our services—more, perhaps, than some people would have imagined. A piano, presided at as hitherto, by Miss Christina Johnston, has been used in leading the service of praise; but we still feel the need of a choir. In all well organized mission stations, the ministry of song has been found to be an important evangelistic agency, and we should therefore be delighted if musical members of the congregation would come to our assistance. We cannot help feeling that as it is, and long has been, the congregation leaves this mission work to be carried on too much *by proxy*. The fact is surely a striking one, that immediately after Jesus had bidden His disciples pray the Lord of the harvest that He would thrust forth laborers into His harvest, He turned, and, as it were, bade them answer their own prayers. "Behold," he said, "I send *you* forth."

City mission work demands great faith and patience. There are so many exhibitions of the spirit of which our Model, (Himself, the perfect city Missionary), complained in His own ministry—adherence for the sake of the loaves and fishes—that it requires constant watchfulness to avoid doing harm while attempting to do good. Thanks to the thoughtful kindness of many of the congregation, we have again been placed in a position to relieve much actual distress, especially during the cold weather; but in some cases, we would have felt inclined to afford assistance in some less humiliating form than that of fuel and clothing, were it not for the almost unmitigated suffering inflicted on helpless children by the iniquities of their parents. While not unmindful of the teachings of Him who has revealed the Father's kindness, even "to the evil and unthankful," we are still of the opinion that the truest kindness is that which gives a needy man *employment*; and we sincerely