

## Conclusion.

OUR simple annals are ended, and we give them as the best exponent of the operations of the Society, and their results so far.

When the Mission at the Five Points was commenced, no thought of the publicity which has since attended it was anticipated by the ladies, who quietly and unobtrusively attempted the experiment. They believed its success to be possible, because Christianity had wrought moral miracles in foreign heathen lands, and could and would effect the same, if properly and patiently brought to bear upon the heathen of a nominally Christian land.

When Mr. Pease was appointed by the Conference to aid them in carrying out their long cherished plans, they pledged themselves to raise nine hundred dollars a year for his salary, which was paid.

Being dissatisfied with him as an agent and missionary, the Board unanimously resolved not to ask his reappointment to that station, and the Rev. Mr.

Luckey succeeded him at the commencement of the second Conference year. Finding their progress impeded by want of room, and relying upon the public sympathy which had been warmly manifested, they called a public meeting at Metropolitan Hall, in Dec. 1851, at which Anson G. Phelps presided, and Francis Hall was acting Secretary. The large sum of five thousand dollars was raised at that time, for the purpose of obtaining a permanent location.

By this time the Five Points Mission had arrested so much attention, and awakened so wide an interest, that the Common Council of the city voted the appropriation of one thousand dollars towards the purchase of "the Old Brewery," which had been decided to be the most eligible place; and to aid the Society still more in their contemplated purchase, another public meeting was held, in the winter of 1852, in the same place. At this meeting the Mayor of the City presided, thus recognizing the Mission as a public benefit, and nearly five thousand dollars was again pledged. This general sympathy from all classes and denominations gave a new impetus to the Society, and enabled them to form wider plans, which have since been carried into successful operation.

The experience of four years has taught us that the

idea of drawing off the population of the Five Points through the agency of any institution is chimerical in the extreme; both because of the numbers who compose its population, and their unwillingness to enter into any plans which would restrain their liberty. In a vast majority of instances they cling to their own homes with a tenacity which is truly astonishing, when we consider their wretchedness. We desire to take advantage of this *fact*, and by Christianizing those homes, to kindle lights throughout these dark regions, and teach by the *contrast* they present, that "godliness is profitable to all things, having the promise of the life that *now is*, and that which is to come." As we might missionaries in foreign climes send away their converts to Christian lands to save them from the influences around them. Do they not rather retain them as one of the strongest evidences of Christianity? Do they not say that the influences of these purified family relations are of incalculable benefit to the mass around them?

The Society have no controversy with any institution, but are perfectly willing that such an one should exert all the influence it can over the limited number it can shelter. The work of this Society is still untouched; for theirs is the high ambition to send

abroad an influence which shall re-ovate the Five Points. Their design is, to visit the sick, to relieve the poor, to clothe the naked, to educate the children, to warn sinners to flee the wrath to come, to lead the penitent to an atoning Saviour, and never to consider their work complete until renewing grace has transformed these degraded outcasts into obedient children of the living God. The Mission has been made public, the eyes of the Church and of the world are upon it, and it is our hope and continual prayer, that through it God may give a demonstration which may be seen and read of all men of what His grace can accomplish, in raising the fallen, purifying the degraded, and saving the lost.

We have already spoken of the plans which, with increased means, we hope to carry out. We hope, when the debt on our Mission House is liquidated, to erect a back-building with more tenement rooms, where poor families can cultivate the virtues of cleanliness and sobriety—rooms where work can be given to the industrious—a hospital where the sick can be removed from low damp cellars, and where all needful care can be taken of the suffering body, while the wants of the undying soul are not unheeded; and a reading-room, made inviting by light, and warmth, and pleasant

books, and kind words to those who have no cheerful friends or happy homes.

These are some of our plans for elevating the condition of these people, and we would tremble at the magnitude of the work which seems demanded of us, did we not cherish the hope, that when the true aim and object of this Mission is fully known; when the clouds which misrepresentation and misconception have caused to obscure our true purpose and design, have been dissipated by the light of truth, and the evidence of facts, too striking to be misunderstood—that then the Christian Church of every name, and philanthropy of every mode, will gladly aid us in carrying out this grand experiment of love and mercy

THE END.

