

DC Pam 126

Further Particulars

May be obtained by a perusal of

"THE DARKEST ENGLAND SOCIAL SCHEME

—a brief *Review of the first year's work.*" 192 pp., profusely illustrated. Price One Shilling, of any bookseller. This little volume is a fascinating sketch of the various developments of this scheme. The Balance Sheet is appended. (See page 30.)

FIFTH EDITION. 200,000.

"In Darkest England and the Way Out."

By GENERAL BOOTH.

Of all Booksellers. Price, Bound, 3s. 6d.

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Hatton Garden, London, E.C.*

What is Being Done

BY THE

"DARKEST ENGLAND" SOCIAL SCHEME.

INTERNATIONAL
HEADQUARTERS OF THE SALVATION ARMY,
101, QUEEN VICTORIA STREET,
LONDON, E.C.
CHRISTMAS, 1891.

H.204a

What is the "Darkest England" Scheme?

THE "Darkest England" Scheme is the Social Work carried on by the Salvation Army—so called because first made widely known by General Booth's book, "In Darkest England, and the Way Out." It aims at rescuing from their wretched condition of poverty, crime, and despair the "submerged" or "drowning" portion of our population.

The Scheme is tripartite; that is, it has three chief divisions—each division having again many sections, branches, and links. These three divisions embrace three distinct provinces of the work, and are called—

- (a) THE CITY COLONY.
- (b) THE FARM COLONY.
- (c) THE OVER-THE-SEA COLONY.

The friendless and unemployed man, having first been got hold of by the City Colony, through the Shelter or the Labour Bureau, is drafted to a Factory, where he may earn enough to support himself; thence, after a time, he is either sent out into permanent employment or transferred to the Farm Colony. Now his industrial education is carried a point further. Working on the land or in some industry established on the Colony, he may fit

What is the "Darkest England" Scheme? (Continued).

himself for future honest labour, either at home or at the Colony over the Sea—that is, a settlement in some British Colony, to which he will be sent on proof of reformation, and where he will be aided, counselled, and guarded until he is enabled to maintain himself permanently.

The Scheme aims at giving every man, no matter how destitute, three things—(1) a chance to work; (2) a hope of better circumstances if he will work; and (3) the sympathy and love of men who have proved the power of the Gospel of Christ to elevate and to save.

Every man, irrespective of condition, character, or religion, is eligible for admission to the benefits of the Scheme (so far as space will allow) on the single condition that he is willing to work and will obey orders.

On the next page is given a conspectus of the chief kinds of Salvation Army Social Institutions which are already in vigorous action. A list of these Institutions, at home and abroad, if given in detail, would exhibit over 170, of which nearly eighty have sprung into existence since the publication of the General's book in November, 1890.

A few years' advance, with similar strides, would do much to bring the remedy abreast of the evil.

Names of Branches or Departments of Work Now in Operation.

1. Cheap Food Depôts.
2. Night Shelters and Sleeping Homes for Men and Women at 1d., 2d., or 4d. each night.
3. Factories for the "out-of-works."
4. Labour Bureau or Exchange for the unemployed
5. Poor Man's Metropole.
6. Prison-gate work. Home for ex-convicts.
7. Organised resident house-to-house work in the Slums.
8. Rescue Homes for Women.
9. Inquiry for the lost and missing, and those exposed to moral danger.
10. The Household Salvage Brigade.
11. The Poor Man's Advice Bureau.
12. The Farm Colony. Agricultural work.
13. Do. Brick-making.
14. Various industries, Match-making, etc., etc.

Cheap Food Depôts.

These Depôts have been established at
 WHITECHAPEL. BETHNAL GREEN.
 POPLAR. MARYLEBONE.
 DRURY LANE. BRADFORD.
 LEEDS. BRISTOL.

Meals are supplied from one farthing each to fourpence. Nutritious and well-cooked food can always be had and in the smallest quantities. To those who have only a few pence left in the world, the difference of a halfpenny on a meal is a momentous matter. We seek to make the money of the poor go as far as possible.

During the year the following meals have been supplied:—

250,000	free of charge.
96,955	at one farthing each.
1,097,866	at one halfpenny.
1,161,727	at 1d., 2d., 3d., and 4d. each.

Total, 2,606,548 separate meals of cooked food.

The articles of diet chiefly purchased are soup, bread, boiled puddings, rice, potatoes, tea, coffee, and cocoa.

Many thousands of children who would otherwise go to school without food obtain a *farthing breakfast*. Men and women out of work are enabled to procure sustaining food at the minimum of cost. Mothers of families who work at home, and cannot find time to cook without loss of pay, are able, at these depôts, to purchase at extremely low prices suitable cooked food for their families, and thus save cost of fuel as well as loss of wages.

Food is only given away during very exceptional distress, and then only in exchange for tickets distributed by the clergy, ministers of all denominations, and Salvation Army officers.

Shelters for the Homeless.

PROBABLY 50,000 people in London alone are without homes; such live in common lodging-houses. Those lodging-houses, or doss-houses, as they are called, are centres of degrading influences, nurseries of vice, and frequently of crime. Every homeless wanderer who comes down to their level of penury, soon comes also to their level of moral, social, and physical filth.

As a first step in raising this class of nomadic unfortunates, the Salvation Army has provided Shelters of three classes:—

(1) *Shelters* which provide a clean mattress and bunk and covering, with bread and cocoa for supper and breakfast, at *fourpence per night*.

(2) *Shelters* which provide the mattress and bunk and covering, without food, at *twopence per night*.

(3) *Shelters* in which, for *one penny a night*, a homeless man may have a seat and rest for his head and feet in a dry room. If he be without even that penny, he can earn it by chopping wood on the premises before he takes his rest.

In all these places a short, bright meeting is held every night. Officers who desire to help the men to better lives are always present. Hundreds of men have thus been benefited.

In the two former classes there is provided ample washing accommodation. Discipline is easily preserved. The best of feeling generally prevails between the inmates and the officials of the Shelters, who are, it should be observed, men and women who have devoted themselves to this work for Christ's sake only.

Shelters for the Homeless (Continued).

These Shelters have been established in—

WHITECHAPEL.	CLERKENWELL.
SPITALFIELDS.	BLACKFRIARS.
Do. (Women).	LISSON GROVE.
POPLAR.	LIMEHOUSE.
WESTMINSTER.	LONDON DOCKS (Mint St.).
BETHNAL GREEN.	BRADFORD.
LEEDS.	BRISTOL.

The total accommodation of all classes is 3,674 per night, including 250 women at Spitalfields.

A large number of men and women, by these Shelters, have been extricated and permanently elevated in habit and circumstances. Some 300 have been put into good employment. Others have been returned to their friends. Many have been helped to tide over some passing cloud of calamities, and have thus escaped the threatened degradation. Superior quarters are provided for the men when they have so improved in circumstances as to be able to pay for a comfortable bed in a cubicle, at 6d. per night. Four of these Institutions, which are called "Poor Men's Metropoles," are already in operation in Southwark Street, Drury Lane, Bethnal Green, and Spitalfields.

From the most hopelessly idle and drunken some have become sober and honest; others are gradually retrieving their circumstances—working their way up as hawkers, costers, sorters, or collectors of rubbish and waste. Nearly 1,000 have been passed into our Factories and Workshops, with a view to preparation for the Farm and Over-Sea Colonies. The Shelter is the first round of the social ladder.

The Army desires at once to open Shelters in other large provincial towns. Local friends who are

Shelters for the Homeless (Continued).

prepared to raise or subscribe the first cost should communicate with the Secretary, 101, Queen Victoria Street, London.

A gentleman's coachman from Ireland, who has sunk so low as to carrying boards at 1s. 2d. a day, is a different man since he came to the Shelter, Clerkenwell, and will soon retrieve his position in life.

W. T., a poor sick fellow, with matted hair and doubled up with pain, was thrown out of his situation as a stoker through a strike; lost his health, and got into the streets. Has been sleeping in the open air a fortnight at a stretch, and many a time gone without food for two days together. He is very thankful for the care and kindness shown him at the Shelter.

T. B. has been coming to the Shelter for three years. Has been a hard drinker, and had spent nearly fifteen years in prison. He heard some of his associates speak so well of the Shelter that he came himself. He is now in the employment of a greengrocer whom he robbed some years ago. He is so changed and become so sober that his employer is able to trust him again.

Another man had been living on the streets for six years. He was robbed of his little savings in a Westminster "doss house." Then he slept for some time in a corner called the "Dunghole," near St. George's Barracks. He is now in the Shelter, and promises well.

Factories or Elevators for the Workless.

THE "Darkest England" Scheme goes upon the principle that if a man will not work neither shall he eat, and, *vice versa*, that if he will work he shall eat. But how if there be no work to give your would-be worker? To meet this difficulty the Factories have been established, and need to be greatly extended.

Every man who enters a Factory comes on the understanding that he receives only food and shelter for the first four weeks, and must, so long as he stays, if unmarried, live under our oversight at the Lighthouse—the special Night Shelter used by men who are on this the second round of the ladder. He is paid at first in twopenny tickets. Four of these entitle him to three full meals and a bunk at the Lighthouse. A twopenny dinner-ticket is usually good for soup, potatoes, and bread. As soon as his sectional foreman announces that his labour is worth more, he is put on "full-value tickets," viz., breakfast and supper, threepence; dinner, fourpence; and a dormitory ticket valued at twopence, fourpence, or sixpence, according to circumstances. This last will depend partly upon his department and cleanliness.

Factories for the Workless

(Continued).

Part of our work is to create ambition! Some men seem as if they would never be able to earn much more than their lodging and their twopenny food tickets, and never care to try! Still, even to these, grants of a few shillings are made now and again to encourage them, and to stimulate them to further efforts.

Many of the men coming into the Factories have been taught trades, or at least so far taught as to enable them to earn a livelihood.

Among the men passing through the Factories during the twelve months have been members of almost every known trade and profession. They trace their fall to every conceivable cause; but drink—either their own drinking or that of others—gambling, and crime have been the chief, though not the only, instruments of their destruction.

The total number of men received into the Factories during the year was 2,080. Of these there were:—

Placed in situations	...	...	...	352
Transferred to the Farm Colony	...	...	...	291
Temporarily assisted	...	...	...	857
Sick and to Hospital	...	...	...	75
Dismissed	...	...	...	183
Now in the Factory	...	...	...	322

Factories for the Workless

(Continued).

As an illustration of the practical and permanent advantage of the Factory, take the following story of one of the above men. J. was a cabinet maker, in good work a few years ago. Trouble, with a worthless wife, crushed heart and manhood and hope out of him. He left home and wandered away, sleeping under hedges, and living the life of a mere animal. When hunger drove him to us, he was— Well, read our overseer's report on him!

“His square, well-set frame was giving way, to an alarming extent, under the pressure of slow starvation. His jet-black hair, now turning grey, was hanging in clotted locks over a neck that was simply black with encrusted filth. His clothes were not worth an apology for such. As we drew near him the smell was almost suffocating, and our eyes caught sight of one of the most objectionable realities of living rottenness that it is possible for decent people to conceive.”

He was cleansed, set to work, cheered, encouraged. In six months he had worked up to our highest class, and had provided himself with tools and clothes from his reserve fund. Best of all, he had roused to fresh interest in life, found an excellent situation, and went to it with high hopes. He is doing well.

Labour Bureau or Exchange.

THE loss to the country from the fact that there exists no prompt means of bringing together work that needs workers, and workers that need work must be enormous. The advertisement columns of the newspapers are a poor makeshift, especially in the country towns. Thousands of men out of employment to-day will lose a fortnight's pay while hunting up situations which they find the employer has been wanting to fill during the whole of the time had they but known it. Therein is a great loss to the nation and a great peril to unemployed. What is wanted is a

National Labour Exchange.

Our Labour Bureau, considering the novelty of the effort, the natural hesitancy of employers to give us their names, and the want of experience, at any rate at first, of our staff, has been a great success, and has demonstrated what could be done with time and care. We are at this moment organising an extension to the whole country of the plans only as yet put into operation in London alone.

We have registered employers and unemployed persons as follows:—

Employers asking for men ...	774
Employers asking for women ...	671
Unemployed men... ..	14,130
Unemployed women	1,567
Temporary employment obtained for	3,758
Permanent employment obtained for	925
Total found employment... ..	4,683

Many of those employed temporarily were afterwards permanently engaged, and others were, through the medium of their temporary employers, immediately engaged by others.

Labour Bureau (Continued).

The following are selected from hundreds of cases in which the Bureau has rendered valuable service to men in utter despair as to getting employment:—

F. A.—Destitute, with wife and new-born infant on account of Dock Strike, sold home bit by bit. Applied to Bureau: sent to Factory and wife to friends. Situation as Boot Repairer at £1 per week.

M. I.—Out of employment 5 months and in debt for rent, etc. Applied to Bureau: commencing salary at outside situation, 25s. We have a very grateful letter from this man.

H. B.—Young man, aged 21, from Canada, unable to find any work. Applied at Bureau: work obtained for him as Clerk at commencing salary of 15s.

J. H.—From Bristol. This man had undergone 15 years' penal servitude for attempted murder. We sent him hop-picking to a S.A. farmer, where he was converted and obtained employment in the locality. We have a characteristic letter of thanks from him.

T. R.—A married man, with a large family, from Kent, came to us in a state of destitution, in arrears with his rent, etc. We offered him temporary work at board-carrying. After a while we got him a permanent situation with a farmer, where he is getting on well.

F. C. B—, Esq., writes us:—"... I am anxious to express my acknowledgments of the thoroughly complete manner in which you executed my order for board-men. I found them all in their place, and I am sorry to say that they were all very respectable men, and I trust better work will soon reach them."

Work Amongst the Criminals.

MEN who are discharged from prison after serving either long or short terms of imprisonment are in the vast majority of cases placed in a most hopeless position. If they do not return to their old associates, it is all but impossible for them to obtain employment. They are, of course, without character, generally without sufficient clothes, and frequently in a very unsatisfactory condition of health. The result is that they do return to their former companions and generally find their way back to prison again.

The object of the Salvation Army is to set before such men a door of hope, and briefly the following are the means adopted:—

(1) Prisoners are met at the doors of the London prisons on their discharge, and, according to their wish or circumstances, they are dealt with thus: Some are brought into the Home for Criminals; others are drafted into the Labour Factories at once, and thus put in the way of earning an honest living immediately; and a third class are helped temporarily while their friends are communicated with, and a new start in life is thus obtained for them.

(2) The ex-Prisoners' Home has proved itself to be very necessary, especially for those who have been long in prison and have all but lost hope for themselves.

(3) As soon as the men have proved themselves to be really willing to work and anxious to do right, situations are obtained for them, where they are watched over, as far as possible, by the Salvation Army, and made to feel that we are concerned for their future well-being. This element of personal interest is the most powerful means towards their permanent deliverance.

Work amongst Criminals (Continued.)

In addition to the above, we have been enabled to help *first offenders* on their appearance in the Police Courts, especially in the Metropolis. The condition of the *young*, when arrested for their first offence, is pitiful in the extreme—much more so if they are guilty than if they are innocent.

In a few cases first offenders have been sent to us instead of to gaol, and we have been so successful with these that we are hopeful of being able to extend this work.

The following figures show the number of criminals that have passed through "The Bridge," our first London Home, since it was opened at the beginning of this year:—

Number of prisoners received from gaols	...	205
Number sent to us by Magistrates or other Judicial Authorities	...	6
Number of the above placed in situations with a new start in life	...	86
Number left the home of their own accord	...	62
Number dismissed	...	23
Number in the home	...	40

The following cases will illustrate the character of the work accomplished:—

A— was born at Forest Gate, Essex. He had a good religious training, but was a wild lad, got into bad company. Drink and gambling followed; then, to raise money, thieving and housebreaking were resorted to. He never had been in a Salvation Army meeting but once, then was drunk, and knocked one of the soldiers through the panel of the door. Was a real out-and-out Devil's servant. Entered the Home after leaving prison, on February

Work amongst Criminals (Continued).

4th; has been employed as cook there for several months. Has given every evidence of a change of life.

When B—— came out of prison had not a friend in the world but his poor heart-broken wife. Better let him speak himself. He writes us on 11th May, and the following is an extract:—

"I feel it my duty to inform you that I have been offered a situation and have accepted the same. I do not know how to properly express my gratitude for the kind helping hand that has been held out to me. I came out of prison a *poor, sin-cursed, down-trodden wretch*, with not a friend in the world beside my wife, who took me down to '36.' I saw the Colonel, who took hold of my hand and said, 'I want to be your friend and help you.' Never shall I forget the 'Bridge' that carried me over, and I shall always look back with pleasure and gratitude to the time I spent in the Social Reform Wing. Quite well do I know that, as it were, you created work for me when there really was none; but what was more than all, you trusted me and made me feel I was a man. May God bless you for it.

"I shall have about fifty men under me in my new place, and I am sure I am entering on the work to do it to the best of my abilities, and I mean to carefully seek God's guidance in everything that may turn up."

One poor fellow our officer met the other day at the prison gate said, "Oh, sir, if God had not sent you along to have taken me by the hand I should have had to walk the streets of London and starve, or gone back to that or some other place of its kind. I have not a friend or a penny, but thank God for the Salvation Army!"

Prisoners' Home Illustrations.

J—— had robbed his employer, but escaped prosecution, and came to the Bridge. His parents were very respectable, and he was well educated, but was led into sin by love of dress and appearance. He is only twenty-five years of age. While in the Home he was saved, and is now an Officer in the Clerkenwell Shelter.

H—— was admitted to the Bridge after completing his term in prison of one month for maliciously wounding. A married man, with four children, he was brought down into poverty by drink. He became cook in the Home, was saved, and is now cook at Whitechapel, and lives a consistent life as a Christian.

E—— had godly parents who gave him good schooling, but he was wild, became associated with bad companions who led him into drink and gambling, and soon landed him in prison. On his discharge he was met by S.A. Officers, and taken to the Home. Here he was saved, and is to-day working for the Salvation Army at Stanhope Street.

[*War Cry*, Nov. 7, 1891.]

_____, Governor of one of Her Majesty's Prisons, writes:

"Thank you very much for your letter announcing the safe arrival of _____, and also the kindness you have shown in taking him in. I have communicated the news to the Recorder, before whom he has often been tried, and also one of Her Majesty's Judges, who express the greatest satisfaction, and hope that you may succeed in this sad case, where all existing agencies have signally failed."

Inquiry after the Lost and Missing.

TO the poor, who cannot afford to pay for an advertisement in the "agony column" of the daily papers, this Department is a valuable friend; especially to parents who have lost a daughter, and to others who have lost all trace of relations, perhaps for years, and to those who do not know how to rescue from her surroundings some innocent girl who is in moral danger. The Police—always full of work—who must necessarily give the preference to cases where crime is involved, are becoming year by year less able to find the lost who are not criminals, especially, as is often the case, when the lost ones do not desire to be found.

Our Department has been most successful in this work. The very large circulation of our newspapers—the *War Cry* especially—in all parts of the globe is alone a medium for circulating and collecting information which is invaluable.

During the year now closing 2,354 inquiries for lost persons have been addressed to the Central Offices of this work, 259, Mare Street, Hackney, and there have been 600 lost persons found.

The following cases will illustrate the kind of work accomplished:—

A mother wrote a short time ago to tell us that she believed her daughter, who had been getting on in a good situation, had been led away, and drifted to London. Would we find her? An

Inquiry after the Lost and Missing *(Continued).*

officer speedily set to work. On reaching White-chapel, the destination she was thought to have gone to, street after street was looked through, till the girl was found standing outside a coffee and lodging-house for single men. The officer, of course, brought her away, and gave her a few days' shelter, and certainly no time was lost in letting the mother know of her safety. Better than all, she was convinced of her need of a Saviour, and it was not long before she sought salvation. A situation has since been found for her.

We ever remember the "mother's girl" traced in to the public-house. After a long search in several towns, there she sat in front of a public-house bar or fire, surrounded by evil-looking companions—men and women. What could we do to touch her heart? How was the noise of the laughing and jesting to be interfered with? At last the right opportunity came. The girl coming aside, our officer pulled from his pocket the portrait of the sorrowing mother. "Do you know who that is?" he asked, and, taken unawares, the sudden blush was evidence that memory had not become quite dead. Quickly remorse followed the blush, and tears the remorse. The companions were soon left to themselves, while our officer explained his errand—how that face, behind which was a heart of love, was willing to forgive the cruel pain inflicted, and receive again the rebellious wanderer. Time was not lost in sending her home.

Household Salvage Brigade.

THE collection of waste materials of all kinds, and the utilisation of them, as far as is found possible, forms a valuable feature in connection both with our Elevators—for we expect this branch to employ 500 men—and also with our Farm operations, which will absorb as manure all that cannot otherwise be made a source of profit.

This branch of work is still in its infancy, but we have secured a wharf on the Thames, and large premises at Battersea, and all is now ready for immediate development. Machinery for making tin boxes, etc., is being fitted here also.

The Poor Man's Advice Bureau.

THOUGH there can be no doubt of the truth of the old adage as to the evils of "cheap law," it is well known to any who interest themselves in the sorrows of the poor that they suffer from injustice very frequently simply because they have no one skilled in the law to give them any advice how to proceed, how to defend, or how to assert their rights.

These friendless ones too often fall into the cruel hands of unscrupulous men, and end in losing not only what they ought to have had, but also their savings or little property in costs, and they go to swell the ranks of the submerged.

While dissuading all men from a litigious spirit, the S.A. offers friendly counsel, and if it be necessary, introduces sufferers to competent legal advisers.

The Farm Colony.

THE Farm Colony constitutes the Second Division of the "Darkest England" Scheme. It is recognised that upon the land will be found the most natural, most healthy, and most economical means of restoring the lost manhood; recruiting the physical constitution when it has, through the unhealthy conditions of city life, degenerated; and giving a chance to the moral nature to retrieve itself when removed from the corrupting town associations into the well-ordered Country Farm and ultimately the Industrial Village. As a large percentage of the London outcasts are found to be country-born, these will take congenially to spade and hoe.

To this Farm Colony are transferred, if they desire it, the men who have been proved at the Elevators, and have been found obedient and willing to work.

We have purchased three Farms, amounting to 1,010 acres, at a total cost of £20,000. We have three-quarters of a mile of frontage to the river, which will be exceedingly valuable to us; and as for the land, it is not in a high state of cultivation, but still good land, and thoroughly capable of receiving the labour which we shall put into it. The situation is picturesque and beautiful and healthy. Already we have shelters sufficient to accommodate 300 men.

The Farm Colony (Continued).

The key-note of our farming is that it must pay—that it must work on a sound financial basis. It is no use having the Colony unless it sustains itself, and that is what we mean to make it do. We are in negotiation with several of the London vestries for the purpose of taking refuse down the Thames in barges and utilising it at our Colony. At the Colony the refuse will be sifted—the bones from the rags, the ashes from the bits of wood and pieces of iron. We shall be able to utilise in some way nearly every one of the ingredients. At present the Salvation Army uses every year £30,000 worth of paper. We shall have the rags made into paper, and the bones will go to make manure. We are contracting with a barge-owner to carry the refuse down to the Colony, and here it is that the advantage of our river frontage comes in. We shall build a quay for the discharge of the refuse and for landing whatever else comes to the Colony. At certain times large barges will be able to get close up to the bank, and smaller barges will generally be able to get alongside. A light tramway is to be erected on the Farm for the distribution of all materials, and the Tilbury and Southend Railway Company, which runs through our ground, has promised, if we care, to build us a siding.

The Resident House to House Work in the Slums.

IN order to more effectually grapple with the submerged, the officers of the Army seek out the evil at its sources; that is, they invade the lanes and alleys where the poorest and the lowest dwell, take up their residence in the very midst of them, and visit their homeless homes of squalor and dirt, nurse the sick, relieve the extremity of distress, wash the children, pouring in Gospel hope and comfort all round.

In London and the Provinces there are 43 of these Slum Posts, as they are called, and 70 officers and cadets engaged in this work.

A few figures will show the extent of the work up to January, 1891:—

Families visited in the Slums	...	...	445,729
Public-houses visited	...	...	23,733
Lodging-houses visited	...	...	7,062
Brothels visited	...	...	1,962
Sick visits and nursed	...	...	10,904
Number died while being nursed	...	...	271
Number relieved	...	...	11,733

And to bring this about, women of the purest holiest stamp we can sift from the saints of our Army have passed, by night and by day, through scenes of corruption which have made their souls sick; have knelt night after night to pray by their own bedsides, stopping their ears that they might not hear the blasphemy and obscenity which echoed from courts below their windows, or rang in horrid shrieks along the passages outside their frailty-secured doors.

Slum Work (Continued).

Slum Posts have been established in the following, among other Towns and Districts:—

BERMONDSEY.	DUNDEE.	SOUTHWARK.
BETHNAL GREEN.	GLASGOW.	TIDAL BASIN.
BLACKFRIARS.	LEEDS.	WHITECHAPEL.
CANNING TOWN.	LIVERPOOL.	MANCHESTER.
DRURY LANE.	MARYLEBONE.	NEWCASTLE.
HACKNEY WICK.	MILLWALL.	NEWPORT.
SPITALFIELDS.	RATCLIFFE HIGH-WAY.	NOTTINGHAM.
WALWORTH.	WAY.	PRESTON.
BRIGHTON.	ST. GEORGE'S.	SHEFFIELD.
BRISTOL.	SOMERSTOWN.	WORCESTER.

We subjoin one or two sample cases of the good and successful work done by these slum officers:—

"While visiting in Somerstown our officers found a husband and wife living in a low, damp, ill-lighted cellar. He had at one time been a manager of a tobacconist's, but, through sin, fell, and could get no work. He had been to our Labour Bureau, without success. They had two lovely children. Everything pawnable was gone. The lasses helped, and got them some friends."

"I was visiting," says an officer, "a house in Whitehorse Street. I heard screams above, so I ran up and found a man and woman quarrelling over a paper: it seemed to be their marriage certificate. The woman had seriously injured the man with a poker the night before, so that he could only just get about the room holding on by the table. He told us this, and in reply she pulled a plaster off her mouth and showed us how he had knocked three teeth out for her.

"'I hate him!' she fairly hissed. 'I hate him!' 'And I hate her!' he put in. 'I hate her—I hate her! Twenty-six years I've led this life!'

"My lieutenant and I stopped, oh! so long, and sang and prayed and prayed and sang till they cried and broke down. We never found them fighting any more after that day."

Rescue Work.

FOURTEEN Homes for the Rescue of Women have been established as follows:—

HACKNEY (three).	NOTTING HILL.	GLASGOW.
DALSTON (two).	NORWOOD.	CARDIFF (two).
CLAPTON.	MIDDLESBROUGH.	BELFAST.
STOKE NEWINGTON.	PLYMOUTH.	

Since May, 1884, the total number of girls who have been received or helped is 6,316.

In no department of the "Darkest England" Scheme has there been more gratifying success than in the Rescue Work. Indeed, in no department of social work is there such terrible need for the help of loving hearts and loving hands. The position of a woman who has once forfeited the confidence of her friends by leaving the path of virtue is too horrible to be exaggerated. It is estimated that there are some 70,000 of this class, and we do not think that this estimate is overdrawn. Of these, some—the beginners especially—hug their sin and will not abandon it. But others, who have drunk the poisoned cup long enough to taste its after bitterness, yearn for a way out of the Dark Forest. It is terrible to know how many of these find no place of repentance. Many apply at the door of our Rescue Homes and we are unable to find room, though it is heartrending to be obliged to turn them away.

In this Department a Hospital is greatly needed; and also a Preventive Home and Servants' Home for young girls who are friendless and out of situations.

Nevertheless, the satisfactory number of no less than 1,484 girls were helped this year, of whom more than 1,100 proved satisfactory. 730 of these were sent to situations as domestic servants.

It speaks well every way for the Homes that some two thousand young women who were formerly inmates of these homes are now proposing to found and to support by their own subscription a new Rescue Home for their poor fallen sisters.

Rescue Work (Continued).

This fact by itself shows how lasting and solid has been the social restoration of these women; but it also demonstrates how beautifully they have apprehended the Spirit of Christ, and being saved themselves are now seeking to save others also.

All the women in our Rescue Homes, except the sick, are engaged in some healthy labour—the following industries being in operation:—

A LAUNDRY.	KNITTING FACTORY.
BOOK-BINDING.	TEXT-MAKING.
CHILDREN'S CLOTHING.	

One hundred and eighty-seven devoted women officers are entirely engaged in this divinely social work in the United Kingdom.

Here are one or two cases of rescue from many hundreds which will serve as illustrations of the nature of the work done:—

E. S., age seventeen.—Lost her father when a few months old. Mother died four years ago. Step-father was very unkind to her and her sister, so they left him and went into lodgings. They have worked in a factory since they were about thirteen, and there got hold of bad companions. One of our officers saw the danger they were in, and persuaded them to come into our Home. Both came. One of them has kept her situation three years.

A. C., age eighteen.—Parents are unknown. Is an illegitimate child, and was handed over to a man and his wife to be brought up, a certain sum being paid regularly for her. After a while payment ceased, and the man began to ill-treat her, making her a slave for the whole family. She was utterly neglected and uncared-for, and it was found that the brute who had adopted her had himself destroyed her purity. She has now stayed in her situation over a year, and is rejoicing in the possession of a pardoning Saviour.

Rescue Work (Continued).

Emily, age twenty.—Was brought up by her grandmother, who died four years ago—when she went to a circus, where she became maid to one of the actresses. They wanted her to go on the stage, but she ran away, and has been keeping herself since by selling all her clothes, and then hawking laces on the streets, till one of our officers met her, found out that she was anxious to do right, and brought her to us.

Once entrapped, Mary lost heart altogether, and finding no more energy left to fight against what appeared to be the inevitable, she remained eleven months in a living hell.

Mary's mother had heard nothing of her for a very long time. Often had she watched, waited, and hoped for news, only to receive none! She regretted now that she ever let her child leave her roof, and gladly would she have welcomed her back again. Each night as it came on, during those two long years, with tearful eyes the mother had put her nightdress ready, and turned down the bed, hoping against hope that her child would come home to enjoy it—but still no news.

One night Mary was wandering as usual among the throng of harlots, when a friend put her hand upon her shoulder begging her to turn from her evil life. Instantly her thoughts wandered sadly over the past, and the hope thus given of something better echoed in her heart until she consented to be sent to a Home—a Salvation Army Home.

The sequel is the grand old story. She became reconciled to her broken-hearted mother, and better still, reconciled to her God: "sins of years" have been washed away, and to-day she is comforting all those who have helped her by leading a consistent life as a Salvation Army servant.

Children's Breakfasts.

IT is a startling fact that in the East of London many of the children come to school morning after morning without tasting food; and that insufficient nourishment is the common lot of East End children.

In order to meet in some degree this distressing state of things, a cheap breakfast is provided for 300 to 500 children *each school-day*—that is, five days in the week—at the price of *one farthing*.

This breakfast is substantial, consisting of soup, tea, cocoa and coffee, wheatmeal buns, bread and butter. During five winter months 25,600 of these breakfasts were supplied.

Moreover, these poor little bits of humanity were many of them found to be in rags, or little more, and with only an apology for shoes. This need also was met.

It will be seen at once how great is the magnitude of this, viz., the question of child starvation, not merely touching our hearts with its sadness, but affecting, as it must, the stamina of the future generation.

While we are seeking to recover the parents, we should at least aim at preventing the children from sinking into similar physical wreckage before they have even attained maturity.

Although this branch of work is semi-charitable, it is eminently humane; and in order to guard against indiscriminate giving, every child must pay $\frac{1}{4}$ d. for a meal which costs $\frac{3}{4}$ d., or at the rate of about 6s. per 100.

We conclude with a reminder of your responsibility.

In the words of General Booth ("D.E. and W.O.," page 285):—"To you who believe in the remedy" (*i.e.*, for the destitution) "here proposed, and the soundness of these plans, and have the ability to assist me, I now confidently appeal.

. . . The responsibility is no longer mine alone. *It is yours as much as mine.* It is yours even more than mine if you withhold the means whereby I may carry out the scheme. I give what I have. If you give what you have the work will be done. If it is not done, and the river of wretchedness rolls on as wide and deep as ever, the consequences will lie at the door of him who holds back." How much, then, is needed? "We have carefully calculated," writes the General (page 246), "that with £100,000 the scheme can be successfully set in motion, and that it can be kept going on an annual income of £30,000." It will be seen by the accounts on page 31, that £84,000, has been so far expended in starting the undertaking.

The confidence of those who supplied the money has been justified. The scheme is no longer an experiment. It has been demonstrated to be a success. On this ground we confidently appeal for enlarged funds. The methods used are capable of indefinite expansion, and work equally well on a large scale, and could deal with 100,000 men and women next year as successfully as they have dealt with (say) 10,000 during the past year, if only the requisite means were forthcoming.

The least amount, however, which will suffice to feed our furnaces is £30,000, and this we must have as we are determined not to stop the machinery. We are confident that if our words do not persuade, our acts are conclusively eloquent. God has been using and honouring the Salvation Army. To Him be the glory!

Review

WE heartily commend to the perusal of our readers the attractive and most interesting work just published by the Salvation Army Book Department, 100, Clerkenwell Road, E.C., entitled:—

THE "DARKEST ENGLAND" SOCIAL SCHEME:
A Brief Review of the First Year's Work.

192 pp. Illustrated, Price, 1s. Of all booksellers and Railway bookstalls.

30,000 have already been ordered.

This is a comprehensive and detailed sketch of the work of "The Darkest England" Scheme: its commencement, development, and success during the year which has elapsed since the General published the book called "In Darkest England, and the Way Out."

The Review is charming—its style is readable, its matter well arranged, and it maintains its freshness and force throughout. It is profusely and beautifully illustrated. To it is added a balance sheet and statement of accounts, duly audited by Messrs. Knox, Burbidge, & Cropper, Public Accountants, London and Sheffield.

The Contents of the Book are as follows:

CHAPTER.	CHAPTER.
I. A Book of Beginnings	IX. Love in the Slums.
II. The Homeless and Starving.	X. Rescue.
III. The Labour Bureau.	XI. The Women's Shelter.
IV. In the Elevators.	XII. Help and Enquiry.
V. City Colonies in the Provinces.	XIII. The Advice Bureau.
VI. The Farm Colony.	XIV. "Darkest England" Lights.
VII. The Salvage Wharf.	XV. What Is to Be.
VIII. On Both Sides of the Prison Gates.	XVI. Profit and Loss.
	XVII. Workers Wanted.
	XVIII. The Book in Brief.

Appendix, Balance Sheets, and Statements of Accounts.

What has been done with the Money.

1. The total amount of promises to the "Darkest England" Fund amounted to £115,347 1s. 8d. Of this £7,269 18s. still remains unpaid. In the former amount, £4,884 4s. 9d. represented the nett value of properties handed over to this Fund by the Salvation Army. We have therefore received in cash £103,192 18s. 11d.

2. About £84,000 has been expended in the acquisition of land, buildings, machinery, furniture, fittings, making, with the £25,000 which has been set aside for the purchase of land for the Over-the-Sea Colony, a total of £109,000 expended on capital account.

3. Of the remaining balance, £1,940 was paid in expenses, printing, advertising, etc., in connection with the collection of the "Darkest England" Fund.

The Expenditure may be further divided as follows:—

For the City Colony: Land, buildings (leasehold and freehold), plant, fittings, machinery, stock, etc., £48,000.

Ex-Criminals' Prison-Gate Work, about £900.

Farm Colony, £36,000.

Purchase of land at Hadleigh-on-Thames, Essex (12,000 acres), about £20,000.

Expended on the Erection of Buildings (farm and residential), dormitories, etc., £18,400.

Over-the-Sea Colony (invested for the purchase of land when a suitable site is decided upon), £25,000.

Friends desiring to contribute towards the needed £30,000 should send Cheques or Postal Orders, crossed "City Bank (Social Scheme)," payable to General Booth, and addressed to The Secretary, 101, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.