

The first half hour is devoted to the sale of material, the cutting out of garments by the women themselves, and the collecting of money from them. Then about an hour is passed in the reading and explanation of tracts, and other carefully selected books, after which the work is collected, and a short time allowed for the reading of the Scriptures and devotional exercises, in which the women are encouraged to take part.

"We believe that our Lord's special blessing has rested upon this effort to assist his needy children. Week by week we have felt his overshadowing presence as we have assembled with them, and at our closing Meeting many thankfully testified that they had received there the word of help and comfort for which their hearts were thirsting. We believe also that it has been instrumental in the conversion of souls, and the establishment and strengthening of Christian lives, and that its influence is felt in the homes and neighborhoods in which these women live."

And the Report states-- "The advantage that Mothers Meetings have over other meetings is, that they draw in a class that could be reached in no other way. Whilst religious meetings attract the religiously inclined, the low prices of the material distributed draw in those who feel no spiritual need, and thus they are brought under influence, and the Mothers Meeting becomes the nursery of the Church".

It is now 38 years since the Mothers Meeting was first established, and it is still flourishing and doing its useful work. Some of the women who were among its early members are still in attendance, but many have passed away, and their descendants and relations fill the seats that they once occupied. Many, too, of those who have been children in the Sewing School from time to time drift in as married women, and so the work goes on.

For many years the duty of keeping up this Meeting fell principally into the hands of Mary McCullough and Alice Brooks, but as we are climbing the hill of life, and often less able to attend to our duties than heretofore, we have found kind helpers, and we trust that when we are no longer able to carry on the work, that it will not be allowed to die, as it reaches a class that should appeal to the sympathies of all. The hard worked wives and mothers that stand in the very thick of the fight, weighed down under the burden of cares and sorrows that make life hard and helpless indeed, until they are taught to cast it upon the burden bearer.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Brooks.

Sewing School. South Baltimore.

Until 1862 there was no organized mission work under the care of Women Friends. At that time there were many ignorant colored people from the South who had come to make their homes in Baltimore, and many Friends felt that something should be done to elevate them, and it was decided to start a Mother's Meeting and a Sewing School for