

Money is, as our friend says, hard to get these days; but, on the other hand, it has a much greater purchasing power than it had a few years ago when it was not so difficult of access. This is one phase of the "hard times" which our friends should not overlook. If to day they can only earn a dollar where four or five years ago they could earn a dollar and a quarter, that dollar will procure in nearly all the requirements of life what would have necessitated an expenditure of a dollar and a half, or more, five years ago. The decline in the price of labour has been accompanied by at least a corresponding decline in the price of almost every commodity necessary to the comfort of the average man or woman. We think that not a few people are inclined to forget this side of the question once they are started on that all too seasonable topic "hard times."



JOHN BODGER.

We recently had the pleasure of a visit from John Bodger, who had just returned from England, whither he had been to pay a farewell visit to his sister prior to his departure to the far-off province of British Columbia. John came to Canada in '90, and has spent four years in the neighborhood of Dutton, where he has earned the respect and good-will of a large number of acquaintances. The last two years he was in the employ of Mr. Robert Hine, of Dutton, and his employer's experience of his ability and general trustworthiness was such that when John expressed his determination to go West Mr. Hine kindly undertook to communicate with his brother, a farmer in Frazer Valley, B.C., on John's behalf. As a result our friend goes to the Pacific province with the comforting assurance that a good situation and home await his arrival. John's quiet, steady ways and unobtrusive earnestness are well known to us, and will, we feel sure, bring in his new home as great a measure of success and appreciation as they secured him during his first five years in Canada.

"I have been in my situation for nearly ten years—9th April, 1896. It is the first and it will be the last situation I will have till I settle down for myself."

This is from a letter from our friend, Arthur Williams, a stalwart young farmer at Kars, about to reap some of the fruits of many years' hard, steady labour. When Arthur became 22 years of age, his employer and friend, as remuneration for the previous nine years of service, offered him his choice of \$1,000 or a farm. Our friend chose the latter. A farm was accordingly purchased, "right at the end of my master's, a year ago last spring."

"It consists of 54 acres of as good land as was ever laid out; the land can't be beat. I am raising myself a fine stock. I have one span of horses—have a share in a binder and seeder, which my master's son and I bought together. In fact, I have everything that a young man would want to start farming with. I thank God that He ever put it into Dr. Barnardo's heart to raise a home for children."

Arthur Williams is but one of thousands who have thanked God that He sent them their friend in their hour of need. To what good use Arthur has put the help he received years ago, his letter gives ample testimony. His record from the outset is one of which we are extremely proud. He has consistently adhered to the good resolutions made when leaving England. We now have the sincerest pleasure in offering our very hearty congratulations on the prosperous condition in which he finds himself at the age of 23, and we very earnestly pray that God will long spare him to enjoy the future which is opening before him with so much promise.

Another "little man," of whom we can very truly say he is doing well, is Jacob Singer, whose sturdy and healthy-looking countenance finds a corner on this page. Jacob has stood a two years' test in a manner which leads us to expect great things of him. He is stationed at South Woodslee and is as full of enthusiasm and good spirits as a healthy boy of 12 should be.

Our centre group of portraits this month represents six of our friends whose residence in Canada extends from six to ten years. Each has made good use of his time and has before him a future which we are justified in expecting will redound still further to his credit. Henry and Fred C. White are brothers, who came to Canada in April, 1885. They, too, have not been separated by distance in their Canadian careers, Henry upon his arrival entering the home of Mr. Mulligan, of Millbrook, whilst Frederick was domiciled with Mr. F. Mulligan, a brother and neighbour of Henry's employer. The position of each is that of a member of the family rather than of an employé. Two brothers ten years in the employ of two brothers is a somewhat unique record, but both our friends have striven hard to do their duty, and both have been treated with consistent kindness by their employers. Both have received the long-service and good-conduct silver medal, and we have not the slightest hesitation in declaring that Henry and Frederick will take prominent positions in the community in which they live. As it is, they are held in high regard by all who know them. A bank balance of several hundred dollars testifies to Henry's belief in meeting the possibilities of the future well equipped with the munitions of war.

Thomas G. Wright's nine years' service with Mr. Bird, of Dundalk, has so thoroughly convinced that gentleman of Thomas' abilities and general trustworthiness that he has recently handed over the entire management of his farm to our friend, who is now twenty-one years of age. The responsibility is not a light one, but Thomas is equal to it we know, and we are very pleased to take this opportunity of congratulating him upon his employer's recognition of his faithful compliance with the calls of duty since he first started to "make his way" in Canada.

Patrick Sullivan commenced his career in Canada with a very strong determination to lead an earnest Christian life, and throughout the intervening nine years he has striven nobly and successfully in this direction. As a member of the various societies affiliated with the Methodist church at Alma he takes an active interest in all work of an evangelical or philanthropic character. He is an indefatigable worker in the cause of Temperance, being a member of the Royal Templars. The same earnestness and fidelity of purpose which have characterized his efforts in these fields have been exhibited in the pursuit of his regular daily work, and our friend is not lacking in the riches of this world. In all his efforts we trust that he may ever have the blessing of the Heavenly Father, in Whose vineyard he is a faithful worker.

Charles Harlow has also shown remarkable aptitude for filling a responsible position with credit to himself and profit to his employer. When Charles came to Canada in April, '89, he entered the employ of Mr. Stork, of Pickering. Upon the completion of the term for which he

had engaged, and during which he built up a splendid reputation for himself, Charles continued with the same employer for another year. During this period Mr. Stork received an injury which confined him to the hospital for some time, and the entire management of the farm devolved upon our friend, who acquitted himself in a manner eminently satisfactory to all concerned. Charles only left Pickering in August last to join three brothers who had some years previously gone out to Manitoba. The latest accounts tell of Charles being steadily at work and in receipt of good wages. The long-service silver medal and a substantial balance in the bank are but few of many tokens of Charles' perseverance and industry in Canada. He will do well whether he remains in Manitoba or returns to Ontario. His qualifications are those which always make for success.

Highgate possesses a very promising citizen in the person of Wm. Luke Mills, who has been living in that locality since he came to Canada in 1889. His first engagement was with Rev. Daniel Pomeroy, with whom he remained three years. William possesses a strong tendency to "go ahead." He is a steady worker, and his six years' labours have resulted in a bank balance of more than \$300. He is now twenty years of age, and stout of limb. He has a splendid reputation for steadiness of purpose, and we are much mistaken if before many years have passed our friend is not the proprietor of a flourishing farm. He has our very earnest wishes for the success to which his manly efforts entitle him.

"I am going to try and go to school again this winter. I am trying to make the best of everything as it comes."

These few lines show that Robert Bryan has a large fund of good common sense, and we are not at all doubtful that the "best" he will make of "everything as it comes," will be something "good." Robert is 19, has been here four years, which have been spent in steady attention to work.

"Returned from his first place on account of being 'too small,'" might appear to augur ill for the future of a lad who was hoping to make that future prosperous by virtue of his own exertions as an agricultural laborer. Ominous as the omen was for Charles King when he first essayed life on a Canadian farm ten years ago, he has since proved that first impressions are not always right, and we have in our "too small" friend of 1885 one of the most robust and successful workers in our ranks. In '87, Charles was placed with Mr. Fred. W. Hodson, of Brooklyn, and with whom he removed to London two years later, remaining in his employ until the spring of 1894 when he made an engagement with Messrs. Shore, stock breeders, of White Oak, receiving the remarkably good wages of \$185 all the year round. He later spent a year with Mr. Coxworth, of Claremont. At time of the expiry of this engagement Charles had established a reputation as one of the best cattle-feeders in Western Ontario, and his services were secured for one of the departments of the Agricultural College at Guelph, where he is now employed, receiving good wages and enjoying the good opinion of his employers and his associates. His record is an eminently satisfactory one. From the first he set to work



CHARLES KING.