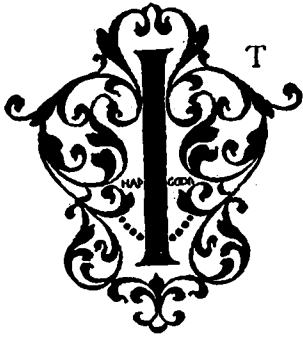


# Memories of Buckenhill



THIS with no ordinary pleasure that we present our readers with excellent portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Phipps, and one or two photographic views of their lovely residence at Buckenhill, Worcester, that has been the home of some of the very best and most successful of our boys in Canada. With the insertion of these illustrations it is incumbent upon us to give some little descriptive account of Mr. Phipps and his work on behalf the boys, and the task would be a very pleasant one if only the writer felt himself less hopelessly unable to do anything like justice to the subject, or to introduce these honoured friends to the readers of UPS AND DOWNS in anything like fitting terms. True he has had the pleasure of the acquaintance of Mr. and Mrs. Phipps, and has partaken of their hospitality, and he could say a great deal as to the respect and esteem with which he regards them and their noble self-sacrificing labour of love; but to convey an idea of what Mr. Phipps, and not less Mrs. Phipps, has been to the large number of boys who have passed through their hands at Buckenhill, and have since gone out into the world; to give any adequate description of the watchful kindness, the solicitude, the generous interest of which each boy has been the object, and still more to form an estimate of the power and influence for good of such a training and early environment in the future lives of the boys, is a task that he confesses himself utterly unequal to. Happily to the Buckenhill boys Mr. Phipps needs no introduction. The name is sufficient to recall the genial personality, the bluff, hearty manner, the kindly, warm-hearted address, the genuine benevolence of disposition that has

endeared Mr. Phipps to every boy who lived with him. As far as our experience goes, we do not believe there is a boy who has left Buckenhill without having learned to regard both Mr and Mrs. Phipps with attachment and affection; and the feeling of loyalty to their generous patrons, and the thought that any failure in conduct will bring discredit on Mr. Phipps, has, in not a few cases, been a restraining and uplifting influence in a boy's life.

But those of our readers who are not old Buckenhill boys will want to know who Mr. Phipps is, and to hear a little about him. He was at one time a leading partner in a very large business in one of the principal towns in the Midland Counties, a county magistrate, and a member of a family widely known, and as widely respected in social, political and business circles in the "Midlands." Several years ago he retired from business, and resolved to devote his time and his fortune to philanthropic work. The unique providential circumstances under which he became introduced to Dr. Barnardo, and was led to associate himself with Dr. Barnardo's work, form one of the most interesting chapters in the history of the Institution. We cannot do more than refer to this here, but suffice it to say, that as the result of a brief acquaintance Mr. Phipps undertook the purchase of a beautiful estate, not far from the city of Worcester, on which, at his own expense, he erected buildings for the suitable accommodation of between forty and fifty boys and for over fifteen years maintained that number entirely at his cost. The boys were periodically selected by Mr. and Mrs. Phipps from those in residence at the London Homes, and they were fortunate youngsters upon whom their selection fell. They generally remained with Mr. Phipps for two or three years, sometimes longer, until the time came for their leaving for Canada, when each young emigrant received a very superior outfit, and was sent forth as well