

UPS AND DOWNS

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ECHOES OF THE MONTH.

18-26 STEPHEN CAUSEWAY,
March 20, 1897.

THE past winter has evidently been a busy time at the Homes, and, if possible, the net has been launched out yet further into the deep. The Doctor's great family "the largest on earth," numbers to-day but a very few short of the marvellous figure of 5,000, all of them being fed, clothed, educated, taught and trained, in equipment for the battle of life. Fresh cases have been admitted at the rate of nearly sixty a week during the last few months, while for the full twelve months of 1896, 2,628 found their way to the sheltering care of the Homes. Verily in the day when the Master "maketh up His jewels," where will there be found in the annals of the world's history of 1896 a grander achievement in the cause of humanity than these figures represent, or a more glorious accomplishment of the mission of Christianity on earth?

Despite the pressure and anxieties of the winter's work, Dr. Barnardo himself looks and seems well, and no whit of his energy and enthusiasm seems to be abated. One is more than ever constrained to regard him as a marvel of concentrated zeal raised up and endowed with powers of the highest order for the fulfilment of his mighty work. We are often asked: what would become of the work without the Doctor? and it is a question that no one who is associated with him can contemplate without grave misgivings; but we can only leave this issue in the hands of Him who, though He buries His workers, carries on His work; and trust that when the time comes there will be found some one equal to the task on whom the mantle may fall.

In the buildings and equipment at the various Institutions, and in the personnel of the staff, there have been comparatively few changes. At headquarters Mr. Fowler holds the reins of authority as governor, in the same capacity as

he has occupied for so many years past. Dr. Milne, the "beloved physician," goes in and out as of yore, and the weight of years seems to tell but little on his portly frame. A great loss has been sustained in the retirement of Mr. Page from the responsible and important post of Chief Cashier, but the place has been filled by the appointment of Mr. Dawbarn, whose face will be remembered as a familiar one to most of our Canadian boys. Mr. Odling still holds the important position of General Secretary, and it must be an immense assistance and comfort to

been doing good work during the winter, and large numbers of both boys and girls have been recruited from Liverpool, Newcastle, Cardiff, Birmingham, and other large centres of population. It has lately been decided to open similar Institutions in four additional places, so that the country will soon be well covered by "Dr. Barnardo's Homes," and their aid brought within reach of every child in the kingdom who finds itself reduced to want and suffering.

Our present party for Canada will leave London on the 25th, so that we shall be rocking in the "cradle of the deep" when this issue reaches our readers. Our passages have been taken in the steamship *Labrador*, of the Dominion Line, and we have every prospect of being well accommodated and taken good care of on board. The *Labrador* is an old and tried friend, and whatever is in store for us between this and our destination we shall at any rate be on board a staunch, well-manned and well-navigated ship. Our party will not be a large one, probably slightly under a hundred and fifty, but larger parties will follow later in the year, and we are looking forward to a busy and successful immigration season.

The news reaches me since my arrival in London of the second reading of the Bill introduced by the Ontario Govern-

ment regulating the immigration of children. As stated in a previous issue, we have no reason to anticipate any undesirable results to our work from this measure, but on the contrary there are many features in which its provisions will strengthen our hands and remove difficulties from our path, and from the path of all those who have been doing honest and rightly-managed work in the same field as ourselves. For the rest—no one could, more than ourselves, welcome any extent to which the Bill proves a discouragement and barrier to those, who however good their motives, are in reality injuring the reputation and jeopardising the success of the whole movement; either by sending out young



HOW DR. BARNARDO IS HELPING MANITOBA—OUR LAST CONTINGENT OF YOUNGER BOYS ABOUT TO LEAVE FOR THE NORTH-WEST, FEBRUARY 16th, '97.

the Director to have at his right hand one so capable and so scrupulously faithful, as well as possessing such a lengthy experience in the work, in its growth and various developments. Mr. Anderson is at present in charge of the large clothing store, having taken the place of Mr. Fell, who has vacated his post on account of ill health. Mr. Manuel is still in his old place at the head of the school. Mr. Longmoor is resident House Master, and most of the old familiar faces are still to be seen, and we hope will remain to be seen for many years to come.

The "Ever open Doors," by which name the branch receiving Homes are known, that have been opened in so many provincial towns, have