

outwardly obedient, orderly and industrious. Most boys become truthful and even candid, partly perhaps because it "pays" but partly also because they learn to look upon lying as mean and cowardly. Boys do improve in every respect outwardly, and it is hard to believe that the cultivation of good outward habits can fail to have a beneficial effect upon the inner being.

The warm interest taken in our work by so many good people is a great encouragement to us to believe that we are really accomplishing something. Where so many have been so very kind it would be invidious to particularize, but it may be allowed me to mention the treat given the boys by Mrs. Cameron, the giver of the cottage which bears her name. Her visit was most heartily enjoyed by all, and the wise words she spoke cannot fail to bear fruit in the boys' hearts. The kind friends who gave the boys concerts, Xmas trees, pic-nics, magic lantern exhibition, musical instruments, baseball outfits, knives, fruit, candies and other presents are so numerous that I cannot well name them all.

*Escapes.*—Several boys have "run away" during the past year. This might perhaps be prevented, but certainly should not be. To make escape impossible would be to turn the school into a prison. There is little virtue in following the right path unless a wrong path lies open. Our school exists for the education of unruly boys, not for their punishment. To teach a boy self-control is in almost every case to make a man of him, for weakness rather than wickedness is generally the foundation of a useless or vicious life. It is better therefore to give the boys every liberty consistent with discipline. It is better that nine boys (after counting the cost) should freely choose to stay and that one should choose to go, than that all ten should stay because of walls too high and bolts too strong to overcome. That this policy is as sound in practice as it is in theory has been amply proven. During the past year more than one-half of our boys have visited their homes for two or three days at a time—Christmas preferred—and if all did not enjoy the same privilege, it was more often the fault of the home than of the boy. On "Children's Day" ninety-three boys were turned out amongst thirty or forty thousand people to wander at will over the Industrial