

UPS AND DOWNS

A MONTHLY JOURNAL PUBLISHED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF DR. BARNARDO'S HOMES.

VOL. I.—No. 6

TORONTO, JANUARY 1ST, 1896.

PRICE PER YEAR, 25 Cents
SINGLE COPIES, 3 Cents.

ECHOES OF THE MONTH.



MERRY Christmas and a Happy New Year to all our subscribers and readers, and to every member of Dr. Barnardo's great Canadian family! We are sending out this issue of *UPS AND DOWNS* earlier in the month than usual in order that it may be in time to reach our friends by Christmas Day, and we hope that it will be a token to remind them of those who, from Dr. Barnardo downwards, are thinking of them at this season of the year, and wishing them happiness and blessing in their Canadian homes. Christmas, all over the world, is a time of reunions and family and social gatherings, and we could wish it were possible for us to have some great big gathering of ourselves together to exchange greetings and revive old friendship. We cannot, however, attempt this more than once a year—the week of the Toronto Exhibition—but we can have a union of hearts this Christmas, and each of us can realize that we are one of a big society, with common experiences—enjoying the same benefits, facing the same trials and difficulties, and with common duties and responsibilities to ourselves and to each other.

Union and loyalty have chiefly been the burden of our song in writing and speaking to our boys, and as our work grows older and our boys grow up all over the country, we see increasingly the need of mutual co-operation—in simpler words, of “sticking to” each other and helping each other. We have the advantage of a rallying point in the personal respect and affection which, I believe, every boy feels for our beloved friend and director, Dr. Barnardo. We cannot think that there is a single boy among our number who would willingly do what would injure Dr. Barnardo or discredit his work. A few may unwittingly do harm to the cause, but there is amongst us a strong and well-nigh universal feeling of loyalty to “the Doctor,” and the old “Home” which was the starting place of the new life, and it is this feeling of loyalty that we would arouse into greater activity, and which we would make a stronger influence in the lives and conduct of our boys throughout the New Year.

We have a horror of “gush” and sentimentality, but we are not gushing when we write of our boys' loyalty to the old Home, and we cannot set before them at the beginning of the New Year a motive, short of the highest of all

motives, that it is more likely to influence them for good than a desire to maintain unblemished throughout the year 1896 the good name of Dr. Barnardo and his boys. We appeal, therefore, to everyone to gird up his loins at the beginning of the year, to put forth more determined effort, to fight harder against all that is not pure and honest and of good report, and to stand together, shoulder to shoulder, for the maintenance among us of all that



THE TOWER BRIDGE, LONDON—WITH BASCULES DOWN.

contributes to true manliness and useful citizenship.

We are not sending our usual Christmas letter to our boys this year, as we are using *UPS AND DOWNS* instead, and, therefore, we must give here the little gentle “reminder” that we generally include in the Christmas letter. It relates to a certain promise made to Dr. Barnardo by each boy who has left the Homes for Canada, to

contribute, whenever it was possible, a certain small sum each year toward the support of the Homes. I am sure that when our thoughts go back to those in the old land, who, while we are enjoying our Christmas cheer, are face to face with hunger and cold and want, and who are spending their Christmas by fireless hearths and foodless cupboards, we cannot grudge to be reminded of this. Dr. Barnardo asks our help to enable him to carry comfort and relief to the needy and destitute, and to uplift those who have fallen; and we, to whom these things are a reality and who can say, “freely we have received,” should surely not be the least ready to contribute our “mite” to the cause which is not only ours and theirs, but is, we believe, of all others dear to the heart of Christ, and worthy the support of those who are His servants.

The record of our work since the last issue of *UPS AND DOWNS* has not been specially eventful. We hear much of bad times among the farmers, and the world-wide depression that seems at present to rest upon agricultural industry is being as severely felt in Canada as elsewhere. None the less, the demand for boys keeps up to its full measure, and even now, in the middle of the winter season there is hardly a post that does not bring letters of application for boys, and if a good-sized party were to arrive to-morrow we should be at no loss to provide for them. Very gratefully we record this, as the fact constitutes the highest testimony to the success of our work and the general good character of our young people.

Letters from and about boys pour in upon us in copious abundance, and our “mail” is anything from thirty to seventy letters a day. We are delighted to hear of our boys as often and as much as possible, and though, inasmuch as the flesh is weak, we have occasionally known what it is to groan in spirit at the sight of great stacks of letters waiting reply and often requiring anxious thought and the exercise of careful judgment, yet letters that bring us news of our boys are always most welcome. We can, in fact, never have too many, and now that the long winter evenings have come, when there is plenty of time to spare, we wish all our boys would write to us and tell us all they can of their doings and surroundings. Bad news of our boys is always sure to reach us, but good news is not so ready to travel. We don't see why this should be so, and we venture even a hint to the employers of our boys that a little