

which was not only partaken of by all the able-bodied staff and inmates, but by a goodly number of old lad visitors, who still appear to have an openly expressed regard for Barnardo turkeys and genuine English plum pudding. Nelson's great war signal, "ENGLAND EXPECTS THAT EVERY MAN WILL DO HIS DUTY," must have appeared before the eyes of sixty hungry young Englishmen assembled around the boards in the old mess room, and the great naval lord himself would have been perfectly satisfied at the manner in which the "decks were cleared" (of turkey), and with the constant call of the young warriors for more worlds (of pudding) to conquer. The evening terminated with a most enjoyable concert, in which the following old-time stars appeared: John Redbourne, Thomas Galpin, Henry Griffiths and Thomas Larrigay, while from the later constellations we can mention Arthur George Green, Edward Carey, Joseph Overton, Messrs Simmonds, Hodgetts, Kilgallen, Cay and Reynolds, as having entertained a very critical audience with great success. The instrumental duets of Green and Carey were much appreciated; Reynolds' deep-toned solos were fine, while Redbourne, the Shoal Lake orator, who is now not only a farmer on his own account, but the father of a fine family, amused the audience by describing the condition of the "School Question" in his part of the world. Space does not permit full justice to other performers, but on the whole the entertainment did great credit to the promoters and artists alike, and will long be remembered as having filled up an enjoyable evening. At high noon a ceremony took place in the Manager's office, some forty youths being initiated into the mysteries of the order of the "Victoria Shilling." As this is a secret organization, it will not be possible in public print to describe the impressive ceremony.

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The following visitors registered at the office during the Christmas holiday, and our readers will be interested, we feel sure, in reading not only their addresses, but the notes taken by Mr. Gray in relation to their present condition and prospects of advancement:—

First on the list is JOHN REDBOURNE, of the year 1891. This young man is farming at Shoal Lake on his own account, has married, and is now the happy father of a young hopeful. During 1896 he grew some three thousand bushels of grain, and although, as he says, it has been up-hill work, he feels that his success as a farmer is now assured. Young reader, go thou and do likewise.

ALFRED WILLASON, 1891, Silver Creek P.O., has been engaged with threshing gangs at good wages all the fall, and says he is never at any time of the year out of work.

FREDERICK MILLS, 1893, is still at Mr. Coulter's, Silver Creek, and it is not necessary to say is giving satisfaction with his work.

GERALD B. JOHNSTON, 1893, has employment with Mr. James Vinnell, of Boulton. Is getting on all right; appears happy and contented.

HENRY GRIFFITHS, 1888, is at present with Mr. McLennan at Minniska. Likes his place well. Says he has had excellent health since he came to Manitoba, and considers his prospects are good.

CHARLES MILLER, 1893, has been with threshing gangs all the fall and made good wages. His address is Seeburn.

THOMAS FERRIS, 1892, gives his address as care of Mr. A. Hall, Binscarth. Says he has a homestead near Birtle. Is in excellent health, and is well satisfied with his condition and prospects.

JOSEPH M. HANLON, 1894, Lidford P. O., is looking well, and expects to take up a homestead in the Spring.

THOMAS WILLIAM GALPIN, 1895, still employed with Messrs. Wallace of Shellmouth,

where he has an excellent place, is in good health and pleased with his prospects.

SAMUEL HACKMAN, 1896, care of Mr. Hugh W. McDonald, has now taken a liking to the country and farming; secured a yearly contract and feels that he is doing well.

THOMAS LARRIGAY, 1894, Minniska P. O., is giving good satisfaction with his work, and enters on the 18th January the employ of one of the largest farmers in the county.

GEORGE A. WILLIAMS, 1895, gives his address as care Mr. William Chittick, Seeburn, says his health, which at one time was poor, is now much improved. He appears happy and contented.

JOHN ANDERSON, 1893, is now employed with Mr. John Peddie, of Silver Creek, and likes his place very much.

THOMAS WALSH, 1894, care David Dunn, Minniska, is getting on first rate and is satisfied with prospects. Subscribed for "Ups and Downs" while at the Home.

WILLIAM H. RIEVELEY, 1895, is engaged with Mr. Donald Stewart of Silver Creek, but expects to remove to Portage la Prairie district in the Spring, where he has relatives.

ALBERT VICTOR MALONEY, 1891, gives his address as care Eustace & Paulette, Binscarth Farm. Says he is doing well, has saved considerable money, and expects ultimately to go into cattle buying.

SYLVESTER SWIFT, 1892, is employed with Mr. Armstrong, Lone Tree P. O.

THOMAS COSTELLO, 1892, at present with Mr. R. H. Kay, Farlands Farm, Millwood.

JAMES A. WELCH has charge of Mr. J. M. Keating's farm, Silver Creek, while Mr. Keating is in Ontario. This fact alone shows the confidence reposed in this young man by his employer.

GEORGE T. HARVEY, 1891, is employed by Mrs. Laycock of Fox Warren, and is reported by this lady to be a thoroughly reliable servant.

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On December 26th our old friend, JOHN W. ARGENT ("Sarnia," April, 1894) drove into the farm-yard with a dashing pair, coupled to a fine sleigh, completely equipped with robes, etc., and stated that he had come for a short visit to the old nest. Argent has very nearly completed a three years' engagement, which will entitle him to a substantial present from the Home; and it is to be hoped that nothing will occur between now and the 23rd July to break the term. In this connection, if there are any of our young men who can show a continuous and satisfactory engagement in one situation of three years, the writer would like their names and addresses, as he has instructions from the Director, Dr. Barnardo, to reward in a proper manner such exemplary conduct. Send in your names, lads; but please don't all speak at once!

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Just as these notes are being brought to a close, a letter is received from one of our many supporters in Gladstone, Mr. George Williams, in which he describes a visit made to the Farm of one of the original party of 1888, Mr. Herbert Pohl. Mr. Williams says: Pohl purchased his farm, which appears to be an excellent selection, only a few miles from Gladstone, a rising town at the junction of the Lake Manitoba Railway and Canal Company's line with that of the Manitoba and North-Western Railway, from one of the loan companies, and that the sum of one hundred dollars paid in the Fall of 1897, will entitle Pohl to a clear deed of the quarter section. It is no surprise to the people at the Farm Home to be told by our correspondent, that Herbert Pohl is a hard working young man, and we are all gratified to read that "he has made greater improvements upon his land, considering the time of residence, than any of his neighbours." His house is described as the "picture of neatness," and built of clean cut logs

and white-washed. "It quite puts his neighbours in the shade." Then as regards stock and implements, our writer says the young farmer owns all the outfit necessary for carrying on his business: a fine big pair of horses, not to mention a strong colt growing up to take its place in the collar alongside its dam: harness, waggons, sleighs, binder, ploughs and harrows. In a word, this honest and industrious young fellow who eight years ago was pleased to grasp the warm hand of Dr. Barnardo, be drawn out of the maelstrom of old world competition and given a footing in the new Empire, is on his feet, and we warmly congratulate him on his success. Is there not room for thousands—yes, tens of thousands—of such creditable young immigrants, and where is there a citizen of the Dominion of Canada who will in his more thoughtful moments, begrudge this young man who has earned all he possesses by honest hard work, his chances of becoming a well-to-do farmer and a citizen of credit to a country whose crying want is increased population.

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The horizon of the "Community Barnardo" was brightened up on Sunday, the 17th, by the arrival at the Farm of our old friend and colleague, Mr. F. J. Davis of Toronto. His visit was very much enjoyed, and we trust it is only the precursor of many more of the same nature.



MERRY MAKING AT STEPNEY.

SCHOOL,
18 STEPNEY CAUSEWAY.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,—Your UPS AND DOWNS to hand, for which the boys express their thanks.

The party of young men who came from Canada to spend two or three winter months in England, visited us here in the school, and we had a pleasant chat together for half an hour. They had arrived on the previous evening from Liverpool, and of course were *quietly* excited by the prospect of a good time among their friends. I have met two or three of the party since, and they seemed to find the time hanging heavily on their hands. Possibly much of their hopeful outlook had proved illusory. They had discovered, too, that amusements and living cost money, and that their exchequers were not inexhaustible. One young fellow told me plaintively that his expenses were heavier—much heavier—than he had anticipated. About a month before the arrival of the party, one old boy, ruddy-faced and sturdy, who came over, as he phrased it, on his own hook, introduced himself to me in Commercial Road. He hoped then to get a job with his brother; but the last time I saw him he was hurrying to catch a train to Liverpool, on his way back to Canada. He said that he had had *enough* of it.

The enclosed programme may possibly prove interesting to your readers, as a specimen of what we attempt now and then.

It will be news to many, that we have an orchestral string band as well as the brass band. The "strings" have made no regular appearance in public yet, but Mr. Davis has put his usual skill and enthusiasm to their training, and his thirty performers did their part of the programme very effectively.

Mr. Palmer, one of the schoolmasters, had specially coached his choir boys, and their glees and solos gave us great pleasure. Bowles was in fine form with his comic song. Tom Duffy read Tennyson's "Dora," with a delicate appreciation of the story, quite surprising in so young a boy. The matrons and house masters turned up in force; and the reception Mr. Fowler got when he arrived to "take the chair" should go far to make him come again. Dr. Barnardo would doubtless have looked in on us, in spite of the pressure of Christmas business, but he had to be out of town. It is the first meeting of

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