

Ups and Downs

PUBLISHED ON THE FIRST OF EVERY MONTH, UNDER THE AUSPICES OF DR. BARNARDO'S HOMES.

T. J. BARNARDO, F.R.C.S., Eng.
18-26 Stepney Causeway, Lon., Eng., Founder and Director.
ALFRED B. OWEN,
Canadian Agent and Superintendent.
FRANK VIPOND,
Managing Editor.

OFFICE OF PUBLICATION, 214 FARLEY AVE.,
TEL. 5097. TORONTO, ONT.

UPS AND DOWNS circulates mainly among the many thousand young people who have been placed out from Dr. Barnardo's Homes with farmers and others, and will be found a desirable advertising medium by those who wish to reach the farmer and every member of his household.

Advertising Rates will be supplied upon application at the office of publication.

The Annual Subscription is 25c., which may be remitted in stamps or cash.

All Correspondence should be addressed, Editor "UPS AND DOWNS," 214 Farley Avenue, Toronto; and letters intended for publication should reach the office not later than the 20th inst. of the month to insure insertion in the next issue.

We shall be obliged if subscribers will notify us at once in the event of delay or irregularity in the delivery of their papers.

TORONTO, SEPT. 1ST, 1895.

AT THE EDITOR'S DESK.

Two thousand copies of the first issue of UPS AND DOWNS went forth to our friends. The bulk of these, of course, circulated throughout Ontario, but every province contributed its quota of supporters. In the distant Territories of the North-West they are quite numerous, while at least one friend in Canada's most easterly port, Halifax, N.S., has read of the progress his old comrades are making in various parts of this large country.

We already feel like an old-established institution. Geographically our constituency is large enough to satisfy the longings of the most ambitious of editors, and in point of numbers we have no reason to complain; whilst in the matter of enthusiasm among our friends, expressions of appreciation, and promises of support, we have been treated most generously.

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Although we feel that our first efforts hardly merited all the good things that have been said of them, we appreciate none the less the hearty good will and kindly feeling of the large number of "boys" who have written us since our first number reached them, and, whilst that first number came short of our expectations in many respects, we must remember that everything must have a beginning. We have had ours and are fairly on our way; let us hope to some measure of success. With "Excelsior" for our motto, we look forward to making each number an improvement on its predecessor.

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It is a source of much regret to Mr. Owen that he constantly receives letters from some distressed mother, who asks piteously for news of a son "who never writes." This is very, very sad. It is more than that. It is wrong,

very wrong. Why will a boy, who would not wilfully be unkind, fail to remember that the first of all friends was his mother. She it was who cared for you and cherished you in your days of utter helplessness, deeming no sacrifice of comfort and strength too great for "her boy."

And remember, whether you now be youth or young man, well-off or poor, you are still, and ever will be till death closes her eyes, your dear old mother's "boy." Her days may not be long on earth, and her lot may be a heavy one, but the greatest trial of all is that she never hears from her absent son.

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If this touches some of our friends in a vulnerable spot, as we think it will, earnestly do we ask them not to still their conscience with a "I will write as soon as I have time."

Write now. Write regularly.

Make it a primary and welcome duty, not a conditional one, to be hurriedly performed in spare moments, which never come.

We know that you can do this if you will, for we, ourselves, are, like you, far from the old home of childhood; far from that mother who loves us, and whom we love, and if it be the will of Providence that we shall never again on earth see that dear face, there will always be comfort and happiness in the remembrance that during the many years we have been busily engaged in Canada we have never allowed other calls, whether of pleasure or of business, to keep back a weekly letter to that distant mother, telling her not only of our pleasures, but of our sorrows, of our disappointments, of all that concerned us, thus lessening in a sense the distance between us, and adding some thing of happiness to the life of one to whom we owe so much.

We have spoken strongly on this topic because we feel strongly. We know how an absent son's letter will brighten a mother's days, and we know what life-long regret and remorse many of our friends will create for themselves if they do not "find time to write" before the news comes that the poor, loving, longing mother is no more.

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Enquiries often reach the Home from boys regarding the whereabouts of some of those who formed the party with which the writers came out to Canada, as they would like to hear of and from their old friends. This desire not to allow the lapse of time to obliterate all traces of the enjoyable comradeship of days gone by is very commendable, and one we shall do all in our power to encourage. To that end we shall publish each month on the third page of the cover the names of one hundred of our subscribers, with their address and the party with which they came out from England. This "Directory of old friends" will, we think, prove not the least interesting feature of our little journal.

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The annual report of the Department of the Interior for 1894, contains the following par-

ticulars of the juvenile immigrants who arrived in Canada during last year:

Rev. Mr. Wallace brought out.....	227
Church of England Waifs and Strays Society....	23
Mr. W. J. Pady	16
Finley Home	2
Dr. Stephenson's Homes.....	53
Gordon Boys' Homes	6
Miss Macpherson.....	103
Miss Rye	121
Mr. Quarrier.....	239
Mrs. Birt	130
Fegan's Homes.....	65
DR. BARNARDO.....	612
Salford Catholic Protection Society.....	31
Liverpool Catholic Protection Society.....	78
Hon. Mrs. Joyce.....	11
Self-Help Emigration Society	36
Rev. Father Seddon.....	61
Children's Aid Society	18
Young Colonists Aid Society.....	37
Philanthropic Society, Farm School.....	2
Bristol Immigration Society	20
Total	1891

During the previous year there were 2,720 juvenile immigrants, and there is a note at the foot of the list to the effect that—

"The reduction has been due no doubt, to some extent, to the more thorough 'weeding out' process which the present regulations have occasioned."

* *

In spite of the "weeding out" process required by the new regulations, the number of boys brought out by Dr. Barnardo shows no appreciable decrease, and this for the very simple reason that from the day of the departure of the first Barnardo boy from England, the Director and Founder has insisted that one of the most important principles to be observed in connection with the work was that the greatest precautions be taken to select only those boys who were mentally, morally and physically suitable for the new life in Canada; and the "weeding out" process which the Canadian Government now requires of all who are responsible for the arrival of young immigrants is not one iota more thorough than that which Dr. Barnardo instituted at the outset and has practised ever since. As a matter of fact, we are indebted to the Government for compelling others to "fall in line," as it will be the means of preventing the indiscriminate shipment from England of a class of immigrants, selected (!) without any regard for their fitness, morally or physically, for agricultural life, and for whose sins we have been judged and condemned time and again by the thoughtless and unfriendly.

* *

On our own merits and demerits we are ready and willing to be judged, but it is asking too much of human nature to expect us to shoulder the responsibility for the appearance in Canada of a youthful misdemeanant of whose existence we never heard until some imaginative, but not over-veracious, newspaper scribe blazoned it forth that the ne'er-do-well was a "Barnardo boy." Yet this has been no uncommon occurrence. A tardy and half-hearted apology and retraction will appear in the journals, that have hastened to do us an injury, but for everyone who sees the apology, ten will see or hear of the original fictitious statement, which, we regret to say, appears to be exactly what the writers desire. In view of the annoyance and pain caused to thousands of respectable young people by this cowardly and indefensible species of attack, we regard the Government's action in the matter of "weeding out" with considerable satisfaction, as it will deprive unprincipled antagonists of much of the material out of which they have been accustomed to manufacture their fabrications.