

UPS AND DOWNS

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ECHOES OF THE MONTH.

ELSEWHERE in our columns we are dealing with the altered arrangements for issuing our paper that were hinted at in the last number, and which we have come to regard as an absolutely necessary change, forced upon us by the stern necessity of cutting our coat according to our cloth. We would have been glad to have avoided it if possible, as we have liked to think that by means of our paper we are in monthly communication with all our friends. But, after all, three months soon pass by, and, as our readers will see, we are looking forward to making our quarterly paper a much larger affair than we have been able to attempt with the monthly, and we hope that it will possess special attractions of its own, so that although we are effecting a very considerable economy, we do not consider that we are at all making a step backward.

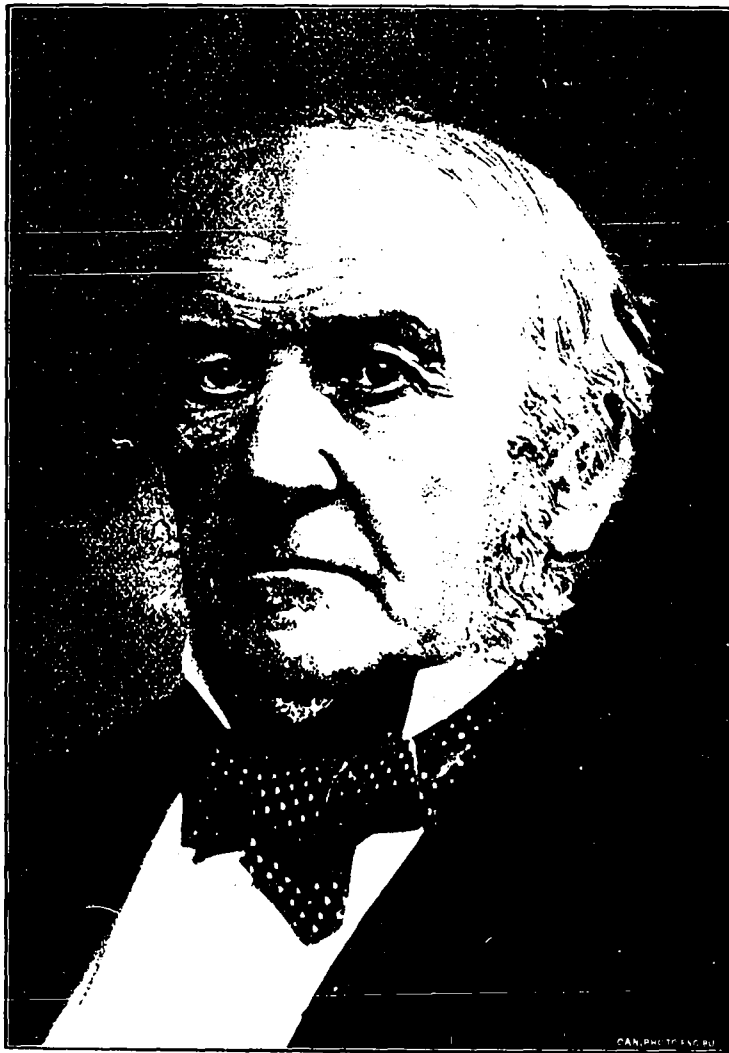
"Stepping backward" would be a very novel development for anything connected with Dr. Barnardo and his work, and we do not intend to begin in Canada. We regard ourselves as a young, growing community full of life and glorious possibilities, and if our boys will stand by us and by each other, our motto shall be "Onward and upward, ever forgetting those things which are behind, reaching forth unto those things which are before." There are no doubt a few "slow goers" amongst us who can stand lots of stirring up, but as a rule our boys have shown that as individuals and as a class they have entered into the spirit of progress, and we have hoped that our paper might inspire and keep this feeling alive amongst us. We should be very sorry, therefore, that anyone should think we are losing heart or losing ground because we find that the need for bread and butter must be considered before we can be allowed to spend money in printers' ink, and we hope our quarterly paper will receive the same kindly and loyal support that we have had so much reason to appreciate since we first embarked our little newspaper enterprise.

We are devoting * * * this month's issue to the records of the various boys included in our latest list of prize-winners. This system of prize-giving is an especial and

most interesting feature of Dr. Barnardo's work. There is no exactly hard and fast rule governing the award of these prizes and it would not be desirable or practicable that there should be, but as a rule any boy who having been engaged, or more correctly speaking, being indentured to a farmer on his first arrival for a term of years, and who fulfils the term of his engagement with

of Dr. Barnardo's medals is an object of keen and lively ambition to many a youngster. The present list includes the names of a number of boys whose engagements ended in April last and who have qualified themselves for their prizes by three four, five or more years of service in one situation, and during that time have so conducted themselves that no serious

complaints have been made by their employers, and the reports of them generally have been satisfactory and creditable. It may seem at first sight that there is nothing so very praiseworthy in a youngster simply keeping his place from one year to another. We who know our boys and have taken note of their daily lives think rather differently. Be it remembered that these youngsters have during these years been *at work*, earning their bread by the sweat of their brow—making their own living and, more than that, laying by for the future. At an age when other lads are devoting much of their time and thoughts to play and sport these lads of ours have, day in and day out, been engaged in hard, honest work, rendering useful service to their employers, making their country richer by their labour. We cannot, it is true, say of any on the list that he has accomplished any startling achievement, and their lives have been as a rule very humdrum and uneventful, consisting of little more than "the daily round, the common task," but in these little common-place duties they have proved themselves trustworthy, honest and painstaking, and in the eyes of Him who appointeth to every man his place and his work in the world we believe these lads have shown themselves to be "faithful in that which is least," and in what we have said of them we believe we have done honour where honour is due. Unquestionably the same remarks apply to many hundreds of our lads who have not been fortunate enough to comply with the conditions on which we award Dr. Barnardo's medals. Our lists of



ENGLAND'S GRAND OLD MAN, THE RIGHT HON. W. E. GLADSTONE.

good character and unblemished record, receives as a present from Dr. Barnardo a medal, either silver or bronze, as the case may be, the inscription setting forth the full name of the recipient and that it is awarded to him "for good conduct and length of service." Besides being a very handsome possession for any boy to have, it is invaluable as a certificate of character and merit, and it is not surprising that to obtain one

prize-winners do not include the whole or a half or a quarter of the number of those who are patiently continuing in well-doing. There are not a few who change their places almost every year, obtaining only a small increase of a more every twelve months. This year than ever before. name ' year