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## Editorial Notes

**Explanations.** We are afraid some of our friends will have begun to think that UPS AND DOWNS must have gone the way of all flesh. It is certainly a long while since we gave any evidence of our existence, but we are happy to announce that we are still on deck and not entirely a spent force as yet. We were very sorry to miss the issue of the April number, but circumstances were such that we had no alternative. When the Editor left for England in February, it was with the full expectation of sailing with the first party on or about the 20th of March. This would have brought him back, in the ordinary course of events, before the end of the month; and if such had been the case, it would then have been possible, by dint of considerable exertion and general rushing of things all round, to get out our April number nearly on time. Our calculations, however, were entirely upset by the unforeseen and unwelcome, but, under the circumstances, altogether unavoidable, postponement of our sailing from England till March 27th. We reached Toronto, as it was, on the night of the 8th of April, and to attempt then, amidst all the extra work attending the distribution of a large party, the additional task of the issue of a number of Ups and Downs would have been a veritable last bale of straw, under which the camel must inevitably

have succumbed. So we gave up perforce the attempt, and decided upon making a double number of our May issue, which double number we now present to our readers in the hope that it will find them in the full enjoyment in their hearts and lives of all the brightness, the sunshine and the cheerfulness of which being is the token.



**Our Earliest Comers.** WE have opened the season's campaign very satisfactorily with the arrival of our first contingent, numbering 242. It was almost exclusively a boys' party, and a remarkably fine party at that, as everyone testified who encountered us in transit and had eyes to see and judgment to discern. Of course, we know well that even under the fairest externals there oft-times lurk the elements of mischief and failure, and that sorry fruit is sometimes found on trees of attractive appearance and handsome growth. We have not the gift of prophecy and cannot forecast the future of any one of the twelve score lads who have just left us to begin life for themselves in this great Dominion, but we can truthfully say—and we say it with heart-felt thankfulness and gratification—that we have never had committed to our charge a pair of lads among which a better spirit prevailed during the time they were under our observation than