

UPS AND DOWNS

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

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ECHOES OF THE MONTH.

ALLAN LINE,
S.S. "Parisian,"
At Sea.

I am somewhat severely handicapped in writing "Echoes of the Month" for the next issue of UPS AND DOWNS, inasmuch as the month was but five days old when I left Toronto, and since then I have been out of sight and reach of everything but the Atlantic. All sorts of things may have been happening in the little world in which our boys live and move and experience their "ups and downs" of life, that I shall hear nothing of until I reach Canada again at the beginning of next month, and I must leave the task of narrating and commenting upon these events, whatever they may be, to our editor, and content myself with wishing him a successful number, and a substantial increase in our subscription list.

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UPS AND DOWNS has now been an accomplished fact for three months past, and gratefully we recognize and appreciate the kindly reception it has met with in all quarters. No one has had anything but good wishes and friendly congratulations for us, and we have been immensely gratified and encouraged by the extent to which our little enterprise has seemed to supply a long felt want, and to be fulfilling its mission in bringing us, as a growing and important section of the community, into closer touch with each other, and also in supplying an additional incentive to individual progress and effort.

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Unfortunately, however, the kindest and best of good wishes will not avail to pay the bills of printers and engravers, and, although we have a very respectable subscription list,

for a first start, and are cutting down expenses to the lowest possible point, we have still to face the very unpleasant fact that a disagreeably large deficit is piling up against us, and our first quarter ends with a balance a good deal on the wrong side.

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We cannot bear the idea of having to abandon our paper, but it will never do for us to create an additional burden to tax the already over-weighted funds of the English Homes. We shall be in very dire disgrace if, at the end of the year, we have to ask Dr. Bar-

scriber, would soon result in a big increase in our subscription list and relieve us of our present anxieties as to "making ends meet." A good many of our friends will be drawing their summer's wages just about the time they receive the next issue of UPS AND DOWNS, and to such as have not yet sent in their subscriptions, we hope our appeal will be a word in season.

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In connection with this subject of wages, we cannot lose the opportunity of congratulating heartily a large number of our old boys, upon the very satisfactory showing of the bank accounts, of which we are the depositories and trustees. Secrecy is one of the first obligations of a trustee or conscientious financial agent, and we must not mention names and figures, but if we could unbosom the secrets of our ledgers, we could tell of balances that have been growing year by year, until they are within very measurable distance of the four figures.

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The history of many of these accounts would be very interesting. It was often not by any means with the good will and consent of the depositors that we insisted upon a portion at least of their first wages being thus laid

up as a provision for the future. It would have seemed to them much pleasanter at the time, to have spent the money as fast as it was received, and we have had a good many battles to fight on the question. We have been amply rewarded, however, by the many expressions of gratitude we have received from boys who, as they have grown "older and wiser," have appreciated the advantages of having these little "nest-eggs" put by for their future savings, and which but for us they would never have had. Needless to say, we should save ourselves enormous trouble if we were to leave all questions affecting the payment and collec-



YOUTH'S LABOUR HOUSE, COMMERCIAL ROAD, LONDON, E.

nardo for money that is wanted for food and clothing for those at home, to make good deficits in our newspaper enterprise in Canada, and we, therefore, appeal urgently to all those who have been receiving "sample copies," to let us have their names on our subscription list, and to enter into co-operation with us in our effort for the common interests of all our old boys. We would likewise beg those who are already subscribers, to help us by "pushing" our paper whenever and wherever they see an opportunity of doing so. Twenty-five cents a year is not a ruinous sum for anyone, and we are sure that a little energetic work on the part of each sub-