Home and Youth

(Formerly OUR HOME)

A CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED MONTHLY

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

New subscriptions can commence at any time during the year.

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AGENTS WANTED.

We want reliable, energetic agents in every town and city in Canada and the United States to obtain new subscribers for Home and Youth. offer very liberal compensation to persons who will undertake the work. Why not, by putting forth a little effort among your friends and neighbors, add to your income? Others are taking advantage of this offer, why not you? Write immediately for full particulars to the Home and Youth Publishing Co., Toronto, Canada.

THE OLYMPIC GAMES.

There is a difference between the moral basis on which Greek antiquity rests, and our modes of life and thought in modern times. We men of to-day can hardly even conceive how the Greeks, the most intellectual race the world has ever seen, could their highest national festivity gymnastic one, far less can we sympathize with or imagine ourselves taking actual part in this truly Bacchic enthusiasm for the Olympic victor. We have lost all living and immediate sympathetic relation to the Olympic games, because gymnastics with us no longer occupy that position which they held in so eminent a degree among the Greeks. It is not by any means mere bodily strength and agility which forms the basis of the Olympic games. coarser, merely mechanical and onesided species of gymnastics which aims solely at an athletic development of the corporeal frame, and was in later times so greatly in vogue among the Romans, was, in the Greek estimation, contemptible; they looked upon it as "banausian," that is, unworthy of a freeman. Gymnastics among Greeks had a highly ideal basis. were the source of central interest in the Olympic festival, simply because they were in reality the focus in which all the rays of the moral, artistic and political life of the Greeks converged. Greeks were so thoroughly artists by nature that they could not think of beauty of soul except as co-existent with beauty of body. Aristocracy of mind was with them at the same time essentially an aristocracy of personal Even an Aristotle could give utterance to the famous sentiment that it was a faulty arrangement in nature to bestow, as she frequently does, on slaves the beauty of freedom, and that if there existed men surpassing all others in beauty, as much as the statues of the gods surpass mortals, all men would of necessity and of right be subject to them.