

UPS AND DOWNS.

MUTUAL IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY.

(Continued from Page 8.)

benefit may be derived from their suggestions. First, then, let me ask why are so many men and other persons out of employment? The answer is very positive, as well as very plain. It is this—indolence, coupled with a determination that they will do some great thing only; and because that great thing does not turn up without effort, they are doing nothing. The point of difficulty is simply this: they look for the end before the beginning. But just consider how few there are that really accomplish any great thing, even with a whole life of industry and economical perseverance. And yet most of our youth calculate that their beginning shall be amongst the greats. But as no one comes to offer them their expectations, indolence says wait; and so they are still waiting. Now, mind you, as long as your expectations are placed upon a chance offer of something very remunerative, or upon the assistance of others, even in a small way, so long will you continue to wait in vain. At this point, then, the question would arise, what can be done? and the answer is equally plain with the other. Take hold of the first job you can find, for it will not find you. No matter how insignificant it may be, it will be better than longer idleness; and when you are seen doing something for yourselves, by those whose opinions are worth any consideration, they will soon offer you more and better jobs; until, finally, you will find something which agrees with your taste or inclination for a life business. But remember that the idle never have good situations offered them. It is the industrious and persevering only who are needed to assist in life's struggle.

IF YOU WILL BE A SOLDIER, STAND FAST.

FREDERICK WILLIAM PAGE. Age 16. Party, June, '93.

Who will be a soldier,
A soldier of the Lord,
And fight the mighty battle
With His most holy word?

Who will be our captain?
Yea, it is the Lord,
He is sure to help us,
If we obey His word.

The Lord is strong in battle,
The victory He will win,
If soldier stand ye steadfast
And cast away your sin.

The gates of heaven are open,
And soldier walk within,
For in the mighty battle
The Lord our God shall win.

TRUE MANLINESS.

GEO. A. GILDERSON. Age 25. Party, April '90.

"Quit you like men; be strong."—1 Cor. xvi., 13.

Very brief but spirit-stirring is the sound of this call in our ears. Like a last solemn charge in an approaching crisis; like the watchword of an army on the eve of battle, rings out its short, serious counsel—be true to your calling, play the hero's part, quit you like men.

We may, some of us, perhaps, recall similar watchwords, ancient and modern, delivered in moments of critical emergency; the Lord's charge to Joshua, "Be strong, and of good courage," or that of Nelson at Trafalgar, when mast-high was hoisted the well-known signal, which has long since passed into a proverb, "England expects every man this day to do his duty."

Words, such as these, are calculated from their very earnestness to revive the drooping courage, or to bring vividly home to each his personal duty and responsibility. How many are there, who, in the first ardour of youth, are girding on their armour for their first campaign; elated with the buoyant spirits of youth, with boyhood's noble aspirations and generous impulses, but also with boyhood's uncurbed spirits and hasty self-will. There is probably no feeling so deeply-rooted as the wish to be accounted manly. You, perhaps, feel an admira-

tion for brave deeds, you look down on all forms of cowardice; but we should beware that this desire for manliness does not follow some perverted course or lead us astray.

Some boys account themselves manly to go swaggering up the street with a cigarette or cigar in their mouth, to lounge around outside hotels, or to be able to use profane language.

Others account themselves manly when they attain a certain age, to break away from their parent's rule; they want to be independent.

True manliness is characterized by an attitude of courtesy and consideration for the feelings of others; it is also shown in abjuring the vulgarity of coarse and profane language.

Even the Lord Jesus, when a boy of 12 years, when his parents were seeking Him, and found Him in the Temple, talking with learned doctors, told them that He must needs be about His Father's business, and, we are told, went back to Nazareth with his parents, and was subject unto them. Dr. Chalmers, in one of his writings, gives the following counsel to young men: "Do good, and leave behind you a monument of virtue that the storms of time can never destroy. Write your name in kindness, love, and mercy in the hearts of thousands you come in contact with year by year; you will never be forgotten. Your name, your deeds, will be as legible in the hearts you leave behind as the stars on the brow of evening."

When this life is over we may hear the words of welcome as we pass into the great unknown, "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

TEMPERANCE.

HARRY BOBBINS. Age 14. Party, July '94.

Intemperance is getting to be one of the worst habits in the world. It is the cause of many crimes. A crime is committed when a man don't know what he is doing, then the plea is that he was drunk. Whose fault was that? Nobody's but his own. Trace that man to the days when he was a boy, find how he first was led into the habit, and you will see in nearly every case he was led by some bad companions. We should be careful what company we keep. The first glass brings on a craving for more, and by-and-bye he can't break himself off the habit. The temperance society is of great benefit. When you join the society you must make up your mind to keep the pledge. It is no good joining the society and then break the pledge again. Many people wish they could spend their childhood's days over again. It would be a good thing if they could, if they would do better the next time. They want an example; let them look at some man who has brought himself up from a poor boy to a man who is better off than himself. His habits are altogether different from the other. He is thrifty, and is careful what he spends, and he gets a good name; he is steady and punctual at his work, and he could work at any time, when the other could not.

TOPICS.

For May { [This time we will again leave the selection of a topic to the individual taste of each contributor.]

NOTE.—Essays on Topics for May must be posted not later than April 20th.

The following instructions must be adhered to:—

Write on one side of the paper only.

Do not add anything except your name and address to the paper on which the essay is written. If you wish to write a letter or make any remarks do so on separate paper.

When no letter accompanies an essay, the manuscript will be carried through the mail at a rate of one cent for four ounces, provided the package is not sealed. The envelope should be endorsed "MS. only," and addressed Editor UPS AND DOWNS, 214 Farley Avenue, Toronto.

Do not send two months' papers together.

A paper or essay must not contain more than 500 words. It need not necessarily reach this limit, but it must not exceed it.

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WE ARE VERY SORRY.

During the last few weeks we have received an unpleasantly large number of complaints from subscribers of non-delivery of their copies of the February issue. We have made strict enquiry in every case, and only in two or three instances is there the slightest ground for believing the mistake has been in Toronto. The addresses are printed on the wrappers, so that even those who run may read. The system in vogue at our publisher's renders the omission of a subscriber's copy from the mailing bag very improbable. On the other hand, the custom prevailing in so many country districts, of one caller at the post-office asking for the "mail" of several neighbours is very likely to lead to mistakes and delayed delivery, particularly when "it is only a paper." We would advise our friends who occasionally miss a copy of UPS AND DOWNS to instruct the postmaster to deliver the journal only to themselves or their employers; also inform the postmaster that UPS AND DOWNS is sent regularly every month, and that its non-delivery is in all probability due to an oversight in the local office. If this is done we think the non-delivery nuisance will cease.

BOYS FOR FARM HELP.

The managers of Dr. Barnardo's Homes invite applications from farmers throughout the country for the boys whom they are sending out periodically from the English homes. The young immigrants vary in age from ten to sixteen. They have all passed through a period of practical training, and have been carefully selected from amongst the 4,500 now under Dr. Barnardo's care in the English institutions. Of the 6,000 who have been placed out in the Dominion up to the present time less than one per cent. have been convicted of any species of crime. All communications should be addressed

Mr. ALFRED B. OWEN, Agent,
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