

very earnestly to work, and have done their best in all respects, and for this they are entitled to be warmly commended. There are occasional inaccuracies in spelling, violations of grammatical regulations, and sentences inclined to be ponderous; but to expect there would be none of these would be unreasonable. If there were no shortcomings there would be no need for improvement, and "improvement" is our watchword.

The "youngsters" for whom, it will be remembered, special provision was made, are well represented in numbers and in quality. They as well as the older boys show that they possess excellent memories; scenes with which they were acquainted in England, incidents which occurred some years ago, when they were quite little fellows, being very interestingly and connectedly described, often with considerable detail. It is somewhat remarkable that in choosing one of the two topics selected for this month, our essayists have been almost unanimous, only two choosing "What I Have Seen and Done in Canada," the others preferring "What I Remember of My Native Land."

Sir Walter Scott wrote:—

Breathes there the man, with soul so dead,
Who never to himself hath said:
This is my own, my native land!
Whose heart hath ne'er within him burned,
As home his footsteps he hath turned
From wandering on a foreign strand.

Such an individual certainly does not exist among Dr. Barnardo's boys in Canada, although neither they nor we regard this country as a "foreign strand"; nor are our boys wanderers; they are here to stay, to become a source of strength to, and power for good in, Canada; and this not the less so that their hearts do at times turn towards England, and burn with the thought that

This is my own, my native land.

This, however, is leading us away from the work we have immediately in hand. It is obvious that we cannot undertake to publish all the essays we have received or shall receive. Such a course would soon leave us without space for other purposes. This month we publish three, with the names and ages of their respective contributors, whose work we present free from any "doctoring." Among the contributions which are not published, but which, did space permit, are by their merit entitled to publication, and which, be it remembered, will bear fruit when we come to the end of the session, are those of Harry E. Cooper, Frederick G. Bennett, Albert E. Young, Fred. Broster, Harry Bobbins.

Our circle of friends and well-wishers comprises others besides our boys. One of these friends, evidently of the gentler sex, has recently gone to considerable trouble to send us several carefully selected extracts from the writings of leading men of various epochs, of which we hope to make use from time to time. We extend our very sincere thanks to this lady who subscribes herself "M. A. V.," and beg to assure her of our appreciation of her kindly interest in the welfare of our journal, and, it is no less evident from the nature of her selections, of our boys.

WHAT I REMEMBER OF MY NATIVE LAND.

ALFRED JOLLEY; Age, 19 years and 6 months;
Party, June, 1890.

My native land is England. I was born at Denford, a small village of about five hundred inhabitants. It is situated on the river Nen, in the County of Northampton. The people are mostly farm labourers and shoemakers.

I removed from Denford to Rushden, a larger town, of about ten thousand inhabitants; it is in the same County as Denford. The greater part of the people are shoemakers, there being eight large shoe factories in operation. It is a very pleasant place to live; the

country around is studded with woods, where hazel nuts grow in plenty. It was at Rushden that my mother died. I was then seven years old.

Soon after my mother died we removed to Bedford. It is the County Town of Bedfordshire; it is a large town situated on the river Ouse. There are some fine buildings at Bedford; among them are St Paul's Church, the Grammar School, and Bunyan's Statue, and several others. There are several large market gardeners on the outskirts of Bedford, who employ a large number of people; it is a pretty sight to go and visit these gardens in the summer time. During my stay at Bedford, I had the pleasure of visiting Elstow, the home of the great John Bunyan. It is a small village situated about two miles from Bedford. After staying at Bedford a few months, we removed to Woburn Sands, a small village situated a few miles from Bedford. This place is noted for its fine white sand. There is also a fullers earth well here. There is a large estate close to the village; I always liked to go and pick huckleberries in the woods on this estate. The public were allowed to go through the woods as long as they did not shoot any game or injure the trees.

From Woburn Sands we removed to London, the great metropolis of the world. My father could not obtain employment in London, so he decided to place my brother and I under the care of Dr. Barnardo. It was on the 10th of December, 1889, that we entered the Home at Stepney Causeway. During our stay there we went to school, and on Saturdays we were allowed out on leave, from 1 o'clock p.m. till 6 p.m. On these holidays we had an opportunity to see the city. I visited the Tower of London, also the British Museum, and other places of note. After staying at the Home for seven months I decided to go to Canada, under the care of Dr. Barnardo. We sailed for Canada on the 20th of June, 1890. Since that time I have been in Canada, but I shall never forget that England is my native land.

WHAT I HAVE SEEN AND DONE IN CANADA.

SAMUEL RELF, Age 18. Party, July, 1894.

I have been out in this country a year and eight months, and in that time I have seen and done a great many things; which would take a great deal more than five hundred words to tell them in. The first piece of work I undertook to do was to hoe a patch of turnips consisting of about an acre; I was a long time over it, but my master told me the job was done well. One day I was sent to hoe potatoes, and among the potatoes were planted pumpkins, which I pulled up for weeds, not knowing they were anything but weeds. From hoeing I went on to learn haying, but the first year I did not do much at it, only just driving the wagon around to the cocks of hay and helping on the stack a bit. The second year I loaded, and run the sulky rake. Of course harvest is the next important thing after haying is over, and in that I shocked the grain, pitched it on the wagon at drawing in time and mowed it. The first year, after harvest was over and the fall wheat put in, my master went to the Exhibition for three days leaving me to gang plow. I did not make much of a job at it, so my master set me plowing with the big plow. When I had been at it about a week, I began to get on fine, and that fall I did the biggest part of the plowing on the farm; I had just been at my place about three months when I started to plow. Last fall I did all the plowing, except one day which my master did. The first winter I was at my place I just did the chores, split wood and helped in the bush a little, but this winter I have done quite a bit of teaming such as hauling wood to Stayner, which is eight miles from our place. I also hauled rails and stakes from a place three or four miles distant. I have done a little sawing at logs and a little skidding out. Of course all these things I have seen done are all new to me, for I never saw a farm implement before nor lived in the country till I came to Canada, and I think farming is first rate work, and I also think mixed farming is the best kind of farming to go in for, because if a man farms at one thing only and fails at it that leaves him in a pretty bad fix, whereas, if a man goes in for mixed farming he is not so likely to fail in everything. In conclusion farming is made very easy to what it was many years ago by the wonderful machinery that has been invented during late years.

WHAT I REMEMBER OF MY NATIVE LAND.

ALBERT E. GREEN, Age 14, Party, July, 1892.

I was born in Northampton in the year 1881. This town is situated about 68 miles from London. It is greatly noted for boots and shoes. When walking along the streets about every 50 yards you see a large shoe factory. Just come along with me for a visit into one of these factories. The first thing that we hear is the ring of hammers. Here we find the main part of the work going on. Get on the elevator, go to the next floor, here we find the offices where young men and women are busy keeping track of supplies that are being sent to all parts of the country. Take the elevator again, go to the

next floor, here again we find young girls busy sewing the tops of boots. These tops are then sent down to the machine sewers, where they are securely fastened on the soles. Then they are sent to the finishers and there made ready for use. Then the boots are handed over to storekeepers in large hampers. Then they are taken out, put up in pairs, put in small cardboard boxes, and then put up for sale.

Also in that town are large buildings where a great deal of drapery, crockery, grocery, and tailoring business are going on. We can take the tram car and go to a beautiful green spot called the race course, about six miles in area, where, at a certain season of the year great races take place, which last two or three days. Quite well I remember a beautiful place called Market Square where every Wednesday and Saturday a great market is held. Also in the middle of the square stands a large fountain where once a week the firemen of that town come to practise by turning the hose upon it. The firemen were jolly fellows, and we used to have fun with them by running under the hose, and letting them squirt the water upon us, and then go home like drowned rats. Then used to come the worst part of the fun, waiting till mother got the strap.

We are sure all our friends will join us in congratulating the writers of the foregoing essays on the way they have acquitted themselves in their first efforts. We shall, nevertheless, look for improvement each month.

One point, in particular, to which it is desirable to call attention, is the arrangement of paragraphs. The writer, either of an essay or, an ordinary letter, should aim at imparting his information in such a manner as to enable his readers to grasp the full meaning of his remarks without being compelled to submit them to a tedious process of dissection. This requires not only care in the selection of words and their proper arrangement into sentences, as was pointed out last month, but also the arrangement of sentences into paragraphs.

A paragraph is a series of sentences relating to the same subject, and *no sentence should be admitted into it which does not relate thereto.*

The opening sentence should *indicate*, though it need not formally announce, the subject which is more fully explained in the following sentences of the paragraph.

As all sentences in a paragraph relate to the same subject (or division of a subject), they should be arranged so as to carry the mind naturally and suggestively from one to the other. Upon this the excellence of a paragraph mainly depends.

Our friends might test their mastery of the foregoing points by noting where the essays we have published are weak in the arrangement of paragraphs, or in fact in any feature. They can then send us the results of their observations.

TOPICS.

The topics of the next two months are:

For	{	"The kind of books I like to read; and why." Or,
May.		"The part of my work I like best; and why."
For	{	"My favorite animal or animals."
June.		"How I like to spend my leisure hours."

NOTE.—ESSAYS ON TOPICS FOR MAY MUST BE POSTED NOT LATER THAN APRIL 20TH, THOSE ON TOPICS FOR JUNE NOT LATER THAN MAY 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.

For other particulars and conditions we refer our friends to their copies of our last issue.