

UPS AND DOWNS

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

VOL. I.—No. 5

TORONTO, DECEMBER 1ST, 1895.

PRICE PER YEAR, 25 Cents
SINGLE COPIES, 3 Cents.

ECHOES OF THE MONTH.

The most prominent event in our history during the past month has been the arrival from England, safe and sound, of our fourth party for the present season. It was not a large detachment—71 all told—but though below the average in quantity, there was no lack of quality: and in health, appearance and general physique of the party there was nothing to be desired.

Owing to the lateness of the season, we had prepared ourselves for all sorts of disagreeable weather, but we are thankful to record that our gloomy forebodings were not realized. We had good weather throughout the whole passage, and accomplished our journey pleasantly and successfully. The Allan liner *Montgolian*, in which we crossed, we have proved before to be a most comfortable ship—roomy, well fitted and “steady as a house.” We had nothing of the unpleasant rolling and pitching that is the general experience with ships of the older type, and in our snug quarters, for a part of the engines, we could, as far as movement was concerned, scarcely tell we were at sea. Our daily runs averaged over 300 miles, and early on Saturday afternoon, November the 9th, we were alongside the wharf at Quebec, and next day found us in Toronto.

Applications are numerous for the season of the year, although, unfortunately for us, our constituents chiefly ask us to send them big boys, and the boys we have to send are chiefly quite youngsters. We cannot yet succeed in educating farmers to take the smaller boys, who are more easily trained, and so much more readily adapt themselves to the ways of the country, and the result is that we are left with many applications unsupplied, and, at the same time, a number of bright, promising, little fellows still unplaced. They are as keenly anxious to get

out to places as we are to see them settled, and we hope that by degrees openings will present themselves, and that before long our present household will have been dispersed.

The arrival of this last party brings to a close our immigration operations for the season, and we can take a review of the season's work that happily is in the highest degree encouraging and satisfactory. Our parties have travelled by sea and land without accident or mishap. The children have in character, appearance and physical and mental

was our chief anxiety and care throughout the spring, and, in spite of all our efforts, we got ourselves into a good deal of hot water with people who failed to appreciate the difficulty of filling 1,000 applications with 500 boys. We did our best, however, to fit the right boy into the right place, which means the best boy into the best place; and with the knowledge that we have done our best we have to rest content.

The boys have settled down wonderfully well into their new homes. As is well known, we give every boy on his leaving us for a place two addressed post cards, one specially for the purpose of informing us of his safe arrival and to give us his first impressions of his new quarters, and the other to keep by him so that he may always have the readiest possible means of communicating with us if he should be in any trouble or in circumstances to need our help. The post cards that have come to hand during the past season speak volumes for the kindly welcome our boys have received, and show that they have, at any rate, started life in Canada in a hopeful and happy spirit. We have had very few changes to make among the new-comers. There are grumblers among boys as well as among men, and occasionally we find boys who are ready to make the most of every grievance, and employers who expect too much from



LONDON BRIDGE.

condition been fully up to the standard that Dr. Barnardo has sought to maintain in the selection of children, and which standard, as long as he maintains it, will ensure that his emigration work will be a blessing alike to England and Canada. The demand for boys all over the country has shown itself to be steadily on the increase. We began the year with a goodly list of applications left over from the previous season. Throughout the early months of the year the demand was enormous, and the first party was bespoken weeks before its arrival. How possibly to supply the farmers who were depending upon us for help

boys and who look for old heads upon young shoulders. Occasionally, too, we find that a “round” boy has got into a “square” place, and that our judgment of the boy or the place has been at fault; but we record with much thankfulness that during the past season these cases have been extremely few, and the majority of those who have been placed out are well settled in their new homes and are there to stay.

The railway and steamship companies and their officers and agents have treated us with every possible courtesy, attention and kindness.