

these reports are from or of boys who were almost bound to succeed if success were possible. They are boys of the right kind.

The shiftless, the lazy and the negligent would be a sorry failure in the North-West as they would elsewhere. The number of this class in our ranks is decidedly small, and of the few none has expressed any desire to proceed westward in search of greater opportunities, which also entail greater trials. Those of our lads now in the western Provinces are in every respect just what those countries require, and they constitute the nucleus of a community which will, as years roll on, play an important part in the development and advancement of the great Canada of the west.

Very cheerful accounts of their first experience have reached us from most of those who went up to Manitoba in the earlier part of the year. They all succeeded in getting work immediately on their arrival, and the general tone of their letters show that they are highly pleased with the country and appreciate its advantages. William A. Diaper and James Attack ask us to publish their new addresses for the benefit of any other lads who may be disposed to try their fortune in that part of the world, and to whom our friends extend a cordial welcome. They are both at Cartwright, Manitoba, Diaper with Mr. Wesley Howard and Attack with Mr. James Croskery. They are hired for eight months for \$140, and though there have been times in Manitoba when this would have been a ridiculously small wage, with wheat at its present figure our friends have nothing to complain of. Considerations of space prevent us from inserting all the letters we have received from our Northwest colonists, but they give good accounts of their first impressions and there is no suggestion of anything like disappointment or regret at the step they have taken in going up.

Thomas E. Trebeck is one of those whose departure to Manitoba is of recent date. He went west with an excellent reputation and a six year's record for industry and diligence. He now writes from Gladstone, Manitoba, giving us his first impressions, and also telling of the prospects immediately before him.

"... At the end of the week I asked him what he thought of me. He said he guessed I would suit and he offered me \$20 a month for summer and \$10 a month for winter. ... After a little while we agreed. I hired for his offer of \$190 a year. We have got a boy from the Russell Farm and he does chores. I go out to the bush. It was pretty cold for a little while, but I do not mind it much, and am determined to save enough to go on a farm of my own next year like some of the boys are doing."

The following letter has reached us from Edwin Evans at Churchbridge, Assa., who came out with the Manitoba contingent in the spring of '92. After expressing his sincere regret that the expense following an accident, whereby he sustained serious injury, including a broken arm, has been a heavy drain on his resources and prevents him at present contributing as he would like towards the Home, Edwin says:

"But if the Lord spares me till January I will be able to give something towards the support of those poor little ones who are in need of help. I am sure I feel from the very bottom of my heart for them and that Dr. Barnardo deserves every appreciation for the good he has done for me and others. I am sure that if he had not taken me in I should have been one of those lost and bewildered ones wandering about in a dreary and desolate place. I can also give much thanks to Mr. Struthers for the kindness he has shown me. I am sure if it had not been for him I should not be what I am

now. I am assistant postmaster here. ... I try to keep up to the mark as well as I can, but there is great temptation in this world for all of us. Let us only trust in the Almighty and He will guide us."

We have to record the departure of one of the "busy bees" from the Home during the past month. The bright face and active form of Albert Green have been a familiar sight for some time to all in the institution. Albert came to Canada in 1892, a little fellow of eleven, and after "boarding out" for over two years he was placed with a farmer in the Township of South Dumfries. Albert entered upon his duties full of courage and determination, but unfortunately while the spirit was eager and willing the flesh was not capable of meeting the demands made upon it by farm work, even under a kind and considerate master. This was a great disappointment to Albert and also to his employer, who spoke in the highest terms of our friend's willingness and desire to do well. While there was nothing seriously wrong, it was, under the circumstances, deemed advisable to keep Albert in the Home for a time, where freedom from physical exertion and the attention he would receive, would, in all probability, eradicate the temporary weakness. We are thankful to say that this hope has proven to be well founded. Albert is now a sturdy lad as capable physically as in other respects of filling the situation with a nursery gardener to which he went on the 18th ultimo. During his sojourn in the Home, Albert did not eat the bread of idleness however. As office boy and in other capacities he had many duties to perform, duties which, while they did not tax his strength, gave him plenty to do and required intelligence and diligence. Albert acquitted himself well and acquired a considerable amount of experience which will be useful to him in any walk of life. He enters upon his new duties with our hearty good wishes and a very firm belief that he will give an excellent account of himself.

We have no dearth of pleasant news this month in the letters that have reached us during the past few weeks from our boys in all parts of the country. "Seeding time" is generally a season of long hours and heavy work in the fields that leave very little leisure for letter-writing, but a goodly number have found time to write us of their well-doing, and although we can only give a few brief extracts from a small number of the great pile of letters before us, they will serve as "samples" of the goods we are "importing" and will give an idea what our boys have to say for themselves or what other people have to say about them.

Little Harry Boothroyd, who has lately been brought back from "boarding out" in Muskoka and placed in a situation, writes us:

"I like my place very well and it is very pretty round here. ... The apple trees are in blossom

and the lilac trees are in blossom, too, and we have twelve head of cattle and two young calves and sheep."

Isaac Preston, who has been in Canada for the past six years and is now settled at Alexander, Manitoba, wishes to take charge of his younger brother, and we are hoping soon to arrange for sending little Charlie up to him. Isaac is hoping to bring out some of his other relatives from England and asks for our advice as how best to manage this.

Walter Denton we believe to be a good boy in a good place. He tells us that he has been going to school during the winter and "getting on fine," but is now ready to "pitch into" spring work. He says:—

"We have a hundred and fifty acres of land, and the bigger part of it to plough, besides quite a lot of cattle and horses to tend to."

Evidently no slack times for Walter for the next few months, but he is one of those who is not afraid of work and believes in the Scriptural injunction, "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might."

George Clipson, of one of last year's parties, who has recently had to change places, writes us from Ingersoll:

"I arrived at my new situation, and I am very much pleased with my new home."

Mrs. Draper, of Novar, who has two little boys under her care, Albert G. Bell and Thomas Kellick, writes us:

"My two little boys are doing splendidly. They are attending school and progressing nicely with their lessons. I have no fault to find with them in any way. They are smart boys."

We experience the greatest possible amount of pleasure in presenting to our readers a full length—we had almost said, and not without reason, a life size—portrait of James Henry Barrett, whose place of residence is the Home, Toronto, where he renders invaluable assistance in the culinary department. That this post of Assistant Minister of the Interior is not by any means a sinecure will be readily conceded by those who have ever visited the Home and who know something of the internal requirements of the constituency for which Mrs. Cunerty and her assistant so ably cater. Vast responsibility and exacting duty, however, cannot disturb an equanimity so firmly established as that of our young friend. "Don't trouble trouble till trouble troubles you," is his maxim and he lives up to it with commendable consistency. Yet we are not without hope that when the serious side of life confronts James he will rise to the occasion manfully, and, by honesty, energy and perseverance, become in time, if not "a ruler of the Queen's navee," like the other boy who "polished up the handle so carefullee," at least an honoured and respected subject of Her Gracious Majesty.

