

that we have forgotten him or lost interest in his affairs, or that he has ceased, or will cease, to have a claim upon our regard or a place in our thoughts



**As We are**      As we review the present situation, we cannot  
**Regarded.**      but recognize, and gratefully appreciate, the

marked change that has taken place in the general feeling in Canada towards our work. Many of our readers can recall the time when scarcely anything was too bad to say of the "Barnardo children" or of the character of the work generally. Our stalwart lads and bright, winsome little maidens that were coming out from the English Homes after long periods of careful Christian training, well equipped in body and mind for their future lives, were represented as "degenerates," dwarfed and ill-shaped in body, stunted in intellect, morally depraved. Amongst our collection of newspaper clippings of by-gone years, we could produce attacks upon the work that we should imagine are as scurrilous and vindictive as anything that has ever been penned. We were attacked in Parliament, in Town and County Councils, from the judicial Bench, in the presentments of Juries, in the resolutions of Labour Councils. Even from the pulpit to the shame of the Church be it recorded: we have heard railings against children whose only crime was their poverty and orphanhood, while amongst the unsoaped and lawless of Toronto, our appearance in numbers was the signal for a fusilade of stones, rotten eggs and other refuse. We only mention these things now to emphasize the change that has come to pass. Our boys and girls are now hospitably welcomed, Dr. Barnardo's enterprises are frequently the subject of favourable and kindly comment in the press, and the Government have shown the most ample and generous recognition of the work as a benefit to the country. The old feeling, on rare occasions, still shows itself. A spiteful-tongued woman, from whom we have occasion to remove a girl on account of over

work or refusal to pay reasonable wages, may vent her ill feeling by some vicious remark as to "this class of children," or if we are prosecuting a suit for wages, and the defending counsel, having adopted the maxim of the bar, "when you have no case, abuse the opposing attorney," may get off a parting shot against the general character of Home boys; but these are isolated cases, and, taking the general sentiment of the country, we can thankfully say that we have lived down the spirit of opposition and prejudice that, but a few years ago, was so trying a feature of our work. This fact is one more striking demonstration that "truth is great and will prevail," that "hard words break no bones," and that slander, obliquy and misrepresentation are, in most cases, as we believe it has been in our own, the furnace in which the pure gold of noble effort and Christian endeavour is refined, purified and made meet for the Master's use.



THE Liverpool papers, **Our Christmas** of the 27th November, **Excursion** contain interesting and very flattering notices of the arrival of our excursion party by the Dominion Line S.S. *Colonian*. Our excursionists evidently created a favourable impression on their first landing on the old soil, but our best wish for them is a speedy return. The party was not a large one, and, although on such occasions we naturally like to see ourselves well represented, we could not wish that our boys in any greater numbers should spend their savings in this unprofitable way. The members of the party were very fortunate in the accommodation we secured for them, and doubtless many of them will enjoy the holiday and the re-union with their relatives and friends; but we predict, with the certainty begotten of long experience, that every man of them will be mightily glad to find himself back again in Canada. It is no disparagement to the old land that this should be so, and the strong preference of the young colonist for the land of his adoption is not in any degree inconsistent with the warmest loyalty and