

people who emigrate to a new country there will always be many who find it impossible to disburden themselves of old habits and methods and can only by slow and painful pressure of circumstances be made to adapt themselves to altered and unaccustomed conditions. They too often fail altogether to establish themselves; or their industry and capital are diverted into channels where it is least valuable to themselves and the country. We find new arrivals struggling for existence in cities and towns who might do well in the country, but they cannot bring themselves to face what they imagine are the hardships and privations of country life, and one is too often forced to the conclusion that such people would have been happier and better off had they remained at home. With juvenile emigrants of the right class the case is entirely different. They come out to the new country with no prejudices to overcome and no preconceived ideas to be disillusioned of, and they go out full of health and vigour to lay for themselves the foundation of useful and promising careers. The emigration problem is a knotty one, and most of those who have tackled it in the case of Irish peasants, or Scotch crofters, or female domestic servants, or Russian Jews, or any other class, have had to admit a large measure of failure; but the emigration of our boys and girls, regarded from either the English or the Canadian point of view, has proved itself, by God's blessing, a glorious and unmixt success. We refuse in the least to qualify this statement, on the ground that in certain quarters there is a prejudice against us. This opposition acts rather as a healthy stimulus than otherwise, and "woe unto you when all men shall speak well of you." We believe Dr. Barnardo and those associated with him are doing a great work for Canada in supplying her, in the shape of healthy and industrious citizens, with what she most needs to build up her national strength and take her place as an important branch of the Empire; a great work for England in relieving the congestion of her population and diminishing the fierceness of the struggle for existence; and a great work for our boys and girls, of which the full value will only be known in that day when every man's work shall be made manifest.

Our excursion to England was not a very large affair, a circumstance we by no means regretted. We could not have felt any gratification in seeing a considerable number of our boys spending their hard earnings on a trip that would often only prove a disappointment to them, and while we wish our travellers a good trip and much enjoyment from their visit to the "old sod," we are of opinion that those who stayed behind are more to be congratulated than those who went. The party were made exceedingly comfortable on the *Labrador*, and the Dominion Steamship Company acted most generously in giving them superior accommodation and making special arrangement for their meals and attendance. We gratefully acknowledge the kindness we received at the hands of all the officials of the Company and which enabled me to see the party off in Montreal with the feeling that we had done well for them, and that very few passengers crossing the Atlantic this season will get as good value for their money.

Our Home in Winnipeg is successfully established, and the prospects for the work that will centre there are highly encouraging. I opened the campaign with a party of 20 boys who arrived there under my charge on the 29th of October. Within 24 hours 15 of the 20 had been placed in good situations, and applications have been coming in ever since. We have secured the services of Mr. and Mrs. David White as superintendent and matron, and from our impressions of Mr. and Mrs.

White and from the record of their work in a similar capacity in England, we have good reason to hope that the work will be a success in their hands. I am writing now while on my way to Winnipeg with a second small detachment. We are expecting to make the acquaintance of some Manitoba winter weather, but my party consists of healthy, sturdy, little chaps, and if they find warm hearts and good homes at the end of the long journey, as I believe they will, even "40 below" will not do them any harm.

* * *

We hear on good authority that the Provincial Government, led by the Hon A. S. Hardy, are intending to take up the question of child-immigration at the coming session of the Provincial House, and possibly to bring forward some legislation on the subject. We have no reason to believe that the Government will proceed without first of all making full enquiry and investigation as to the methods by which the work is carried on and the results obtained. Such investigation is what we have most to desire. We should gratefully welcome the opportunity of laying before some responsible official body the full details of Dr. Barnardo's emigration schemes, producing facts as to the source from which Dr. Barnardo draws his "material," the character of the training his boys and girls receive, the method adopted in selecting those who are emigrated, the provision made for looking after them and safeguarding their interests when they have been placed out in Canada, and the actual results as shown in the careers of our young people who are growing up in almost every township of the Province. We believe but one result would be possible from such an investigation—a result that would be in the highest degree satisfactory to us and would demonstrate conclusively that Dr. Barnardo's immigration work is one of the most valuable and successful movements in the country.

Alfred B. Owen

CALLED HOME.

It is our painful duty to record the death of Walter N. Knight, which took place on Nov. 8th. Walter had been taken ill two weeks previously, and, with a view to securing him the best of treatment, he was brought down from Claremont to Toronto and placed in the General Hospital where, in spite of the best medical skill, he passed away on the Sunday morning. The cutting off of a promising career at such an early age—Walter was 17—was rendered additionally sad by the fact that the deceased's only brother, Frank, arrived from Claremont just too late to say "good-bye." The body of our friend was removed from the hospital to the Home, and on the afternoon of Monday the 9th ult., a short service was held in the dining hall, at which the members of the staff and the boys in residence were present. It was a sad and sorrowful gathering, all hearts being filled with deepest sympathy for the young chief mourner, the bitterness of whose grief over the loss of his only and much-loved brother was indeed pitiful to behold. The mortal remains of our friend were laid to rest in Humbervale Cemetery, Mr. Davis and other friends being present with Frank at these last sad rites.

We know there are many good friends at Claremont, who will do all that kind and loving hearts can suggest to lessen Frank's sense of bereavement and loneliness, and very earnestly would we remind our dear lad that there is a Friend "that sticketh closer than a brother"—even that same Saviour with whom Walter is now safely at rest.

LIFE IS FLEETING.

CONTRIBUTED TO UPS AND DOWNS BY GEORGE WARD, ESQ.
TORONTO.

Life is fleeting: let us gather
Health's fair blossoms whilst we may,
E'er the day dawns, when they wither,
And for ever fade away.

Every youth and every maiden
Should improve each passing hour,
And, like bees, be always laden
With the sweets from every flower.

Life is fleeting: do not waste it
In pursuing vain delights
Pleasure oft, to those who taste it,
Every budding virtue blights.

Life is fleeting: let us live it
As the wise man ever does;
As each moment comes let's give it
Our best thought before it goes.

Life is fleeting: at the longest
It is but a little span;
To the weakest or the strongest,
Ever called a child of man.

Life is fleeting, as a flower,
Often crushed in early bloom;
Every day and every hour
Bring us nearer to the tomb.

Let us use time as a treasure,
None can e'er too highly prize;
Every moment does but measure
Distance 'twixt us and the skies.

Life is feeble—soon the brittle
Thread of life is cut in two;
Hear and ponder, ye who little
Think that death will call for you.

Death approaches: his embassy
To the righteous pleasure brings,
And they hail the welcome message,
Though 'tis borne on gloomy wings.


'Tis the passport to us mortals
From a world of grief and sin;
Open wide stand Heaven's portals,
And the just shall enter in.

Hark! upon the breezes swelling,
Solemn sounds the deep-toned bell;
Of a brother's death 'tis telling,
Or it tolls a funeral knell.

To the churchyard let us wander,
See the graves there newly made;
Lo! that grassy hillock yonder
Marks my brother's silent shade.

In his youth or budding manhood,
He was called from us away;
In that narrow bed he sleepeth
Till the Resurrection Day.

MANITOBA FARM NOTES.

 SINCE the date of the last notes from the Manitoba Farm, another very creditable party of young men and lads has been made welcome at the great house on the prairie, which, like a bee-hive, becomes filled and then at stated intervals "swarms off" the workers to different parts of the Great West, to begin life under new and, we always trust, better surroundings.

The trip from Quebec was made without any remarkable occurrences and on the regular schedule time of the C.P.R. to Portage la Prairie, where the lads were obliged to say good-bye to the convenient Tourist Car and make themselves as comfortable as possible in the Colonist Coach furnished, which, attached to an extra train on the "Manitoba and North-Western," was drawn up at the Russell station platform at two a.m. Friday, October 23rd,