

he work which has done so much for them. One dear lad, who is now seventeen, and who was in the Homes three years before I sent him to Canada, wrote me a little time back something like this:—

"I am now earning \$48 a year and all my food and lodging, and I hope next year to be earning \$70. Some day I shall have a farm of my own. But whenever that happy day comes, I will never forget that I owe it all to the dear Home in Stepney, for when I was a poor boy and my mother could not keep me I entered your Home and was trained and taught there and then sent to Canada, and since I have been out here I have been looked after most carefully, and I feel just as grateful as a boy can."

"Please accept the enclosed order for \$10, which is all I can spare this year, but I shall hope soon to send you more."

"Ever your grateful and affectionate boy."

Now, suppose that among the girls in Canada there was any deep feeling of gratitude and love for all that has been done for them, don't you think it would be easy for them to give at least \$2 each per year to the Home funds? One dollar might be sent in the summer and one in the winter. They never would feel the loss of this small amount! Perhaps some girls would like to give more, some would like to give four or five dollars, and perhaps some of the very little ones could not give so much, they could only give fifty cents in the summer and fifty in the winter, but if they all gave something, and gave it from their hearts, from gratitude and love, think what a splendid gift it would be and how it would help the Homes! Then, we might have one cot in H. M. Hospital, Stepney, called the Canada Girls' Cot, No. 1, and another cot in the Hospital at Ilford, where so many of them were brought up, and that might be called also the Canada Girls' Cot, No. 2, and perhaps we might manage to have one at Babies' Castle, and that might be called the Canada Girls' Cot, No. 3. Thus, we would have three cots, which would cost about £90 per annum, and the remainder, £110 (if they collected £200 as I suggest), would go to pay the emigration expenses of ten or eleven girls each year. Thus those girls who have gone out to Canada, who have received so many favours and so much help from the Home, who have been looked after and tenderly watched over, and loved, and helped, and counselled, and cared for, could show their gratitude by paying the expenses of ten or eleven of their sisters, who are still in England and who want to go out to Canada each year.

Perhaps if you allowed this letter to appear, just as I send it, in your part of UPS AND DOWNS, it might stir up some of my dear old girls, whom I can never forget, even if they forget me, to do generous and great things. Please tell them ALL, when you see or write to them, that



ELLEN DUCKETT.

I constantly look at their pictures, and it will be a great pleasure to me to have the photograph of every girl who has been out in Canada more than three years and who is grown up and doing well. I am trying to form a gallery of my old girls' pictures, and I would love to have ALL my Canadian girls in it.

Again, let me say that I heartily thank those who have contributed towards the money you have sent and I hope their example may stir up others to go and do likewise next year.

Believe me to be, Miss Code,

Most sincerely yours,

Dr. J. Barnardo.

We furthermore would draw attention to the fact that the sum of £20, which was a disappointment to our honoured friend and benefactor Dr. Barnardo, is about \$100.

Jessie Steers, in sending her contribution of \$2 towards the Fund, writes as follows:

"I am writing a short letter to you. The fact of the matter is I want to hunt up some girls. I watch the names of the girls closely, and I haven't seen a Hahne-mann Cottage girl's name yet, not even in the G.D.F. I would like to see some, maybe I had better mention a few, Edith Gill and Polly and Ellen Murphy, S. and J. Nixon, S. Roberts, and ever so many more, and the girls that I came out with, I hardly ever see any of their names. I think there was a hundred and seventy-five came when I did in July, 1886. Just fancy! if the girls would only rouse themselves, we might send Dr. Barnardo three or four hundred dollars, and would not that cheer him. I am sure he needs it. I am sure you must get discouraged, and think we are most un-



FLORENCE AND ELLEN LYNCH.

grateful when the dollars come in so slow. I am more and more pleased with the journal, the only trouble is it does not come often enough for me. . . .

"I remain, yours respectfully,

"JESSIE STEERS.

"I enclose \$2 for the Girls' Donation Fund."

OUR MAIL BAG.

HERE we give a few letters received from girls of diverse ages and different length of experience in Canada.

Jane Smith, the first writer, is a little girl from the October party, '96, who last month started out for her farm-home near Strathroy. She gives quite a detailed account of her travelling experiences, which no doubt will be of interest to other little wayfarers.

"I now take the pleasure of writing to you to tell you how I got on in the train, and how I am getting on at my place. When I got in the first train I began to read my UPS AND DOWNS, and I found in it a picture of one of my Cottage girls there, and she looked very nice. When I changed to the second train, I began to eat my lunch and my apples, and I enjoyed them very much. When I got out of my last train the master took me out, and my master asked if I was a little Home girl, and the train-master said 'yes,' and they took me to the waiting-room and I gave them my ticket; and my master got my box and we rode in a sleigh eight miles to the house. I think this is all I have to say about the train."

"I like my place very much, and I am going to try and keep it as long as I can. My mistress taught me how to set the table, and how to sweep, and how to make my bed, and I am learning to do the work. I am enjoying myself very much."

"I go to church on Sunday. . . . One Sunday it was very stormy, and I did not go to church, because I have a cold. Please give my love to all the children. I think this is all. . . . Good bye."

"JANE SMITH."

Edith Holmes, '94, ten years old, writes the next letter. She is one of the "boarded-out"



ALICE WHEELER.

children in Muskoka, but is evidently looking forward to the time when she will be able to "do for herself," though she is rather young yet!

"I take my pen once more to write a few lines to you. I take the opportunity of writing to you, as it is my duty."

"I am very sorry to lose Ethel Wickham, and I am growing fast and soon will be able to go out to service, but I would like to stay here all my life-time, as the people are good to me in Huntsville. I hope you are all in good health, as it leaves myself at present."

"I go to school every day, and I am promoted into a higher class in the Second Reader; and Mamma wants to know where to write to get the UPS AND DOWNS. And then, we have a dear little baby boy, and he is so good, he sleeps all the time, and when I came home from school and found him there, I was so surprised, and Ansel is so fond of him. I send my love to all the ladies and the children, and Katie Trow said she would like to know how many there is at the Home; and we are going to have a concert on Friday afternoon, and I am going to recite for them, and Katie Trow is going to sing a song at the Public School on February 19th, and I think it will be very nice, and I think this is all I have to say this time, so good-bye, from

EDITH HOLMES."

Then, Sophie Willis, who is an older girl, and of October, '92, party, sends the following:

"I think I must write a letter to you. I was very glad to see our friend, Miss Loveday, again to see us, as for the first time this year. Now, I think we have had a nice winter this year, and as the summer is coming on again, I thought I would write, now I have time, and as I have a lot to do in the summer. . . . I think I must write a little about our paper. I like it very much. I have received copies of UPS AND DOWNS since the beginning of 1896, and have not wrote a letter to it yet. Now, I have been in Canada four years and a half, and I have had a nice time; I have learned so many more things. I like my place; they seem to be very nice people. . . . I am so glad you are able to keep this paper up another year. I go to Sunday school every Sunday, and I don't think that another girl can say that her Sunday school teacher is as old as mine—she is an old lady of ninety-one, and she is smart yet, and you can't stick her in anything in the Bible; she is a good scholar in everything. This is all, so good-bye,

SOPHIA WILLIS."

From Flora Watson, one of the elder girls, and earlier arrivals of July, '86:

"Enclosed please find one dollar (\$1.00) for the Girls' Donation Fund. I see by the paper the others are sending in theirs. I am well, and am getting along all right. I still go to the Guild, and to the League. We had a very instructive meeting last evening. Our former president had to resign, because his business called him away to