

speed with which our boys and girls become absorbed into the general population of the country, and still the cry is for more. "So be it," however, and while the doors of the Homes across the sea are "ever open," we trust to see the doors on this side standing as widely open to our trained lads and lassies throughout the length and breadth of the great Dominion.

The report recently laid before the Provincial Legislature by Mr. P. Byrne, the agent of the Ontario Government in Liverpool, is pleasant reading for all friends of the work. Under the Act of last year our young emigrants were subjected to an additional inspection before leaving England, and Mr. Byrne was appointed as inspector. In fulfilment of his duties, he has personally examined each boy and girl at the Home where it was residing several days prior to its leaving England, and has enquired into and formed an opinion of its health, character, intelligence and mental capacity, its previous training and upbringing, and its fitness for a future life in Canada. He has had the opportunity of becoming familiar with the system under which the children are selected and trained for emigration, and the methods by which the work generally is conducted. We should much like to reproduce the whole of Mr. Byrne's most interesting and valuable report, but must confine ourselves to the concluding para-

graphs in which he sums up the results of his observations:

In short, these philanthropic institutions, at least the larger and more important of them, are hives of busy, well-equipped industry, where very many important kinds of labour are skilfully organized and successfully prosecuted, giving healthful occupation and valuable technical training to their youthful inmates, and thus qualifies them to earn their own living wherever their lot may be cast.

I found that in all the Homes due regard was paid to the health and comfort of the children. Their dormitories were pictures of cleanliness and order. Habits of personal tidiness and cleanliness are carefully encouraged and inculcated. Their food is plain, wholesome and abundant. Their time is duly apportioned to useful work, inside or outside, to schooling, recreation and rest. Opportunities are also afforded for indulging in games and pastimes, gymnastic exercises, swimming, etc. In addition to ordinary school lessons, religious and moral instruction is daily imparted. Add to all this that in the system of management adopted in the different Homes, the law of kindness is a dominant and all-pervading factor, and no one will be surprised to learn that the children whom they shelter and nurture testify by their looks and demeanour that they are happy and contented.

I may further add that my appreciation of the service which these Orphan Homes render to humanity has been greatly increased and intensified by what I have seen and learned of their operations during my official visits. Indeed, it now seems clear to me that the rescuing of unfortunate children from want and misery, clothing, feeding, and instructing them, and, to crown all, placing them in a new environment favourable to their development into reputable and self-dependent members of society, is the very acme of philanthropic effort—the most Christ-like work in the world.

