

often as he can, proffering counsel and encouragement, both of which he is competent to give, for by his own efforts he has placed himself in a good position. He is very actively identified with the mission work of the church to which he belongs, and is recognized by all who know him as a thoroughly upright Christian man, unostentatious in his piety, but ever ready to help others to the path he himself is travelling.

* *

If in each locality where a few of our lads are stationed the eldest among them would but feel that on him lay the responsibility of an elder brother, that to him the younger ones were looking for example and counsel, much permanent good would be accomplished for all. We have evidence of this in the instance we have been alluding to, as well as in others, where boys have striven to exercise in a quiet way a brotherly watchfulness over those more recently arrived in their midst.

* *

In a letter recently received from Thomas H. Newton (of the April, '88, party), we learn that Thomas, who attained to man's estate four years ago, has been doing a considerable amount of travelling in various parts of the United States. The result of his observations in the land of the Stars and Stripes is that he returns to Canada with a higher opinion than ever of this country. Thomas intends to settle down here, and has a comfortable balance in the bank, as well as considerable experience, with which to face the future.

* *

Peter Eppy is another boy of the '88 party from whom Canada receives warm commendation. Peter is 18, and working steadily at Dalston.

* *

Cornelius Albone recently made a trip to England to see his friends. He is back again, however, in his old situation, at Carp. Our friend, who is 19, has made good use of the nine years he has spent in Canada, and has received the long-service good conduct medal.

* *

After speaking of the journal, Paul Star-gratt, 18, says:—

"I have had some ups and downs myself, but they were my own fault, and I am trying to do better."

We very earnestly trust that Paul's efforts may be crowned with success, and that the "ups" without the "downs" will prevail in future. Half the battle in life lies in realizing one's own mistakes. Paul does this, so our hopes for his future prosperity are high.

* *

Richard H. Hallam, 16, writes from Red-wing:—

"I read with joy of my friends' success, and I intend to succeed myself. I have heard people say we are a shame to the country, but in good time they will say different; there are now five boys from the Home here, and they are well liked and doing well."

Very earnestly do we hope that God's blessing will fall on Richard as he manfully strives to climb upward. Those who now say that such boys are "a shame to the country" will undoubtedly "say different" in "good time"; but that time will not be until the hearts of the evil-speakers have been cleansed from the "envy, hatred, malice, and all uncharitableness" which at present possess them.

* *

This is perfect contentment, surely! "I guess I have got about the best place for boys like me." So writes Wm. Davies, who, we are pleased to see, possesses the cheerful, hopeful spirit that a healthy boy of fifteen ought to

have. He is indeed very comfortably situated at Norwich, and his employer, Miss. Carroll, speaks in warm terms of William's desire to do his best. From our young friend's letter, we perceive that he takes a keen interest in his various duties.

* *

Fred Page, 15, writing from Port Hope, speaks of some happy days spent in England with Wm. A. Farr, Jacob Singer, and Thomas Newell, who were fellow-boarders of Fred before they came out to Canada in June, '93. Fred has located his old chums, through UPS AND DOWNS, and is greatly delighted thereat.

* *

Fred Evans' three years' work in Canada has resulted in a balance of \$75.00 recently being placed to Fred's credit in the bank. We have other evidence of our friend's steadiness and perseverance, his employer informing us that he has engaged him for another year.

* *

Henry Offord, 18, in sending a dollar for the Homes, says:—

"I would be willing to work for the Home until I was 21 years of age, and give all I earn to the Home, if you will only say the word. There is one thing I shall always remember, and that is that the Home was the means of making a man of me. I shall have been here a year to-morrow, and by God's help I hope I shall serve my time faithfully, that I may win a good name for myself and the Home I came from. . . . and I am always proud to say I came from that Home."

We will not say "the word," for which Henry asks, but we do say, and say it very earnestly, that his letter is a source of intense gratification to us. It tells how fully "faith, hope and charity" have entered into the heart of our friend, and to all so minded we know that the Almighty Father will ever extend His richest blessings.

* *

Herbert Ransom, 16, a boy of the year '93 party, writes cheerily from Brampton:—

"I like my place all right. I am going to school for four months this winter."

* *

A chatty epistle reaches us from William Wood, a little thirteen-year-old lad, who came out last summer and is now at Thomasburg. We are told a great deal about the depredations of four dogs, who have a weakness for mutton and seek every opportunity of providing a supply for themselves out of the sheep owned by William's employer. We also have the comforting assurance that if we were on the spot with William "you would have all the apples you could eat."

* *

Thomas Greenwood, 14, writing from Kirby, expresses his pleasure at the receipt of a copy of UPS AND DOWNS. He is much concerned to know if Dr. Barnardo has recovered from his illness. Thomas was not a subscriber to UPS AND DOWNS until recently or he would have read Mr. Owen's statement at the end of the fall that he was thankful to say that Dr. Barnardo had so far recovered as to be able to again assume the direction of affairs in connection with the Institution. Late as the information reaches our young friend we are sure it will be eagerly welcomed by him. We are hoping it will be supplemented by a report of Dr. Barnardo's further advancement towards perfect health and strength, in "Echoes of the Month," for the arrival of which from England, where Mr. Owen is at present engaged in connection with this year's first party for Canada, we are very patiently waiting.

* *

There is something of the philosopher about Alfred Gouge, 18, who writes:—

"I am glad to read in the last issue of UPS AND DOWNS how well boys and girls are getting along. I have not done very much to blow about myself, but I hope in a few years to do better."

It isn't always the boys who "blow" most who do the most. In fact, "blowing" is rather suggestive of wind, and wind only. We are sure that Alfred's reputation for good purpose is, and always will be, of a more solid character.

* *

We have an interesting letter from William Pickering telling how affairs are prospering, not only with him, but also with Charles Mott and William Abbott, two '95 boys, aged 16 and 17 respectively, who are fellow-workers of William. Of Charles Mott, our correspondent says:—

"He is getting to be a regular stock man. He can feed every 'hoof' in the stable, and he is getting to be a sturdy young man."

Of William Abbott we learn he is getting along very well. Their friend says little of his own capabilities, but we know from other sources that William Pickering has used the time he has been in Canada (4½ years) wisely and well. He has been in one place all the time and has recently received the long-service and good-conduct medal. His present engagement is a yearly one, and considering that a reduction of wages is the rule, William is not dissatisfied that his remuneration for the year is \$125. We are sorry to learn of the loss of the little finger of his left hand, occasioned by being placed in too close proximity to a cog wheel. William informs us that the wound has healed all right now, and he does not suffer much inconvenience.

* *

From Ullswater comes a bright, cheerful letter from Edward C. Domaille, 17:—

"I am quite well and contented in my place. I am having it pretty easy this winter, doing nothing else but eating and sleeping and going to school. . . . I thank Dr. Barnardo for taking good care of me in the Home and sending me out to Canada where I can start up in life. I am in a good home, . . . and I calculate to stop as long as I can. I go to church and Sunday school, and I am learning all I can."

Edward's lot has fallen on pleasant lines, and he evidently appreciates the fact and is determined to make the best of his opportunities. With his letter came one from his employer, Mr. John Young, in which warm praise is bestowed upon Edward. "In fact, we think 'as much of him as of our own son,'" says Mr. Young.

* *

We are glad to hear again from our friend, George Gilderson, who is still at Strathroy, in the same situation to which he went five years ago. "And I believe I shall continue here for another five years," he writes. George is enthusiastic about the Literary and Mutual Improvement Society, and we hope to find in him a constant supporter of that feature of our journal. Incidentally he mentions that the day on which he writes is his 24th birthday. Though rather late in proffering him our wishes for "many happy returns," we do so none the less heartily.

* *

Charles Griffin (April, '88 party) sends an interesting account from Oil City of the duties he has to perform. The winter has been anything but a season of idleness for Charles, who has been busy chopping, cutting, and hauling wood most of the time. He says:—

"I thank Dr. Barnardo very much for giving me a start in life, and when I am well up in years, so that I can earn my living easier, I would like to help others, to give them a show."