

marvel and rejoice at the few who have failed, at the many who are splendidly succeeding. We can turn over a page after page in our registers, or look through entry after entry in our journal, and read of boys doing well, building up good reputations, working faithfully, making creditable use of their opportunities, attending well to business, saving their earnings, leading honest, respectable lives and developing into useful men and worthy citizens. We see them putting forth persevering efforts to improve their education, engaging actively in religious or temperance work, identifying themselves with important public movements, joining in fellowship with the churches, contributing to the support of their relatives, helping to give a start in life to younger brothers or sisters, banding themselves together for purposes of mutual help and improvement, fulfilling well, in many different spheres, social, domestic and personal duties. We see them settling in life, becoming heads of families, owners of property, employers of labour, and the further we extend our review, the more we can realize what a noble and ever-increasing volume of good has been accomplished from Dr. Barnardo's labours, of which these are the living and visible fruit. Assuredly, at this close of another year's work, we can thank God for the past and take courage and strength for the future.



**Grown-Up  
Members  
of Our Family.**

THERE is no feature of our work that year by year becomes more noticeable or is more gratifying than the loyalty and affection of the older members of our community, and the confidence with which they so continually turn to us under all sorts of circumstances and conditions. There is scarcely a postal delivery that does not bring letters from young fellows who have long passed the age when we have any control or official oversight in their affairs, telling us how things are faring with them, what they are earning and what their ideas and plans are for the future. We are called into counsel upon matrimonial prospects, about purchases of land, the investment of

savings, the taking out of insurance policies, the negotiation of business partnerships. Spare hours are employed in British Columbia mining camps, on Manitoba homesteads, on American lake steamers, in far-distant lumber shanties, in ranchmen's "shacks" on the Western plains to write to the Home and report progress, and most interesting and even romantic are some of these narratives of experiences in flood, forest and field. We highly value and appreciate such letters, less, however, for the information they bring than for the evidence they give us that our boys look to us with esteem and respect, and that we hold their confidence far beyond the limit of age when we have any claim upon them or they upon the Home. There is no motive of self-interest in such cases, but simply the tie of personal loyalty and affection to Dr. Barnardo and those associated with him. We know well that our advice is listened to, that any expression of our opinion carries weight, that our approval is eagerly sought and our censure feared by many who are amenable to almost no other restraint. We realize to the full how weighty a responsibility is thus laid upon us, and earnestly and humbly would we seek, at this beginning of another year, for the bestowal of the Divine guidance and grace by which alone we can hope to speak and act with discretion to direct others aright and administer wisely and efficiently the affairs with which we have to deal. We are very conscious of our inability to be or to do all that we could desire to our boys, but we can honestly say that we have no other aim than to advance their interests and to promote the success and advancement of the work, and that it will be our strenuous effort throughout the new year to devote ourselves unsparingly and unremittingly to the fulfilment of the trust that devolves upon us, and to show ourselves lacking in nothing that will serve the cause in which we are privileged to labour. And yet once again would we invite and urge every one of our lads, big or little, to turn to us at any time if they need a friend or a friendly word, and let no one think