

The total number of inmates during the past year, including those in residence on January 1st, 1888, was 127 ; of these 32 were removed by parents, 10 were sent to situations, 1 absconded, leaving the very large balance of 96 boys still resident in the Home. Of the 10 boys sent to situations, one has proved satisfactory and is bound to his employer till he attains the age of 18 years ; 6 have been returned, principally on account of their being too young, and not strong enough for the work required of them, and three are still on probation.

During the last year four boys have completed their terms of apprenticeship ; two of these have drawn the money to which they were entitled, the other two have only drawn a portion of the money held in trust for them, and express a desire to be allowed to add to the remainder from their earnings ; it is the great pride and pleasure of the matron to see these boys returning to spend evenings with her and thank her for her loving care during their childhood, and to tell of kind and careful treatment since they left the Home.

Indeed, the managers often hear of the boys turning out well and not forgetting the kindness they have received ; one lady reported the following circumstance while making her annual collection :—

“While collecting among the employees of the Grand Trunk Railroad sheds, one young man handed me two dollars ; when asked if that was not a very large subscription for a man in his position, he replied, “No, when I was a small boy, unable to take care of, or care for myself, I was taken into the Boys’ Home and cared for with a kindness I shall never forget, and nothing I can afford to give would be too large a subscription.” This and other incidents are very satisfactory to those connected with the Home.

There are now some 75 boys serving their apprenticeship