

we heard brain-racking calculations as to "What shall we do if another comes in?" Generally another, or several others, *did* come in, but by dint of much contrivance, Mrs. Owen managed to find a shake-down for everyone somewhere between basement and roof, and fortunately the weather was remarkably cool for the season of the year. We could not attempt any great things in the way of entertainment for our visitors, but we think they managed, none the less, to enjoy themselves thoroughly. The concert was generally voted a great success. With the omission of the outside talent, the programme was a first production of the public concert given the following week under the auspices of the B.O.B.S., and report hath it that our young lady and gentlemen performers, both vocal and instrumental, acquitted themselves with greater credit and effect at the earlier and informal performance than when they were before the foot-lights. We were not at the public concert, and are not, therefore, in a position to express an opinion, but the girls' concert at Markham Street was "immense," and if ever there was seen a houseful of merry young folks, it was that over which the Editor presided, and sustained, somewhat ineffectually we fear, the dignity of the chair.



The Last to Come. Two consignments of young colonists have reached us from England since the last issue of UPS AND DOWNS. In reality, however, they formed one party, but the small contingent for the Farm Home was held over for the following steamer. The total number was 374, 349 in the main party and 25 in the auxiliary detachment. All went well with both contingents. The former crossed again by the good steamer *Dominion*, and in the fine weather, excellent accommodation and the satisfactory character of all our transport arrangements we were as highly favoured as with the previous

party in July. We had no sickness, no detention, no mishaps; our persons and our belongings were received and forwarded at each stage of the journey with commendable and agreeable despatch, and we cannot recall in the course of our experience a trip that we can look back upon with more entire satisfaction. Mr. Nunn escorted the small company on the *Kensington*, and, from all we can learn, the lads behaved themselves exceedingly well, and arrived in good order after a remarkably fast and pleasant passage.



Age and Quality. OF the party itself we might quote the words of one of the medical men who inspected us on our arrival, and who has performed the same office for many preceding parties, "They get better every time." They were certainly a body of sturdy young Britons, and for healthfulness of appearance, good physique and general fitness for Canadian life they would unquestionably take a great deal of beating. Twelve was the average age of the party, both of girls and boys, but it included a good many smaller fry, and about 120 have been boarded in foster-homes, where their maintenance will, for the present, be paid for while they continue their education. For the boys, the districts of Muskoka and Parry Sound are still our nursery ground, and most of our little boarders are located among the Highlands of Ontario. There could be no healthier region in the world, and while Muskoka is not an ideal farming country, and the land is generally poor and broken, the settlers enjoy a fair share of the comforts of life, and even the least prosperous are making a good living for themselves and their families. In their foster homes amongst the woods and lakes our little lads are not by any means reared in luxury, but they thrive and fatten on good, wholesome farm-house fare, they breathe pure air, and their consti-