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NEVER HAD A HOME

A VERY COMMONPLACE HISTORY

by
T. T. BARNARDO
F.R.C.S. ED.



Offices of the Homes—
18 to 26, Stepney Causeway, London, E.

LONDON: J. F. SHAW & CO., 48, PATERNOSTER ROW, E.C.

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DR. T. J. BARNARDO, 18 to 26, Stepney Causeway, London, E.

“NEVER HAD A HOME!”

A Very Commonplace History.

BY

THOS. J. BARNARDO, F.R.C.S.

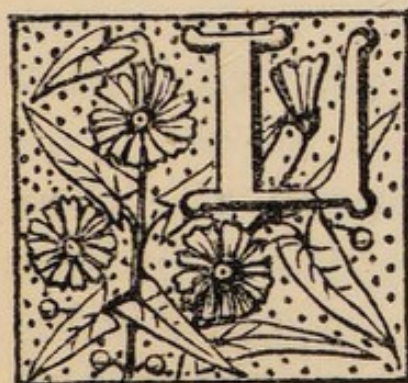


We need love's tender lessons taught
As only weakness can ;
God hath His small interpreters,
The child must teach the man.

We wander wide through evil years,
Our eyes and faith grow dim ;
But he is freshest from His hands,
And nearest unto Him.

Whittier.

CHAPTER I.



LATE in the afternoon of a certain dull day in mid-winter, now some years ago, I had retreated to my room at our Stepney Home in the hope of bringing up some of my arrears of correspondence. I was congratulating myself on the prospect of an hour or two without interruption, when suddenly there came to the door an urgent summons from one of my chief helpers.

MO. PAID:

WA 330

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1890

P 250

72 5016 2540 8

"You *must* come," ran his message, "and see a case now in the hall!"

On reaching the spot, my eye immediately rested upon a group which stirred my heart with deep commiseration. A woman, who might be perhaps forty years of age, stood there with three little girls near her. The eldest of these appeared to be a trifle over thirteen, the youngest about six, the one between the two probably nine years of age.

But what a rebuke was the very appearance of the four to the Laodiceans who are always prophesying smooth things, and who seem to believe that everything happens for the best, in this best of possible worlds! Here were four veritable outcasts; it did not need a second glance to assure me of that fact. Seldom, even in my peculiar experience, had I seen man or woman or child on whose faces and garments were more unmistakably written "*Destitute and out-cast.*"

Both in person and in raiment the four were filthy beyond description, their frames were emaciated to the last degree, their faces were sunken, and of a deathly pallor, which threw into prominence the unnatural brilliancy of the eyes, and lent a weird expression to their whole appearance.

As to clothing, it would have been difficult

to say which of the three girls was the raggedest. Their flimsy patchwork of worthless and uncleanly rags was obviously in the last stages of dilapidation. Not one of the three could boast a pair of stockings, and the little blue toes of the youngest were peeping from the rents of the very fragmentary old boots that she was wearing, boots of which the uppers appeared to adhere to the soles only by a miracle. In the case of the woman, it was manifest that one thin torn garment constituted her sole covering. One of her feet was tied up in rags, having been cut, as I afterwards learned, upon the road.

The condition of this poor broken-down mother and her little ones was alike pitiable and repulsive. Alas, it is not a task for squeamish people to succour those who have fallen by the wayside in the fierce struggle for existence! It is often the most unpleasant, as it is always the saddest of businesses, to help those who have for a long time lived in the undercurrents of city misery and destitution.

Let me therefore hastily pass on with the mere remark that the dreadful odour or lodging-house *fætor* exhaled by the group was so overpowering that, inured though I am, I became after a few minutes actually

unable to continue the conversation. It was only with difficulty, and by taking mother and children separately, that I at last succeeded in getting at the main facts which constituted their painful story of prolonged privation and wretchedness.

The woman had come, I found, to seek the admission of her three little girls into our Homes. There was earnest appeal in every line of her face, and that appeal was pointed by the famished look and wasted forms of the whole family. Without delay I had a suitable meal supplied to both mother and girls; but I found that it was needful to exercise not a little caution in placing food before the two younger children especially, whose eyes glistened ravenously as they saw the fare provided, simple though that was.

After the meal, the first which they had had for many a day, the reaction of their overstrung nerves served to intensify their bodily weakness and bring about an almost utter exhaustion; so that it was only after the lapse of several hours that I was able to cross-question the applicants, and to learn something of the history which lay behind their present miserable circumstances.

"Where have you lived?" was naturally one of my first queries to the mother when

she appeared again before myself and my helper.

“Lived, sir!” and she smiled drearily, “nowheer! the girls never had a ’ome all their lives!”

Never had a home! That was the sum and substance of her history. A few questions sufficed to set her talking, for she was garrulously grateful. She had, I found, married a cripple, whose habits of tramping had become ingrained by life-long custom. He was a handy man, could make and mend odds and ends of articles in common use (mending kettles and making mouse-traps were specially mentioned), and he had something of a voice.

So he and his wife had walked broad England over, from north to south and from east to west, vending their small wares, singing ballads, earning a little now and again by casual farm-work, and sleeping at night in barns and stables, or, in default of better shelter, under hedges or haystacks. *For twelve years* Cripple Jack and his wife had tramped it, usually resorting to the towns during the winter months, but all the time homeless, and dependent nightly either upon such precarious shelter as I have mentioned, or upon casual wards and work-houses.

Children were born to them. "I used to go into the work'us then," said the woman, "and come out agin with the babby in a fortnight or three weeks." It was, she confessed, very often "hard lines" with them, especially during the winter, even when her husband was alive, and she had been three years a widow. A day's "ill luck" meant no "doss money," and a night's weary tramp.

And so, little by little, for I have only given the substance of her replies to many questions, I got at her story of homelessness and hopelessness. The little that the girls could tell me entirely corroborated so far as it went their mother's statement. But I had passed through an apprenticeship of mistakes caused by deception, and I was, I confess, a little incredulous.

"Do you really mean to tell me now," I said at last emphatically, "that you and your husband NEVER REALLY HAD A HOME of any kind?"

"Never, sir, so help me," she reiterated, with convincing earnestness. "Jack and I ha' bin in refuges, and lodgin' houses, and wards, and dossing kens, and places like that for a night or two at most, but we never paid a week's rent all the twelve year we wor married. And now that he's gone, three year

come Christmas, me and the girls have been worser off than before, for we've had to go without bread to our mouths and clothes to our backs to pay for our doss on the cold nights."

And so, it seemed, this wretched family had lived all these years, *never once possessing even the semblance of a home*. The three young girls had been hawked about the country, living from hand to mouth, ever on the verge of destitution, and sleeping anyhow at nights. There had *never once* come near them in all their troubled lives, so far as I could learn, any direct or positive influence for good. They had had no home comforts, no domestic training, no moral teaching, in short *nothing* that goes to form in the minds and characters of little female children that gentleness, modesty, and purity, without which they lack more than one can tell.

Without plying the mother further, in the way of direct query, I lost no time in communicating with every person to whom she could give me a reference (and these, to do her justice, were not a few)—with the chiefs of police in the various towns where she had remained any length of time, and where, owing to her husband's infirmity, she had been well known; and with farmers throughout the country who had occasionally given

work to Cripple Jack and his wife, and who knew them as they returned season by season for odd jobs in the fields.

In one case a lady of high rank, connected with some of the greatest personages in the kingdom, had seen the mother when the latter was in the workhouse after the birth of one of her children, and, in response to my application, she wrote to verify the woman's statements.

I had search made as to the registration and baptism of the three children in the books of the respective workhouses where, according to their mother, they had been successively born. I found out too where she and her husband had been married, and in short I succeeded in following the trail of her life down almost to the very appearance of the family at Stepney in such sorrowful guise.

With the details of my investigations I will not trouble my readers. I will only state that the result was to convince me that her story, incredible as it sounded, was nevertheless strictly true.

I found that during the three years which had elapsed since her husband's death, both mother and daughters had endured the most severe and long-continued privation. They had lived entirely an adventure life, by which

I mean an existence barely sustained by those numerous petty expedients familiar to the squalid poor for cheating starvation of his prey. God help and pity such on our cold city streets !

During the last three or four months prior to the woman's application at the Home she had been particularly unfortunate, and her family had been oftener without food and shelter than ever previously. For two months they had been in London, and she assured me that they had more than once been *two days and even part of a third without getting one crumb of bread or a morsel of any kind of food.*

It hardly needed more than a glance at the children's thin and wizened faces to show me that the process of semi-starvation had been long continued. It was dreadful to think of and worse to hear. Indeed, I knew not how to control my feelings as I listened to some parts of her statement, and once and again my fellow-helper and myself had even to leave the room to recover our composure before we could allow her to continue the narrative.

And now at the close of her tale she stood before us with these children, utterly desperate, with nothing before the little ones but a life of beggary and of shame. *Could*

we, *would* we help her? And she watched us eagerly while a flicker of hope passed over her worn features as she waited for our decision.

Yes, we would help her temporarily, was the announcement soon made. She and her three children could have *immediate* shelter in our Receiving House, where at least they would have food and cleanliness, change of garments and quiet rest for a few days until her story was thoroughly investigated. If that proved to be true, the children would be at once admitted, and perhaps some help would even be found for her.

As I have already intimated, the results of my investigation proved sadly satisfactory. Perhaps the strangest result of all was the convincing evidence that throughout her career the woman had been *strictly honest*. Though so low down in the scale, she had kept her hands and those of her children from picking and stealing. And indeed I found that two virtues were somehow ingrained in all the three children: they would not *steal*, and they would not *lie*. Thank God for the witness unto Himself which He has implanted in the minds of even the most hapless, and which makes its power felt amidst all the ignorance and sordid temptation of years of misery and degradation!

When, after inquiries spread over nearly five days, I announced to the mother that I was satisfied with her account, and explained the conditions upon which I was willing and able to rescue and train her three girls through the agency of our Homes, her gratitude was touching to witness.

During her stay in our Receiving Home she had seen something of the advantages which lay before little ones nurtured amid home surroundings, and this made her quite content to sign the usual agreement by which her three children were consigned to my care, and with a little gentle pressure I also obtained permission to send them to Canada if, or when, I thought proper. Thus it was that Ethel, as the eldest girl was called, and her two younger sisters came to me.

Concerning the poor mother I may just add that I succeeded in getting her employment for which she seemed suited in a Jute Factory in the East End. She was highly grateful for the assistance given, and eagerly accepted the offer, especially as it enabled her, as she said, "to see my gells now and then." But after working steadily for a month or two, it was manifest that the "wander-corpuscle" was in her blood, that the craving to tramp was too strong to be

resisted, and that she found herself quite unable to bear the confinement and limitations which work in a factory necessarily involved. So some six or eight weeks afterwards she paid me a visit at Stepney, and after not a little beating about the bush she was fain to announce that she had obtained a hawker's licence, and was about to try her luck again on the road.

"It's all werry well for them as is used to it, sir," she explained, "but I can't stand it. I've been on the tramp since I wor *that* high (indicating a low table that stood by), and I can't begin now, begging your pardon, sir, to stay all day and all night under a roof agin."

But she was much altered, and for the better. Food, work not too laborious, rest, and quiet had changed the whole character of the woman's appearance; and it was with some hope on my part that she might be successful that I bade her farewell and God-speed.

CHAPTER II.

ALL the three children remained for a little while at our Receiving House, until the hair began to grow again upon the heads that we

had been compelled for sanitary reasons to shave ; until also I was satisfied that it would be safe to place the *two youngest*, at all events, in a cottage in our Village Home. Thither they were accordingly sent.

But the case of the eldest girl Ethel, aged thirteen and a half years, presented graver difficulties. Would it be wise or right to place a girl of her age, who, owing to her parents' manner of life, must have attained considerable experience of evil, or at least acquired a precocity in knowledge of the saddest sort—would it, I reflected, be right or wise to place her in the companionship of innocent children in our Village Home ?

How was it possible, I argued, that she, at her susceptible age, could have escaped from being, at least to some extent, contaminated by the scenes witnessed and the language heard during her life-long wanderings ?

I had seen too much of what went on in many of the town haunts with which Ethel's mother confessed familiarity. I knew of the dangerous and inevitable companionships, of the degraded and immoral lives, of the flaunting vice, of the vile sights and sounds, of the scoff at virtue, of the wanton debauchery, that ran riot in these purlieus of the city, of the moral pestilence that eats

its way as a contagion into purity of thought, speech, and behaviour,—I knew too much of all this to feel sure that poor Ethel, over 13 years of age, had endured the dreadful trial scatheless. Alas for the dangers which daily surround such as she, those

‘Woe-predestined little ones,
Putting forth their buds of life
In an atmosphere of strife
And crime-breeding ignorance,
Where the bitter surge of care
Freezes to a dull despair.’

No : at present I had no right to incur *the risk* to others of placing her in one of our little cottage homes at Ilford.

So I transferred Ethel to the care of one of our excellent Christian matrons in a small town Institution, which was then one of our branches, and I begged her to watch the child carefully, and let me know in a month or so what impression she had formed of her character and conduct. That probation time soon ran its course.

I confess that I anticipated with some misgiving what my helper would have to tell me. But I was delightfully disappointed. Our matron informed me in effect, to my unspeakable thankfulness, that I need have no fears of Ethel. “She is,” said she, “one of the nicest and gentlest children that I ever had under my care.” I might, she

further assured me, be quite certain that Ethel had been perfectly uncontaminated by the scenes and incidents of her earlier life.

How much this meant I am sure none of my readers could tell, unless they possessed some of my experience by which to measure the temptations amidst which this little one had walked with innocent feet. It was a fact to fill my own heart with joy and gratitude, with firmer faith in the God of the children, and in the guiding power which had enabled this child to pass harmless through the seven-fold fires of vice and corruption. Thank God that although earthly friends have left such little ones unprotected, or even, in worse instances, sought their ill, so many of them are somehow, by the infinite goodness of our Heavenly Father, sheltered from the contagion to which they are exposed, and preserved in all the blessed innocence and purity of childhood!

Accordingly, to my delight, as well as to her own, Ethel was sent down to our Village Home and placed in the same cottage as that which her two sisters had already entered. I heard from time to time excellent accounts of their progress, and when occasionally I visited the Village I was cheered by seeing that, dreadful as had been their past life, it had been possible to

awaken in them the thoughts familiar to children born under a happier star.

The physical change in all three amounted to a veritable transformation. The thin, wan, unchildish faces plumped out into chubbiness, and the dreadful lines graven there by suffering and hunger were smoothed away by the gentle touches of happiness and health. Ethel grew into the affections of each and all who knew her—a pleasant, loving girl, with a warm heart and a merry disposition, after the memories of her past had gradually faded into dimness.

So things went on peacefully, and the years brought their quiet changes to the nestlings in the Ilford Home. Ethel's mother was doing fairly well and living respectably. Occasionally she paid a visit to her rescued family at the Village. Still, however, she continued the wandering life which had become a second nature to her, but which was so obviously undesirable for her children. It was evident that she was deeply attached to her girls, especially to the eldest, and that the latter reciprocated her affection.

At length this became a source of grave anxiety to my helpers at Ilford, for they began to fear, as indeed I did also, that one of these days the mother would, perhaps, be

tempted to use the influence she possessed to draw Ethel away from the protection of the Village Home, and then what a life must lie before her! For with increasing years the dangers of her lot as a tramp, even though in the custody of her mother, would, of course, be greatly increased. The mother, indeed, expressed herself as gratefully as ever she had done for the protection I had accorded to her little ones.

I knew she, in her heart of hearts, recognised the blessings of a home life for her children; but what I was afraid of was, that in her desire for the companionship of her eldest girl, she would be tempted to forget these advantages. It is difficulties like these, thorny enough in the case of mothers who are themselves respectable, though their callings may be dangerous and undesirable—thornier far when mothers are fallen and degraded, that make my work of rescue so hard in many an instance.

I saw that action of some kind was desirable in the case of Ethel and her sisters, and I seized the opportunity afforded by one of the mother's frequent visits to the Village to broach a plan which I had formed for the welfare of the children. To my relief, and a little to my surprise, the poor hawker acquiesced in my views, with the tears in

her eyes, and, I am sure, with a tug at her heart-strings. She felt, she told me, that she could not trust herself, and that, if I would take Ethel and the sisters away to Canada, she knew it would be for the best.

So it was then that I resolved to include all the three girls in a party of young emigrants about to leave for the Dominion; and it was with infinite relief that a month later I saw all three children safe at Liverpool with a large number of their companions from the Village, who, under the care of two of my valued helpers, sailed for Canada. And so opened a new chapter in the little ones' lives.

The wholesome life of the Village, its healthy diet, its careful and regular routine, and its pleasant atmosphere had, as I have already said, transformed these three inmates from wizened little creatures to fine, well-grown girls, and I was sure that the two younger would soon be adopted into some Canadian homestead, while the eldest would quickly be received with open arms as a domestic servant into some family, respectable and Christian, where the lessons of our Village Home would be impressed more deeply upon their hearts.

My anticipations were fully verified, and the first report from my helper in charge of

our Girls' Distributing Home in the Dominion told me that Ethel and her sisters had all three been placed in desirable households. With so large a family it is not to be wondered at if at times I am unable to personally follow up the career of every individual boy or girl, although careful records are kept which may be referred to at any moment when necessary; and so having heard that the three children were comfortably placed, their story, striking though it was, gradually fell into the background of my memory, and nothing occurred for some time to recall the circumstances to my mind.

CHAPTER III.

IN 1884 it became necessary for me to pay a visit to Canada. The matter becoming known among my circle, I received several very pressing invitations from friends residing there to be their guests; among others an old friend of mine, a clergyman once settled in East London, but now in Canada, wrote begging me to make his house my home during part of my stay in the Dominion. He lived in a pretty little village not far from the Falls of Niagara; and as he was sure, he said, that I would

not leave Canada without visiting Niagara, he urged that it would be very convenient for my purpose if I came to him *en route*. I accepted the invitation, and in due course arranged my journey so as to keep my engagement.

Accordingly one very fine Saturday afternoon I found myself at his pretty little wooden parsonage in the village of B——. I made my presence known by a modest pull of the bell handle at the door.

Almost immediately the door was opened, and there appeared before me a little maid who at a glance I knew must be an English girl. There was the neat afternoon black gown, the white apron, the collar and cuffs, and above all the white cap, to which Canadian "helps" have so grave an objection, because they regard it as a badge of servitude. It was pleasant after my wanderings to see a fresh young English face.

But I remarked with surprise that the girl was evidently brimful of a personal delight at my arrival. Her face beamed with pleasure, and hardly had she opened the door than she ran off leaving me still standing on the doorstep, whilst she cried almost at the top of her voice: "Oh, missis, missis! here he is! He has come!"

Not a very sedate or even decorous mode

of fulfilling her functions, as my readers will admit! But almost immediately her mistress arrived, and I had from her, and afterwards from her husband when he came in, an English Canadian welcome in the hearty warmth of which I somewhat forgot the peculiarity of my original greeting. Presently, however, I could not help noticing that the little maid did not leave us, but stood at some distance, first, in the passage, and subsequently, when I entered the dining-room, at the door, as though she had a personal share in the proceedings. At last I could not help turning to my hostess and making some observation about the girl, when my friend said: "But, surely, you have not forgotten Ethel?"

Ethel! The name seemed familiar to me. Who was Ethel? Meanwhile, hearing her name uttered, the girl had drawn nearer, and with both her hands extended, she said—"Oh, sir, don't you remember me?" And then in a moment there came back, borne on the tide of memory, the chief landmarks of the history which I have narrated: the afternoon of that dull December day, the miserable despairing woman, the three girls who had NEVER KNOWN A HOME, the filth and squalor of their appearance, and all the sad details of their story of destitution.

Then I looked almost in incredulous wonder at the cheerful happy-looking little English maid, who stood before me bidding me welcome not only with words of mouth, but in every gesture, in her beaming smile and in the grateful looks which she kept intent upon me.

But I was not allowed long for reflection, for her mistress continued:—"I am glad to tell you that Ethel is one of the very best girls we ever had. We all love her. My children think that there could be no one kinder or more sisterly than Ethel is. Indeed, we almost look upon her as another daughter; and my little ones, I am sure, look upon her as though she were really their sister."

While this pleasant story was being told, Ethel stood covered with blushes, and yet pleased amid it all that I should hear she had done so well in her new home. And that was how I once more crossed Ethel's pathway.

A few happy days were spent in that Village Parsonage, and when morning and evening we all knelt together at the family altar, and our host besought the continued protection and care of our heavenly Father, and gave Him thanks for all the mercies of our past lives, not unfrequently I felt

touched and almost overwhelmed with thoughts of the great change which had taken place in the life of the dear girl who was one of our number at family worship. And the comforting assurance filled me with gladness as I reflected that through the infinite goodness of God the dear Homes at Stepney and Ilford, which with outstretched hands and arms are EVER AT WORK, DAY AND NIGHT, SEARCHING TO GATHER IN THE HOMELESS AND THE PERISHING, had in the case of Ethel and her sisters, and of thousands like them, made the great, the *indescribable* difference between hopeless wretchedness, gravest peril, and the possibilities of a shameful career, and present comfort, respectability and happiness.

I send this little record of facts to press in the hope that the perusal of it may, by God's blessing, awaken in many hearts a desire to co-operate with me in the work of these Christian Homes. Even as I write, there are *now actually within their walls 3,219 otherwise homeless, orphan, destitute, or deserted children.*

I would also very earnestly invite all who read these pages to unite in giving HEARTY THANKS to our heavenly Father who has permitted me, chiefly through the loving aid ministered by HIS PEOPLE all over the world,

from the beginning of the work, *twenty-three and a half years ago, even until now*, to rescue, maintain, educate, Christianize and help out into life no fewer than **14,453** boys and girls. Who can compute how many of these must otherwise have become a peril to the State and a reproach to our Christianity?

Too long, alas, has the cry of the children been unheard and unanswered by God's servants; but surely to one and all alike, who are touched by the quickening message of the "Gospel of the Holy Child" which has changed the face of the world, and swept away countless social wrongs, *must* come home their pitiful appeal as an imperative *command*. Help us, brethren and sisters, for our need is sore, and our hands are weak, and very white to harvest are the ripened fields!

18 to 26, *Stepney Causeway,*
London, E.

APPENDIX.

General Synopsis of "Dr. Barnardo's Homes."

Objects :

- (1.) To rescue, educate, industrially train, and place out in life Orphan and Destitute Children.
- (2.) To Evangelize among the Masses of the East End.
- (3.) To Heal the Sick and Relieve the deserving Poor.

Means :

- (1.) (a) Search Agencies to discover Waif and Stray Children ; (b) Free Lodging Houses ; (c) Large Industrial Homes ; (d) Small Family Homes ; (e) Boarding Out ; (f) Emigration.
- (2.) (a) Mission Halls ; (b) Deaconess Houses ; (c) Temperance Aids ; (d) Ragged and Sunday School.
- (3.) (a) Medical Missions ; (b) Free Meals ; (c) General Relief ; (d) Emigration and Migration.

Principles :

Destitute Children are received—

- (1.) Without any limitation as to age, sex, creed, or nationality.
- (2.) Irrespective of any kind of physical infirmity : crippled or blind children, deaf-mutes, incurables, and those given over for death are eligible, if really destitute.
- (3.) At any hour of the day or night.
- (4.) Solely on their merits, without election, and without the intervention of wealthy patrons.

Brief Description of the Principal Branches.

- 1.—Home for Working and Destitute Lads, 18 to 26, STEPNEY CAUSEWAY, E.

A large Industrial Voluntary Home, providing maintenance, education, and practical instruction in nine technical handicrafts to 400 boys over 13 years of age.

- 2.—Leopold House Orphan Home, BURDETT ROAD, E.

A Voluntary Home for smaller boys between 10 and 13 years of age, and accommodating 430 healthy inmates, capable of giving their whole time to education.

- 3.—Nursery Home for Very Little Boys, TEIGHMORE, JERSEY.

A Voluntary Nursery Home, containing 120 boys, of between 5 and 10 years of age, many of them of delicate health.

- 4.—Labour House for Destitute Youths, 622, 624, and 626, COMMERCIAL ROAD, E.

A Voluntary Industrial Home, unique in its character, accommodating 200 youths of 17 and over, testing their characters, and, if they are approved, sending them forth to the Colonies after six or eight months' residence. The industries of the Labour House comprise wood-chopping, box-making, the manufacture of aerated waters, etc.

- 5.—Village Home for Orphan and Destitute Girls, BARKINGSIDE, ILFORD, ESSEX.

A large and beautiful Institution on the Family or Cottage system, consisting of forty-nine detached cottages and four larger households, forming a Village. It provides accommodation for 1,000 girls, who are brought up in Christian ways and trained for domestic service at home or abroad.

6 and 7.—Nursery Home for Infants :

Babies' Castle, HAWKHURST, KENT.

A beautiful building opened in 1886 by H.R.H. the Duchess of Teck for the reception of Infants who are orphans, or whose mothers are destitute. It accommodates 100 Babies and their Nurses.

8.—Servants' Free Registry and Home, STURGE HOUSE, 32, BOW ROAD, E.

A Voluntary Home providing domestic training and situations for 40 older girls, principally factory hands. It likewise is of great service among many rough girls (non resident) by assisting them to situations as domestic servants.

9 and 10.—Rescue Homes for Girls in Moral Danger (Private Addresses).

These special houses are for the reception of Girls, of younger and older years respectively, who have been taken from surroundings of moral peril, and who therefore require peculiar watchfulness and training. In the original house 24 girls are resident ; the other just acquired will accommodate a much larger number.

11.—Union Jack Shoebblack Brigade and Home, THREE COLT STREET, LIMEHOUSE, E.

A small Voluntary Home, affording residence, supervision, and maintenance to 20 Shoebblacks.

12.—Open-all-Night Refuge for Homeless Boys and Girls, 6, 8, and 10, STEPNEY CAUSEWAY, E.

An Institution which has for many years been open Night and Day for the immediate reception of houseless and wandering children of both sexes. 180 children can be lodged for the night in the Refuge.

13.—Rag-collecting Brigade, MITRE COURT, LIMEHOUSE.

A small House, now affording useful employment to about 20 boys engaged in collecting and sorting rags, paper, etc.

- 14.—Farm School (the property of R. Phipps, Esq., J.P., who generously defrays the entire cost of the boys' maintenance), BROMYARD, WORCESTER.

Affording excellent agricultural training to about 50 boys now residing there under Mr. Phipps's benevolent and experienced care. The majority of these boys are subsequently emigrated to Canada.

- 15.—Convalescent Seaside Home, FELIXSTOWE, SUFFOLK.

A Home designed for the reception from the Institutions of boys and girls who are in feeble health or recovering from illness. During the summer months a constant succession of inmates is maintained of boys and girls alternately. The house accommodates 65.

- 16.—Boarding Out Scheme, by which nearly 500 healthy children are boarded out in humble homes throughout the country under the charge of local committees and the vigilant supervision of a fully qualified Medical Woman, who makes *surprise* visits to each child twice or thrice a year.

- 17.—The Children's Fold, 182, GROVE ROAD, E.

A new Institution for the reception of 100 lame, crippled, and deformed children, who are destitute, and need special surgical and medical care.

- 18.—The Blind and Deaf-Mute Branch is concerned with the support and oversight of destitute children suffering from these defects, who are freely admitted, and then placed in independent Institutions willing to receive and give them the peculiar education and special training they need, the whole cost being borne by these Homes.

19.—Emigration Depôt and Distributing Home for Girls, "HAZELBRAE," PETERBOROUGH.

This is the original Depôt for the reception and distribution of all our successive parties of Emigrants to Canada ; but owing to the recent rapid development of the work, it has been now reserved for 150 girls and very young boys. Situations are found through the agency of this home for all girls emigrated, and subsequent supervision is exercised by experienced visitors.

20.—Emigration Depôt for Boys, 214, FARLEY AVENUE, TORONTO, CANADA.

The freehold of this new Home was purchased during the year 1887, for the reception and distribution of the *younger boys* sent from England as emigrants.

21.—Industrial Farm, RUSSELL, MANITOBA.

A mixed Farm of nearly 10,000 acres, opened for the purpose of being developed and worked by *trained lads* drawn from our Labour House for Destitute Youths, who are each bound as Farm Apprentices for one year. Much success has already attended the operation of the Farm. It is intended to have ultimately 200 settlers in constant residence.

22.—Her Majesty's Hospital for Sick Children, 13, 15, 17, and 19, STEPNEY CAUSEWAY.

A new and well-appointed building erected in 1887 as a Jubilee Memorial, to be the Hospital of the London Homes, having accommodation for the reception of 75 little patients and the needful medical and nursing staff.

The remaining Institutions on the list are concerned either in Evangelistic, Temperance, or Medical Mission Work among **Adults**, or in training and relieving Children **not wholly maintained** by the Homes, and as follows :

23.—Free Ragged Day and Sunday Schools, COPPERFIELD ROAD, E.

Free Schools, at which, on an average, 1,900 children of the very poorest class are educated on week-days, or brought under religious influences on Sundays.

24.—Salmon's Lane Ragged Schools, SALMON'S LANE, E.

Very similar in character to the preceding, but smaller, and not having any day schools attached. Accommodates on Sunday about 300 children.

25.—Wood-chopping Brigade and Aërated Water Factory.

Distinct branches, arising out of the Labour House for Destitute Youths, where a large and thriving business is done in the manufacture of these articles, and their supply to the general public.

26.—City Messenger Brigade, STEPNEY CAUSEWAY, E.

An organization now including 120 boys (non-resident), for whom a uniform is provided and situations found in a vast variety of employments, both outdoor and indoor, in the City.

27.—Factory Girls' Club and Institute, COPPERFIELD ROAD, E.

Established as a means of influencing for good the numerous Factory Girls of the East-end. Educational, clothing, and sewing Classes are carried on, a Reading-room provided, and Bible Classes conducted by ladies, who thus acquire influence over the girls.

28.—Working Lads' Institute, COPPERFIELD ROAD, E.

Aims at securing the welfare of working boys and lads, and saving them from the temptations to

street lives and vicious amusements. Open nightly. Supplies reading and recreation rooms, classes, gymnasium, etc.

29.—Young Workmen's Hotel, BURDETT ROAD.

Established as a boarding-house for boys who have left the Institutions, or the Brigades, and are at work for themselves, but have no other home. Accommodates 24 lads.

30.—Free Breakfast and Dinner Table.

Open during the Winter season, chiefly for children attending our Free Schools. During the past year 40,783 breakfasts have been given, and 21,310 dinners, making a total of 62,093 hot, nourishing meals.

31.—The People's Mission Church, LIMEHOUSE, E.

The chief centre of all our Adult Evangelistic agencies, having sitting accommodation for 3,000 people, and reaching in its Sunday and week-day services 7,060 persons in the aggregate every week. The registered attendances at ordinary and extraordinary meetings during the past year at the Edinburgh Castle have numbered 267,930.

32.—Evangelical Deaconess House, 403, MILE END ROAD, E.; and at BARKINGSIDE, ILFORD, ESSEX.

A house in which are resident, with a Lady Superintendent, 30 Deaconesses, who are constantly engaged in a vast variety of operations for the social, mental, and spiritual welfare of the poor of the East-end, as well as in conducting classes in the Homes. A branch of this house has just been opened at Barkingside, Ilford, Essex.

33.—East-end Medical Mission, 224, HIGH STREET, SHADWELL, E.

A Mission Hall and Dispensary, where, under the superintendence of a qualified Christian Physician and several resident Deaconesses, patients of the poorest class from the vicinity of Ratcliff Highway are daily seen and visited.

- 34.—Dorcas House, CARR STREET, LIMEHOUSE, E.**
A Mission Hall among the poorest folk, carried on chiefly by Deaconesses, with the usual Sunday and week-day services, which has proved of great value in the low neighbourhood in which it is situated. The gross total of attendances last year amounted to 21,675.
- 35.—Edinburgh Castle Coffee Palace, RHODESWELL ROAD, E.**
The first established Coffee Palace in the kingdom. In addition to a large and flourishing trade, this Coffee Palace is the centre of a system of cheap and free meals, which is highly beneficial to the East-end poor during the winter season.
- 36.—Dublin Castle Coffee Palace, MILE END WASTE.**
Somewhat similar to the preceding, but smaller. There are no religious services of any kind attached to the operations of this house.
- 37.—St. Ann's Gospel Hall.**
An Iron Hall, close to the Edinburgh Castle, Limehouse. Used for the purposes of a CHILDREN'S CHURCH and a vast variety of meetings among poor children and adults. It seats 600.
- 38.—Cabmen's Shelter, BURDETT ROAD—**
Is the only shelter in the East of London for cab and 'bus men, and is situated at a spot where large numbers of them stand and meet.
- 39.—East London Tract and Pure Literature Depôt—**
Established at 1, RHODESWELL ROAD, LIMEHOUSE, for the sale of interesting and instructive literature of a cheap and attractive sort.
- 40 and 41.—Lodging Houses for Children, FLOWER AND DEAN STREET, AND LEMAN STREET, E.**
Two Houses opened a year ago for the benefit of very young women and children of the lowest class, and designed to form an effective substitute for the lower lodging houses with their inevitable temptations. One house accommodates 70 and the other 40 inmates.



FORM OF BEQUEST

TO

“Dr. Barnardo's Homes” and Mission.

I give and bequeath unto the Director or Treasurer for the time being of the various Institutions in East London and elsewhere known as “Dr. Barnardo's Homes” and Mission, the Office of which is situated in Stepney Causeway, London, E., the sum of £ _____ sterling free of Legacy Duty. And I direct that the same with the Duty thereon be paid out of such part of my personal estate as can be legally given for charitable purposes, and that the receipt of the Director or Treasurer for the time being of the said Institutions shall be a sufficient discharge for the legacy which is to be applied for the general purposes of the said Institutions.

[The Will or Codicil giving the bequest must be signed by the Testator, in the presence of two Witnesses, who must subscribe their names in his presence and in the presence of each other.]

The last ANNUAL REPORT, 288 pp., with audited Cash Accounts, sent *free by post* to any DONOR, on receipt of stamped ($3\frac{1}{2}d.$) and addressed postal wrapper.

18 to 26, Stepney Causeway, London, E.

PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS.

To those who may desire to assist by an OFFERING in the continuance of this most hopeful Christian work among the "HOMELESS CHILDREN" of our Streets, a few practical suggestions are here added :

£16 will support one *healthy* child for a whole year in any of our LONDON HOMES ;

£8 will do the same for six months ;

£30 will maintain one bed in HER MAJESTY'S HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN for twelve months ;

£15 will keep a *sick boy or girl* in HER MAJESTY'S HOSPITAL or at our CONVALESCENT SEASIDE HOME for six months ;

£9 will pay for the complete outfit and passage money of one child EMIGRATED to our BRANCH HOMES in Ontario, Canada ; £54 will do the same for six children ;

£1 will provide the means by which 100 homeless children can be gathered from the lodging-houses and the streets to a SUPPER, at which the most needy may be selected for the permanent benefits of the Institutions ;

£5 will APPRENTICE a child (disqualified by physical infirmity for ordinary pursuits) to some useful trade ;

£100 PER DAY is required to feed *the whole of our large family*, numbering more than 3,000 individuals, among whom are many sick, crippled, and blind ;

A Form of Bequest is given on previous page.

Any Gift, HOWEVER SMALL, will be thankfully received by *The Treasurer*, Wm. Fowler, Esq. ; or by *The Founder and Director*, Dr. Thos. J. Barnardo, 18 to 26, Stepney Causeway, London, E. Post Office Orders should be made payable *only* at the G.P.O., and, *as well as cheques, should be crossed* "London and South-Western Bank."