PAUPER CHILDREN (CANADA).

COPY of a REPORT to the Right Honourable the President of the Local Government Board, by *Andrew Doyle*, Esquire, Local Government Inspector, as to the EMIGRATION of PAUPER CHILDREN to *Canada*.

(*Mr. Sclater-Booth.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed*,
8 *February* 1875.

Under 3 *oz.*

PAUPER CHILDREN (CANADA).

Vol. 92

RETURN to an Order of the Honourable The House of Commons, dated 8 February 1875;—*for*,

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Local Government Board, Whitehall, February 1875.

JOHN LAMBERT, Secretary.

(*Mr. Sclater-Booth.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed*, 8 *February* 1875.

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Llandulas, Abergele,
1st December 1874.

SIR,

IN compliance with your instructions I have inquired into the system of emigration of pauper children to Canada under the supervision of Miss Macpherson and Miss Rye, and have the honour to submit, for your information, the result of the investigation that you directed me to make.

In this Report I propose to refer briefly to the system of emigration originally conducted by Miss Macpherson and Miss Rye; then to state

The circumstances under which pauper children came to be included in it;

The mode in which children of both classes are collected and sent out to Canada;

The arrangements for their conveyance from England to their destination and for their subsequent reception in the Dominion;

The mode of placing them out in service;

The conditions under which they are so placed;

The nature of the service and character of the Homes in which the children are placed;

The character and extent of the supervision subsequently exercised over them; and

I shall then, in conclusion, take leave to call your attention to what appear to me to be defects in the detailed arrangements of this scheme of emigration, and to submit to you such general remarks as occur to me upon the system generally and upon the results of it, so far as they may be judged of from an experience that as yet covers a period of barely four years.

The Report which I submit to you is founded upon statements of Miss Macpherson and Miss Rye as to the character of a large class of the children who are sent out as emigrants and as to the way in which they are collected; upon personal inspection and inquiry as to the arrangements for their conveyance from England to their destination; upon inquiry made at the several Homes as to the present position and past career of every pauper child who has been sent to Canada under the care of Miss Rye and Miss Macpherson; upon visits to about four hundred children, "arab" and pauper, widely distributed through the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario; upon correspondence with several employers; upon visits to schools; and upon personal communication not only with the children and their employers, but with people of all classes. By such means I have endeavoured to carry out your instructions, and to put before you the result of a sufficiently full and, I believe, quite impartial examination of the system. The difficulties of such an inquiry were very great. The information afforded to me at the Homes, notwithstanding the willingness of those in charge of them to give it, was very incomplete. The whole of that information, such as it is, I have arranged separately for your inspection. The task of visiting the children at the houses of their employers was most difficult and laborious. I had frequently to drive forty or fifty miles a day through a rough country to

see half a dozen children. The distances, as Miss Rye and Miss Reavell say, are enormous; the farm houses are often in remote places and difficult of access, while, not unfrequently, the addresses given to me were incorrect. Still I am satisfied that I visited a sufficient number of cases, differing from each other, to enable me to take a correct view of the whole system. I have not made a statement or expressed an opinion unfavourable to it that I am not prepared, if called upon, to justify by the particulars of many cases in addition to those to which I have referred. To do this unnecessarily might tend to prejudice the system even more than the facts would warrant. Many persons in their disapproval of individual cases of hardship and neglect might fail to make allowance for the difficulties that these ladies have had to encounter, or to do justice to the good that they have undoubtedly effected.

Having been informed that Miss Rye would sail from Liverpool with a party of children on the 4th of June, I met the children there on the 3rd, accompanied them on board the "Sarmatian," and spent some time with them on the following morning before the vessel sailed. I had thus an opportunity of observing the arrangements that were made for the reception of the children at Liverpool, and for their accommodation on board. I did not leave England until the 25th of June. Upon arriving at Quebec I made inquiry as to the mode in which the children were received upon their arrival there, and sent forward to their several places of destination. I then proceeded to visit "the Homes" at Knowlton, in the Province of Quebec, Belleville, Niagara, and Galt, in the Province of Ontario. I subsequently visited about 400 of the children who had been placed out or "distributed" from those "Homes."

The children placed out in Canada by Miss Macpherson and Miss Rye are of two classes: pauper children who are sent out at the cost of the rates, and children rescued from the streets, "waifs and strays," "arabs," "gutter children," as they appear to be indiscriminately called by those who promote their emigration. Of pauper children sent out at the cost of the rates Miss Macpherson has distributed about *350*, Miss Rye about 800. The proportion of "arab" children distributed by Miss Macpherson is very much larger, while the proportion of "arab" children distributed by Miss Rye is considerably smaller. As the children are distributed over the Dominion, from New Brunswick to the remotest settled "concessions" in the West, it was obviously impossible for me to do more within a reasonable time than personally to visit such a number, about 400, in different parts of the Dominion as might fairly represent the average condition of the whole. In consequence of statements that were made to me I thought it right not to confine my visits to pauper children, but to extend them to the other class as well. In Canada no distinction is known between them. They are all "Miss Macpherson's children" or "Miss Rye's children," and as they are distributed without distinction, cases of success and failure are set down to the credit or discredit of the "system." No one in Belleville knows that the "arab" boy whom I found, one of the five inmates of the gaol of that town, has not come from an English workhouse, as no one in Niagara knows that the workhouse girl who is reported by Miss Rye as having gone upon the streets of Lewiston is not one of those who have been "rescued" from the slums of Liverpool or London. Upon the other hand, if I had visited only the "pauper" children I should have missed many very striking examples of success. For the first two or three days of my visits from each "Home" I merely accompanied some person connected with

it or who takes an interest in or is supposed to be responsible for the ordinary visiting or inspection of the children. I had thus an opportunity of observing how that duty is discharged. I then proceeded to visit the other children by myself, and to inquire generally into their condition and treatment.

Miss Macpherson desires it to be understood that her work is and always has been essentially, if not exclusively, of a missionary character. Except in the greater care and liberality with which it is carried on, I do not see in what material respect it differs from that of Miss Rye, or of any other agency for the promotion of emigration. These ladies bring out the same class of children and profess to distribute them on the same principle. They obtain their funds from the same sources, subscriptions and payment by Guardians, and both receive from the Governments of the Dominion and of the Province of Ontario considerable assistance "in aid of emigration." Miss Rye's account of her system will be found in her Circular A. in Appendix. The object at which Miss Macpherson aims and the means adopted to attain it are explained in publications in which from time to time she records the progress of her efforts. "From the time," she writes, "that we became "residents in Canada, and had a Home from which to distribute them, "we have followed out our original idea of becoming parents to these "rescued children, rather than simple emigration agents to supply the "labour market. As a missionary band we prayerfully wished to take "a life long interest in those we sought to assist, recording their well-"doing or their ill-doing upon our books, assisting the weak and sick, "rewarding the industrious, and giving wholesome advice and training "to those who fall back to their old habits." Describing one of "first meetings or tea parties for the wild arabs" of the East End of London, Miss Macpherson says:—"Pen cannot picture the scene at the close of "this gathering when the fatherless, motherless, friendless, and bedless "were invited to remain. Twenty-one lads were chosen. Their out-"ward appearance may be imagined when we say that there were found "among them only one garment retaining the form of a shirt and two "pairs of boots which had been bought at rag market, 'odd 'uns,' for "two-pence a pair. Their tatters, with two exceptions, were unfit to be "under a roof." * * * "The difficulty of finding employment for these "active spirits, owing to their want of education, brought us at once to "the decision to send the elder ones to Canada." Speaking of the class of children who compose the Scotch contingent to the army of young emigrants, Mr. Quarrier writes:—"We have been frequently asked how "we get the children? We go out on the streets and invite those who "are needy to come to the Home. We are known to most of the street "children. Some come asking to get in, and others are brought by "Bible women and missionaries." * * * "What sort of homes had "the children before you took them? is another question asked. I "reply, the night asylum, the police office, cold stairs, haylofts, and "barrels and boxes along the harbour." Writing in 1873, Miss Rye says in her annual report:—"One hundred and twenty-seven children "have during the past year and a half been received into the Home "from the streets and gutters, and back slums of London, and other "big cities. Of these, ten have been removed by friends, or proved "unsuitable to emigrate from various reasons, but the remainder were "sent to Canada." Such is the class of which, after a few months or weeks preliminary training, the emigrants sent out to Canada by Miss Macpherson and Miss Rye are largely composed.

In the mode in which the two schemes are carried out there is a good deal of resemblance. Miss Rye has a "Home" at Peckham, into

which she receives "waifs" and "strays," professing to train them for emigration to Canada. When an application is made to her, as often happens, to take charge of a child in whom some benevolent person may be interested, she requires the form B. which will be found in the Appendix to be filled up.

In a similar "Home" at Hampton Miss Macpherson receives the orphan and deserted children whom she takes under her protection for removal to the Dominion. In apparently direct connection with Miss Macpherson's mission there are "Homes" in Liverpool, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Dublin, from all of which considerable numbers of children of a similar character are sent out to Canada. For the collecting and training of these children, and the subsequent emigration of a portion of them, very large sums, several thousand pounds a year, have been and continue to be contributed by private individuals. Considerable pecuniary assistance is also afforded by the Governments of the Dominion and of the Province of Ontario, in addition to a payment of 8*l.* 8*s.* for every pauper child taken out by these ladies.

Although in 1868–9 the Guardians of two or three Unions availed themselves of Miss Rye's assistance to send out a few pauper children with those from her own "Home," it was not until 1870 that the Poor Law Board sanctioned, by order, the emigration of pauper children to Canada under the care of Miss Rye and Miss Macpherson. In compliance with an application that appears to have been made in that year the Board dispensed with some of the regulations—the contract with the shippers, for example—by which the emigration of pauper children had been heretofore controlled. The emigration of these children was thus greatly facilitated. In the Annual Report of the Board for the year 1870 Boards of Guardians are urged to "avail themselves of the "means which the active benevolence of Miss Rye and Miss Mac-"pherson has provided for the welfare of the children" who are sent out as emigrants. This advice is grounded upon the assurance that "additional security for this purpose" (*i.e.*, the protection of young children) "has been offered by the satisfactory arrangements made by "these ladies, not only for proper superintendence during the voyage "but also for the support and treatment of the children on their "arrival in the colony, where suitable situations are found for them." It may be assumed that the confidence thus expressed by the Board in the system gave a considerable impulse to the emigration of pauper children, as the number authorised to be sent out in 1870 was only *146*, but had increased in 1871 to *461*.

Miss Macpherson has informed me that she makes no application to Boards of Guardians to commit pauper children to her care, that the applications come from the Guardians to her. Miss Rye, upon the other hand, makes her scheme known by circular letters, in which she explains the conditions under which the girls are put out to service, and undertakes that they shall "be looked after until they are eighteen years of age." The result is that a very large number of children, "arab" and "pauper," are now annually sent out by these ladies as emigrants to Canada. Several other persons have also embarked in undertakings of the same character. The children sent out are of all ages, from infancy to fourteen or fifteen, and comprise not only "arab" and pauper children, but also children from Reformatories. As a general rule, the "arab" children are received in the first instance into "the Homes" in England, where those of school age are supposed to be prepared by preliminary education and industrial training for the new life before them. From the nature of the cases dealt with, this preliminary training cannot be expected to be either methodical or systematic.

It is considered to be of the greatest importance that the children should be removed with as little delay as possible out of reach of the example and evil influences to which they have been heretofore exposed. Thus it happens that the "training" of the Arab children at the English Home, whatever may be its character, rarely exceeds a few months. In many cases indeed it may be counted by days. The pauper or Union children, however, have generally spent a few years in the workhouse school. In cases in which parents are living, their consent to the emigration of the children is said to be obtained. By Miss Rye the form of consent adopted in the case of children of widows will be found in Appendix C.

In the cases of infants, and of orphans or deserted children of the "arab" class, it is alleged that the authority of the legal guardian is obtained. This, I apprehend, will be found to be done in a very loose and informal way. The precaution is not adopted of requiring the consent of the children themselves to be given before two magistrates, as in the case of pauper children. One girl, of about 17, whose thoughts seemed to be ever turned homewards, assured me that although she was persuaded by her aunt to come out, yet if she had been brought before two magistrates (as pauper children are) she would have refused. I met with several cases of children sent out as "orphans" who had one if not both parents living.

As soon as Miss Macpherson or Miss Rye has collected a party sufficiently large (from one to two hundred), notice of the day of departure is given. The children from London come down in charge of Miss Rye or Miss Macpherson, or of some confidential superintendent. The children from remote Unions are sent to Liverpool, usually in charge of the Master of the Workhouse, who delivers them to Miss Macpherson or Miss Rye, or to the person appointed to receive them. Upon the occasion on which I saw the children, on the eve of their departure, about 150, two-thirds of whom were from Union Workhouses, were collected together at the Prince's Landing Stage. The children from the Bromsgrove Union were accompanied by the Master and Schoolmistress, who remained with them till their embarcation. The children from the Merthyr Tydvil Union were delivered by the Master to one of Miss Rye's attendants, with whom they were left upon the day of their arrival. The other children came under Miss Rye's immediate care. The children were all well dressed, and looked generally healthy and cheerful. Their ages varied from 6 to 14. Having remained for some hours in the shed of the landing stage, they were embarked on board the "Sarmatian," one of the Allan steamers. One of the children was detained owing to a suspicion of illness. She was removed to the hospital, and the case was declared to be one of measles. Miss Rye stated that this child appeared to be perfectly healthy when leaving London in the morning. Eight of the children were found to be ill of measles upon their arrival at the Home, Niagara, where there are no means of isolating such cases. The arrangements for the accommodation of the children on board the "Sarmatian" were, so far as the company were concerned, satisfactory. The agents of the Allan line and the officers of the ship showed the utmost anxiety to adopt any suggestion made by Miss Rye for the comfort of the children, and all their arrangements were on Thursday morning, when I again visited the ship, pronounced by the Government Emigration Agent and the medical officer to be in compliance with the regulations. Miss Rye accompanied this lot of children, who were under the immediate care of one matron who is in the habit of accompanying all the children sent out by Miss Rye.

Upon arriving at Quebec the children receive at the emigration sheds such attention as they may seem to require before starting by rail for their respective destinations. The emigrant agent at Quebec, Mr. Stafford, and the officials of the Grand Trunk Railway are always very gratefully spoken of, and most deservedly so, for their uniform attention to these children, as well indeed as to all other classes of emigrants. The children under the charge of Miss Macpherson frequently break the journey at Montreal, a distance of 180 miles. They are lodged upon such occasions at the St. George's Home, an emigrant depôt in the Coté St. Antoine, formerly under the control, I believe, of Mr. Pell. I visited that establishment, of which all I can say is, that under its present management the shorter the time children are allowed to remain in it the better. There are not, and indeed cannot be, such arrangements for the accommodation and classification of a large and sudden influx of young children as might be reasonably required, even though they stopped for only one night. The journey of Miss Rye's children is sometimes broken at Toronto, where she informed me room is found for them during their short stay at a hotel near the railway station. The children are then sent forward, those of Miss Macpherson to Knowlton, Belleville, and Galt; those of Miss Rye to Niagara. In addition to those distributed by Miss Rye from Niagara, she has also distributed 193 in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, where she has no "Home," the children being consigned to the care of persons in whom she reposes confidence.

Before I refer specially to the several "Homes," I may observe of them all that they are described as being simply "distributing" homes, houses in which the children are received and lodged for a few days pending their being placed out in service.

"The Western Home" of Miss Rye at Niagara is the old gaol of the town, bought for Miss Rye by subscription, and so altered and improved as to be in many respects a suitable building. It is in a healthy position, and is a very cheerful residence. The situation, however, is far from convenient. It is close to the United States frontier, and is at the terminus of only a connecting line of railway. As girls alone are received in it there would be no necessity for arrangements to classify them, provided that the house was only a "distributing" home. But to this, as to the other "Homes," children who, from whatever cause, cannot keep their places are liable to be returned until fresh places can be found for them. Neither in "Our Western Home," nor in Knowlton or Belleville, is there any suitable provision for the reception and employment of children of that class. The necessity of some such provision is freely admitted, though if it were not admitted it would be easy to show, by reference to particular cases, not the inconvenience only, but the evil that arises from the want of such provision. The sleeping accommodation is quite sufficient for 120 children. But for so large a number the offices, washing accommodation, &c. would fall short of the official requirements of an ordinary English workhouse. The house upon the occasion of my visit, which neither here nor to any of the other Homes was unexpected, was in very good order, and scrupulously clean in all departments.

The structural deficiencies that I noticed at Niagara are still more striking both at Knowlton and Belleville. The sleeping accommodation at Knowlton consists of fixed wooden guard-beds one placed above the other—a very objectionable arrangement. Boys as well as girls are received in these "Homes," but beyond the provision of separate sleeping rooms there is no attempt at classification. In Niagara and

Belleville a room in the body of the house is set apart for ordinary sick cases. In Knowlton a attic is divided by a partition, one half being appropriated as a sick room for boys, and the other for girls. But in not one of these Homes is there any means of isolating an infectious case, though it is not long since the Knowlton Home was visited by an outbreak of scarlet fever. It is true that since that time the "Home" has been removed to a more commodious house, but still without any means of isolating infectious cases. Amongst the children whom I visited, one had been a little while since returned to one of the Homes suffering from typhoid fever. The original Home at Belleville was destroyed by fire one winter's night in 1872. The house, furniture, and the whole of the children's clothing were burnt, the inmates, with the exception of one child, barely escaping with their lives. The present Home is pleasantly situated in the outskirts of the town, and was in excellent order when I visited it. There is no prescribed dietary in any of the Homes, but I was assured, not only by the managers, but by children who had been in them, that the ordinary diet was good and sufficient. In two cases, however, children complained that the food at Niagara was bad and insufficient. The general appearance of the few children who were resident at the time of my visit was healthy and cheerful. In the eastern townships children of farmers and working people, in such weather as I experienced, usually go barefooted, and are scantily clad. In that, as in other things, the custom of the country appears to be observed in Miss Macpherson's Homes, especially in Knowlton, the most eastern of them. The management of each Home is committed to a representative of Miss Macpherson at Knowlton, Belleville, and Galt, and of Miss Rye at Niagara. Miss Macpherson's Home at Knowlton is under the immediate management of Miss Barber, who is assisted by some ladies as visitors, and by volunteer residents in the establishment. Miss Barber is also aided by her brother, Judge Dunkin, who takes a very active interest in Miss Macpherson's work. To him I am indebted for the opportunity of visiting several children, in company with him, in the neighbourhood of Knowlton. The general character of the work at Knowlton may, I think, be fairly said to be the consigning of a certain number of children to Miss Barber to be placed out by her, and to be watched over by her, and the friends who assist her, Miss Macpherson being kept informed of what is done, and occasionally visiting the Home and some of the children. At this Home there are for the in-door or domestic work no paid servants or assistants. The duties that are undertaken by Miss Barber at Knowlton devolve upon Miss Bilbrough at Belleville.

The Blair Athole Home at Galt, which is under the care of Miss Reavell, was established by Miss Macpherson about two years ago, upon the invitation, as I understand, of a large number of residents in the neighbourhood. Although Miss Macpherson contemplates the making this an Industrial Training School, it is, like the Homes at Knowlton and Belleville, simply a distributing home. Describing Blair Athole, Miss Macpherson says:—"In connexion with the Galt Home we have pur-
"chased a small farm, and hope to work it by some of our boys, who
"may require further training, also endeavouring to improve their
"taste in the cultivation of flowers and shrubs, so that, by increasing
"their practical knowledge whilst under our influence, they may
"become more valuable to the Canadian farmer. In this way, whilst
"cultivating every available acre, their spare moments might be
"occupied in the lighter employment of beautifying the garden and

"house." As yet at least the object then proposed has not been attained, so far as Union children are concerned. No Union boy above nine years of age has remained in this Home for a longer period than six months. The average duration of residence would be three months. I should think that the same statement would apply to the arab children. The building appears to have been originally a small farmhouse, to which Miss Macpherson has made considerable additions, providing separate dormitories for boys and girls. The various duties that in these Homes devolve upon the superintendent are in Blair Athole discharged by Miss Reavell with a degree of zeal, intelligence, and good sense that appear to fully justify the great confidence placed in her by Miss Macpherson. The Home at Niagara has been for four years under the very efficient management of Miss Alloway, who, however, upon her marriage has just left it. There are in this Home a paid matron and servant.

In accordance with the municipal laws of Quebec and Ontario, the children upon arrival in these Provinces come under the absolute parental control of Miss Rye or Miss Macpherson, or of others to whose care they may have been committed by persons who have or are assumed to have authority over them in England. Whether children who are brought to Canada have been legally placed under the care of the persons who bring them is a point left wholly unnoticed by the authorities of the Dominion or of the Provinces. Indeed there appears to be nothing in the laws either of England or of Canada to prevent any person of a philanthropic or speculative turn, who can collect money for the purpose, from gathering any number of "waifs and strays and street arabs," and with their easily obtained consent shipping them to Canada, and through Canada to the States. Acting upon their legal authority, Miss Macpherson and Miss Rye proceed, upon the arrival of the children at the "Homes," to "distribute" them or place them out in service. The mode in which this is done differs somewhat, as do also the conditions of "adoption" or service.

Applications for children are usually made in anticipation of their arrival, and always, I am assured, in excess of the means of complying with them. Applicants for children to Miss Macpherson's Homes are required to send with their application a "recommend," as it is termed, from his or her "minister," and from a respectable resident. Upon the receipt of this "recommend" the application is usually complied with, and an agreement is signed by representatives of Miss Macpherson. A copy of this agreement lettered D. will be found in the Appendix.

In the eastern townships, in which the children from the Knowlton Home are distributed, the applications are sent to and determined upon by Miss Barber. In what may be called the Mid-Western District, which is supplied from the Belleville Home, the applications are disposed of by Miss Bilbrough, and in the Western District the applications to the Galt Home are disposed of by Miss Reavell. In addition to the information furnished in the "recommend" already referred to, the ladies who decide upon the applications have frequently some personal knowledge of the applicants or, as the districts are comparatively speaking small, have the means of making personal inquiry. It will be seen, however, in a subsequent part of this Report, that the persons who place the children out are often either misled or very imperfectly informed as to the character of applicants for children. Miss Rye has only one "Home," that at Niagara, though the area over which her children are distributed is very much larger than that of all the other "Homes" put together, comprising, as it does, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, and the whole of the Province of Ontario, extending in

fact from St. John's to Sarnia. The precautions taken by Miss Rye to obtain information respecting applicants for children appear to be, upon paper, minute and careful. Upon the receipt of an application for a child, information is required as to the particulars of applicant's condition in life, &c., and further information is privately applied for. The forms lettered E. and F. will be found in the Appendix.

If the reply be satisfactory, the application for a child is complied with. Although Miss Rye has not the same means that Miss Macpherson now employs of distributing children through the several "Homes," she finds a substitute, that in certain cases at least is quite as efficient, the voluntary agency of private persons residents in particular districts. In the county of Durham, for instance, Mr. Robson, a gentleman of independent means, and his wife, undertake the placing out of the children. As many, I think, as a hundred children have been thus placed out without more than merely formal reference to Miss Rye. I went through a large part of that district, and personally visited about one third of the children in it. The duty that is voluntarily undertaken by Mr. and Mrs. Robson appears to be admirably discharged. In some other districts, however, Miss Rye does not appear to have been equally fortunate.

Such briefly is the mode in which the children are "distributed" or placed out.

The conditions or terms of service vary considerably. For the disposal of a large proportion of the girls, both Miss Macpherson and Miss Rye depend upon what they term "adoption." In the system of each this word has two distinct meanings. Very young children are "adopted" in the ordinary sense of the word. Mr. Robson, of whom I have already spoken, and Mr. Ball, of Niagara, have, for example, "adopted" each a very young girl whom they are bringing up as they would daughters of their own, providing for them the education and accomplishments suitable to gentlemen's children. Farmers and tradespeople whose children have settled in the world sometimes fill up the void by "adopting" an orphan child from one of the "Homes." Although I have seen several such cases of real adoption, they constitute, and will always constitute, but a small per-centage of children who may be placed out under any system of emigration. The other sense in which the word "adoption" is used is simply apprenticeship. Indeed Miss Rye places children out under what she terms "an indenture of adoption," while Miss Macpherson attains the same end, though without the same formality. This "indenture of adoption" deserves notice, not simply as illustrating the mode in which children are disposed of, but the sort of authority over them that is given to the foster-parents. A copy of it, together with copies of the indentures of apprenticeship and of service, will be found in the Appendix, lettered respectively G., H., I.

A very large proportion of Miss Rye's female children are placed out, or assumed to be placed out, under the "indenture of adoption," while a considerable number of Miss Macpherson's children are placed out upon the same conditions, but, as I have observed, without the indenture.

The girls who are placed out by Miss Rye avowedly in "service" are also placed out under an "indenture of service."

A third form of indenture adopted by Miss Rye is that of apprenticeship, a copy of which will be found in the Appendix.

Under these three heads of adoption of infants, apprenticeship by indenture, and ordinary service, all Miss Rye's children are assumed to be placed out. As a matter of fact, however, a very considerable

number of them are placed out without any such formality as an indenture of service, but simply upon a verbal agreement to the effect that after a certain age the child shall receive, either in addition to clothing or in lieu of clothing, so many dollars a year. I met with several cases of "adoption" in which the indenture of adoption had not been signed by the employers. The view that many of the children take of this form of "adoption" was expressed to me by one of them, an intelligent shrewd girl of between sixteen and seventeen. "Doption, sir, is when folks gets a girl to work without wages." The whole of this machinery of "Indentures," though it has a look of being business-like, appears to me to be worthless or delusive. To the employer it affords no security for the service of the child: to the child it affords no protection so long as there is no efficient agency to see to the fulfilment of conditions.

The object avowed both by Miss Rye and Miss Macpherson in settling children in Canada is to place them, if possible, in farm service. The cases in which children are "adopted" by people of the better class may be considered so exceptional as not to call for any particular notice. Those who are so adopted—I saw some of them—appear to be very fortunate indeed. A much larger class are cases of "adoption" with a view to the future service of the child. A good deal has been said and written about such cases, as if this sort of "adoption" were a matter of religious feeling or of sentiment rather than of business. Some such idea seems to have been in Miss Rye's mind when, in 1871, she wrote thus to the Board in reply to their question, what she does with children as young as five or six years old in Canada?:—"There are three distinct sets of people who apply to "me for the children. 1st. There are those who apply from the very "highest motives, viz., pity for orphan children, and a desire to be "fellow workers with fellow Christians here who are desiring to lessen "the amount of sin and suffering among children in England. This "class is limited, but a large class still in Canada, as Christian works "are necessarily limited in a country where there is very little sickness, "no poverty, or destitution. 2nd. There are those who, having married "young, and whose children have followed their example, find themselves at comparatively an early age, say 45, childless and alone in "life with more than they want in every sense of the word, to whom a "young child in the house is a boon and a blessing. 3rdly. There are "those who require children on account of their services, and who "willingly take them on account of their future usefulness." From my observation, and from inquiries that I have made, I am afraid that those who apply for children "from the very highest motives" are a very small class indeed. I think the first and second class of applicants taken together may be dismissed as really not providing for more than about ten per cent. of the young children who are sent out. There is indeed a very large class in Canada "who require children on account of their services, and who willingly take them on "account of their future usefulness." In Canada it is as easy, as one of these good people expressed it, "to feed a child as a chicken," and that being so, "in view of their future usefulness," but without any thought of "lessening the amount of sin and suffering among "children in England," there is great readiness on the part of farmers and others to "adopt" in other words, to take into their service, children of tender years. Although I believe this is generally done as a matter of business, the very young children so adopted by farmers are usually treated with kindness, becoming practically members of the

family. But amongst the whole class there is a disposition to put children to work at a very early age. Although in this respect I should not wish to imply that an "adopted" child fares worse upon the whole than the farmer's own child, yet I am quite sure that the position of all these children adopted in view "of their future usefulness" is such as to justify the recommendation for more strict supervision which I venture to offer in another part of this Report.

There is a wide difference in the position of the employers with whom children are placed in service, whether under indenture or verbal agreement. Many of them are yeomen farming their own land of one or two hundred acres. Some of them are old settlers or sons of old settlers, living in good houses, a few of stone or brick, the greater number the ordinary Canadian plank house. Some of them, again, are only recent settlers, or men who have just taken up their allotment. I have several times driven through miles of forest to find the child of whom I was in quest in a remote log hut, or "shanty," the settler's first home, just put up upon the few acres of recently cleared land. It might be thought that the position of a child so placed would be exceptionally hard and dreary. I must say, however, that some of the best examples of adoption or service that came under my notice were in homes of that humble character. Employers and children seemed somehow to be mutually more dependent upon each other than in more thickly settled sections, and I saw quite enough of that class of people to feel justified in saying that, for a boy at all events, hardly any better class of service as a preparation for Canadian life can be found. A lad who has passed his early years in such service will have acquired the special knowledge that is essential for success in Canadian farming, and in which so many of our adult emigrants are so deplorably deficient. Except amongst the more wealthy class, gentlemen farmers, the children who have been adopted live with the family and are a part of it. It has more than once happened to me to have a former workhouse child for my neighbour at the abundant meal of which Canadian hospitality always expects the stranger to partake. This, however, is the bright side of the picture. Though generally kind and just, the Canadian farmer is often an exacting and unthoughtful master. Bound to make the most of his short season, he works through seed time and harvest from daylight to dark, and expects every hand that is capable of work to do the same. Many of the children who have been placed out in service at 13 or 14 years of age have certainly a hard time of it.

Farm service, however, forms only one, though the larger part, of the employments in which these emigrant children are engaged. Many of them, far too many, are placed out in domestic service in towns and villages. This is certainly the least desirable sort of service in which they can be engaged. It is no reflection upon any class of Canadian people to say that in no English town or village of about the same population and general character are children who are merely servants, and who are strangers and friendless, exposed to greater risks than in such a country as Canada. The facilities for getting employment and the temptation of a few dollars more wages induces constant change of place, unsettled habits, and an assertion of independence at an age that most needs restraint. The evil of this is much more felt in domestic service or other employments in towns and villages than it is in the country amongst the farming class. In saying this I only repeat what persons of experience, some of them connected with the "Homes," have often observed to me. It frequently happens, too, that the situations in

which children are placed in towns and villages are of a very inferior character. It is taking a favourable view of the position of a servant-of-all-work in the house of a small tradesman, or of a nurse girl in the family of a mechanic, to say that it is no better in Canada than it is in England. Some of the places indeed, are worse than a Board of Guardians would consent to place a child in in England. Finally, many of Miss Rye's children are in the States, some of them having been placed in service there : others having been induced to leave their Canadian service and go over the border.

I have said so much with reference to the character of the service and homes in which these children are placed as it may enable you to appreciate more fully the character of the supervision that is exercised over them and the view that I venture to take respecting it.

The children brought out by Miss Macpherson are, as I have already explained, distributed from three Homes—Belleville, Knowlton, and Galt. Miss Barber and the friends by whom she is assisted profess to visit and watch over the children who have been committed to their care. Miss Bilbrough and Miss Reavell perform the same duty in respect of the Belleville and Galt Homes, but they are assisted by Mr. Thom, who was formerly the schoolmaster at Miss Macpherson's Home in England, but who now devotes himself very assiduously to the duty of visiting the children in the Province of Ontario. Miss Rye does not profess to have any regular or organised means of supervision at all. Gentlemen like Mr. Ball at Niagara, and Mr. Robson at Newcastle, undertake voluntarily the duty of assisting in placing the children out in service, and of visiting them afterwards. Unless Miss Rye hears an unfavourable report with reference to any particular child, she appears to assume that it is doing well, and that it does not require attention from her. A very extensive correspondence, however, is maintained with employers. How far this is a satisfactory substitute for systematic visiting I shall consider presently.

Having described briefly, but I believe quite fairly, the system of emigration of children under the care of Miss Macpherson and Miss Rye, from their being collected in England to their being placed out in Canada, I shall now direct your attention to what appear to me to be defects in each stage of the proceedings, and then take leave to submit to you the conclusions at which I have arrived, upon the whole system as now conducted.

Of the children sent out, a large proportion, as I have observed, are described as being of the very lowest class—the semi-criminals of our large cities and towns. It appears to be thought that within a few weeks, in some cases indeed within a few days, these children who have grown up with the habits and associations that Miss Macpherson and Miss Rye and others describe can be brought under such moral and religious influence as to make it safe to place them out in service in a new country, and under conditions that are certainly not favourable to their future success. With these children are immediately associated the pauper children who are sent out by Boards of Guardians. These latter usually have had some few years preliminary education and industrial training. It might be difficult, even if it were desirable, to trace separately the career in Canada of these two classes of children, and to strike the balance of success or failure between them. In spite, however, of the prejudice, unfounded I believe it to be, that prevails in this country, as to the effects of workhouse training, it is most unfair to the children of Poor Law Unions that they should be associated in this scheme of emigration with the class of children to

whom I have already referred. The ladies who are most interested in the conduct of this enterprise must be sensible that Canadians who at first looked upon it with favour see reason, many of them to modify, and many of them to totally change, their first opinion of it. Amongst those who at the outset gave hearty support to Miss Macpherson's efforts was the Warden of the county of Hastings, in which the first Home, Belleville, is situated. In one of her earlier publications Miss Macpherson printed a letter from the Warden as evidence of the official favour with which her plan was received. That gentleman whose sympathies were at first so warmly enlisted in support of a benevolent scheme, and whose opinion is entitled to so much weight, has since repeatedly assured me, that he felt compelled, though reluctantly, to change his views of it. It would take a long time, he said, to eradicate the evil that had been produced in his own immediate neighbourhood by the class of children who had been imported into it. A dignitary of the Church of England in Canada, to whom I had written respecting a boy in his service, replies :—"From what I have seen of the "generality of the street boys who come out, it would be better for "the country to keep them until they are old enough to enlist, as "nothing but military discipline will have much effect on them, for "here they seem to think that they are not to submit to control, "but act as they think fit. This is owing in some measure, pro-"bably, to the unexpected change in their circumstances." A gentleman of the highest commercial position in an important town gave me the history of the brief period of service of one of those boys whom he had taken into his house. If printed it might be read as a chapter from the life of a modern Jack Sheppard. The managers of the Homes are familiar with numerous cases of complaints of insubordination, falsehoods, petty thefts, and of still graver offences. I confess I was surprised to find how frequently such complaints were repeated by employers during my visits, and how often I heard the determination expressed "never to take another." I do not say that such complaints apply exclusively or even more to what are called the "arab" children than to workhouse children, but they are made, and in too many cases I found them to be well founded. They will continue to be repeated until the whole system is brought into discredit, unless much greater care and discrimination are exercised in selecting and preparing the children for emigration. The first step towards improvement would be to avoid placing any child out in service who had not already undergone a reasonable period of industrial training. With that view it would, I think, be much better if the training Homes could be in Canada rather than in England. Indeed it would appear that the assent of the Local Government Board was originally obtained to the emigration of pauper children, upon the understanding that such Homes did actually exist in Canada. Writing to H.M. Secretary for the Colonies in April 1873, the Board, speaking of the emigration of children under the care of Miss Macpherson and Miss Rye, observe :—"The children emigrating under this system are, as "the Board understand, placed in the first instance in training esta-"blishments, where they are maintained and fitted for situations after-"wards provided for them." This no doubt is what ought to be done, but what is not and never has been done. In whatever way the change is to be effected, whether by a longer training in Homes in England, or by the substitution of Industrial Schools in Canada, it is certain that a radical change in this first stage would be absolutely necessary if the system were continued. If no steps be taken in this direction, Boards

of Guardians would not be justified in allowing the children, for whom they are responsible, to be mixed up and disposed of indiscriminately with these "Arab" children for whose welfare Miss Rye as well as Miss Macpherson are mainly interested. Of what these ladies have done, and are endeavouring to do, for that class of children it is impossible to speak too highly. Assuming that there is no exaggeration in the accounts that are given of the state out of which these children are "rescued" no person who has not seen them in their Canadian homes can realise the contrast between the past and present condition of a large number of them. But there remains a very considerable proportion indeed to whom the change is simply of country and climate, not of habits and character. No one can mix with the people, listen to their unreserved talk about these children, and hear the facts that are stated by them,—and in these respects I believe I have had opportunities not open to Miss Rye or Miss Macpherson or their representatives—without feeling strongly that the system is becoming discredited through the incapacity, unfitness, too often the gross misconduct of many of the children who are sent out. The fact that these children get places, and when they leave them get other places, and manage to keep them for a year or two, must not be taken to prove that their employers are satisfied with them, even while they keep them. So great is the demand for the sort of service that even young children can render, that, as I have often heard it expressed, "we must put up with anything." The conditions of service too are generally so much in favour of the employer, that in consideration of getting cheap labour he may be willing to "put up" with serious faults of character and conduct. However that may be, it is certain that there is much greater dissatisfaction with these children, though it may not be as yet very openly or very generally expressed, than probably Miss Rye or Miss Macpherson are aware of. This feeling arises, I am sure, in a great measure from the fact that children are sent out who are wholly unfit for the position into which they are suddenly thrown.

No child, boy or girl, of the age of say 12 years or upwards, ought to be put out to service in Canada unless after two or three years preliminary industrial training. For girls that training should be, if possible, in the families of Canadian householders. To gather children of that age off the streets, or to accept them from guardians without satisfactory assurance of their fitness for service, and to send them out to take their chance of finding those "splendid homes" in Canada that are written about, is really to do serious injury to the children, and to permanently prejudice a system of emigration that, if properly organised, might effect infinite good to the Dominion if not to England.

The mode of removing these children from England to Canada would be less open to objection than it is if they were not brought out in such large numbers at a time. Parties of about 50 would be much more manageable on board ship, on that tedious and fatiguing journey from Quebec to their destination, and above all in the placing of them out in service. I have already stated that the party (150) whose departure from Liverpool with Miss Rye I witnessed was under the charge of a matron, who appeared to be a kind and intelligent woman. But her duties, children who came out under her care told me, did not involve the sort of service of which children under such circumstances stand most in need. Nor would the attendance of one person, even if wholly given to so large a number of children, mostly girls, be sufficient. Describing her first passage out with a hundred boys, Miss Macpherson speaks of "nearly all the lads being very sea sick" for the first few days. "They lay like herrings in a barrel around the funnel on

" deck, in nooks under the small boats; some too bad to be hauled " up the ladder. No small work was it to cheer and rouse them out " of this condition." The case must be much worse with girls. As they as well as boys are restricted to the emigrant's allowance of sleeping space, the " bunks " being so arranged as to make it almost impossible, quite impossible in a heavy sea (when, as one of them said to me, " we all sicked over each other,") for the children to get in and out without assistance. Every party of these young emigrants should be accompanied by as many female attendants, accustomed to the sea, as would secure the undivided service of one to a certain fixed number of children. Such an arrangement is the more necessary, as the personal cleanliness of the children is very much neglected during the voyage. Upon their arrival at the Homes a very considerable number of them are found to be in a most filthy condition, their heads swarming with vermin. Several employers having stated to me that they received them in this condition, I brought it under the notice of the authorities of the Knowlton Home. The explanation given of children being allowed to leave in such a state was, that people were so impatient to get them that, although cautioned as to their condition, they would insist upon taking them. Children, I was assured, are not allowed to leave Miss Rye's Home until they are in a fit state. With reference to her children, however, I heard of more than one similar complaint. Upon their arrival at Niagara they are described as being usually in as bad a condition as the others. Greater attention during the voyage might, to some extent at least, obviate this cause of complaint.

The " Homes " in which these children are received are not, as I have already said, intended for more than their temporary reception, pending their being placed out in service. If they were restricted to that, though some of the arrangements are far from satisfactory, it would be unreasonable to insist upon those conditions that are deemed essential in English workhouses. But a very brief experience must have satisfied the managers of these Homes that they cannot avoid appropriating them to other uses besides that of receiving children for the purpose of distribution. Children are for one cause or other constantly returned to them. The average number of returned children in Miss Rye's Home, she informed me, was about 20. If returned for any other cause than illness, there ought to be the means of employing them, of trying to cure, by systematic industrial work, the faults for which in nine cases out of ten they are sent back. These Homes, too, ought to be much more accessible to children than they are. The managers of them profess indeed to encourage the children to look to the Homes as places of refuge in any time of trouble or distress. I cannot say that I think they have been successful in creating such a feeling of confidence. Over and over again I have been told of the dread of children to go back to the Home, and employers have observed to me, that as a last resource, when all other means had failed, they had to " threaten to send them back to the Home." " She would like a " visit from Miss Rye, sir, very well, but you cannot scare her worse " than to threaten to send her back to the Home," was the remark to me of the mistress of one of these girls. A case was mentioned to me of a child who on her way back to " Our Western Home " was noticed crying in the railway station. She was accosted by a woman who, upon hearing her story, sent her upon her own authority to a place of service hard by. It may be difficult to deal with cases of this sort, to make it easy for children to return without at the same time weakening the

motives to good conduct. The difficulty, however, is unavoidable, and should be met by classification, discipline, and systematic work under an efficient staff of officers. In every one of these establishments, even in those in which boys only, or girls only, are received, there should be means of keeping the very young apart from those who might be returned for misconduct. Suitable provision should be made for sick and infectious cases. Regulations adapted to the character of the establishments should be prescribed. All these establishments should in the first instance be certified as industrial schools are certified in England. They should be periodically inspected, as workhouses are in England, by an officer either of the provincial or county government, or by some person appointed for the purpose, and wholly independent of the managers, and they should be visited from time to time by a visiting committee, as workhouses are in England. Such arrangements would be as much in the interest of the managers of the establishments as of the children who are received into them. Several children have complained to me of their treatment while in one or other of the Homes. One intelligent girl complained that "the "bread was mouldy, and what was called meat was unfit to eat." Another, to whose truthfulness her mistress testified somewhat emphatically by saying "You couldn't hire that girl to tell a lie," described to me her punishment at "Our Western Home" for having been returned for bad temper, or, as I find it recorded by Miss Rye, "violent temper." She was placed in a room at the top of the house (it is a large airy room) and kept there in solitary confinement for 11 days upon bread and water, without book or work to divert her thoughts. The only persons she saw during that time were the child who brought her her bread and water allowance, and Miss Martin, who used to ask her if she had received it. If that statement be true, should not some prescribed regulations put it out of the power of any irresponsible person to do so grievous a wrong to a child for any offence whatever? If it be not true, the visits of a committee, and the record of an "Offences and Punishment Book" would be Miss Rye's best protection against having such a story caught up and repeated by persons in Canada who are but too eager to give ear to any statement to her prejudice, or to the discredit of a system in which she is so deeply interested. Neither in the townships nor in the counties of Ontario, I except the large cities, are there hospitals or refuges to which the "Homes" can subscribe for the reception of patients. Cases of sickness, however, are not unfrequent, and during my short visit two cases of illegitimate births came to my knowledge, the mothers being young girls, one brought out by Miss Macpherson, the other by Miss Rye. People who promote the emigration of children should bear in mind that in Canada there are no poor laws. Even those who contend that a country, especially a new country, will get on better without them cannot but admit that orphan and deserted children sent out as emigrants stand in altogether an exceptional position, and should not be deprived of that help in distress that the law would have given them had they not been removed from their own country. It appears to be but reasonable that up to a certain age every child should be entitled to admission to, and support, when "destitute," in the Home from which it may have been sent into service, of course under such strict conditions as should guard the right from being abused, or from operating as an inducement to idleness or misconduct. It may be enough to say now, of the two cases to which I have just referred, that the circumstances of them illustrate very forcibly the defect of these "Homes" in not

having been organized so as to provide for the relief of such cases, and indeed of all cases of destitution, from whatever cause, that may arise amongst the children who have been sent from them into the world.

As to the effect of the mode of distributing the children I would specially direct your attention to the list of cases to which I have already referred. It contains all the information that I have been able to collect with reference to every pauper child who is alleged to have been sent out under the care of Miss Rye and Miss Macpherson. That information is exceedingly meagre, and the fact that it is so is a very strong ground indeed of dissatisfaction with the whole system of emigration as it has been heretofore conducted. But what I desire to call your attention to now is the evidence furnished in this statement of the frequent and early change of place by the children. Owing to the very rapid dispersion of these young emigrants, the sending them into service immediately upon their arrival in Canada, Miss Rye or Miss Macpherson, or their representatives, can know very little—in the majority of pauper cases absolutely nothing—of their character or disposition, or peculiar aptitude, if they have any, or unfitness for service. Yet the success of a child will very often depend upon its finding a suitable first place, to use Miss Macpherson's phrase, upon selecting the child "most suited to the requirements of the situations." When one thinks what must be the depressing effect upon a child of being sent back to the "Home" disappointed and discouraged by early failure, it is impossible not to feel very strongly that those who assume the responsibility of finding homes for them should have patience—keeping the children, notwithstanding the additional expense, until they could learn something of their tempers, dispositions, and fitness for service, and something too of the temper and disposition of the people to whom they send them, so that there might be a reasonable chance of employer and child getting on together. The importance of carefully selecting the places for these children appears to have been fully appreciated by Miss Macpherson in the earlier days of her work—"when we were able calmly to see the "masters, and talk over each individual character, telling all antece- "dents, and, as far as we were able, fitting the capabilities of the boys "to the requirements of the situations." Giving an account of a meeting at Ottawa, she recounts how "at the close of the meeting a "fine-looking farmer's wife came forward and said: 'I will be respon- "'sible for eight of your boys; my home is upon the Ottawa river; "'my sons live all around our parent homestead and will take one "'each. The Rev. J. McClaren will give our recommend; we are old "'settlers.' Notwithstanding the heartiness of this offer *we judged it "best that the homes should be seen;* so Mr. Thom, our superintendent, "saw each boy placed ere he left the district, and intends to visit them "again at the end of the first quarter. *It is by this wholesome super- "vision that much disappointment which would necessarily ensue has "been hitherto prevented.*" To some extent this "wholesome supervision" is still exercised from all of Miss Macpherson's Homes, each of which she has been fortunate enough to be able to place under the care of a volunteer superintendent animated by her own zeal, and labouring in her own spirit of devotion to her work. That which appears to be the most important, as it certainly is the most successful, part of that work—the placing out of very young children for adoption in families—is done to a greater extent from the Belleville Home than from any other, and is, so far, done almost exclusively through the personal exertions of Miss Bilbrough. The liberal and unostentatious way in which that lady devotes the rare gifts with which she is endowed to the fulfilment of very onerous duties is beyond all

praise. But it is impossible for any of those who are responsible for placing the children out to have sufficient previous knowledge of the homes to which they send them. "The homes should be seen," but they are not seen. The truth appears to be, that in this respect, as in others, the work has rapidly outgrown the means provided for carrying it on, assuming that the means were sufficient at the outset. Miss Macpherson trusts to agencies that are wholly inadequate for obtaining requisite information; Miss Rye trusts to the accident of being able to find persons in different districts who will relieve her from the responsibility not only of finding suitable homes but of looking after the children when they are placed in them. As to the "recommends" that are required their value is not much. A farmer's wife who had one of these children observed, "My minister may know that ours "is a respectable family,—but I guess he can know very little about "my being fit to bring up a child." What the Poor Law Board wrote in 1870 with reference to "boarding-out" in England applies with even greater force to Canada: "Experience has conclusively proved that "unless the homes are carefully selected by persons who have an "intimate knowledge of the locality, and who at the same time take "a responsible interest in the children to be placed out, great abuses "are quite certain to ensue." As a rule, the homes in which children are placed in Canada are not so selected, and it is very certain that "great abuses" do "ensue." Had all the homes been "selected by persons who have an intimate knowledge of the locality," children would not have been placed in such homes as those in which I found some of them, nor if strict inquiry had been made both as to the requirements and character of applicants for children should we hear of such cases as a child being brought back, because it was "too small," then sent to another place "next day," then brought back "because the man drank;" a second brought back "because he was with rough men and learning to swear;" another—several others—for being "too small," as if that could not have been seen before the children were placed out; another because "his master drank;" several changed because "people were not kind to them;" several cases of children being removed because "Miss Rye was not satisfied with the place." I also met with several cases of children being transferred from one place to another, sometimes with the consent of Miss Rye, but without independent inquiry as to the character of the new place, and sometimes without Miss Rye's consent or without her knowledge even. Cases of the sort to which I have just referred—and they are numerous—illustrate very forcibly the necessity of some local committee or other agency, so that "the homes may be carefully selected by persons who have an intimate knowledge of the locality."

If Miss Rye and Miss Macpherson were less anxious to get the children off their hands immediately upon their arrival, not only would they be able to exercise greater discrimination in selecting places, but they would be able to get them out upon better terms.

I cannot help thinking that in a country in which wages are so high, and the cost of living, for a child in a family at least, so low, the terms of service are for the children less favourable than they ought to be. No one can wonder at the restlessness and dissatisfaction of boys and girls of fifteen and sixteen who find themselves "adopted," that is, bound to serve without wages, merely for their maintenance and clothing, until they are eighteen. It is easy to understand that Canada, or indeed any other country, can "absorb" any amount of labour upon such terms. I may here take notice of an impression that appears to prevail very generally in Canada, the expression of which it is difficult to hear—and

I was often compelled to hear it—without impatience, not towards those who, having it constantly dinned into their ears, may naturally enough entertain it, but towards those who are responsible for producing it and keeping it alive. Frequently, when I was unable to recognise any very marked contrast between the condition of pauper children in Canada and of the same class in England, I was reminded that at all events they "have three good meals a day instead of starvation, they have the "prospect of escape from misery and degradation," and so on, in the terms with which one has become familiar in this country. If Union children cannot be disposed of in Canada, except by sending them out with the brand upon them with which they are often so unjustly marked in England, if they must be presented to the people of Canada as objects of pity, to be taken into service as much for charity as for what their labour is worth, it would surely be better to keep them at home, letting them take their chance of what Guardians can do for them amongst their own people.

The want of sufficient care in selecting homes for the children, though a serious defect in this system of emigration, is far less injurious in its results than is the want of proper supervision of them afterwards.

Children who are placed out at an early age, who are really "adopted," become part of the family, forming strong attachments in it, and having the protection of foster-parents whose love for them is, I am satisfied, very often as warm as for their own. But the girls of 12, 13, and 14, who are placed under the indenture of adoption or engagement of service for three, four, or five years, are simply servants, very often I have found dissatisfied servants, looking forward anxiously to being, as their phrase is, "my own mistress." I was frequently cautioned by employers in the course of my visits against letting these girls know that in a year or so they would be at liberty to seek places for themselves. When they become aware of it they are not slow to avail themselves of this newly acquired independence. One girl of about 17 in an excellent place in a clergyman's family, "did not intend to stay beyond next fall." She had nothing to complain of, she was treated with great kindness, but "the place was dull, there was no life in it," and she "thought she could get more wages elsewhere." Another complained bitterly of having been sent to a hard place; she had been (she said) compelled to work in the fields with hired men; she left—ran away in fact—and got a situation for herself. She "did'nt want Miss "Rye's help. Miss Rye had placed her out for three dollars; she found "a place for herself where she was getting four." These two were strong, healthy, well grown and well looking girls. Now Miss Macpherson and Miss Rye must be aware from cases within their own knowledge, as well as within mine, to what this sort of independence is likely to lead. Such cases may as yet be few; but the great bulk of these girls are as yet children. Their position when they have completed their term of adoption or apprenticeship cannot fail, I am sure, to be a source of considerable anxiety to those who are responsible for bringing them to Canada. They will find themselves without friends or advisers, and, as a rule, without associations that attach them to families or to neighbourhoods in which they are known. Facilities of communication are great; situations easily had; wages high. Girls will be naturally attracted to towns and cities where the difficulty of finding domestic servants is so great that employers who wish to keep them cannot venture to impose even reasonable restriction upon that excessive personal independence that in Canada seems to characterise all service. Some protection against dangers to which girls would be thus

exposed might be found in the careful placing of the children at a very early age, and then by close and systematic supervision, first by committees of respectable people who might be induced to take and maintain an interest in the children, and whom the children would by degrees come to know and to confide in; and then by persons specially appointed for the purpose, and wholly independent of those who might be engaged in the administration of this system of emigration. The preliminary service by adoption or apprenticeship of children in Canada, as well as the actual adoption of infants, appears to me to stand upon precisely the same footing as "boarding out" in England and Scotland, and to require, even more than in England and Scotland, to be guarded by similar precautions. Addressing the Guardians of the Evesham Union in 1869, the Board observe:—"The arrangements for the inspec-" tion of the children in Scotland are very rigorous, and a careful " organisation is employed for the purpose of selecting the families " with whom the children are to be placed. It is evident that the " most disastrous consequences would ensue if the greatest vigilance " were not exercised in this respect." Again, in the circular letter that accompanied the boarding-out order, it was observed:—"The " Board could not sanction the placing of children in distant homes " without a definite plan being submitted to them for the superin-" tendence and regular visiting of the children thus boarded out. " Article I. accordingly contains a proviso, that satisfactory arrange-" ments must in all cases be made with two or more persons, to be " called the Boarding-out Committee, for finding and superintending " such homes." As, in the opinion of the Board, "the success of the " system appears to depend entirely on the regularity of the inspection " of the homes where the children are placed," provision is made by the order for periodical visits at intervals not longer than three months by members of the Committee, and "the Board think it important that " besides the visits of the members of the Committee an official inspec-" tion should be instituted, though at less frequent intervals." While stringent regulations in accordance with these views are laid down in England and Scotland, no official safeguard of any description whatever is provided for the protection of children who are scattered over the Dominion. The necessity of systematic supervision is fully admitted by Miss Rye, who has not provided for it at all, and by Miss Macpherson, who has provided for it very imperfectly. Writing to the Poor Law Board in 1872, Miss Rye was of opinion that when the work grew inspection would be necessary, and, having at heart the future success and permanency of her system of juvenile emigration, she is now of opinion, as she has several times intimated to me, that to that end the organi-sation of a scheme of periodical visiting and reporting is indispensable. Indeed, girls are intrusted to her upon her undertaking that they shall be "looked after until they are eighteen years of age." Nor has Miss Macpherson by the partial system of supervision that she has adopted avoided the risk at which she hints when she writes:—"It would be " easy to set the little emigrant afloat, and as it were let him 'paddle " his own canoe' on the ocean of life, inquiring no further as to his " welfare." But this, unhappily, is just what has been done. The little emigrants have been set afloat, and too many of them let to "paddle their own canoes" until, as Miss Macpherson might express it, some of them have gone over the rapids, and others are already lost sight of in the great human tide of the Western cities.

In a letter addressed by Miss Reavell, who has the care of the Galt Home, to Miss Macpherson, as late as April 1874, there is a frank admission of the defects of the present system of visiting, and some

sensible observations upon the necessity of improving it. She observes: "The distances being great, and Home duties numerous, we cannot "visit the children as we would wish." * * * * * * * * "It would occupy one's whole time to do it satisfactorily;" she finds that "a visit to a child with a word of encouragement or advice is of "great service;" and regrets her "inability to make this more frequent "and general." Although much assisted by voluntary agents and by occasional transatlantic visitors, Miss Reavell is evidently sensible of the defects of the present system, and of the great need of a well-organised system of visiting. What Miss Reavell says of the Galt district may with equal truth be said of Knowlton and Belleville. It would be quite impossible for the ladies who are in charge of these Homes to do more than pay an occasional visit to children who might happen to be within an easy distance. It is true that the Galt and Belleville districts have the advantage of being visited by an agent appointed for the purpose, but however great may be the zeal and activity of Mr. Thom, and he is very zealous and very active, it is impossible that he can do more than pay an occasional visit to some of the children. The result is that cases very frequently occur that require attention but do not receive it, and that all the information that is possessed with reference to a very considerable number of the children is merely hearsay, something that a neighbour says or may have heard somebody else say. Take such a case as that of A. P., who had been nine years in the Southampton Workhouse where his conduct is reported to have been "fair," to whom no visit appears to have been paid, but of whom "satisfactory accounts" were for some time received from his master, who applied to have another boy sent to him; then wrote again, "but not in a nice manner;" then complained that the boy would not attend Sunday school; then neglected to answer "several letters" that were addressed to him; yet no visit is paid, but the superintendent of the Home hears, from somebody, that the boy had stolen $100, and was sent to the penitentiary. Reading this, and observing how many more cases are left wholly unvisited, and how many are very imperfectly visited, it is easy to see how this emigration has outgrown the means at first provided for carrying it on, and how far short it falls of Miss Macpherson's first intention when she wrote:—"Our plan of emigration involved more than is usually under-"stood in such work. We felt that we had no right in the sight of "God to rescue a lad and send him afloat to find his way by himself as "he best could in a new land, but that we should follow him on "through life, and have faith to meet him, when life is over, on the "shore of eternity. To do a smaller work of emigration in this way "appeared to be our Father's will." The "smaller work of emigration," however, has been abandoned—only temporarily it may be hoped—for one very much larger and more unmanageable, in which the child is certainly not followed through life, or through the most perilous period of it. Fortunate it is that "the boys and girls in our land" did not a short time since respond to the very earnest appeal of Miss Macpherson, by "setting to work" to collect "five pounds per head," so that "by "next spring we may have the joy of starting off a thousand young "hopefuls from our dens of vice" to the Province of Ontario. Again, take the case of S. M., a girl of 18, who was brought out in 1871. She had been an inmate of Southampton Workhouse for four years, where she is reported to have been "fairly intelligent," "conduct good." The following is the information respecting her received from the Home: —"Placed from Montreal in a good home with a lady there. Wrote occasionally saying S. M. was a great trial, that she had done all for her

" she could; wrote end of January 1872, she wished to send her up to " the Home. Wrote it was impossible for me to receive her, as the Home " was burnt; to wait till we had another. Sent her in a fortnight saying " her character was so bad she would keep her no longer. Remained " one night at our friends. L. W. T. drove her out to a situation at " Frankfort, near her sister, May 2nd, 1872. Heard from Mr. F., of " Frankfort, she was doing badly and had left several places. Returned " to the Home. Found her a place near Stirling; soon left. January " 1873, called at the Home; seemed giddy and light; long talk and " advice. October 1873, a woman called, said S.M. had lost her character; " was in need of clothes. Sent her large parcel, and went to see her; " seemed very hardened. March 1874, sent both money and clothes to " help her during illness; child died." I call your attention to this case because it appears to me to illustrate most of the defects of the system to which I have already referred. It appears that the girl was placed in service in the city of Montreal immediately upon her arrival from England. Her mistress wrote occasionally complaining of her, but no one appears to have made inquiry until she was returned to Belleville in January 1872. The "next day" she is placed in a fresh situation, after which it is "heard" that she is "doing badly and had left several places." In January 1873 she called at the Home, and "seemed giddy and light; long talk and advice." As I have already observed, there is no provision at the Home for the reception and proper treatment of children who return under such circumstances. If there had been it is possible that the future of that girl's life might have had a different course. I am sure that she received very good advice, and that it was given in a very kind and judicious spirit. Still advice was apparently all that she did receive; and in the following October a woman called to say that the girl had "lost her character, and was in need of clothes." She was visited by the lady in charge of the Home, and "seemed very hardened." With the assistance of Mr. Thom and of the medical gentleman who attended her in her confinement, I traced the girl to a low lodging-house. As she complained very bitterly of her treatment, but without being able to state a single fact in support of her complaint except that she was refused admittance to the Home, I arranged that she should see Miss Macpherson on the following evening in my presence at the Home. I received from her, however, in the evening the following letter. I do not hesitate to submit it to you, although I am satisfied that the conduct of the lady who is referred to in the letter was not such as to warrant the tone in which she is spoken of. The girl consented, however, to come to "the Home," and had an opportunity of making her complaint in Miss Macpherson's presence. She could allege nothing more definite than that she had been scolded, had been sent to hard places, and had been refused admission to the Home. With this explanation, and for the reason I have already stated, I think it but right to let the girl tell her own story:—" Dear Sir,—I write to tell you that I would very " much like to see you on Wednesday, but no, I cannot any more " have the heart to go to Marchmont, for it has never been a home " for me, although it was told to me and all the rest, that when we " came to Canada it was to be a home. But, sir, I have known the " time when I would have been glad for a bit to eat and a bed to lie " on, for I my own self have had to sleep in barns for a shelter when " the snow have been so thick, and no person would be seen out, and " have been to Marchmont for a shelter, and was turned away, so " that I have nothing to thank them for. If I had only taken my " parents' advice I would not have been here, but as long as they can

" bring out poor children to be pounded half to death, and slave to the " uttermost, that is all they care for. I know ———— has got me " several places, and me not know how to do their work as they did; " they would scold, and offer to strike me, and of course I would leave; " and another thing, I was not going to be told that I was glad to come " to Canada, for I was half starved, and was picked off the streets in " London, and my parents were drunkards. Dear sir, nobody knows " what a girl has to put up with that comes from the old country, for " they know we have no parents to take our part, and they can do as " they like. It is well for ———— to talk about the girls that is " working for their living, she does not know what a girl has to put up " with. I always tried to do what I could, and every time I went to " ————, she would always be scolding and telling me things " what folks said about me, and I always thought I would not try to " do right any more, for nobody cared for me; for there was a time " when I was sick, and had all my clothes taken away to pay for my " board, and only one dress to cover me, and was obliged to borrow " money to get clothing with. I have been in Canada three years, and " have worked my way through sorrow and woe, and can do so still, even " when we were so far away from our parents. They would not let " me see the only sister I had, and there is many more just like me, so " when I get better and able to go work, I am going to New London, " and I was a very foolish girl to leave England, for I had a good home " if it was a orphan's home. I must conclude.—I remain, your humble " servant, S. M."

It is due solely to the extreme kindness of Mr. and Mrs. Robson that a girl who was placed in service by them is now able to find a temporary place of refuge under similar circumstances. I may say of this case, that so completely does Miss Rye trust to the care and supervision of friends, that she was not able to give me the address of the girl or the particulars of the case when I applied to her. Her confidence, however, in Mr. and Mrs. Robson is fully justified by the great interest that they take in the children.

G. B., a boy of 13, from the Cheltenham Union, was placed out in Montreal " the day after landing." Nothing heard of him since 1872.

T. B. was placed out in 1870, and visited in that year. Further reports, if any, lost in the fire in 1872. Nothing heard of him since.

M. G., a girl of 17, sent out from the Southampton Union. Her conduct and intelligence while in the workhouse is reported " fair." She was seen or selected by Miss Macpherson before she was sent out. All the information that I could obtain with reference to this girl is, that she was placed in service with the Reverend C., of Amhurst Island. " Is " giving satisfaction, and writes she is happy. Heard unsatisfactory " accounts. Left her place. Heard nothing further from her. July " 1871, turned out bad. Mr. C. had taken every pains with her. Ran " away, and determined to go back to her former life." As to what " her former life " was, or under what circumstances she entered upon it, nothing seems to be known, no more than of her ultimate fate. There is no record of any visit having been paid to her.

L. O. was first placed with Mr. B., " who spoke against Miss Mac- " pherson, which was more than the girl could bear;" left. " Pleases " Dr. H. by her bright and cheerful way. Has done very badly for " some time. Spring, 1873, Mr. R. called, received unfavourable report. " December 1873, heard that she and her baby of four months old " were at Brighton." I could not obtain her present address.

There is no record of E. S. having been visited at all, but I have received the following account of her:—" Doing well in first place; is

" thankful she has met with such good friends. July 1871, still in her " first place doing well. Did well at Mr. C.'s, but they did not want " her. Went to P. November 1872. She is happy; left February " 1873. Went back to Mr. C., left again April. Mrs. C. writes, 'Emma " untruthful and impertinent.' April 10th, arranged for her to be sent " to refuge in Montreal; heard afterwards she went back to Mr. G. H. " July 1874, wrote for information for Mr. Doyle." (No information received.)

" Sent F. to Mr. A. S., who wanted a young man to assist in farm " work; one of our boys had done well with him. Writes in January " 1872, he only staid one week with him, and left without cause; " heard nothing since." No visit appears to have been paid to F. B.

The information given to me with reference to G. P. is, " Address and " reports lost in fire. Traced him to Mr. Smith, who writes, in answer " to letter of July 1872, ' G. P. only staid with us a short time, when " ' he ran away; I know not where he is.' "

F. P. " Reports and address lost in fire. No further tidings from " this Home."

The only information I could obtain from the Home with reference to W. W. and H. W. is, " Sent post card. No answer."

There is no record of J. G. having been visited. " Has been in " several places; very short-sighted and half-witted; heard of him " wandering about; called and stayed a night at Marchmont, January " 1873. Invited him to come again at any time; said he was working " near Shannonville."

T. E. does not appear to have been visited. " $30 for one year to be " spent in clothes, and as much school as possible. Returned to March- " mont beginning of January; needed treatment for cutaneous affections. " Taken by Mr. C. on month's trial, April 8th, 1873. Mr. C. writes, " ' Will keep T. until I commence ploughing, and see how he does; " ' will give him what clothes is right for him; let me know what you " ' think about it.' June 9th, received a letter from Mr. C., stating T. " ran away."

Although R. J., who is said to have had several good homes, was in a town close to the Home, I was unable to get his address.

The reports, &c. in the case of T. S. were lost in fire. Present address not known.

I have upon my notes the names of several employers, who complained that no one seemed to take any interest in the children after they were placed out; that no one visited them or inquired about them. Even at Drummondville and St. Catherine's, each within an easy distance of " Our Western Home," I met with several cases that had not been visited since the children had been placed out, some of them so long as three or four years ago. There are amongst them cases that certainly ought to have received attention. The address of a boy named G. McM. was given to me as being with Mr. M., Port Hope. He was not there, nor was his present address known there. His sister, Annie McM., I found, as directed, in the service of Mrs. G. of St. Catherine's, a very kind, decent sort of woman. She told me that Annie had received " a pitiable letter " from her brother, complaining that he was placed with a farmer at the back of Port Hope, who " used him very badly." The sister was so distressed that Mrs. G. sent her son for the boy. He brought him to St. Catherine's, where Mrs. G. got him a situation with a Mr. R., a saw maker, who soon afterwards went to Rochester, in the States; sent for the boy; did not succeed in getting work in Rochester, and came back to St. Catherine's, where he kept the boy for two months, and during that time turned him twice out of doors. Upon the last occasion

he was found at the corner of the street sitting on his box crying. He was taken in by Mrs. G., who kept him for some weeks, and got his present situation, assistant to a small market gardener, where he is in a very humble home, but is kindly treated. His employer, however, talks of "going to the West." The boy, when I found him, confirmed the preceding statement, adding details of hardship that it is unnecessary to repeat. He had been in the Chichester Workhouse for three years, where his conduct was reported to be "good." The information furnished to the Guardians about him from Canada is :—"Good accounts are received "from this child. He is at St. Catherine's, in a gentleman's family." The boy's own description of the place in "a gentleman's family" was, that his master was a "sort of middlin farmer ; that he was put to wash "the dishes, scrub floors, drive cattle, and do little chores about the "house." ("Chores" is a term peculiar to domestic service in Canada, and embraces all the little odds and ends of household work that children can do, and are employed to do at a very early age.) The good woman who so kindly interested herself for the boy, observed to me—"You are the first person, sir, who has ever been to visit these children "or to make any inquiry about them." I should observe, on the other hand, that Miss Rye took me to visit several cases, about 40, many of them near to, but some at a little distance from Niagara. I may say generally of them all, that the children were in a satisfactory state, some of them remarkably so, and that Miss Rye appeared to have intimate knowledge of the circumstances of nearly all of these cases. But there are many others of which nothing authentic is known, as they have not been visited ; others still, as the following, of which all trace seems to have been lost.

E. B. is lost sight of.

C. C. left her second place a year ago. Present address not known.

J. C. believed to have left last reported situation. The present address of M. H. is not known at "Our Western Home."

Not sure whether C. L. is in last reported situation.

A. L's. present address not known.

A. C., after being in seven different places, and in the House of Refuge at Rock Port in the United States, has been lost sight of.

M. C. has changed places several times, but her present address is not known.

It is "a little doubtful whether E. C. is still in her last reported situation."

E. D. has been removed, but her present address is not known.

J. F., who has had seven or eight different places, is said to be in the neighbourhood of "Our Western Home," and "believed" to be doing respectably, but address not known.

M. A. G. has left her place, and her present address is not known.

Not known whether H. H. is still in her last reported situation, which was her sixth place.

Not sure that H. J. is in her fourth place ; the last address that was given to me.

M. McN., instead of going to her fourth place, went on the town, and is now leading an immoral life.

Miss Rye gave me the address of E. M. as living with Mr. J. C., and added that she was "doubtful whether still there." Upon visiting some of the children, I found that E. M. had left Mr. J. C. 2½ years ago, and had been since then with Mrs. B., who had never seen Miss Rye or had any arrangement about the child.

Miss Rye could not give me the address of A. P., but stated that after being with Dr. W. she went over to the States to Mr. B. Lost her

character there, and Miss Rye has a strong suspicion that she has returned to England.

A. P. having left Mr. G. P. her present address is not known.

S. S.'s present address is not known.

E. W.; address not known.

E. W.'s address is at Dr. C., but Miss Rye is doubtful whether she is still there.

Doubtful whether H. W. is still with Mr. E. P.

E. B. is now in her third place, quite close to "Our Western Home," but Miss Rye having mislaid the papers could not give me her address.

A. C.'s address is given as living with Mr. J. C., but Miss Rye thinks she is not there now.

[The names in full, the dates of emigration, the names of the Unions from which sent, and the characters given of them by the officers of the several Workhouses, can of course be furnished. But for the purpose of this Report the initials may be sufficient, for the present at least.]

I have probably said enough to satisfy you that the want of proper supervision is a most serious defect of this system of emigration. Miss Rye indeed as I have already said does not pretend to have any plan of visiting at all, and the very imperfect plan that Miss Macpherson has adopted, even if it were much better organised than it is, would be open to the strong objection stated by Miss Rye in her letter to the Board, dated June 10th, 1872: "The extreme absurdity of anyone reporting "upon and overlooking their own work is so apparent that the proposal "to do so is not worthy a second consideration." Nor will any system of reporting and overlooking be satisfactory that is not entrusted to persons who are responsible to authority either in Canada or in England, and at the same time wholly independent of those who may be engaged in organising or administering this system of juvenile emigration. Miss Macpherson and Miss Rye, under whose control that system is now conducted, can really give very little personal attention to the details of it, and are compelled to trust to the voluntary co-operation of others for the work of which they assume the responsibility. Miss Macpherson's labours in England are of so engrossing a character that one only wonders how she is able to give any time to Canada at all. After three months of the most harassing and anxious work in London she crosses the Atlantic to pass her winter in Canada, visiting or endeavouring to visit the hundreds whom she has placed out there; then returns to England to organise her summer parties of young emigrants. Here is Miss Rye's account of one year's work gone through by her:—"I left "the Home in Niagara in February 1873, and travelled night and day "to Portland, to take ship for England. When I reached Portland the "ship advertised was not in port; this necessitated my going on to New "York. I then crossed the Atlantic, and remaining in England until "the 26th of June, recrossed the ocean with 65 children, having pre- "viously dispatched 71 souls on the 1st May. In September I was "again in Quebec, nearly 600 miles from the Home, to meet the third "and last party of children for the season, numbering 58. With these "children I returned the 600 miles to the Home, and after placing out "the whole of the children, at the end of October I went into the "West, visiting the children in the neighbourhood of Mount Forest, "where I have about 30 little ones under the care of Sydney Smith, "J.P., who for a very long time has most kindly assisted me in the "work. There the children came to tea with me, and we had a very "happy little gathering. After a week spent in Mount Forest I went "on to Arthur; saw the six or seven children I have there; went on

" from there to Fergus, from there to Guelph, from Guelph to London, " in all of which places I have children, and visited nearly all of them. " From London I went to Port Stanley, Sherwood, Petrolia, and lastly " to Chatham, returning by Woodstock; on the same errand to all " places. On my return to Niagara, I made up my book from memo- " randa gathered on the journey; made copies of the placing out of the " children for the year; made another journey East, making in all " rather more than 6,000 miles of railway work within the year in " Canada alone; when I crossed the Atlantic for the third time, and " came back to England to dive into your slums, and the sins and " sorrows of your great city."

It is amazing how these ladies can undergo such extraordinary toil; still more amazing how they can express so much confidence in the immediate and ultimate results of a system of which they can personally know so little.

Of these results it is as yet impossible to speak with any degree of confidence. Nine-tenths of the children who have been brought out are still in service, and it remains to be seen how they will turn out. The prospects of a considerable number of them are no doubt promising. Of the prospects of a still greater number no one can honestly say anything one way or other, so little is known about them. Even of those who have been visited, the mere fact of their having been seen should go for very little. The "visits," I must be allowed to say, do not constitute the sort of inspection that is of much use, having a good deal more the character of visits from friends and guests of the employers than of impartial inquiry into the condition and treatment of the children. I could not, for example, ascertain that in a single instance of the cases that I visited had inquiry been made as to the sleeping accommodation of the children. Yet I found several cases in which it seemed to me to be extremely objectionable; a girl sleeping in a very small room with six children; a boy in a small dark recess between two rooms without any means of ventilation; a girl of 11 to 12 in a room away from that of her mistress, without fastening, opening to a lobby from which were the rooms of two men, one hired harvest man of whom the people know nothing except that he was "a good farming hand;" a boy sleeping in a large box rather than a bed, in a room with two hired men, one of whom was lying ill of English cholera that was very prevalent at the time, and of which I was informed three children had recently died in houses close by. Cases were mentioned to me of young girls being left in the winter without suitable under-clothing. I was urged by a lady, a resident in a Canadian village, to call attention to this as being more important to the health of children than strangers might suppose. So with reference to the attendance of children at school, and on Sundays at some place of worship. It is no doubt made a condition, when placing the children out, that they shall have "winter schooling" or "summer schooling." But I met very many cases in which under one pretext or other employers failed to observe this condition. Although attendance at school is by law compulsory, yet I found at many schools that I visited for the purpose of inquiry that as there was no machinery for enforcing attendance it was very irregular. In the country districts, and in a few of the town districts, attendance at Sunday school is the substitute for other schooling, as well as for attendance at any place of religious worship. I should observe, too, that whereas at least ninety per cent. of the pauper children who are sent as emigrants to Canada have been brought up in England as members of the Church of England, full ninety per cent. of those placed out in service in the country attend the places of worship,

when they attend at all, of some denomination of Protestant Dissenters, Presbyterians, Methodists, Baptists, or of Bible Christians.

Although I did not hear of any case of gross cruelty, I did hear of many cases of ill-treatment and hardship. A girl complained to me that "for temper" she had been sent to bed on Saturday afternoon and kept there without food till Sunday evening: a mistress told me that she had kept a girl on bread and water for three days for refusing to admit that she had stolen five cents: a master I ascertained had horse-whipped a girl of 13: I found the marks of a flogging on a boy's shoulders, the flogging having been inflicted a fortnight before: in reply to my question, "Why did you leave your former place?" the answer would very often be to the effect, if not in so many words, "I couldn't "manage to please them; they were always scolding me; they used "to beat me; I was very unhappy." The number of such cases that are unnoticed because not visited are, I fear, very considerable. It is very often said, and I have been assured with great confidence, that there is ample security against the ill-treatment of children in the watchfulness and sympathy of neighbours. Against gross, notorious ill-treatment that may be true. But I certainly was not prepared to find, in the face of such assurances, so many cases as I did in which people directed my attention to facts which they thought I "ought to be made aware of," but always with the condition that I was "not to mention their names," "I wasn't to bring them into it," they "didn't want to be making ill feeling between neighbours," and so forth. Even in the case of an accident which they thought Miss Rye ought to know of, three different persons in telling me of it, requested me not to refer to them. It was the case of a very nice little girl who had had the sight of one eye destroyed by the careless use of fire-arms by the children of the family. The neighbours were strongly of opinion that some compensation ought to be made to the child by her employers, but not one of them, so far as I could learn, had moral courage enough to inform Miss Rye or the other "legally constituted guardians," so that inquiry might be made as to whether it was a case for compensation or not. So my attention was often directed to cases simply by the remark, "I guess you ought to visit" so-and-so, or "that Rye child at———— has a hard place of it." Very often I failed to find the slightest ground for such insinuations, but occasionally they were fully justified.

There is one result, to which I have already referred, limited, I regret to say, as to numbers, of this system of emigration that may be spoken of with unqualified approval, that is, the adoption into families of very young children. The mere fact that people of good character apply for a very young child to adopt with a view to bringing up gratuitously as their own is in itself some guarantee that the child will be well done by. And well done by these children certainly are. I visited several, from children adopted into the families of gentlefolks to those adopted by small hard-working farmers, and I may say that without exception their condition was in all respects most satisfactory. From the very circumstances that lead to their adoption, to fill an empty place in the family, they are objects, as might be expected, of unusual affection. I could give striking illustrations of this that came under my own observation. It is enough, however, to say that that class of Canadian homes is the most perfect realisation of the principle of boarding-out that can be well conceived, and so far as these children are concerned Miss Rye and Miss Macpherson deserve the highest credit for originating such a method of placing out very young children, as do the ladies who represent them

in Canada for the care with which foster-parents appear to have been generally selected. The only regret to be expressed with reference to this part of the system is, as I have before remarked, that its application is and must continue to be very restricted. Miss Rye, in her letter to the Board, calculates that not more than ten per cent. of the children can be so disposed of, and from what I observed I am inclined to agree with her. As to the other class of "adoption," as it is only service, there can be no advantage in disguising it, or in calling it by another name. Further, it appears to be very questionable how far it is right to confer upon foster-parents so much control as Miss Rye's indenture undoubtedly confers upon them. As I read it, there is nothing in this indenture to prevent the foster-parents from apprenticing the child, or from sending it into service, even into the States, if so disposed.

Of more importance is the disposal of children ranging from 10 or 11 to 15 years of age, and who constitute the great bulk of these young emigrants. Whether under any arrangements Boards of Guardians ought to send such children out of England to service in another country they will decide for themselves, from their knowledge of the circumstances of their several districts. For reasons that I state elsewhere I do not think that girls of that age ought to be sent at all. Should Boards of Guardians desire to try emigration as a means of disposing of an assumed superabundance of children it would be difficult to send boys to a land of greater promise than Canada. The resources of the country for absorbing agricultural labour appear to be boundless. Although comparatively few may succeed in realising the hopes with which so many delude themselves in leaving "the old country," yet no labouring man who is industrious, frugal, sober, and willing to turn his hand to anything can fail to get continuous work at good wages. But measured even by the standard of comfort of an average English agricultural labourer, the conditions of hired service on a Canadian farm are, for man or boy, hard and rough. Boys, however, who are sent into this sort of service without some previous preparation for it are at a great disadvantage, and I believe the failure of many of them results from their being discouraged in the first few months of their service when the whole routine and all the details of Canadian labour are strange to them. If they could have had a few years preliminary training in some well-organised industrial establishment in Canada, there would be no limit, within reason, to their finding suitable employment in farm service. If they were brought into Canada while yet young, and were trained amongst Canadians on Canadian soil, in a Canadian climate, and gradually accustomed to Canadian ways, they would, I believe, constitute one of the most valuable additions that could be made, by means of emigration, to the future available labour of the Dominion. As it is, the sending out of boys of ages varying from 11 or 12 to 14 to be at once taken into service is, I think, a mistake. It is amongst that class of boys that the largest number of failures will be found, as it is amongst the very young children that the most promising cases will be found. That this is the case with girls there can be no doubt.

If Boards of Guardians in England desire to send children to Canada, and the provincial governments desire to receive them, it would be easy to settle a plan of emigration that might meet the views of both. That, however, is a point that it would be premature to discuss until a sufficient number of Boards of Guardians in England concurred in wishing to adopt some systematic plan of emigration upon such a scale as would justify the organisation in Canada of an efficient machinery for the reception, training, placing out, and supervision of the young emigrants. For the

most important of these arrangements, the visiting and supervision of the children, the system of local government in Canada seems to afford peculiar facilities. The Provinces being divided into counties, and sub-divided into municipalities and townships, and still further sub-divided into school sections, the county council, constituted of the reeves of the several townships, would seem to be a very appropriate body to take the general charge of placing these children in service, and watching over them, confiding the actual discharge of these duties, so far as they were voluntary, to the township authority, or visiting committees appointed by them, and entrusting the official visiting to the school inspector of the district. In every county there is at least one, in some two school inspectors, and if they were reasonably compensated for the additional trouble, there would appear to be no reason why the periodical visiting of the children on behalf of the provincial government should not form part of their ordinary duty. These, however, are details into which it would be premature to enter at present.* Whatever may be determined as to the future, that which does seem to require immediate attention is the organisation of some means of visiting the children who are now in the Dominion. The actual position and treatment of every child should be inquired into. Before I entered upon this inquiry, I sent to each Home this form, with a request that the information indicated should be given :—

Name of Child.	Age.	Union from which received.	Date received into the Home.	Collective Number of Days the Child has been in the Home since its arrival from England.	Dates of Visits paid to each Child. Copy of any Report to be annexed.	The Names and Address of all the Persons with whom the Child has been placed, and where Changes have been made, the Date and Cause of such Changes.

Miss Barber was good enough to enable me to fill the form so far as her books enabled me to do so. To Miss Bilbrough of Belleville and Miss Reavell of Galt I am indebted for the very great trouble which they took to complete this return for me. From Miss Rye's books I obtained little more than the names and address when it was known of the children. The information thus obtained shows very clearly the necessity of adopting the course that I suggest. Several of the children appear to be altogether lost sight of. Some of them have changed places without the knowledge of the superintendent of the Home. Equally without their knowledge some of them have passed into the States. Very many of them whose addresses are known have been left

* *P.S.*—Since the preceding Report was written I have received a copy of an "Order in Council" upon the subject of Emigration, which was approved of by His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor on the 13th of November. The Order embodies proposals from the representatives of the provinces of Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia to the Government of the Dominion for promoting emigration to Canada, by securing for that purpose united and harmonious action in Europe. The effect of this Order, which will in the first instance have force for five years, will be to place the control and direction of all matters connected with promoting emigration to Canada under the Minister of Agriculture at Ottawa. Independent agencies for the several provinces will be discontinued, the provincial Governments as well as the Government of the Dominion being represented by one agent, the Agent General in the Canadian offices in London.

It appears to me that through this organisation arrangements might easily be made in accordance with the suggestions that I have already offered, and considerable facilities afforded for the emigration, distribution, and subsequent supervison of children who might be sent to Canada by Boards of Guardians or other responsible bodies in England.—A. D.

for more than one, two, or even three years unvisited. It appears to me to be the duty of those who have removed these children from England to institute a strict inquiry into their present position, so as to ascertain all the facts that can be known about them. To do this it would only be necessary for Miss Macpherson to make some addition to her present staff. If the information is to be obtained not by correspondence but by visits, it would be necessary for Miss Rye to appoint visitors for the purpose. But in whatever way the information is to be obtained, I think it ought to be furnished to the Boards of Guardians who have allowed these children to be sent to Canada in the belief that they would be looked after until they were of an age to look after themselves.

Connected with this system of emigration charges have been publicly made and discussed in the Canadian press and elsewhere, grounded upon the assumption that Miss Rye and Miss Macpherson have a pecuniary interest in it. Both of these ladies were desirous that I should investigate this matter, upon which they are prepared to give the fullest information. Such an investigation, however, to be of the slightest value, would involve a much more minute examination of accounts than I was prepared to make, or indeed had the means of making. The emigration expenses of pauper children, and of children who are not paupers, are so mixed up that it would be very difficult to separate them. A satisfactory result could only be arrived at by a strict audit, in which vouchers for each item of expenditure should be produced. That I am prepared, with your permission, to undertake if these ladies desire it. It is alleged that at present the cost of conveying a pauper child from Liverpool to its destination in Ontario cannot exceed one third of the sum paid on that account by the Guardians. This no doubt would be the case if Miss Macpherson and Miss Rye avail themselves of the "assisted passage" given by the Government of the Dominion, as well as of the drawback of six dollars for each emigrant given by the Ontario Government.

With reference to the two items of expenditure,—cost of passage and cost of maintenance,—I applied for information to Miss Rye and Miss Macpherson, and also to the several Homes. To my application with reference to the assistance afforded by the Governments of the Dominion and the Province of Ontario I have received no reply from either Miss Rye or Miss Macpherson. From the Galt Home only was I able to ascertain the collective number of days for which the children are chargeable. In the absence of such information I can refer only to what I ascertained at Ottawa and Toronto, and to the balance sheets published by Miss Macpherson. I was informed that previous to the present season Miss Rye and Miss Macpherson obtained from the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa warrants for assisted passages at 4*l.* 5*s.* and 4*l.* 15*s.* sterling for adults, and half of these sums for children under 8 years. But in the spring of this year, in consequence of certain representations made as to the care of children, the warrant in the case of Miss Macpherson's emigrants was reduced to 3*l.* 5*s.* sterling. Still later in the season, in consequence of further representations as to the particular care and education of children, the warrant was reduced to 2*l.* 5*s.* sterling in the case of children sent out under the auspices of the Archbishop of Westminster, and for those sent by the Children's Home, Bonner Road, Victoria Park, London. As it was understood that this principle might be invoked for other children similarly sent out, I presume Miss Macpherson and Miss Rye would receive the benefit of it. But even if the cost of the passage were not reduced to 2*l.* 5*s.*, but stood at 3*l.* 5*s.* for children on whose behalf a bonus of 1*l.* 4*s.* per head

was paid by the Government of Ontario, the actual cost of taking a child from Liverpool to its destination in Canada would be thus reduced to *2l. 1s.* The children are taken from Quebec to the several Homes by the railways free of cost. The sum expended by Miss Macpherson for each Home is only *200l.* per annum. The cost of Miss Rye's Home can very little, if at all, exceed that sum. If we allow *1l.* per head as the extra cost for each child, and it would, I believe, be a liberal allowance, there would be a clear gain of *5l.* per head upon every pauper child taken by these ladies as emigrants to Canada. That calculation applies to the last and present year. If the assisted passage be reduced to *2l. 5s.*, the gain upon each child would be so much more. I would repeat that this calculation is made in the absence of detailed information which I had hoped to receive but which I have not received from Miss Rye and Miss Macpherson.

Again, it would be impossible to arrive at the cost, even approximately, of maintaining pauper children at the Homes without knowing the collective number of days that each child was maintained in them.

Connected with the receipts for emigration purposes, there is an item in Miss Macpherson's accounts that calls for notice, especially as from the form in which it is entered it is certainly open to misconception; I mean the item "repayment of passage money." Miss Macpherson has been in the habit of inviting children to repay the cost of their emigration in order to assist the emigration of other children. This has always been carefully explained to the children, but even with such explanation I think it is a mistake to allow a child to contribute *6l.* or *7l.* nominally as repayment of passage money. Upon several occasions employers have spoken of this as a hardship, and have asked me whether it was true, as the children had told them, that the Guardians had paid their passage out. I am sure that Miss Macpherson's motive is not to get so many dollars for her emigration expenses, but to enlist the sympathy of the children in her undertaking. The contribution would certainly have more value if made without suggestion, and after the children were able to judge from their own experience how far the undertaking was one that deserved their support. In the case of Union children, at all events, the practice should be discontinued.

Before I left Canada the Honourable Alex. Mackenzie, the Prime Minister of the Dominion, favoured me with a long interview at which Mr. Edward Jenkins, M.P., the agent in England of that Government, was present; the result of which will, I believe, be that Mr. Jenkins will be authorised to discuss the subject of the emigration of pauper children with the Local Government Board, with a view, if it should be thought desirable to continue it, to place the system upon a more satisfactory footing. It may therefore be convenient, in concluding this Report, that I should recur to one or two points to which I have already called your attention.

Guardians will decide for themselves whether or not it be desirable to send from their several Unions children who are supposed to have been already trained for service. Unless so trained they will be less fit for service in Canada than they would be in England, and to send them as emigrants can be regarded not as a way of improving their position, but simply of getting rid of them at a cheap rate. But if they be reasonably well prepared for service, it is difficult to understand why they should be sent out of a country in which one hears from every household complaints of the dearth of domestic servants, and of the want of young hands in various branches of industry.

If Guardians, however, are satisfied that they have a superabundance of pauper children under their care, and desire to have recourse to

systematic emigration as a remedy, the children should be sent out at a much earlier age than at present.

With reference to girls, I am decidedly of opinion that they ought not to be sent out at a later age than from *seven* to *eight;* all the better if still younger. Girls who are sent out at ages from *nine* to *fifteen* are at once placed in service. By whatever name that service may be called, though disguised as "adoption" it is in fact domestic service, quite as hard as, and in some respects more uninviting to the children, than the service in which at the same age they might be placed out in England. Their habits have been to some extent already formed, and they have ties and attachments, the recollection of which, when the novelty of their new position is worn off, makes them discontented with it, and leads to constant complaints and changes of situation. I was often painfully struck in speaking to children of that age with the sense of loneliness manifested by them. It was a long time, employers have frequently told me, before that class of children could get over the feeling of home sickness. I have already indicated the very serious risks to which children are exposed who are left to pass out of that sort of friendless and isolated service into early independence. With children who are sent out very young, and who are adopted into families, the case is altogether different. They are completely adopted by the families into which they are received, not by needy cottagers for the sake of a few shillings a week, but into a class of homes that have no counterpart in England, partly in view, as Miss Rye puts it, of their future usefulness, and partly to fill a void in the household. All the influences by which these children are surrounded are healthy, and one may reasonably look to their being ultimately absorbed into the best part of the best population of the American Continent, the Canadian yeomen. So long as homes can be found for these children, such as those in which I saw so many of them, and so long as they are watched over by women like Miss Bilbrough and Mrs. Robson, there can be no question as to the advantage of sending them to Canada, if they must be sent out of England. But the utmost care should be taken not to send them out merely upon speculation or in excess of the means, *ascertained beforehand,* of disposing of them by adoption.

If, contrary to the opinion that I have ventured to express, Boards of Guardians should still desire to send out children of more mature age to be at once placed out in service, I can only repeat what I have already said as to the necessity of correcting the defects that I have pointed out in every stage of the emigration, from the selection of the children to their being finally emancipated and left to act for themselves.

I would repeat, too, that if the emigration of pauper children to Canada is to continue, it should be wholly disconnected with the emigration of arab children. Apart from the pernicious influence of such association there are, I am sure, few Boards of Guardians in England who would not feel indignant if fully aware of the light in which the children sent out by them are too often presented to the people of Canada. In order, I suppose, to enlist public sympathy in favour of the destitute children who are sent out, they are represented without distinction as the offspring of thieves and vagabonds just swept from the slums of our great cities. Occasionally indeed the pauper children are referred to as a distinct class, but only as being "the refuse of our workhouses." Irrespective of the great injustice of so characterising these children, I am quite sure, as I have already stated, that it tends materially to prejudice their position in service. Many a child in Canada might repeat what is said by that unhappy girl whose letter is before you. "I was not "going to be told that I was glad to come to Canada, for I was half

" starved, and was picked off the streets in London, and my parents " were drunkards." This is but repeating the language of those who take these children to Canada; language that, applied to workhouse children, is as mischievous as it is unfounded. Nor is the mode in which these children are sometimes distributed and the conditions upon which they are placed in service less calculated to prejudice them in the eyes of the C nadian people. I was informed by an official at New London that only last summer Miss Rye took up there some 50 children, who, having been lodged and fed by the charity of the town, were next morning marched to the Town Hall, where applicants for them inspected them and selected them, each according to his or her fancy. My informant was naturally astonished to hear from me, that for the emigration of the pauper children the Guardians had paid eight guineas per head, at least double the sum that it could have cost to get them to their destination. The stipulation for the service of these children is, that for the first year the employer is to pay in clothing 30 dollars. But each child has an outfit sufficient for the first year, so that the employer gets the child's service merely for its maintenance. Employers may naturally feel that none but children the most destitute would in such a country as Canada be bound to serve upon such terms. No class of Canadians would consent to accept such terms of service for their own children.

It is to be regretted that some of the Union authorities do not manage to keep up regular communication with their own emigrant children. The teachers would do so I am sure if they could but know what store a child so far away sets by a letter or a word of news "from home." Even the little that I could tell made me a welcome visitor to a few of them of whose schools and teachers I happened to know something. One very bright intelligent child from a London District school, however, did not conceal her disappointment when her mistress called her in to see me. Having heard that an Inspector from England had come out to see her and the other children she had been counting, she told me, upon seeing, not a stranger, but her old friend Mr. Tuffnel.

I have, &c.

ANDREW DOYLE,
Local Government Board Inspector.

The Right Hon.
George Sclater-Booth, M.P.,
President of the Local Government Board.

APPENDIX.

A.

Copy of Circular distributed in Canada by Miss Rye.

"Our Western Home, Niagara, Ont., 187 .

" The children vary in age from 9 to 12 years, are all Pro-
" testants, and nearly all absolute orphans, are bound (when not
" adopted) till they are 18 years old, on the following terms, viz.,
" up to 15 years old they are to be fed, clothed, and sent to Sun-
" day school. From 15 to 17 they are not clothed, but paid $3 a
" month wages, and $4 a month from 17 to 18. If, through any un-
" foreseen circumstances, it is necessary for a child to be returned to

" the Home, due notice of the same must be given, in writing, a full " fortnight before the child is removed; and if the child has been " away from the Home six months, her clothes must be returned new " and whole, and in same number as they left the Home. In no case " may a child be passed on to another family without first consulting " Miss Rye, and in case of the death of persons (husband or wife) " taking children, it is particularly requested that an immediate notice " of the fact be sent to the Home.

"MARIA S. RYE, Hon. Secretary."

B.

Form of Queries to be answered by Applicants to Miss Rye on behalf of Children to be sent out to Canada.

" Female Emigration.—Orphans.—Canada.

" State child's full name. State her age. Has she been baptized? " Into what communion? Where is she living? How long has she " lived there? Are her parents dead? Has she any relations living? " Where do they live? Are you (the applicant for a passage to Canada " for this child) in any way related to her? Give your full name and " address.

" MARIA S. RYE,

" Avenue House, High Street, Hon. Secretary.
" Peckham, London, S.E.

" MEMORANDUM.—Children who have been deserted three years to " be considered orphans. If the child in whom you are interested " is taken to Canada she will go to 'Our Western Home,' Niagara, " Canada, West, and will be taken care of until she can be placed out " into some respectable farmer's or tradesman's family, and be looked " after until she is eighteen years of age."

C.

Form of Consent required by Miss Rye of a Parent before taking out a Child.

" I , aged years, now living at ,
" do declare that I am left a widow with children, and that I " am not able to provide for the said children, and I now, by the advice " of , and with her (or his) full knowledge, give up " my child to Maria S. Rye, of Avenue House, High " Street, Peckham, to be brought up by that lady in the knowledge " and fear of God, her Saviour, and of her duty to her neighbour and " to herself; and I give my full permission for , my child, " to be taken to Canada, America.

_____ *Signed.*

_____ *Witnessed.*"

D.

Form of Agreement to be entered into by Employers of Children placed out by Miss Macpherson.

" Knowlton Home, Knowlton, Que. 18 .

" M of P.O. Takes At $ per month " or $ per annum for the year. To attend church and " Sunday school regularly. Also day school months in the

" year. Should it be necessary in any case for the child to be returned " to the Home, notice of this must be sent a fortnight beforehand. The " clothes must also be sent back in good condition, and the same " number. Employers are requested to see that the children write occa- " sionally to their friends, also that they communicate with us in the " event of sickness, and in no case to allow the child to go into another " family without our permission. We reserve to ourselves the right of " removing any child if we see fit, or on these conditions not being " fulfilled. Signed

" Signed For ANNIE MACPHERSON."

E.

Form to be filled up by Persons in Canada applying for Children at " Our Western Home."

" Our Western Home, Niagara, Ontario.

" What is your full name? Give me your full address. Are you " married? Is your wife alive? Have you any children, and how many? " What is your trade or profession? How long have you lived in your " present neighbourhood? Do you belong to the Episcopal Church? If " not, state with what body of Christians you do worship? Give me " the name and address of the minister of the church where you " worship. Give me the name and address of the reeve or mayor of the " town in which you live. If I commit an orphan to your care, state " what position she is to hold in your family. Also state the age of " the child you wish for.

" MARIA S. RYE,

" Hon. Sec. Our Western Home, Niagara, Ontario,

" to whom this form is to be returned when filled up."

F.

Form of Circular addressed by Miss Rye to the Reeve or Clergyman for information with regard to an Applicant for a Child.

" Our Western Home, Niagara, 187 .

" Sir,—Mr. and Mrs. having applied to me for one of the " orphan girls under my care, and having given me your name as one " of their references, please tell me, in confidence, whether you consider " Mr. and Mrs. and their family fit persons to have the " charge of a little girl; and also how long you have known them.

" An early reply will oblige

" Yours very faithfully,

" MARIA S. RYE."

G.

Form of Miss Rye's Indenture of Adoption.

" This indenture, made the day of in the year of our Lord " one thousand eight hundred and seventy- , between Maria Susan " Rye, Robert Notman Ball, J.P., of the county of Lincoln, and Henry " Paffard, Esquire, Mayor of the town of Niagara, of the first part, and " of the second, have sent out and delivered to the said " party of the second part, for the purpose of being adopted into his " family, a minor child in the custody and under the " protection of the said Maria Susan Rye, Robert Notman Ball, and " Henry Paffard, and now at the age of , and the said parties of

" the first do hereby transfer to the party of the second part all their " right to and power over the said child, subject, however, to the " proviso herein-after contained; and the said party of the second part, " in consideration of the delivery to him of the said child, and of the " labour and services, love and affection, to be received by him from " the said child, doth hereby adopt the said child, and take her for his " own child, and doth also hereby covenant, promise, and agree with " and to the said parties of the first part, that the said party of the " second part will protect, maintain, educate, and in all respects regard " and treat the said child as he does, would, or should do his own lawful " child; that he will bring up the said child and cause it to be in- " structed in the principles of the Protestant religion, and the said " party of the second part covenants with the said parties of the first " part, that in case of any breach of the covenant herein contained to " be by him performed he will forthwith, whenever requested so to " do by the parties of the first part, deliver up the said child to the " custody of the said parties of the first part. And further, it is hereby " expressly understood and agreed, that in case, during the minority " of the said child, the party of the second part shall die, or become " incapable of carrying out, or neglect to carry out, duly and regularly, " all and singular the various obligations inposed on him by this in- " denture, the parties of the first part reserve to themselves the right of " resuming their control over the said child, or in taking such measures " of securing her rights as they may be advised. In witness whereof " the parties hereto have hereunto set their hands and seals the day " and year first above written. Signed, sealed, and delivered in pre- " sence of ."

H.

Form of Miss Rye's Indenture of Service.

" Indenture. This indenture, made and entered into the " day of A.D. 187 , between Maria Susan Rye, Henry " Paffard, Esq., J.P., Mayor, Robert Notman Ball, Esq., J.P., all of " Niagara, of the first part, , a minor orphan " of the age of years, of the second part, now under the charge " and control of the parties of the first part, and " of the third part. Whereas the said Maria Susan Rye, an English " lady, now residing in the Dominion of Canada, has under her charge " a number of orphan children, brought from England by her, for the " purpose of finding for them homes, and which said orphans she de- " sires, conjointly with Henry Paffard and Robert Notman Ball, Esqs., " whom she has appointed guardians of the children aforesaid with " herself, to bind out and apprentice, until they shall attain the age of " 18 years, and of whom , the party hereto of the " second part, is one. Now this indenture witnesseth that the said " parties of the first part, in consideration of the convenants and agree- " ments herein-after contained on the part of the parties of the third " part, and by and with the full consent of the party hereto of the " second part, doth by these presents put and bind out as an appren- " tice the said minor orphan, , the party hereto of the " second part, to live with and serve him, the said party hereto of the " third part, for and during and unto the full end and term of " years, beginning on the day of the date hereof, and continuing hence- " forth during the said period of years, fully to be completed " and ended on the day of A.D. 18 , during all

" which period the party hereto of the second part shall well, truly, and " faithfully serve the said party hereto of the third part, as help or " servant, and shall obey all his lawful and reasonable commands, and " that she will do no damage to her said master in his goods, estate, or " otherwise, nor willingly suffer any to be done by others, and that she " will not during the said period absent herself at any time from the " service of her said master without his consent first obtained; but in " all things, as a good and faithful servant and apprentice, shall well " demean and conduct herself to her said master. And the party " hereto of the third part, in consideration of these premises, promises " for himself, his heirs, executors, and administrators, and does hereby " covenant and agree with the parties hereto of the first and second " parts, and with each of them, to teach and instruct the said party " hereto of the second part, the said , in the " knowledge of books, so far as to give her a plain English education, or " to cause the same to be done, and to teach and instruct, or cause to " be taught and instructed, the said in " the arts and duties of housewifery, and the use of the needle, " and such other duties as may be necessary to qualify her to obtain " a livelihood for herself when the period of her apprenticeship " shall have ended, and to pay due attention to her moral and " spiritual culture, and afford her the opportunity and use his authority " to induce her to attend some Sunday-school and place of public wor- " ship where the doctrines of Christianity, as held by the Protestant " denominations, are taught; and that he will furnish and provide " suitable and proper meat, food, and clothing, both woollen and linen; " and in case of sickness, with medical attendance and medicines, and " all other necessaries, except that when the said shall " have attained the age of fifteen years, in lieu of clothing he shall pay " her wages at the rate of dollars per calendar month until she " shall have attained the age of seventeen years; and from that time " until the expiration of the period of service herein-before mentioned " he shall pay her wages at the rate of dollars per calendar month. " In witness whereof the parties hereto have hereunto set their hands " and seals the day and year first above written. Witness."

I.

Form of Miss Rye's Indenture of Apprenticeship.

" This indenture, made the day of in " the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy- , " between Henry Paffard, Mayor, J.P., Robert Notman Ball, J.P., and " Maria Susan Rye, all of Niagara, Ontario, guardians of the minor " herein-after named, of the one part, and of the " other, witnesseth that the said guardians (by and with the consent " of the minor herein-after named, signified by his signing this inden- " ture) do hereby place and bind , minor child, " aged years and months, as a , to and with " the said party of the second part, from the day of the date hereof " until the said minor shall have attained the age of eighteen years, " during all which time the said child shall faithfully serve the said " party of the second part, and in all things demean himself as a good " and faithful apprentice ought to do. And the said party of the second " part, in consideration of the labour and services to be received from " the said child, doth hereby promise and undertake to feed, board, and " clothe the said child in a fit and proper manner, according to the

" respective station of the parties; to provide medical attendance and " care in case of sickness; to bring up the child in reading, and " writing, and cyphering, as far as the Rule of Three, giving to him " schooling (in the winter) up to thirteen years; to teach and instruct, " or otherwise cause to be taught and instructed, the said child in the " art or trade of after the best manner that he can; to " pay to the said child for each year from thirteen to eighteen years, in " cash, at the rate of thirty dollars, forty dollars, fifty dollars, sixty " dollars, and eighty dollars per year, for the respective years in lieu of " clothing. And lastly, at the expiration of the period of apprenticeship " or service, to provide the said child with a good and new suit of " clothes suitable to his condition. Provided always, that, in the event " of the death of the party of the second part, or of treatment incon- " sistent with the obligations of this indenture, the party of the first " part reserve to themselves the right of resuming their control over " the said minor, or taking such other measures for securing his rights " as they may be advised. *And in case of the said child being under* " *the age of fourteen at the date hereof*, the said parties of the second " part covenant with the said parties of the first part, that in consi- " deration of the premises they will, if required by the said guardians " or said minor, execute a new indenture of apprenticeship with the " said guardians or minor, and of the same tenor as the present inden- " ture, upon said minor attaining the age of fourteen. In witness " whereof the said parties to these presents have respectively set their " hands and seals the day and year first above written. Signed, " sealed, and delivered in the presence of "