

**Burnham Industrial School.**

Eighteen miles from Christchurch, on the main line of railway, the belts of trees, on the opposite side of the line from the Burnham railway station, mark the site of one of those State institutions in which perhaps the noblest work of the State is carried on, the reclaiming the waifs and strays and unfortunate children—one of the products of modern civilisation, and placing within their reach the education and the training necessary to equip them for the battle of life, and enable them, if they will, to lead worthy lives, and attain prosperity. Over a thousand acres have been set aside by the State for farming purposes, and recent additions to the original buildings make the whole fairly complete. Considerably over a hundred boys are in the institution at present. One of the most pleasing impressions a visitor gets is the classification of the boys. Two cottage homes are in the immediate charge of two married members of the staff, and the best of the boys are accommodated in them, their surroundings approaching as closely as possible to those of an ordinary home. Those who live in the institution proper are divided into three groups—those of the best character, those in the probationary class, and those who require more attention and supervision. Each of these groups sleeps in a separate dormitory, and as far as possible are kept separate, two separate yards being provided in which the different groups of boys play, while a thirty-acre paddock is provided, in which all play under supervision. Since Mr. Archey, the present manager, took charge a large vegetable garden of five or six acres has been formed, and this provides the means of giving practical instruction to the boys in gardening, and at the same time provides abundance of vegetables for the institution. The garden is both laid out and cultivated with much skill, affords a striking object lesson as to what may be grown on a small area of land when efficiently cultivated, and the cultivation is aided by irrigating water and by manuring. This feature of the Burnham Industrial School reflects the highest credit on Mr. Archey, and considering the saving to the State it seems a pity that the Department has not provided a greenhouse, this being a necessary adjunct to a garden so extensive and so efficiently worked.

The boys rise at six o'clock, and are variously occupied until nine, when the various groups go each to its trade, and the schoolboys to school, all being so engaged until twelve o'clock, and again from half-past one until four o'clock. A squad of the larger boys work on the farm, and are taught farming under the supervision of the farm manager and his assistant. The farm and vegetable garden provide mutton, bacon, milk, butter, honey, potatoes, and vegetables for the use of the inmates. With the exception of the brickwork the boys recently built workshops for tailors, shoemakers, and carpenters, and in these groups of the boys are

taught these trades under efficient supervision, the products of the various shops being utilised by the inmates. In these workshops the boys receive wages proportionate to the work they do. During recreation hours the means are provided for football, cricket, swimming, and various other games. There is also a good library. Fifty boys form a cadet corps. These are drilled in up-to-date military drill, and all are regularly taught physical drill. Twenty-two of the boys are very efficiently trained by Mr. Duff, and form the well-known Burnham Band. Forty of the boys form a fire brigade, and practice is given each day in the use of the 28 eight-man fire engine, and of the one and a-half inch cart. The boys practise in squads of eight, and when a fire alarm is given at night for the purpose of practice the boys are all out of their dormitories and in the yards in less than three minutes.

A system of monetary rewards for good conduct has recently been established, by which each boy may earn from twopence to sixpence per week for pocket money. Each boy is provided with three suits—a knockabout, a school, and a Sunday suit, and they look very neat in their Eton collars. All the arrangements and proceedings in connection with the institution are thorough and practical, and reflect credit on Mr. Archey and his efficient staff.

**He Had No Doubts.**

James Cateboy centreback looked down into the face of the young girl who, but a few short weeks before, had promised to be his bride, with all the love of which a young, ardent, and enthusiastic nature was capable. "My darling," he said, "hitherto we have been so absorbed in each other, in this new joy that has come into our lives, that for the time being we have thought of little else but that great love which has

filled every fleeting moment. I would not have you think, however, with what I know you to possess—a keen appreciation of the practical, that I have been neglectful of the sterner and at the same time more necessary side of our married life. You have been reared in an atmosphere which has made imperative to you certain things, and I want you to know that the mere fact of your being united to me will, I am positive, make no difference. To speak more plainly, whatever clothes, shoes, gloves, hats, and, in fact, whatever articles of any kind you have been accustomed to, I shall expect you to have in the same abundance then as now."

"But do you think," said the

young and beautiful creature he addressed, her eyes radiant with anticipation "do you think, dearest, that all this can be accomplished with what you have told me are your somewhat limited means?"

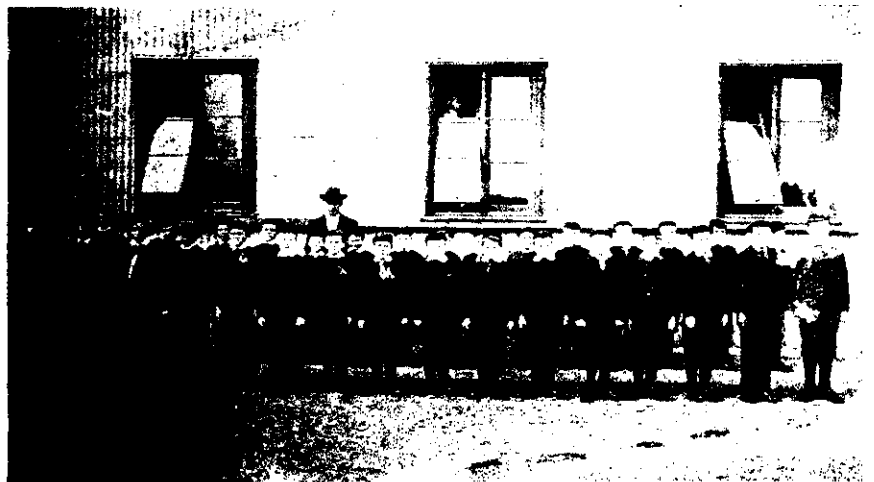
Her fond and devoted lover gazed at her with the firm look of one in whom a lack of confidence was an unknown quantity.

"I am sure of it!" he exclaimed, immediately, taking both of her hands in his. "Never fear, dearest, on that score. From what I know of your fact, of your patience in the face of difficulties, of your persuasive powers and ability to strike while the iron is hot, I feel absolutely certain that you can persuade your father to give you anything."



THE TEACHING STAFF.

Back Row—Left to Right—Mr Bennig, Mr Richmond, Mr Jones, Mr Le Gross, Second Row—Mr Carlyle, Mr Bathgate (clocks, acting manager), Mr Walker, Mr Wilson, Front Row—Mr Duff, Miss Mussett, Mrs Archey (matron), Mr Archey (manager), Miss Hamilton.



SCHOOL BOYS—A. Parlame, Teacher.



CARPENTERS' SHOP.



A CORNER IN THE GARDEN.

**The Burnham Industrial School, Christchurch.**