

Hempstead Hall, Essex, showing recent additions.



ON CHRISTMAS EVE Prebendary Carlile, accompanied by others from Headquarters, visited the Church Army Emigration Training Farm, Hempstead Hall, Essex, to join in the Christmas dinner, which was held on that day to fit in with the Prebendary's many similar engagements. At Yuletide he likes to visit in person as many of our Homes as possible, and to see the inmates enjoying their Christmas fare.

Looking round the happy, eager faces of the thirty or more lads gathered round the table, one could not help wondering what is the future lying before each lad? How does it compare with that which would have confronted them if the Church Army had not taken them in hand—with that which confronts tens of thousands of other lads of equally good material?

Each one of these lads, when he came to the Church Army, was either unemployed or in grave danger of becoming so; yet he was a lad of good character and antecedents, he wanted to work and to

make a success of life. By the fact of his knowing no trade, of his having enjoyed for a few years the sweets of some "dead-end" occupation, the chances were that, in default of a helping hand, he would sink downwards in the course of a very few years from regular work to casual labour, thence to unemployment, unemployability, loafing and cadging, possibly crime, certainly shame and disgrace. And the pity of it is not only that a useful citizen should be thus wasted. One generation does not exhaust the evil. It passes on from father to child, and to change a lad's future from one of despair to one full of hopeful possibilities may affect numbers yet unborn.

Here is part of a letter received not long since from a Hempstead Hall lad, who was sent to Australia, and after a time spent on the land entered the Australian Navy:

H.M.A.S. *Encounter*,  
PORT LINCOLN, S. AUSTRALIA.

Dear Sir,

No doubt you will be surprised to receive this letter from one of the C.A. lads in the Australian Navy, but I have been in it over eight months now, and

at the present moment am lying, together with the flagship *Australia* and the cruiser *Sydney*, where we are due to be for a month for firing exercises. I am sending enclosed a photograph of myself. I am more at home in that rig than in a flannel shirt and trousers ploughing, as I previously was in Queensland, although when I joined I was the first C.A. lad to join the Navy, and I have not had any cause to grumble at the life, which is a clean, healthy, and very pleasant one, although there are bound to be a few black sheep amongst those of the waybacks. I have often thought of the excellent training we all of us received, although at the time we thought it was unnecessary and of no consequence, until we were thrown amongst the doubtful company one always meets, and then we are glad and proud to proclaim ourselves as Church Army lads, and grateful for the trouble that was given on our behalf, and which bore such good fruit. It is when I think of this that I say, "Thank God, I was assisted to emigrate by the Church Army and under their guidance."



The writer of the letter quoted in the article.

evidently sincere, and to know that our lads recognize the pains taken to equip them for their battle with life, and to enable them to stand fast for the thing that is right, is more than encouraging. And this is but one among many. We know from other letters that our lads are not only prospering in material things under the Southern Cross, but are also strong soldiers, many of them, for our Lord Jesus Christ, and are fighting manfully under His Cross as their Standard and inspiration.

We know that we are working on right lines in sending lads of good character, after careful selection and many months' training and testing, to seek

their fortunes in Queensland. We know To receive such a letter as this, so of hundreds of successful ones; we do not



Prebendary Carllie at Hempstead Hall, with local staff and inmates, and one or two of Headquarters Staff.

know of a single failure. Some have been so immediately successful that, in addition to prompt repayment of the sums advanced for passage-money and expenses, they have been able almost at once to begin remitting money home, so that a brother, or even their whole family, might share in the boundless hopes and realities offered by Australia.

In writing of emigration, we must not forget that our other main branch of emigration work will soon begin again after its winter's sleep. Our first party of single men and youths, and a few married men with their families, will sail for Canada on the 26th February, and the second on 19th March. After that parties will follow at fairly frequent intervals until July.

Since last emigration season ended, we have had the advantage of a visit from Capt. Blake, after his seven years' indefatigable efforts in Canada on behalf of our emigrants. He has now returned to Toronto. It is not only in the emigration season that he is busy for the welfare of those who pass through his hands. All the year round he is fully occupied in finding employment, advising, encouraging and helping them in every possible way.

We have written so often in the *Review* on our Canadian emigration work that there is little new to be said about it; but we are sure that here also we are working not in the interest of the individual emigrant alone, though of course that is the primary object, but of the Dominion and the Mother-country. If at home a man is not a wealth-producer, if at home he has no chance to show what he is made of and to earn a competence, it is assuredly for the good of the Empire at large that he should be transplanted into new soil where he and those who are to come after him can grow and expand.

On behalf, therefore, of both these main branches of our emigration work we once more ask the interest and support of our readers. The cost in the case of a lad or single man is not great—£10 sends a single man or lad to Canada, £15 trains, equips and sends a lad to Australia. In the case of a family sent to Canada, the cost will be about £30 or upwards, according to number.

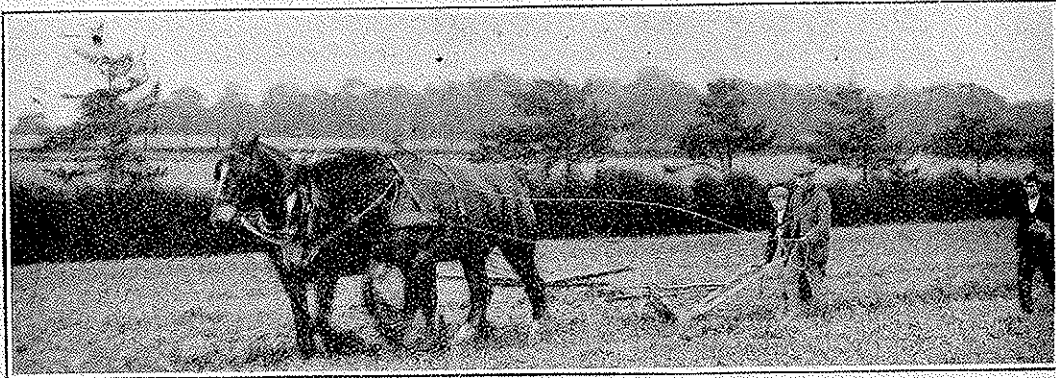
Some friends might like to defray the cost in one particular case, and undertake to keep in touch with the emigrant afterwards. Others may care to send a gift towards the general expenses of the department, which are naturally considerable. Mr. H. H. Chichester, Chairman Emigration Department, at Headquarters, 55 Bryanston Street, Marble Arch, London, W., would gladly reply to any questions as to assisted passages and otherwise, and will also very gratefully receive gifts, cheques being crossed "Barclays, a/c Church Army," payable to Prebendary Carlile, Hon. Chief Secretary.

A FRIEND HAS SENT a complete set of Jubilee Coins (1887) for sale for the benefit of the Church Army Emigration Department. The coins are in perfect condition, as minted, never having been in circulation, and are in their original wooden velvet-lined box. They comprise pieces of £5, £2, £1, and 10s. in gold; and 5s., 4s., 2s. 6d., 2s., 1s., 6d. and 3d. in silver; of the total face value of £9 5s. 3d. Mr. Chichester, Chairman Emigration Department, Headquarters, 55 Bryanston Street, London, W., will be glad to show the coins and to receive offers for their purchase.

CHURCH ARMY CONGREGATIONAL COMMUNION MUSIC.—Too late for detailed notice, we have received copies of the new and revised edition of this simple, yet profoundly reverent, setting of the Holy Communion Service, which has been improved in various details since the publication of the former edition. We wish to recommend clergy and choir-masters to send for a copy of this setting, if it is not already known to them. No choir is needed, and it enables any congregation to bear their part in the singing of this great service. The directions given are admirably planned. Single copies are to be had from the Church Army Bookroom, 14 Edgware Road, London, W., at 1d. (postage ½d.), the price having been purposely fixed very low in order to bring it within the reach of even the poorest parishes. Mr. Mather, Manager of the Church Army Bookroom, will be glad to quote terms for quantities.

## The Church Army's Emigration Training Farm.

*The following article is by the Farm Editor of "The Field," and appeared in that journal on 2nd May. It is here reproduced by the courtesy of the Editor. The illustrations are from photographs by the Rev. E. Rainbow, M.A.*



Ploughing.



THE Emigration Farm Colony instituted some eight years ago at Hempstead Hall, near Saffron Walden, Essex, has become one of the most interesting features in the broad scheme of beneficent work undertaken by the Church Army. The idea in establishing this new branch was, as its designation implies, to fit lads for life and work in the Colonies. It does not enter into competition with the objects embraced in the original "Lads' Ladder," but is supplementary to them, and was needed to meet the calls made upon the resources of the parent body. It was found that there were not only good openings in the Colonies for young men of the classes benefited by the Church Army, but that there was among the boys themselves a fairly general desire to emigrate to fields offering suitable opportunities for their future activities. It may be said, therefore, by way of meeting possible criticism of an enterprise that confines its attention to the training of future colonists, that the Hempstead Hall scheme was not started with a view of inducing emigration, but expressly to

give to intending emigrants such preliminary insight into and acquaintance with the fundamental principles and rudimentary practices of agriculture as would improve their prospects in whatever part of the British dominions they settled. The promoters were not actuated by a desire to encourage the exodus from the Mother Country, but sought merely to make better colonists of those who elected to seek their fortunes in new lands. This is shown by the elaborate process of selection of lads entering the Farm Colony, and the insistence upon the consent of parents being obtained in every instance. No boy goes straight from the "blind alley" to Hempstead Hall. He reaches the Farm Colony in Essex by way of Stanley House, Stonebridge Park, Willesden, or some other grading institution. There are in all four Homes for lads, but Stanley House is distinguished from the others in that it is reserved for boys of unimpeachable character, and it is from this centre that the training colony is recruited. Before they pass on to the farm the lads at Stanley House receive instruction in market gardening and other forms of intensive culture capable of being taught

the grounds attached to the Home, while their training also includes carpentry, bootmaking and repairing, and suchlike crafts. By the time this preliminary work has been completed the management have had ample opportunity for forming an estimate of the moral character, inclinations, and capabilities of the pupils, and selection for the Hempstead Colony is made in the light of this knowledge, although some of them, who may prefer to remain in this country, go direct from Stanley House to employment on the land or to skilled trades.

The Hempstead Farm Colony is an exceedingly interesting and valuable institution, making an important addition to the equipment of the central organization at 55 Bryanston Street, W. The Executive Committee of the Church Army is the responsible authority, but the supervision and direction of the Colony are entrusted to the Rev. E. Rainbow, who has the active co-operation of Mr. Eric Crossley in the practical work of the farm, and Mr. W. A. Paynter, who undertakes the selection of pupils and the placing of them abroad. The resident officer is Capt. Warner, who is assisted by his wife and Lieut. Lack, with a competent man in each department of the work. The training farm consists of about 120 acres, equally divided between arable and grass. The soil is heavy, and the system of management is similar to that in the neighbourhood—wheat, beans, mangels, and barley being the standard crops—but the routine is varied to suit educational requirements, a certain area being bare-fallowed every year to provide facilities for lessons in ploughing.

The average time

spent at Hempstead is three months. It is not suggested that proficiency is acquired in that period, but experience has proved that it may hinder rather than help a future colonist to prolong his tuition in home methods. There is evidence to show that the lad who has gone to a new country more or less familiar with the underlying principles and practices, but not committed to any nicety of detail, adapts himself more readily to fluctuating conditions than his neighbour who, through prolonged usage, has fallen into stereotyped routine. The plan followed at Hempstead is designed to give just enough instruction in the cardinal points, and to preserve the open mind that will fit itself to controlling influences. The term of three months is divided into six periods of two weeks each, and the complement of about thirty boys resident at one time are employed in batches of six. The curriculum opens with instruction in the management of cows, dairying, pigs, and poultry. The lads are trained under a competent man to feed, groom, and milk the cows, special attention being given to the observance of hygienic conditions, such as the washing of the udders before milking and general



The Poultry Yard.

cleanliness; to feed and look after the pigs, of which five breeding sows are kept at present, and poultry; while under the supervision of Mrs. Warner they are instilled into the intricacies of butter-making and such domestic duties as may be useful to them in after life. From the cows the boys pass to the horses, which department includes the management of the animals in the stables and everything pertaining to team work on the land. Two of the six boys take stable work in turn, the others learning to plough and making themselves familiar with other field operations as may be required, two going with each team. The third stage embraces carpentry and other skilled work so needful to settlers in new countries. The course, short though it is, includes the making of gates, fencing, making and repairing of wagons, rough saddlery, and the thousand and one other things that can be attended to the more expeditiously and efficiently from having had practical training under a skilled instructor. From the workshops the lads proceed to the fields, where they are initiated into the various kinds of manual work, hoeing, weeding, and such other operations as may be seasonable. The fifth term is occupied in gardening and miscellaneous work, and the concluding fortnight is devoted to revision of the general routine, special attention being given to dairying and the tending of live stock. The Farm Colony has been equipped with modern buildings and other requirements at considerable expense. The lads' quarters are in a new

building, with a spacious dormitory, dining hall, recreation-room, kitchen, and bathrooms, with provisions for isolation. There is also a chapel, in which family prayers are conducted daily, and an open service every Sunday evening, the boys going on Sunday morning to Steeple Bumpstead Parish Church. The discipline is firm, but not exacting, no attempt being made to repress the exuberant youthful spirit, but rather to direct it into proper channels, and the effect of this judicious policy is reflected in the happy relationship that exists between the resident officers and the lads, who are given a half-holiday every Wednesday for indulgence in the wholesome recreations of football in winter and cricket in summer.

The promoters of this scheme have the inducement of past successes to persevere with its development in the future. In accordance with an arrangement entered into with the Queensland authorities, nearly all the lads from Hempstead go to that colony, where there has been formed a committee to secure employment for them and generally to look after their welfare. About 400 lads from Hempstead have already settled in Queensland, and they have done remarkably well. Not a single case of failure has been reported, and most of them have prospered beyond what could reasonably be expected of them had they remained at home. They have proved a valuable acquisition to the colony, their conduct being a credit to the training in spiritual as well as practical affairs provided at Hempstead Hall.



Hoeing.