

**Be Brief.**

When you've got a thing to say,  
 Say it! Don't take half a day.  
 When your tale's got little in it,  
 Crowd the whole thing in a minute:  
 Life is short—a fleeting vapour;  
 Don't you fill an eight-page paper  
 With a tale which, at a pinch,  
 Could be compressed in an inch!  
 Hold it down until it stammers;  
 Polish it until it glimmers.  
 When you've got a thing to say,  
 Say it! Don't take half a day.

—Tears & the Ribbon.

**The Convention Group.**

With this issue is published a group photograph of the members present at the Convention held here last June, which will long be remembered by all present as the pleasantest and most successful gathering of the Association ever yet held. The officers devoted a part of the funds of the Association to meet the expressed wish of many of the members that such a vivid memento as this should be provided, and few if any will doubt that it was money well spent. In conjunction with it is a separate group picture of the officers who so successfully managed the Convention. These pictures will no doubt be highly valued—by those who were present as a reminder of three delightful days at Alma Mater, and by those not able to be present because they contain many familiar but long unseem faces.

A study of the picture will also be of interest to the general public as affording a graphic illustration of the great benefit this Institution has been to the deaf-mutes of the province. All those who constitute this group entered life terribly handicapped by their inability to communicate with their fellow men by ordinary methods. To them came no sweet sound of a mother's voice, nor the busy prattle of childish play-mates. The music of the human voice and all the melodies of nature and of art were never to greet their ears. Half a century sooner these silent ones—though otherwise as highly endowed by nature as hearing children—would have been

**OFFICERS OF THE ONTARIO DEAF-MUTE ASSOCIATION, 1894.**



D. C. Coleman, Interpreter. Sept. R. Mathison. P. Fraser, Usher  
 R. C. Slater, 1st Vice-Pres. W. Morse, Pres. A. E. Smith, Sec. D. J. McKillop, Treas.  
 A. W. Mason, 2nd Vice-President.

considered as altogether a misfortune, and they would in most cases have been a life-long burden to their friends. But a more enlightened civilization and the generosity of a progressive government have provided a means by which deaf-mutes can acquire an education and an industrial training quite as thorough and practical as that at the command of a large majority of hearing children; and of this privilege those whose faces appear in this picture availed themselves. It may be safely asserted that no other educational institution in the land of equal age can gather together a more intelligent, contented and prosperous looking lot of graduates. Nearly all of these young men and young women have now comfortable homes of their own, many of them are happily married and all of them are successfully engaged in some congenial and remunerative employment. May this picture bring to all the members of the Association, present at or absent from the Convention, remembrances of the happy years spent at the Institution; may it stimulate them again and again and again with the zeal and perseverance which carried them successfully through their school life, and may it convey to them all the warmest wishes of the officers and teachers of the Institution, and a host of other friends, for a continuation and constant augmentation of the success and happiness that so far have marked their several careers in life.

The delightful association of this Convention, when friends long separated enjoyed a pleasant reunion, will fill every member of the Association with a strong determination to attend the next Convention, which will be held in Brantford in 1896. As a large number of the members live in that part of the province, it was thought that city would be the most central place for the meeting. Every member of the Association, who can possibly do so, should resolve to be present on that occasion.



**FOURTH CONVENTION OF THE ONTARIO DEAF-MUTE ASSOCIATION, HELD AT THE INSTITUTION, BELLEVILLE, JUNE 16th to 19th, 1894.**