

**Ontario Deaf-Mute Association.**

**OFFICERS**  
 Wm. Nurse, Belleville  
 H. C. Heater, Toronto  
 A. W. Mason, Toronto  
 A. E. Smith, Brantford.  
 D. J. McKillop, Belleville  
 D. R. Coleman, Belleville

**PROFESSOR ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION**  
 President, H. Mathison  
 President, Wm. Nurse  
 Vice Pres., Wm. Douglas  
 Secy., D. J. McKillop

**BALL AND HOCKEY CLUBS.**  
 First Eleven, J. A. Isbister.  
 Second Eleven, Wm. McKay  
 Hockey First Team, J. A. Isbister  
 Second " Wm. McKay

**DUFFERIN LITERARY SOCIETY**  
 President, H. Mathison  
 President, Wm. Nurse  
 Vice Pres., D. J. McKillop  
 Secy., Ada James

**THE CANADIAN MUTE.**

Wm. Nurse LOCAL REPORTER.  
 MONDAY, APRIL 16, 1891.

This is nothing but the skin of truth set upon stuffed *bees*.

**THE BLUE WATER AGAIN**

IT IS HAILED WITH RAPTURE'S DELIGHT.

We have had an unusually early opening of navigation on the Bay of Quinte this spring. Though the frosts of winter made a covering of ice nearly two feet thick the warm sunshine and balmy winds of March soon reduced this glacial shell to feeble dimensions. One day "old Boreas" got in a blustering humor, and blew "great guns" from the west. This agitated the open spaces and sent a disturbing current under the decaying ice. The result was a general break-up, and soon the detached pieces were driven down the channel, to mingle with others accumulating at the entrance to the mighty St. Lawrence. Then their destination was known. They floated and plunged through quiet channels and rushing rapids until they reached the broad Gulf. Here they were soon lost to view on the boisterous bosom of the Atlantic by the mists and fogs that crept around; and float away from the rugged coasts of old Prima Vista.

The first appearance of the sparkling blue water in spring is always hailed with rapturous delight by the pupils of this school. They consider it sufficient evidence that the icy fetters of winter are easily broken, and that the delights of spring are not far off. And here we will note a peculiarity of these children that is no doubt shared by many others. In Autumn, when the leaves fall and the flowers fade, they write doleful essays about the bleak, chilly days of November and yearn for the advent of snow and ice, as the harbingers of winter sports. Two or three months' experience of this kind of life satiates their desires, and a change is as earnestly longed for.

Boats were sailing on the bay this spring on Easter-day dawned, but a subsequent "cold wave" stopped this pleasure for a few days. Now, the "white winged messengers of commerce" and the putting steam crafts are flitting round the bay, and the impulse to shout the praise of our beautiful bay and its enchantments makes life more delightful here. The birds are with us again; the grass is showing an emerald hue, and some of Mr. Wills' hardy pots are peeping above ground. Soon the blooming parrotrees will glorify the scene with beauty and fragrance.

This world is full of beauty,  
 Are other worlds above  
 And if we did our duty,  
 It might be full of love.

The *Illinois Idea* is a meritorious little paper published by the pupils of the Jacksonville school for the deaf.

**Ontario Deaf-Mute Association.**

The time set for the meeting of the Convention is now only a few weeks distant, and I hope that our friends will not allow the universality of hard times deter them from making every possible effort to meet with us. All should begin at once to prepare for it. I am confident that not one will ever regret coming, as nothing will be spared to make the gathering one of the pleasantest that has yet taken place among the deaf of Ontario. It will be a good opportunity for our old pupils to visit their Alma mater. Many of them have not been here for years, and to meet their old school friends, and review the incidents of their school days will be a pleasure indeed and well worth the outlay. The Convention will probably not meet here again for a long time, so the chance should not be lost. When the Convention meets elsewhere, those attending have to pay for their board, but here all will be entertained free, domiciled under the same roof, and enjoy social pleasures that are only partial when the meetings are held in other places, and the members scattered in the boarding houses and hotels of a great city, where the home life is lacking. The time set will, I also think, be the most favourable I have received over sixty replies to my circular, from friends who have fully made up their minds to attend, and many others who will make every effort to be with us. I hope to hear from each as soon as they can decide the question to come or not to come. Yours faithfully,  
 Wm. Nurse, President.



Our messenger, Charlie Barlow was laid up for a few days. Exposure to the weather was the cause.

One of our lady teachers had an unique experience while attending church on a recent Sunday morning. We hope she will never have to go through the ordeal again.

A small case of shoes was shipped from the shoe-shop to the Mercer Reformatory in Toronto a few days ago. It was the first order that our shop has received from that Institution.

Annie Butler's father, at Sinc, in this county, still continues a very sick man. When Annie was called home, little hope was entertained for his recovery. We hope he will get better.

Our Matron reports the arrival of the following birds on the grounds—Blue birds, Robins, Song Sparrow, Phoebe, Meadow Lark, Bronze Grackle, Red winged Grackle. Everything looks quite like summer.

The report of Mr. Campbell on Miss Maybee's class, says that the following named pupils show most improvement in disposition and pen holding—Dalton Gardiner, Gilbert Leguille, A. Nahrgang, Hattie Sager, Mary Watson, and Cora Pierce.

A new telephone pole has been placed in position to extend the circuit to the new hospital. The buildings are now well supplied with telephone communication. They are a great convenience and effect a saving in shoe-leather.

The Queen's birth-day—May 21st—will be the next and last holiday before the home going on 13th of June. It is more than a month in the future, our pupils are talking and writing about it with considerable faith in the pleasures it will afford.

The mother of one of the little girls who came here last September writes—"Emma is missing her yearly hunt in the sugar bush helping to make syrup, but tell her there will be plenty left for her when she comes home." Emma is a sweet little child.

Such parts of our front grounds where the heavy tread of our boys is forbidden, in play, is putting on its summer dress of green. On the other parts the boys don't give it a chance. The Spring flowers are peeping out from their winter coverings, and a few warm days will cause Nature to rejoice in beauty.

Mr Flynn and his assistants have put up the new summer house. It is built on the west wing, near the girls' promenade and will make a delightful place to rest on sunny afternoons. It also adds to the attractiveness of the grounds.

We find a paragraph in one of our United States exchanges relating to Mr. J. Greely, one of our former pupils, and a son of the late Absalom Greely, ex-M. P. P. for Prince Edward County. Mr. Greely is now a prosperous resident of Kansas City, Mo., and is happily married.

The *American Teacher* for April, in its pithy paragraphs, says: "Do not crowd the children in April, May, or June." Mental crowding is meant, we suppose. Owing to the near approach of examinations this is the very time we do crowd them in schools for the deaf. Is it a defect in system?

The time for the final examinations is drawing on apace. Our pupils will do well to remember that their chances of promotion next term depend on the standing they attain. If the golden hours are let slip, regrets for lost opportunities will be unavailing. In close study and hard work there is sure reward for the diligent student.

The *Western Pennsylvanian* very kindly and courteously remarks—"The grand jury recently visited the Belleville, Ontario School, and after deliberation indicted Superintendent Mathison for keeping scrupulously clean premises, and for exerting every effort to promote the moral, mental and physical well being of all in attendance. Served him right.

All Fools day coming on Sunday this year, the practical jokers had either to demoralize their consciences or let slip their chance. Even our veteran watchman, Mr. McMillan, found himself too late to get in his little jest, Sunday got here before him. He, however, enjoyed pleasant reminiscences of his little jokes on Mr. Begg and other old officers in years gone by.

While the attendants were cleaning the kitchen a few days ago, our cook, Miss Badger, in carrying a pail of boiling water across the floor, slipped and fell, severely scalding her right hand and arm. Our embryo M. D., Mr. Smith, was quickly on hand; applied remedies and bandaged the injured member. It was a painful accident, and Elsie will have to carry her hand in a sling and have an assistant for some time.

We shall lose Miss R. Leggatt from our midst for the rest of this term. Her brother died on the 9th inst., and she at once left for home. Rachael was one of the best mothers on the girls side, and her motherly kindness and tact in managing the little ones, made her an invaluable assistant in keeping order. We are very sorry that this bereavement has come upon her, and extend her and relatives our warmest sympathy.

One of our teachers has been trying to teach her class some pronouns. She succeeded in making her pupils know that "you," "your," etc., were pronouns, and this was encouraging. Soon after an action was performed, by putting a hand in a pocket, and a description of the action in writing required. A boy, who thought he had mastered the pronoun mystery, produced this—"put pronoun hand in pronoun pocket." The teacher sat down and meditated for a while.

Our gardener, Mr. Wills, has a knack for finding odd things in strange places. His latest find was a silver mounted pipe among his grape vines. He proudly exhibited his prize, but none were allowed to touch it. He unfortunately left it at home the next day, and Mrs. Wills, who has an horror for smoking fearing that he would learn a bad habit if it remained in the house, gave it away, much to our old friend's chagrin, who hoped that it would make the recipient sick. He proposed raffling it off—tickets one dollar each.

For a week or two we missed the handsome championship cup, held by our senior foot-ball club, from its niche in the library, and were lonely without it. It had been sent to the engravers to have the donors name engraved on it, and is now back in its plush lined case again, where we hope to see it remain for a long time to come. Our team is more determined than ever to do their very best to hold the beautiful trophy, and they will succeed if hard practice and strong playing will do it. The engraver's work—"Corby Challenge Cup," is very handsomely done and greatly improves its appearance.

**PERSONALITIES.**

Supt. Clarke, of the Ohio School, has tendered his resignation. Governor McKinley demanded this action as a result of the recent investigation.

Mr. and Mrs. Sutton drove to Waterford on Sunday, 8th inst., to see Miss E. Grace and Misses M. and E. Steel.

"Pansy" (Miss G. E. Maxwell) suggests a group photograph of all the correspondents of the *Mirror*. The suggestion is meeting with approval.

Mrs. S. G. Davidson succeeds Miss Taylor as teacher in the Philadelphia School at Mt. Airy. She is not a novice in the work, and her success is assured.

The Earl of Dufferin has in his possession the smallest book in the world. It is half the size of a postage stamp, and it is an edition of the sacred book of the Sikhs.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Lloyd, of Brantford, and Miss Ettie Grace, of Waterford, visited Mrs. W. Sutton, Simcoo, a while ago, and stayed a few days with her.

Mr. E. A. Graver is now editor of the *Silent World*. His salutatory is sufficient evidence of his ability to maintain "the high standard to which the paper has been raised."

Mr. Chas. Golds, of Milton, Ontario, would like to obtain the services of a young man, semi-mute, honest, well educated and who can play base ball, to work in his cigar store.

Supt. Clark, of the Michigan School, who has spent more than half his life among the deaf, believes that the days for managing children, especially deaf children, by force, are past. So do we.

Dr. J. L. Noyes, who is spending the winter at Los Angeles, Cal., has delighted Mr. Widd and the deaf residents of that vicinity by addressing them at their regular Sunday meetings. We are pleased to hear that Dr. Noyes' health is improving.

We congratulate Mrs. Ashcroft, and others concerned in this good fortune, which they well deserve. The McKay Institution has been given a legacy of \$2,000, by the late Miss Learmont, of Montreal, interested in a good cause. She could not have given her money to a better cause.

Our Governor McIntosh is endeavoring to complete arrangements with the Dominion Government for the admission of pupils to this Institution. What he has accomplished is not yet known, but it cannot be long until some definite conclusions are reached.—*Manitoba Echo*

Supt. Mathison went to Ottawa on the 10th inst., for the purpose of making definite arrangements with Lord Aberdeen as to the time of his proposed visit to this school. As the federal parliament is also in session, and Mr. Mathison has many friends among the members, he no doubt enjoyed his brief sojourn at the capital.

Dr. Murphy now of the Asylum for the Insane, Mimico, writes—"Our interest in the Institution has not diminished since our removal from Belleville, and your bright little paper is a welcome visitor." Dr. and Mrs. Murphy live in the hearts of a number of our pupils here at present, and of a great many who have gone out from us.

Moses Sicard went home on the 2nd inst. Some time ago he received an injury in the side, and having been previously injured in the same place while at home, made it more severe. He had since been in such a poor state of health that it was deemed best for him to go home and rest. We hope soon to hear that he is completely restored to health again.

Supt. Gillespie, of the Nebraska School, who feels worn down by his official cares, has been granted leave of absence, and has gone to the Pacific coast for a change. We hope he will enjoy his trip, and realize more than he expects, physically and otherwise. California seems to be a sort of "land of promise" to those who seek a restoration of health and mental recreation.

Word has reached Langdon that George Cook, a wealthy deaf and dumb farmer, living forty miles west, was lost during Friday night's blizzard. He attempted to water some horses at a well six rods from his stable and was never seen again. The body has not yet been recovered. He was the son of J. Cook, of Backoo, this county, and brother of Mrs. Pratt, of Cavalier.—*Pembina Express*