

THE CANADIAN MUTE.

Published to teach Printing to some Pupils of the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, Belleville.

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INSTITUTION FOR THE DEAF & DUMB
BELLEVILLE ONTARIO
CANADA.



Minister of the Government in Charge:
THE HON. E. J. DAVIS, TORONTO
Government Inspector:
DR. T. F. CHAMBERLAIN, TORONTO

Officers of the Institution:

R. MATHISON, M. A.	Superintendent.
A. MATHISON	Bursar.
J. E. EAKINS, M. D.	Physician.
MISS ISABEL WALKER	Matron.

Teachers:

D. H. COLEMAN, M. A.	Head Teacher.	MISS J. O. TRIMMILL	Miss M. TRIMMILL
F. DENT		MISS M. M. OSTRUM	MISS MARY BULL
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MISS CAROLINE GIBSON, Teacher of Articulation.
MISS MARY BULL, Teacher of Kinsey Work.
MRS. J. F. WILKS, Teacher of Drawing.

MISS L. S. MITCHELL,	JOHN T. BURNS,
Clerk and Typewriter Instructor of Printing	
WM. DOUGLASS,	J. MIDDLYMANS,
Storekeeper & Associate	Engineer
G. O. KEITH,	JOHN DOWNIE,
Superintendent of Boys, etc.	Master Carpenter
MISS M. DEMPSEY,	D. CONNORHAN,
Seamstress, Supervisor of Girls, etc.	Master Baker
WM. NURSE,	JOHN MOORE,
Master Shoemaker	Farmer and Gardener.

The object of the Province in founding and maintaining this Institute is to afford educational advantages to all the youth of the Province who are, on account of deafness, either partial or total, unable to receive instruction in the common schools.

All deaf mutes between the ages of seven and twenty, not being deficient in intellect, and free from contagious diseases, who are bona fide residents of the Province of Ontario, will be admitted as pupils. The regular term of instruction is seven years, with a vacation of nearly three months during the summer of each year.

Parents, guardians or friends who are able to pay, will be charged the sum of \$50 per year for board, tuition, books and medical attendance will be furnished free.

Deaf mutes whose parents, guardians or friends are unable to pay the amount charged for board will be admitted free. Clothing must be furnished by parents or friends.

At the present time the trades of Printing, Carpentering and Shoemaking are taught to boys; the female pupils are instructed in general domestic work, Tailoring, Dressmaking, Sewing, knitting, the use of the Sewing Machine, and such ornamental and fancy work as may be desirable.

It is hoped that all having charge of deaf mute children will avail themselves of the liberal terms offered by the Government for their education and improvement.

The regular Annual School Term begins on the second Wednesday in September, and closes the third Wednesday in June of each year. Any information as to the terms of admission for pupils, etc., will be given upon application to me by letter or otherwise.

R. MATHISON,

Superintendent
BELLEVILLE, ONT.

INSTITUTION POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS

LETTERS AND PAPERS RECEIVED AND distributed without delay to the parties to whom they are addressed. Mail matter to go out is put in box in office door, will be sent to city post office at noon and 2:30 p.m. of each day (Sundays excepted). The messenger is not allowed to post letters or parcels, or receive mail matter at post office for delivery for any one, unless the same is in the locked bag.



Polish May Song.

May is here, the world rejoices
Earth puts on her smiles to greet her.
Grove and field lift up their voices
Leaf and flower come forth to meet her!
Happy May, blithesome May!
Winter's reign has passed away

Birds through every thicket calling,
Wake the woods to sounds of gladness
Hark! the long-drawn notes are falling,
Sad, but pleasant in their sadness
Happy May, blithesome May!
Winter's reign has passed away

Faith to heaven lifts up her voice,
Sky, and field and wood and river
With their heart and heart rejoices
For His gifts we praise the Giver
Happy May, blithesome May!
Winter's reign has passed away



May Day In England

England in spring is a land of blossoms and bird songs. It is a luscious, showery country where birds and blossoms multiply as they seldom do with us. The hedgerows that range like a wide-meshed net over the land are one cause of this abundant life, as their tangles make the best of hiding-places for nests, and there is always along each a strip of ground never disturbed by the plow, where flowers find a foothold. The English winter is much less harsh than ours, and the grass keeps its green all through the year. Spring opens early, and by May the new year's blossoms are sparkling everywhere.

English children are fond of flowers at any time, and often pick blossoms along the roadside or carry bunches of wildflowers in their hands, but never are they so eager in flower-gathering as on the last day of April. As soon as school closes almost every child in the village is out on the quest.

They go to the fields dappled with buttercups and bright little English daisies. They go to the old lanes where they find, on the banks, beautiful primroses, and blind nettles, and "Robin hoods," and ragged "coachmen's buttonholes," and they go to the copses and the damp woods where the anemones tremble and where the bluebells grow so many together as to look like patches fallen out of the sky.

When the sun gets low they come tramping back home with their treasures, — aprons full, hats full, hands full, — and after supper they sit making maypoles on the doorstep or around the fire flickering in the grate. The mothers or older sisters do the work for the smaller children, who gather close about and watch the disposal of every flower.

THE MAKING OF THE MAYPOLE.

A maypole is a stick from three to five feet long with a tuft of flowers and green leaves tied on its end. Often this tuft is a simple bunch, but frequently it is quite elaborate. A triangular arrangement of flowers on the top of the pole is not uncommon, and you may sometimes see one in the form of a cross, with daisy chains hung about it.

The children begin to tramp the village with their maypoles by seven or eight o'clock the next morning. They go in groups of three or four. Some groups are of the boys, some of girls—never girls and boys in the same company. They sing before such houses as they think will respond with small coins, and the inmates, including the dogs and cats, come to the doors and windows to see and hear them. Sometimes the people give them a "ha penny" or two, or treat them to biscuits and sweets, but often they get nothing at all.

Unless time hangs heavy on their

hands they do not stop at many of the laborers' cottages, except when they do it for fun. The children take pleasure in singing before the cottages, which are their own homes, for they like to have their mothers hear them, but they pass by the humbler dwellings, as a rule.

The laborers enjoy looking on, but they have no money to waste on such things. It is only the gentry, farmers, innkeepers and tradespeople who are likely to pay.

When a troop of children have gone the rounds of their home village they may, if the members are ambitious and the tour has been a financial success, go to several neighboring villages with their maypoles. The song they most often sing is a queer piping little piece which, as they say, "We hollers out like this."

Garland Day's the first of May
April's gone and May is come—
Please, marm, please, marm
What be ye goin' to give us
To see my nice fine garland?

Here's our maypole fresh and gay
Please to remember the first of May—
Please, marm, please marm
What be ye goin' to give us
To see my nice fine garland?

Besides this they sing any other songs they happen to know whether these have any connection with the day or not. In some parts of England a maypole party of girls will deck one of their members in wreaths and sing a verse as follows:

Please to remember the first of May,
Please to remember the Maypole day,
We've brought you a pretty, fair maid
And at your door she stands
She is so sweet
And looks so neat
All dressed with our own hands
Please to remember the first of May,
Please to remember the Maypole day

In most villages May day gets no more notice than the children choose to give it, but in other places the schoolmaster or the vicar's wife helps them do something more elaborate than they would do by themselves.

In that case it is very likely arranged that the children shall all come to the schoolhouse with their maypoles and plenty of extra flowers at half past eight in the morning. Then the older people help to make a "garland" for them. There are several styles in garlands, but the sort I am familiar with is made of two barrel-hoops run through each other at right angles with flowers tied on to conceal this framework. A string wreathed with flowers is run down through the middle, and to this is tied a large doll.

The school room is very picturesque while crowded by children with their maypoles and flowers scattered everywhere, and the schoolmaster and his wife, and the pupil teacher and the infant-teacher working on the garland. When finished it is borne away on a ten-foot pole carried on the shoulders of the two largest girls of the school.

These girls lead, and the rest of the children, with their flowering poles in the air, follow them two by two. The tallest ones are at the front, and the small tots at the rear.

SINGING FOR THE SHILLING

This procession is more particular than small garlanding parties are, and it makes the round of only the most important houses of the place. The children march directly into the grounds of the fine homes and form before the front porch in a semicircle about their garland. Then they sing several songs, mostly of a general character learned at school, though these are occasionally interspersed with begging chants like,

Here's my garland fresh and gay
Give me a penny and I'll run away
or other May day ditties.

The maids appear at the upper window as soon as the children come in the yard, and then the family come out on the porch and look on, and compliment the singing and examine the garland. When that is done the listeners give the leading girl a shilling, or perhaps a penny

apiece for each child, and off the children march to the next place.

The final visit is probably to a mansion in a wide park where lives the great gentleman of the region—the "squire," or possibly a lord. He and his lady and the rest of the household are sure to listen with interest, and their contribution will not be less than five shillings.

The gentry take pains to encourage all the old Christmas and holiday customs, for these have pleasant and poetic associations. So the garlanders are sure of a welcome at the great houses.

Noon and dinner time are well past by the time the children are back at the schoolhouse. They have, very likely, tramped four and five miles, and their line of march in the later stages is straggling. Their flowers have wilted, some poles have lost their nosegays altogether, and are just bare sticks. But tired and hungry as they are, there are no desisters.

All go straight to the schoolhouse, and there the schoolmaster meets them and counts the money they have had given them, and divides it equally among them.

The garland is left at the schoolhouse, and the master takes off the flowers and puts away the doll and the framework for use next year. The children, with their sixpences gipped in one hand and their dragged maypoles in the other, run off home to tell their folks all about it and get something to eat.

Later some of them can be seen loitering about the little shops of the village and investing in "sweets," or in balls, marbles or other playthings.

Within the memory of many still in middle age large maypoles, about which the people danced, were common on the village greens. The children's garlanding was then done by twelve o'clock, and by two or three in the afternoon the people, in holiday dress, gathered on the green. Here stood a maypole thirty feet high with a gilt ball on top.

Several cords were run from the top of the pole to pegs driven in the ground at some distance from the base, so that the whole thing was like the skeleton of a wigwam. Both pole and ropes were trimmed with flowers.

Presently the children, with the schoolmaster and mistress superintending and keeping order, gathered before a platform that had been put up at one side of the maypole.

They had chosen a pretty girl from their number for a queen, and she was dressed in her gayest gown and had flowers in her hair. There was also a boy who had been chosen king; but he was simply the queen's escort and of no particular importance. The children stood in two long lines, the boys on one side and the girls on the other.

When all was ready the king and queen marched down between the lines to the platform, on which was erected a kind of throne. Then there was acting and singing, and the queen was crowned with great ceremony.

A band with its music added to the general happiness and hilarity of the occasion. About five o'clock this band began to play "dance music," and all through the evening there was constant dancing about the maypole. In this the children, their parents, the plowboys, the maids, and even the old folks all joined.

It is said that those old-fashioned maypole festivities are still kept up in two or three villages, and there are signs of interest in them among the gentry that may cause them to be revived in some form in the near future.

CLIFTON JOHNSON.

A little boy was coming home with his mother from church, when he heard her saying that the sermon was not worth much. The little boy immediately turned round and said, "Oh, mother, what could you expect for a halfpenny?"