



THE CANADIAN MUTE.

Four, six or eight pages.

PUBLISHED SEMI-MONTHLY

At the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb,
BELLEVILLE, ONT.

OUR MISSION

First—That a number of our pupils may learn typesetting, and from the knowledge obtained be able to earn a livelihood after they leave school.

Second—To furnish interesting matter for and encourage a habit of reading among our pupils and deaf mute subscribers.

Third—To be a medium of communication between the school and parents and friends of pupils, now in the Institution, the hundreds who were pupils at one time or other in the past, and all who are interested in the education and instruction of the deaf of our land.

SUBSCRIPTION

Fifty (50) cents for the school year, payable in advance.

ADVERTISING

A very limited amount of advertising, subject to approval, will be inserted at 25 cents a line for each insertion.

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THE CANADIAN MUTE,
BELLEVILLE,
ONTARIO



MONDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1894.

The Overture at Chautauqua.

The October number of *The Annals* contains in full the clear, logical, liberal minded and convincing address delivered at Chautauqua by Dr. Gallaudet, in favor of the acceptance by the Association of the Overture made by the Convention. This Overture, as he correctly states, proposes neither a union nor an alliance nor even the formation of a new association to take the place of the two already existing, but simply that the Association shall so modify its name and enlarge the scope of its objects, as to render the further existence of the Convention unnecessary. The reasons he gives for this change are very strong and should convince all doubting ones. As he points out, the exclusively oral method of teaching is not the only, nor even the most generally accepted method of instruction; and he fails to see in what respect an Association, composed of all instructors of the deaf, would prevent the advocates of the oral method from continuing to uphold the claims of their system quite as effectively as can be done by a separate Association. He called attention to the decision arrived at by the Convention to form a new Association should this Overture be rejected, and he pleaded strongly for unity and fraternity among all engaged in this noble work. It needed no argument to prove that the cause of the education of the deaf would be better promoted by one strong, all embracing association than by two, with the rivalries and ill-feeling that would inevitably result. His idea was the existence of such a united Association which would provide for a number of sections, each with a committee for arranging the details of its work. There would be, for instance, a section for promoting the teaching of speech, a section on aural teaching, a section on language teaching, a section on industrial training, and so on to any extent that might be desired. He further suggested that, in addition to the meetings of the general Association, local meetings or institutes of instruction might be held in

different sections for the convenience of those who might be unable to traverse the continent for the sake of attending a general convention.

The doctor concluded his excellent address with an eloquent plea for unity. "In the advance of nations to power and greatness," he said, "integration and not disintegration, is the principle which has commanded success. The same is true of all human organizations that have undertaken measures of reform or great beneficence. No deviation can be expected in the operation of this principle in the cause of the education of the deaf. * * * So organized, under the new name of the American Association to Promote the Education of the Deaf, the profession of educators of the deaf, justly proud of the history it has already made, could look forward with assurance to a future of glorious achievement; in comparison with which the record of the past would seem but a faint penumbra."

In the September *Educator* appears a tabulated statement of a vote taken among the educators of the deaf as to the best method of accomplishing the best results. The vote was as follows:

For pure oral system	118
" combined	380
" manual	32
" aural	1
No choice	12

Total

543
No replies were received from nine institutions. Messrs. Dowling and Allabough, by whom the vote was taken, thus sum up the results: "Our opinion, judging from the general tenor of the explanations accompanying the votes, is that an undoubted large majority of teachers, &c., favor a happy medium between the extremes. Conservatism seems to be the watchword."

In the September number of *The Educator* there is a paper from the pen of Mrs. Balis, on "How the Deaf Think." It is a thoughtful and suggestive article, well worthy of careful study. She claims that with hearing children, and to a great extent adults also, thought, or more properly, we presume, recollection, consists of a mental picture, or a series of mental pictures reproduced from the brain on which they had been impressed. Language is simply a contrivance that enables us to give expression to our thoughts; and not an essential nor a natural medium of thought, though thought, in maturer years, is aided by language. Deaf children think in the same way—by the impression on the brain of the picture of what is seen.

Mr. Wyckoff, principal of the Iowa School for the Deaf, had an interesting article in the last issue of *The Educator*, on the subject of oral teaching. His conclusions are that, since but few mutes can be taught to speak sufficiently well to enable them to be easily understood by people with whom they come in contact in business and social life, it would be unwise to depend on oral language only. He thinks that, except in the cases of those few mutes who exhibit special aptitude for learning to talk, time and money devoted to oral teaching is not well spent.

The fifth annual report of the Manitoba Institution for the Education of the Deaf and Dumb, at Winnipeg, has been received. The report was printed at the office of the Institution and is a very creditable specimen of pamphlet printing. The people of Manitoba were indeed fortunate in securing Mr. McDermid for the head of the Institution there; he and his staff are doing excellent work.

The Board of Commissioners of the Michigan School for the Deaf have invited the American Convention of Instructors of the Deaf to meet at the School for the Deaf at Flint, in 1895, and the Executive Committee have accepted the invitation, and named July 2nd as the date. A charge of 75 cents a day will be made to cover cost of entertainment.

Did the *National Exponent, Register*, and *Critic* continue publication during the summer months? We did not get a copy of any of the foregoing for about three months. We were under the impression they were to be published every week throughout the year, the same as the *New York Journal* and *Jacksonville Advance*.

Ontario makes better provision for her unfortunate children than do some other places. It is stated that the School at Omaha will have to close next January for want of sufficient funds to continue it longer. Our sympathies go out to our Nebraska friends.

The *Colorado Inlet* comes to hand in a new form and very much improved.

Lord Aberdeen at Winnipeg.

His Excellency, Lord Aberdeen, Governor-General, with Lieut. Governor Schultz, and staff, visited the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb at Winnipeg while in that city. The *Free Press* gives the following:—

The approach to the Institute was decorated with the Union Jack, whilst inside the word "Welcome" was most conspicuous. His Excellency was received by Principal D. W. McDermid, Mrs. McDermid, and the staff of the Institution was also in attendance. The children were assembled in the large school-room, and were all prettily attired. There is something connected with a visit to such an institution as this, which particularly appeals to those of a sensitive and sympathetic nature; and on his visit to a similar institution at Belleville, Ont., His Excellency took the greatest interest in having the work of the institution thoroughly explained to him.

Principal McDermid showed His Lordship into his school room in a most interesting manner, explained to His Lordship the methods employed in training the deaf and dumb. He called forward two little girls who had only been in the institution about a week. He showed them a box and book and took their signs for the same as expressive of what the same meant in their minds. The children clearly showed that they understood what these things were by writing on the blackboard "book" and "box." He next called two boys who had been in the institution longer, and opened his watch in front of them, asking the lads what he did. They immediately wrote on the board "You opened your watch." Two young ladies next appeared upon the scene and one wrote an address of welcome on the board to His Excellency, whilst the other (who has so far recovered her speech as to plainly articulate) read the address to Lord Aberdeen. Mrs. McDermid then, in the sign language, recited "Rock of Ages." Miss Maud Lane reciting it properly. Mr. McDermid read the following address of welcome:—

May it please Your Excellency: The officers, teachers and pupils of the Manitoba Institution for the Deaf and Dumb extend to you and Her Excellency the Countess of Aberdeen a most cordial welcome to our school, the youngest of its kind in Canada.

We are engaged in the work of alleviating, in a sense, one of the greatest afflictions beneath which man can labor. We tell that these long imprisoned souls may have their light turned into day, and that they may be elevated to the privileges of citizenship, received into companionship with their fellow men and admitted into communion with their Creator.

We have, Your Excellency, a deep sense of the honor your visit confers upon us. It is but another of the many gracious acts with which your life is adorned. We also express our gratification that Your Excellency is accompanied by Lady Aberdeen whose name has become a household word in the homes of all English speaking people for the kindness and wisdom of the efforts which she has made to promote the well-being, comfort and happiness of women workers, especially of those who toil in the humbler spheres of life.

We rejoice in the fact that our institution is made the beneficiary of the provincial government, whose members, individually and collectively, have shown a warm and sympathetic interest in the work in which we are engaged. We are also pleased to say that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor and his worthy consort, Mrs. Schultz, by their counsel and commendation, have encouraged and stimulated us to further

efforts and zeal in the cause of deaf mute education. Of this day, Your Excellency, we shall have a long and happy recollection. From the pages of its memory and the encouragement it has brought shall spring new efforts, new ambitions, new hopes. In return, may you and every member of your household long be blessed with health, and peace and sweet contentment. Signed on behalf of officers, teachers and pupils

D. W. McDermid,
ATTESTA SPEAKING
LOUISA PETERSON

At the Deaf and Dumb Institution His Excellency addressed the pupils as follows:—

I am greatly pleased with the welcome and the beautiful permanent token and your greeting. It is a delightful token to me and sure it is to you to learn that I am unable to join you. It is not for lack of desire that she is not present, but I cannot come with whom she had an appointment are with me and she has been unable to conclude her business with them in time to enable her to attend on this present occasion but I will promise that the next time that we come to Winnipeg, if you will have the invitation to visit the Institution, she will come. (Applause.) I admire the way in which the address on the blackboard is written, and I am also much pleased with the manner in which it was delivered by Miss Pettigrew. I can say that the very interesting visit which we made at Belleville only enables me to appreciate the visit all the more. (Applause.) I desire to express my good wishes for the prosperity of the institution, and for the welfare of all the pupils, and especially for yourself and Mr. McDermid, and the staff who have labored in this work of love and patience. I am sure it must be a happy one to you, Mr. McDermid, and your colleagues. I am the goal results which have been attained by these young people. Both I and my wife have been very much interested and I can say the same for our esteemed Lieutenant-Governor. (Applause.) We will give Miss Lane a faithful account of what has taken place. I am sure you all feel glad that His Honor has never failed to show a personal interest in a matter that concerns the welfare of the community. I am able to come with me. (Applause.) I may be sure that I will not forget the pleasant visit.

His Excellency concluded by asking for a holiday for the pupils.

After inspecting the Institution His Excellency left for the Medical College.

TORONTO TOPICS.

From our own Correspondent.

Mr. and Mrs. Buchan's address is 11 Atkin street. Mr. Buchan is one of the busiest nutes in the city. He does not know what hard times are.

Mr. and Mrs. Flynn were spending a good deal of 'last summer at Mr. and Mrs. Brown's, near Lindsay. The country life seems to agree with them. John has learned a great deal of farming and would like to see him appointed a judge of live stock at some of our rural agricultural fairs.

The mutes here have resumed the evening classes for the fall and winter months. The first meeting was held last Wednesday evening in Spaulding's Music Hall, and there were some 20 or 25 present. It was of a rather formal nature at which arrangements were made for several religious lectures and debating meetings every Wednesday evening. A pleasant feature of the evening was Miss Annie Fraser's reading and explanations of the different characters in the Parable of the Prodigal Son. The meeting was a very enjoyable one and big times are anticipated this winter.

Another deaf mute by the name of Mr. Grant has come into our midst, from Glasgow, Scotland, lately, and if he only gets work he will be a valuable member of the "silent family."

We were very much pleased to see Miss Annie Fraser in the city again after five or six months absence in Chicago. We understand she is going to stay with us for good. We feel sure the deaf here will find a true friend in her. She will continue her studies here for some time but will find time to mingle among us part of the time.

Miss Maud Thomas, we understand will shortly return to the Institution. Her many friends here will miss her.

We are sorry to say that three of our best young men are laid off work for a short while, but they do not suffer much by it, as they all hold bank books. That is wise.

We learn that Miss Moore is going to attend the Whitby Ladies' College. She will leave in the course of a few days, and we wish her success.

The deaf here have been talking a great deal about Miss Eddy, who has come to the city from Rome, N. Y., for the purpose of opening a private school for the deaf on the oral system. We have not seen anything of her yet.

We would advise deaf mutes not to speculate with their money on real estate, unless they have some trusty friends to back them up, otherwise they are almost sure to get the worst of the bargain.

William O'Rourke, who is an old Belleville pupil, has secured a position as a printer in the *Free Canadian* office. He is a very promising young man, and we feel sure he will make a good printer for himself by and by.