



THE CANADIAN MUTE.

Four, six or eight pages.

PUBLISHED SEMI-MONTHLY

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

R. MATHISON, Associate Editor.
J. B. ASHLEY.

OUR MISSION:

- First—That a number of our pupils may learn type-setting, 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.

ROY V. SOMERVILLE, 105 Times Building, New York, is our agent for United States advertising.

Address all communications and subscriptions to

THE CANADIAN MUTE,
BELLEVILLE,
ONTARIO



WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1893.

AN OPTOMIST.

Miss Jennie Bright, a public school teacher of Manitowac, Wis., must be an exceptionally bright and conceited person. She has had no experience in teaching the deaf, so far as we know, and is a comparatively young and inexperienced teacher of hearing children. By some means, not now made public, she has made a wonderful discovery in educational ethics, and assumes more than the veteran dare approach. She has announced her intention to revolutionize the cause of deaf-mute education by teaching all deaf children to talk. It matters not what the nature of the deafness may be, congenital or otherwise, she will undertake to give speech to the dumb, if she cannot give them hearing. With this object in view she has gone to Black River Falls, Wis., and asks all concerned or interested to aid her in the establishment of a school by which she can exemplify her ability to do what nobody else has yet been able to do. Not only will she "train the vocal organs until they are understood and used by the pupil as readily as by any one," but she will teach them to sing in perfect time. There may be more of the wonderful in this young lady's announcement, but we have quoted enough. Dr. Bell and his most ardent admirers have been distanced in the first bound by Miss Bright, for fame in the development of oral instruction for the deaf. She easily goes up head in the experimental class, but her ability to stay there is yet to be tested. It is not probable that her exceedingly optimistic views will impress many persons favorably, and hence the formation of a school under such a system is in doubt. Should she succeed in getting a few deaf-mutes of "untutored mind" to experiment with, a short experience will cool her ardor and modify her views. We say this with an honest conviction that her assumed mission is an impossibility, but at the same time wish her a triumphant success.

"TO A SCHOOL-MATE."

This is the title of a poetical contribution published elsewhere, composed by Miss Mary Lynch, a graduate of this school. It may not be quite up to the Tennysonian style of metre and measure, but it is a credit to a deaf girl, seventeen years old. She is the person who made the "creditable effort" in reproducing the story of the "Lost Child," published in a recent issue of the *Educator*. A semi-mute of rare intelligence, and an omnivorous reader, she has a command of language quite equal to ordinary hearing persons. She attended a public school for a short time before losing her hearing when eight years old, but nearly all the education she has was obtained here during the four years of her attendance. Proficient in the use of signs and the manual alphabet, she employs these exclusively in conversation with the deaf. Though able to articulate quite distinctly, and an intelligent member of the articulation class while at school, she does not pretend to read the lips promiscuously. We submit that this girl and others similarly instructed are better able to enjoy life in all its phases, because familiar with the combined system, which is eclectic in principle and general in application.

Mr. A. R. Spear, of the North Dakota School, seems to be displeased with the efforts of certain deaf persons who read papers orally at the Chicago Congress. He declares that the success of such efforts cannot be attributed to the combined system, but rather to the value of oration as a distinct method. We most respectfully join issue with our western friend. If these deaf persons were educated under the combined system their ability to articulate well is proof positive that the system does not retard the development of the vocal powers, where any development is possible. Mr. Spear also avers that a deaf person cannot read a paper either to advantage of himself or benefit of the audience. How can he, as "a speaking deaf man," express such an opinion? He should be able to hear what his essays to judge so authoritatively.

The two papers published at the Texas School are amalgamated, the new weekly paper combining the best features of both. The *Ranger*, when referring to the change, said "The Superintendent wants this institution to send out 'the ideal paper' of its kind. At present THE CANADIAN MUTE stands on one of the highest rounds of the ladder. We shall try hard to climb higher than THE CANADIAN MUTE, even if we have to increase the length of the ladder." The *Ranger* and *Juvenile* both stood near the top of the ladder in our estimation, and if the combined effort is to do more climbing, we will be content to look up and admire its proud position.

Cheering reports come to us as to the improved condition of Dr. Noyes. Rest and freedom from care give hope for his complete recovery. The Board of Trustees of the Minnesota Institution did a graceful act in allowing him leave of absence for a year with full pay. Mr. Chas. Gillett, as acting superintendent will, we have no doubt, conduct the Institution in such a manner as to merit commendation.

There are thirteen pupils taking post-graduate courses in our industrial departments this year. Five are employed at the dressmaking and tailoring, two in the printing office, five in the shoe-shop, and one in the carpenter shop. They give their entire time to the work, the girls working seven and the boys nine hours per day. The system works very advantageously.

THE EDITOR'S TABLE

We have been thoughtfully examining several of our exchanges which seem to occupy a prominent position among the many papers published in the interest of the deaf.

THE TWO LEADERS.

It must be admitted that the *Deaf-Mute Journal* and the *Register* take first place, as they are more than Institution papers. Both are ably conducted, and contain much that is of interest to the deaf generally. We value them highly as exchanges.

THE COMPANION.

This representative of the Minnesota School is less pretentious, but no less influential. The editor, Mr. J. L. Smith, is generally recognized as one of the ablest and most successful teachers of the deaf in America. He is equally as able and successful as a writer.

THE SILENT WORLD.

Under the editorial guidance of Messrs. Davidson and VanAllen this paper ranked among the best. It has lost none of its excellence since Miss Taylor took charge of its columns. Several new features may be commended.

THE SILENT WORKER.

The New Jersey School sends out an excellent paper. Considering the size of the school, it shows unusual enterprise, and is conducted with marked ability.

THE KENTUCKY DEAF-MUTE.

No paper that comes to our table is more highly valued than this production of the Kentucky School. Courteous and witty, it is a pleasure to have a tilt with the editor, our friend McClure.

THE LOVE STAR WEEKLY.

Elsewhere reference is made to a combination of the two papers formerly published at the Texas School. We have the result with the above title. It stands on the top of the ladder, and with Messrs. Blattner and Taylor to guide its destiny, it will not take a lower place.

THE WESTERN PENNSYLVANIAN.

This is a comparatively new paper, but equal in most respects to the oldest and best. It has some features that we consider of superior merit. It is a credit to the school it represents and the persons who prepare it.

THE MUTE SIBIRIAN.

Michigan has a good school which produces a good paper. Clean and instructive, it is a welcome exchange.

THE DEAF-MUTE ADVANCE.

Illinois has the largest school for the deaf in the world, and the paper that represents this school is worthy of the honor it claims.

THE MARYLAND BULLETIN.

This is one of our most valued Institution exchanges. It has been enlarged recently and otherwise improved except in the editorial department, which was always of the best.

THE ARKANSAS OPTIC.

Shines forth with a new and cheery heading. Its columns are as interesting as ever.

The Wisconsin *Times*, California *News*, Washington *Washingtonian*, Virginia *Tablet*, Palmetto *Leaf*, Florida *Herald*, Dubuque *Critic*, Colorado *Leader*, Kansas *Star*, Staunton *Goodday Gazette*, Iowa *Harbinger*, Manitoba *Echo*, Rochester *Little People*, Mississippi *Voice*, Missouri *Record*, Indiana *Hoosier*, Utah *Eagle*, Oregon *Sign*, Dakota *Advocate*, Dakota *Banner*, South Carolina *Leaf*, Baton Rouge *Pelican*, rank high in ability and influence. We want to retain the good will of all these exchanges. The Nebraska *Journal* though named last is by no means the least appreciated. Were its visits to us to cease, this life would be a dreary existence.

THE WORLD'S CONGRESS.

We have received the "Proceedings of the World's Congress of Instructors of the Deaf," which has been published as a supplement to the *American Annals*. It contains the papers read before this congress, and will be of interest even to those who were there.

SCHOOL HISTORIES.

We are placed under obligations to the Volta Bureau for kindly sending us bound volumes of the histories of schools for the deaf in the United States and Canada. Nearly all the histories were printed at the schools they represent, and are creditable productions.

BE POLITE

Hearts like doors will open to you,
To two very little keys—
But don't forget the two on the
"I thank you, sir," and
Be polite, boys, don't forget
In your wandering days,
When you work and when
In your home and when
Be polite, boys, to each,
Do not quickly take offense,
Curb your temper, you see,
For this habit seasons the
Be perfect to the age,
And this one thing bear in mind,
Never taunt the wretched
Be he helpless, lame or blind,
Be polite boys to your
Never let them fall to hear,
From their son the best of
In the home you should hold
To your brothers and your
Speak in accents kind and
Be polite, will you
Than a princely gift can

The Word "Asylum"

To the Editor of THE CANADIAN MUTE.
DEAR SIR—From correspondence with the publishers of the new Webster's International Dictionary I take the following extract, which will be satisfactory to many of your readers. The definition—B of the word "Asylum" reads as follows: "An institution for the protection or relief of some class of destitute, unfortunate, or afflicted persons; as an asylum for the aged, the blind, or for the insane, a lunatic asylum, an orphan asylum."

So this disposes of the word "asylum" as applied to schools for the deaf, so far as Webster is concerned. The "Century" and "Worcester" remain to be heard from, and doubtless the former will also make the desired and proper correction to its future editions.

Now the deaf can focus their pen points upon the "American Asylum" at Hartford, Conn., and, as the authorities appear open to conviction, they will probably succeed in eliminating the name from the title of that school also.

A Pleasant Vacation

To the Editor of THE CANADIAN MUTE.
I have just finished reading the last issue of THE MUTE and feel that I must write and tell you how glad I was to see you again, after your long vacation. I trust all your readers had a pleasant vacation. I had a very pleasant one. Owing to the World's Fair I did not have much to do after the middle of June. On 29th of July I left Detroit for Poplar Hill Ont., to see my old and dear friend, Mrs. Richard Pincombe, and had a most delightful visit of six weeks with her. While there I spent a day with Mr. John Noyes. They will be remembered by many of the older pupils of the Institution, also, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. H. whom were pupils, before the wife was Mr. and Mrs. John Noyes have quite a nice farm and a fine baby boy. Mr. John Pincombe is getting along nicely on his farm, and so is Mr. Richard Pincombe. He has the reputation of being one of the best workers in that township and has been twice appointed Postmaster, and his work highly praised. It is not very often you will hear of a deaf mute holding a position like that.

On my way home I stopped at a hotel and spent a few days with Miss Marion Campbell. Bye the bye, all her Detroit friends are wondering what has become of her, as no one ever hears from her now. Came to Detroit from Chatham on the boat and had quite a pleasant trip. The view for the first half of the way was charming. Arrived in Detroit Sept. 13th and on the 14th Rev. Mr. Mann held services twice for the deaf in our chapel. At the morning service your writer was not only surprised but pleased to meet Miss Gertrude Maxwell. She spent a few days here and then went on a visit to an old class mate. At present she is in Detroit visiting friends, and we hope she will not make her visit too short. She will return to Buffalo, where she says she will probably remain all winter, but we hope to see a "Pansy" in Detroit before Spring. I am sorry I cannot give you any news about your deaf friends. I very seldom meet any and know nothing that is going on among them. As I belong to the Y. M. C. A. and the King's Daughters, and expect to join another church society in the long, I have very little time for myself. I cannot call the time during the day my own. This letter is as uninteresting as those I wrote before. We had promised to do better next time, but I am not sure I could keep it, but I will try and write often if my letters are profitable.

Detroit, Nov. 4th, 1893.