

gaily and going at a pace that only light hearts and good appetites could account for. The girls were no more than seated when the boys came along in the same order, only with a great deal more noise. It was a lively scene. I don't want to see knives and forks plied any better or faster anywhere.

The right of admission is granted to residents of the Province of Ontario who, being fairly healthy and reasonably intelligent, cannot be educated or trained by ordinary methods. As regards four-fifths of the pupils in attendance at the date of the examination, no question respecting their eligibility could arise, while one-fifth may be open to a discretionary judgment to be cautiously, but still generously, exercised. When it is found that the pupil, after trial, is ineligible, either by reason of an existing degree of vision larger than had been supposed, or by improved sight, retirement at the end of the session follows. For social reasons the admission of the partially sighted is of the highest importance. The totally blind youth will move, if uneducated and untrained, in a very contracted area. The loss to him is largely personal, or effects himself and his immediate surroundings. But the partially sighted, ranking as they may in other matters with the full sighted, are just as dangerous members of society if left in ignorance as the latter, with the further objection that their defect, however partial, circumscribes their opportunities for healthy and honest labour or employment. The community cannot afford to incur such danger as the enforced idleness of any class is sure to entail.

The writing class. "Writing!" you say, "a class of blind pupils writing!" Yes, they are writing from the teacher's dictation, and writing swiftly. I was shown a specimen, but, alas! it was an enigma to me. It was marvellous how quickly they could write in embossed characters. In one room the lesson somehow was cremation. "What do you think of cremation, anyhow?" I asked a pleasant-looking little fellow who sat near the door. "I think it is a burning shame," he answered, as he looked up at me and smiled. It was a very good answer; don't you think so?

Now for the junior writing class. The caligraphy was done on a board, either thin wood or heavy paper. It was ruled from top to bottom with little grooves. The paper was placed on the top of the board, and fastened there, and the little writer simply wrote into the grooves. The groove lines guided the hand. You would have found some little difficulty in reading it at first, but not any more, certainly, than if you were reading my own, or that of some people who, forgetful of their own efforts, smile pityingly at mine.