



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 to type, set, 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. New subscriptions commence at any time during the year. Remit by money order, postage stamps, or registered letter. Subscribers failing to receive their papers regularly will please notify us, that mistakes may be corrected without delay. All papers are stopped when the subscription expires, unless otherwise ordered. The date on each subscriber's wrapper is the time when the subscription runs out.

Correspondence on matters of interest to the deaf is requested from our friends in all parts of the Province. Nothing calculated to wound the feelings of any one will be admitted. If we know it.

ADVERTISING.

A very limited amount of advertising, subject to approval, will be inserted at 2 cents a line for each insertion.

Address all communications and subscriptions to

THE CANADIAN MUTE,

BELLEVILLE,

ONTARIO.



TUESDAY DECEMBER 1, 1896.

The Duty of Thankfulness.

"And be ye thankful" was the apostolic admonition, and we trust it was cheerfully obeyed by all our readers on Thursday last. It is to be feared that too many people look upon Thanksgiving Day simply as a day of pleasure, as something to enjoy with roast turkey, sweetmeats and a good time generally, and quite losing sight of the real meaning and purpose of the day. It is of course meet that friend should feast friend and that our tables should be loaded to an unusual extent with good things on the day set apart for the expression of gratitude for the bounteous blessings bestowed upon us. But too many people are content to partake of the bounties without any special expression of thankfulness therefor. In gratitude is said to be the blackest of sins, and those surely are doubly ungrateful who mark this appointed day with a special feast but who utter no word of thanks for the special bounties of which they are partaking. We trust this sin of ingratitude was not one of which any of our readers were or are guilty. Nor should we forget that while it is seemly that there should thus be a united national expression of thanksgiving, it is our duty in all things and at all times to give thanks for the multitude of our daily blessings. Most of us are liberal enough in presenting our petitions, especially for material blessings, to the Giver of all good things, but after we have received the bounties we craved, and even more than we have asked or thought, how prone we are to neglect to return thanks therefor! Of how many, and how often it is true, as Mrs. Browning says:

"And this say 'God be praised,
That never said 'God be praised'

There is an epidemic of scarlet fever—though of a mild type—in the Ohio School for the Deaf.

The strike among the boys in the Michigan School illustrates a very pretty little problem which the advocate of "woman's rights" must solve. These advocates claim full equality with men in the field of industry, full liberty to engage in competition with men in any or all occupations. The old theory was that there is a radical difference between men and women as regards their physical constitutions, and that this difference implied a difference in the occupations for which each is specially adapted. The new woman, however, scorns all such considerations as these, and maintains that what man has done woman can do and must be allowed to do. Well, we do not propose to raise any objection to this view at all in fact if the women have made up their minds to this, objection would do no good, for among the incontrovertible rights that women have established is the right to have their own way. We simply wish to remark that if women insist on equality of opportunity they must inevitably submit also to equality of privilege, and consent to forego all special consideration. If men must enter into competition with women in every walk of life, it is quite necessary that women should be obliged to work for the same number of hours each day, and to work always under the same conditions as men. Otherwise women would be denying to men that liberty, equality and fraternity they claim for themselves.

This Institution has been favored with a special diploma from the Department of Education of Ontario, commemorative of our assistance in contributing to the success of the Ontario Educational Exhibit, which received the highest award made for all branches of Education at the Columbian Exhibition in 1893. Last summer we received the regular Exhibition diploma direct from the managers of the World's Fair, but the one noted above is quite distinct from this, being prepared and awarded by the Education Department simply to commemorate the fact that the Educational Exhibit made by this Province surpassed that of any other province, state or country in the world, according to the verdict of the Judges at the Exhibition. It is quite excusable if the people of Ontario feel not a little proud of this high-honor won in the highest field of human endeavor, and we also will be forgiven if we exhibit considerable pride in the by no means insignificant part we contributed towards that superior exhibit, and the consequent honors that we won.

Intense surprise is expressed by the editor of a New Orleans paper because he has received a grateful note of thanks for a highly deserved but brief compliment (paid by the paper to a young woman recently appointed to a position in the State deaf and dumb school. In all the years of a long journalistic experience he says, "during which columns upon columns of laudation, if not of gush, has been poured forth on men in the effort to make big ones of little ones, this writer has never before received a word of thanks of recognition."—*Deaf Mute Reporter*.

The editor of the *Register* must have a pretty good constitution or he could not have survived the shock. His experience—with the one above exception—is similar to that of other editors. They may write columns of laudatory notices about an individual and receive never an acknowledgment. Let a little stem slip in that, however un-intentional, may be susceptible of an uncomplimentary interpretation, and the editor hears of it very quickly and very emphatically. Such is human gratitude.

There are now over 600 pupils enrolled in the Mt. Airy Institution, which of course is the largest number in any school for the deaf in America. The Illinois Institution has over 500 in attendance.

In many of our kindred institutions across the line there is much discussion going on as to the best methods for dividing the time spent by the pupils in school and shops so as to get the best results from both. Without claiming perfection, we think that our arrangement is as good as any. Our pupils put 1 1/2 hours per day in the class rooms, and from 1 to 1 1/2 hours at evening study; in the shops they work about 3 hours per day and half a day on Saturday. In addition to this there is the post graduate course for pupils who have passed the school limit and these work 8 1/2 hours each week-day except Saturday. We notice that in many schools this post graduate course is finding favor.

Two or three weeks ago, some of the boys in the Michigan school struck for shorter hours. It seems that the girls in the industrial departments there are dismissed at four o'clock, while the boys are not released till five, so one day the boys all laid down their tools at four o'clock and walked out. They soon found out, however, that those in authority could strike harder than they could, and the little revolt was promptly and effectively subdued. It takes some boys and girls a long time to find out that they are sent to school, not to have a good time, but to acquire the greatest possible amount of information and skill.

In a recent issue of the *Atlanta Constitution* we noticed a very interesting account of the excellent educational work being done in the Georgia School for the Deaf. A picture of the buildings and grounds was also given. Superintendent Connor has proven himself to be a judicious and progressive executive officer, and in proportion to its facilities this school is doing as good work as any other in the Union. The attendance has now reached about 100, which is more than there is adequate room for, and a strong effort is now being made to induce the Legislature to increase the accommodation.

Only about a week ago the *CANADIAN MUTE* expressed a wish that one of the best of Helen Keller and signed for another (probably just for a change) already S. Millington Miller M. D. has repeated in print with another wonderful idea looking to the amelioration of the condition of the deaf. *Deaf Mute News*.

It was a prodigy we were asking for, not a freak. By the way this very learned doctor says that artificial ears can be made that will enable even the congenitally deaf to hear. An exchange even avers that he proposes to construct artificial minds in idiots.

The attractive face, and winning manners of the *CANADIAN MUTE* are not unwatched by age. Its entertaining pages are just as enjoyable as ever. It has a clean, sharp, incisive style that marks the *Canadian*, and a good natured expression of verifiability that invites and wins our admiration. As it has a model printer and a satisfactory manager with a first class printing outfit, we may expect it to continue to furnish "copy," which we shall be glad to follow for another generation.—*Winnipeg Times*.

All we can say in reply to our contemporary is "you're another."

Sensible Advice.

A young man out of employment went recently to an older man asking advice. "John," said the older man, "my advice to a man needing work and out of it always is to take the first honest thing that comes along. Hard or easy, obscure or conspicuous, if paid or well paid, take hold of the work that offers itself to your hand, and do it with your might. In my own day I once could get no employment except to help the porter in a factory at a dollar a day. I took it, to day I control the factory and am owner of the business."

"That," said the youth, "was nearly forty years ago. Things in the business world were different then."

"Things are never different," was the reply. "An energetic man will gain nothing by sitting still and waiting for the large place. Let him take hold at once of the small place and till that till he overflows it."—*Christian Intelligencer*.

Distance Leads Enchantments.

The sails we see on the sea
Are as white as white can be
But never one in the harbor
As white as the sails at sea

And the clouds that crown the mountain
With purple and gold delight
Turn to cold gray mist and vapors
Ere we reach its lofty height

Stately and fair the vessel
That comes not near our beach
Stately and grand the ocean
Whose height we may never reach

O Distance! thou dear enchantress
Still hold in thy magic vest
The glory of far off mountains
The gleam of the far-off sea!

The Calcutta Deaf School.

Mr. Editor: Now that the *Canadian Mute* in its last issue has announced that I am selected as collector, having the honor of covering this Canada of ours, in addition to the above school, a sense of duty compels me to seek space in your bright paper and ask all its readers to join us and plead the cause so deserving of sympathy and support.

The deaf mutes, as a class, are very generous and businesslike than they are supposed to be, that is, they are willing enough to give some, but they stand on a business principle will not give until they are fully cognizant of the facts that may be given concerning a cause or scheme. This is sensible, and I can now tell them why we ask their aid on behalf of our poor brothers and sisters in another part of the world.

The deaf school was opened three years ago with two pupils in a red brick building in Calcutta, the metropolis of the province of Bengal in British India. The affairs of the school are being conducted by a committee of management; it is being supported for its present, by private and municipal subscriptions. It is the only school of the kind in Bengal, where, according to the census of 1881, 70,000 deaf mutes are with all the benefits of knowledge and the comforts of religion. Only twenty-three pupils attended there at the close of the last session; the committee is scrupulously economical in disposing of the money received. They think for the future of the school, they employ teachers, in fact, they all toiled without salary for about two years. They live in a house, which is, however, old and unsuitable, but possess all useful furniture. As for finances, the city council has granted 100 rupees monthly towards the maintenance of the school since its first opening, and will, it is fervently hoped, do so permanently. The government of the presidency have not done anything as yet, and will not until they are assured that the money will be properly spent. Therefore you see, in these circumstances, be sufficient for a long time, and that the school is liable to be closed unless we deaf mutes, in the civilized world over respond readily to the appeal that has been made since last year, so far as our means permit in order to assure the permanent of the school; then—and not until then—the government, seeing that assurance will give the aid needed annually. After all, that government does not conduct the affairs of the country, and build and maintain public institutions, or our more liberal government, in respect we are fortunate and ought to be grateful. In what way will we demonstrate that gratitude? Will we not be in responding to the cry that comes from those of our brothers and sisters so as to enable them to enjoy the same blessings of education and science that we have secured here in Canada? Some of you may argue that charity begins at home. Does it end there also, may I ask? Charity, or love, is universal, not limited.

Now, dear friends, I am sure that you will, thus knowing these facts and feeling the duty imposed by the Bible, that light, rise promptly and do your part about it.

As to the best way in sending your money, I would suggest you to do so by post office order, if it cannot be done by that, you may send it registered or in stamps, and then I will acknowledge it by sending you a receipt. One, five, ten, twenty-five cents, a dollar or more will be thankfully received.

A. A. McLEOD

62 Collier St., Toronto, Ont.
Nov. 10th, 1896

The current silver rupee of account is at about 16 cents; the silver rupee about the gold rupee, nearly seven dollars. We