

tural sign language, not to pull down the old land-marks until they got something better. Mr. McGann strongly advocated progress in obtaining modes of expression for deaf-mutes. He thought they should endeavour to improve the present system and not to go backwards, and make use exclusively of the old natural sign-language. Dr. Peet remarked that the deaf-mute, when thinking about any action, did not do so in accordance with the English order of language, and he would as early as possible endeavour to get them to think in the English language. If he could get them to do this, it would not hurt them, the pupils, to use signs. He considered the translation of sentences from signs into the English idiom equally as good a mental exercise as translation from Latin into English, and *vice versa*. While wishing to have deaf-mutes think in the English language, he was not in favour of discarding the sign language, but of further improving it.

A Committee was appointed to devise signs for numerous short words now in common use, and for which there are, at present, no such signs, and teachers were requested to send to the Committee all such words as they might meet with.

The museum was open during to-day, and was one of the great attractions, if not the principal one. Many of the gentlemen from the United States, who have spent many years in some of the most prominent educational institutions in that country, expressed surprise at the completeness of the museum, and the great variety of articles exhibited therein; yet what was shown was only a small selection from the beautiful Educational Museum in Toronto. Among the articles were some charts and books on the subject of deaf and dumb instruction, but most of them were objects, apparatus and charts collected from different countries in Europe and America, by the Educational Department of Ontario, not specially for the instruction of the deaf and dumb, but in many cases well adapted for that purpose.

It is very interesting to visit the workshops in connection with this institution. In one of them about twenty-five boys are engaged at shoemaking, not only for this but for various other Government Institutions in the Province. Since August last, there have been made there and sent away, in addition to the shoes used here, 727 pairs, and the work has all been done by hand. In the cabinet and carpenter's shop, desks, tables with turned legs, window sashes, &c., are made. Painting and glazing are also done in the shops.

#### BELLEVILLE, July 19.

The Convention re-assembled this morning at ten o'clock, when a religious service in the sign-language took place, the Rev. D. E. Bartlett, of Hartford, conducting the service. In opening with the Doxology, "sung" in manual signs, the assemblage, or that portion of it which was capable of making use of that mode of expression, taking the time from the conductor. This mode of praising the Almighty, merely making motions, is very strange to those accustomed to hearing human voices swelling and blending into loud harmony aided by the organ's solemn tones. The Lord's Prayer was next repeated in the same way. Mr. Bartlett then delivered a discourse from the text Exodus iv., 7. The preacher expressed himself almost entirely in natural signs, seldom spelling a word with the sign alphabet, and the audience, with the exception of the few uninitiated present, or more correctly the spectators, evidently understood him well. The representatives of the various institutions were then severally called on, and stated their methods of conducting religious service. This continued till one o'clock, when the Convention adjourned until eight o'clock in the evening.

At three o'clock a special service for deaf-mutes was held in the St. Thomas Anglican Church. The majority of the members of the Convention and a great many others were present. The services were conducted *viva voce* by the Rev. Mr. Burke, the incumbent of the church, but the Rev. Dr. Gallaudet, of New York, who is a clergyman of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States, and who, like the Rev. Mr. Burke, wore a surplice on this occasion, stood beside the latter and interpreted in the sign-language everything he uttered, the liturgy included. A feature of the service was the baptism by those two clergymen, of a child of two deaf-mute parents residing in the town. It had been ascertained as a fact, which may interest some, that the child is not deaf. After the baptism, the Rev. Mr. Burke delivered a very appropriate address, directed principally to the members of the Convention.

He was followed by the Rev. Dr. Gallaudet, who gave those present not deaf and dumb instructors, a history of the New York Church Mission for deaf-mutes, Rev. Mr. Berry, of Albany, interpreting him in the sign-language. The mission, it seems, is designed to give religious instruction to the deaf-mutes residing in the American metropolis, and to afford them opportunities of worshipping together. In the course of his remarks, Dr. Gallaudet stated that he had been among deaf-mutes all his lifetime, since both his mother and his wife were deaf and dumb. At the conclusion of the service

a collection in aid of the New York Mission was taken up, and, without any intimation of it having been given, about \$27 was received.

At eight o'clock in the evening the Convention resumed, and another model service was held, Drs. Peet and Gallaudet (Washington) conducting. During the course of the service, Dr. Peet repeated the Lord's Prayer and the hymn beginning, "O for a thousand tongues to sing," the spectators following him in the same way as that which they followed Mr. Bartlett in the morning. Dr. Peet then wrote the first five commandments on a blackboard, and commented upon them. Dr. Gallaudet followed with an address on the 2nd verse of the 14th chapter of John—"In my father's house are many mansions." After the address, the hearing of statements from representatives of institutions, with reference to the mode of conducting religious exercises therein was resumed, and occupied the Convention until the close of the session.

On Monday morning the Convention were invited by the Councils of Prince Edward County and Picton to a pic-nic at the Sand Banks, on the shore of Lake Ontario.

Almost all the members of, and visitors to, the Convention went upon the trip, which by water extended as far as Picton, and as the boat proceeded down the beautiful bay, the charming scenery was greatly admired. The steamer reached Picton about eleven o'clock, and its passengers were met by J. H. Allan, Esq., Mayor of the town, and by a sufficient number of carriages to convey them across the Peninsula to a spot called the Sand Banks, on the shore of Lake Ontario, a distance of about ten miles. These carriages were, with a commendable public-spiritedness, brought in from the country by farmers, and supplied by persons residing in the town. As soon after the boat arrived as the excursionists could get into the carriages, a procession of the vehicles, about 75 in number, was formed, and headed by the Picton band in another waggon, started for Picton. A band which had come down from Belleville and discoursed music at intervals on the trip, also occupied a position in the procession. The party reached the Sand Banks about one o'clock, and found there a large crowd of residents of the county assembled to entertain the visitors, and to take part in their pleasure. Excursionists and guests together, there must have been on the ground at this time twelve or fifteen hundred persons.

The first business was the presentation, by Mayor Allan, of an address of welcome to the Convention, on behalf of the town of Picton, and a similar one by Mr. Joseph Pearson, Warden, on behalf of the County of Prince Edward. To both addresses Rev. Mr. Turner, President of the Convention, made a suitable reply. A most excellent and bountiful dinner was then served to the whole party on a very long table, spread in a beautiful grove.

After dinner, a formal meeting of the Convention was held beneath a large tree on the top of one of the highest sand banks, at which votes of thanks were passed to the Grand Trunk and Great Western Railway Companies for reduced fares; to the owners of the steamer *Rochester*, for special favours; to the people of Belleville, and to the Corporation of that town, for their generous hospitality; to the Government of Ontario, for similar kindness; to Dr. Palmer, the Principal, and other officers of the Belleville Institution, for the kindness shown by them to the members of the Convention; to the Wardens and County Councils of Hastings and Prince Edward, for entertainments; to the Reporters, for full and accurate reports, and to the Presidents and Secretaries of the Convention, for the manner in which they had discharged their duties.

After this meeting, another, presided over by Mayor Allan, took place in the grove, at which addresses were delivered by Walter Ross, M.P., G. Striker, M.P.P., Mackenzie Bowell, M.P., K. Graham, M.P.P., Dr. Boulter, M.P.P.; Mr. Mordan, Mayor of Nanapanee; Dr. Hope, Belleville; Dr. Hodgins, Toronto; Rev. Mr. Bennett, New York State, several members of the Convention, and others. The American delegates, in their addresses at both meetings, expressed themselves, as they had done on previous occasions, as delighted and somewhat surprised with this country, and with the unexpectedly generous manner in which they had been received and entertained since they had been in it, particularly by the people of the towns of Belleville and Picton, and of the Counties of Hastings and Prince Edward.

At the place at which the pic-nic was held there is one continuous field of fine, white sand about half a mile in length, and extending back from the Lake about a quarter of a mile. The sand rises here and there, and it is said to be in some places twenty and thirty feet deep. There are other similar banks along this side of the country. During the afternoon some one dug a short distance down into the sand, and came upon a great quantity of snow-balls, which were exhibited about for some time as great curiosities.

The party left the Banks on their return to Picton about five o'clock, and most of them by a different road from that by which they went out, so that they had an excellent opportunity of judg-