



# THE CANADIAN MUTE.

Four or eight pages  
PUBLISHED SIX MONTHLY  
At the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb,  
BELLEVILLE, ONT.

### 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 the 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. BERRYVILLE, 106 Times Building, New York, is our agent for United States advertising.

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**THE CANADIAN MUTE,**  
BELLEVILLE,  
ONTARIO.



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1892.

## THERE MUST BE SYSTEM.

The *Common* quotes from an article published in a Minneapolis paper concerning the public school system of that city, which is highly eulogized for its unity of purpose, the concluding sentences of the extract being as follows:—"The aim is systematically trained mental growth, not mechanical drill and cramming. The result is more progress and greater interest among pupils. They become intelligent and widely informed on a variety of subjects." The *Common* remarks thereon:—

"The Minneapolis public schools, under the capable management of Miss Bradley, are second to none in the country, and their methods are well worth studying. The above extract emphasizes the importance of unity and system, which is even more important in teaching the deaf, as we have far more to teach, the process is slower and the time is limited. There must be a clearly defined plan for the entire course of the pupil's school life. The work of one year must be made to revolve into that of another and every teacher ought to be as familiar with the work of the preceding and succeeding grades as with his own. In another sense is a system of the highest value and that is in every day's work. The teacher who takes things as they come is almost as wise as the general who fights a battle without a plan, and the results in both cases will be equally successful. The best rule for any teacher is to plan each day's campaign in advance, to know thoroughly the ground to be covered, and with this preparation acquire a readiness and confidence that will be an inspiration to the class. Nothing will more quickly demoralize a class than the knowledge that the teacher is not thoroughly familiar with the work for the day."

This is a common sense view of the subject, which is one of such importance to teachers generally, and especially to those interested in the education of the deaf. There must be a unity of work in the school-room, beginning with the junior classes, and carefully followed until the graduation limit is reached. Such a system is observed in this school. The curriculum of subjects for each class has been prepared with this object in view. Teachers must be familiar with "the work of preceding and succeeding classes." They could not retain their positions if they were not. One special change on the programme for each class makes a review of the most important part of the preceding class work a necessity. While teachers are permitted to exercise their own judgment as to how the subjects should be taught, they have a distinct statement of what they are expected to teach.

### CONGRATULATIONS.

Mr. Thomas Monroe, a teacher of distinction for some time in the Michigan School for the Deaf, and one of the editors of *The Silent Educator*, was appointed Superintendent of that school, by the Central Board of Control, on the 21st of last June, as successor to Mr. M. T. Gass. We embrace this, the first opportunity that has offered since, to congratulate our friend on such a substantial recognition of his services as a teacher of the deaf. We feel assured that he will succeed in keeping the Michigan school in the front rank among similar institutions, and will worthily carry on the work so well and faithfully performed by his predecessor. Mr. Monroe was born near Cape Vincent, on the St. Lawrence river, in 1868, and began teaching public school when 18 years of age. He became a teacher in the Michigan school in 1888, and has since been connected with it.

### IT MATTERS LITTLE.

There appears to be some concern among some members of the National Association of the Deaf, about having the convention of 1893 placed under the auspices of the "World's Congress Auxiliary." They seem to imagine that such a fostering care would give eclat, if nothing more, to the proceedings, and hence bring some kind of a reward. Perhaps they argue with wisdom, but we are disposed to view the question in the light cast upon it by the *Register*, which sensibly remarks:—

"For ourselves, we think that as long as there is an International Convention of the Deaf at Chicago next year, ordered by and for the deaf, it matters little under whose auspices it is nominally held. The executive committee of the association will, of course, take the precaution to satisfy itself as to what the term 'auspices' means in connection with the gathering."

The "pure oral" method prevails in Germany. Is it not a little peculiar that at a recent congress of the deaf, held in Hannover, all the discussions were carried on in the sign language. If oralism, pure and simple, has accomplished so much for the deaf of that country, why is it not made the only means of communication when only deaf persons are present and concerned? At this same congress, a plea was set forth for "the education of deaf-mute travelling preachers, so that their fellows might enjoy the benefits of divine service in their own language." (The italics are ours.) This plea is somewhat peculiar, too, and for obvious reasons. Oralism is supposed to make the spoken language of the country where used familiar to the deaf, and available for use, by them, at all times. The German deaf-mutes want educated missionaries to teach them spiritual things "in their own language." What language?

The second summer meeting of the "American Association to Promote the Teaching of Speech to the Deaf," held at Croyston, Lake George, N. Y., the second week in July, was well attended and highly interesting throughout. Several valuable papers were read and discussed, and the advocates of "oralism" are much encouraged with the general results. A resolution was adopted requesting the Northampton School to so enlarge and improve its facilities for teaching those who desire to join its normal class, as to permit many more to join. This looks as if the Northampton School, and not the National College, will be expected to prepare teachers for the oral work. It may, however, have reference to purely normal instruction, and no way connected with the general preparatory work of the College.

A deaf mute is the door-keeper for the Brooklyn Board of Aldermen, and draws \$1,200 a year for the duties.

## HOME NEWS

The crops on the Institution farm have been bountiful, but much difficulty was experienced in harvesting them in good condition. The weather during August was very unsettled.

Trips to the 1000 Islands have been very popular among the teachers and officers of the Institution this summer. Nearly all have paid a visit to these famous holiday places.

This year will see the last of the wooden boatloads in the dormitories. Every sleeping apartment is now supplied with iron ones of the latest pattern with woven wire bottoms.

The gany black bass has not been tempted to nibble the bait of anglers very freely this season along the favorite rendezvous, and disciples of the Walton have been disappointed in their holiday fishing excursions.

The *Maryland Bulletin*, when acknowledging the receipt of our programme of sports for the 21st of May, remarked:—"Our Canadian friends evidently know how to get up an exciting field-day and we very much wish that we could have enjoyed it with them."

All the saplings planted this spring about the Institution grounds seem to be flourishing finely, and it is not likely that any of them will be lost. This is owing to the copious rains of early summer, and the tenacious nature of the trees, which belong to the box-elder species.

Miss Nathalia L'Hernault, a former pupil of this school, and recently a successful teacher, was married at her home in Windsor, early in August, to Mr. Wm. Liddy, also a former pupil, and now a typo of Winnipeg. They have our congratulations and best wishes for future happiness.

Miss Gallagher spent most of her holidays at the Institution this year. She had a brief visit to Orillia at the close of the school, and has since taken a trip to Montreal by water. The boat passing through the Thousand Islands and the Rapids gives much interest to the trip, and it was very much enjoyed.

The wife of Mr. Peter Shano, our good natured and obliging teamster, has presented him with a fine baby boy. Peter has opened his heart and home to the little stranger, and there is not a happier man around here than he. Peter's friends insist that the baby must be called Paul, but papa will have none of it.

Mr. D. M. Boston returned to Belleville about the middle of July, where he remained several weeks, enjoying the healthful breezes from the bay and the agreeable companionship of friends. He also utilized his time in further developing his powers with the pen, visiting the class-rooms of Ontario Business College almost daily.

Two crayon portraits, one of Miss A. Gallagher and the other of Mrs. Nurse and her little girl, were received from Mrs. Haddon, of Moore. They were samples of the work of the late Mr. Hadden, and reflect much credit on his ability. Mrs. Hadden generously gave them free, as she thought the originals would like to have them.

Mr. Chas. Lang, the venerable overseer of the Institution grounds, was seriously ill last July,—so serious that his life was despaired of by physicians and friends. A kind Providence willed otherwise, and he recovered. We hope he may be long spared to look after the road ways, hedges and ditches with his well known good judgment and assiduity.

Mr. W. J. Smith, who has charge of the government works here, woke up one morning recently and found himself famous. He got a large map of the United States last spring when the Mississippi River was on the rampage, and began to study the topography of the sections where the floods accumulated and the damage was done. He was soon convinced that dykes and work along the river's banks would not suffice, and conceived a plan for relieving the main channels of the great force of water that accumulates, by a series of canals of different lengths, connecting different rivers or branches. His scheme was published here, and has since attracted most favorable attention from engineers and others in the United States. A test of the principle will probably be made.

Mr. W. G. Matheson, eldest son of a Matheson, Esq., Barrister of this school was some time ago appointed to a position on the staff of the Central Ontario Railway at Trenton. He had just completed a successful course of study at Ontario Business College, and the Principals recommended him to the position on application of Vice President Huggar for a good man. We wish him success and happiness.

Mr. James Haddon, a former pupil and teacher in this school, and an artist of marked ability, died at his home in Moorstown, Lambton Co., on the 11th of July. He had been ill for some time but possessing a naturally robust constitution his friends expected to see him restored to health. The disease, however, assumed a more dangerous form, and in spite of all that could be done for him, he died on above-mentioned date. He was 80 years old.

Miss Jack, teacher of articulation in the Michigan School for the Deaf, spent the greater part of her vacation in Belleville with her friends. She is much attached to the spot and picturesque city of Flint, Mich., where the school is located, but this does not win her affections from the old home in the beautiful City of the Bay. Frequent trips on the Bay of Quinte gave invigorated health and prepared body and mind for another season's work in the school-room.

Superintendent Matheson attended the Convention of Superintendents and Principals at Colorado Springs, being absent 15 days. He was accompanied by Master George Matheson, and both greatly enjoyed the trip to that delightful locality, although the weather was oppressively warm during most of the time they were absent. Mr. Matheson remained at the Institution nearly all the rest of the vacation, attending to the work being done by contractors and others.

We had the pleasure of welcoming Mr. Wm. White, one of our old graduates. Mr. White learned the printing business in the Belleville Ontario office and is an expert compositor. He has been located in Chicago for the past nine years and intends to return there after a brief visit to the Institution and Belleville friends. After the long absence he sees many changes; not a single old face among the pupils and but few among the officers and teachers. In the great western metropolis he does not want for congenial companionship, and he has many stirring tales to tell about the great city which our young pupils take in with wonder. He is still a loyal Canadian and will heartily welcome any Canadian mute who may visit Chicago.

One day last July Mr. Matheson and family were seated in a carriage at the door of their residence, intending to go to the city. The driver found it necessary to change the horse, and took the bit from the horse's mouth for the purpose. No sooner did the reckless animal find himself free from the reins than he dashed off at a furious speed. The occupants of the carriage were thrown out, but all quite unscathed except a serious injury. Miss M. Smith of Bradford, a visitor, was cut behind the ear and some of the others were more or less bruised, but soon recovered. The carriage was broken considerably by being dashed against a fence. The escape of those in the carriage from broken limbs and even fatal injury was a matter for congratulation among their many friends.

As a relief to the monotonous and exacting duties of his office, Mr. Supervisor Langless occasionally disports himself as a rifleman; nor is he content with the drawing of a bead on the target at the rifle range, counting points at each shot for his indulgence his propensities for destruction by bringing to earth the bird of the forest, likewise, whipping the tail for the snary tribe, showing thereby that he is a disciple of Isaac Walton. That he is good on the "shoot" was evidenced one day during the holidays, when he brought down a noble specimen of the *Grua Canadensis* (Sand Hill Crane). The bird measured over its outspread pinions five feet four inches, and from the tip of the bill to its toes, four feet eight inches. Like a chivalrous knight of old, Mr. Langless presented his accomplishments and trophy to Miss Walker, the brave and courteous Matron of the D. and D. Institution. Miss Walker with the Institute of a true ornithologist, decided that a Kingston taxidermist should exercise his vocation in restoring to the bird a life like appearance and satisfactory plumpness.