



# 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 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. 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 25 cents a line for each insertion.

Address all communications and subscriptions to

**THE CANADIAN MUTE,**  
BELLEVILLE,  
ONTARIO



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1896.

### The Session of 1896-7.

When this issue of THE CANADIAN MUTE reaches our readers the work for this session at the Institution will be well-under way in all the class-rooms and industrial departments; and it is no mere stereotyped expression to say that the session has opened under the most favorable auspices. For various reasons, elsewhere specified, a large number of pupils have not returned this session, and though the number of new pupils is equal to that of former years yet the total attendance is not quite equal to that of last session, being 262 at present, as compared with 273 then. There are sufficient, however, to give each teacher even more pupils than he can do full justice to; but fortunately we have a staff that is not daunted by difficulties, and we are quite safe in predicting that this will be a very successful term. It is gratifying to know that every officer and teacher who was here last year was on hand again at the beginning of this term, and is in the enjoyment of excellent health and well prepared, with recuperated energies, and accumulated experience, for nine months of faithful effort. To a very considerable extent, the physical and moral welfare of those 262 immortal individualities are placed in their keeping to mould for time and for eternity, and that teacher or officer would indeed have a strangely perverted sense of responsibility and accountability who would wilfully fail in one jot or tittle of his duty towards them. We are sure that there are none such here, and we have every confidence that next June we will be able to say gladly and truthfully that this has been the most pleasant and successful session in the history of the Institution.

### A Handsome Diploma.

After nearly three years' delay the diploma awarded to this Institution by the managers of the Columbian Exposition has arrived and is now on view in the lobby here. It is an artistic and beautifully symbolic design and bears the following legend - "The United States of America, by act of their Congress, have authorized the world's Columbian Commission at the International Exposition held at the city of Chicago, State of Illinois, in the year 1893, to decree a medal for specific merit, which is set forth below, over the name of an individual judge, acting as the examiner upon the finding of a Board of International judges, to the Ontario Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, Belleville, Canada. Exhibit, school work. Award for excellent instruction and administration good specimens of students' work in the industries taught and in letters or the studies in which books are used." The diploma was issued by John Eaton, as Individual Judge, and by the various officials of the Commission.

A kind and sympathetic spirit is ever an appenage of the truly great. Among the warm and distinguished friends of whom the deaf in this province can boast, should be ranked His Excellency, our Governor General. During his recent visit to Sarina becoming aware of the presence of a couple of our former pupils among the large gathering met to do him honor, His Excellency begged that they be allowed to come and shake hands with him, the astonishment and pleasure of the privileged ones being intensified by the Governor making the sign for Mr. Mathison not a few other and orthodox gestures. Truly there is no happiness equal to that of rendering others happy.

In New York and other states of America the books used in the public schools contain the manual alphabet. We have often urged that this plan should be adopted in Ontario, and every passing year emphasizes and augments the vast practical utility of a knowledge of dactylology by the mass of the people. It is to be hoped that the Department of Education will soon see its way clear to the inserting of the manual alphabet in the reading books used in the public schools, in which case the boys and girls could be trusted to acquire its skillful use without any special effort on the part of the teacher.

### Wedding Bells.

The church of England at Hartney, Man., was the scene of unusual excitement on June 21th, 1896, the occasion being the marriage of Miss Mary H. Pettypiece, daughter of Geo. Pettypiece, Esq., to Mr. Thos. Richardson, of Carman. The church was nicely decorated and the ceremony was performed by Rev. Butterworth. The bride was tastefully dressed in drab with pink and silk cream-lace trimmings, and carried a bouquet of white roses. The bride was assisted by Miss Lovilla Pettypiece, who appeared simply lovely in soft grey trimmed with chiffon. Mr. R. C. Pettypiece officiated as interpreter for the bride. After the ceremony, congratulations poured in from friends and relatives there. The happy couple, accompanied by the guests, proceeded to the residence of the bride's parents, where a hearty repast had been prepared. The guests dispersed after spending a very enjoyable evening. The happy pair left amid showers of rice on the morning train for their home in Carman and the good wishes of the community go with them. The esteem of the bride was shown by the valuable presents. Mrs. Richardson is a deaf mute and was educated at Belleville. Mr. Richardson is a hearing gentleman.

### Formal Opening of School.

On Monday morning the usual formal opening took place. All the pupil-officers and teachers assembled in the chapel and after devotional exercises Mr. Mathison made a brief address. He said that when he realized the fact that this was the commencement of the 18th years of his superintendency here he felt that he must be getting old. When he first assumed charge here on Sept. 13th, 1879, he did not think he would be here for so long a period, but time had moved swiftly on and here he was still. They have been seventeen years of considerable anxiety but this had been compensated for by the pleasure and satisfaction he has derived in working with good people in a good cause. It had always been a great satisfaction to him that he been so ably sustained by such good officers and teachers, with very few exceptions in which none of the present staff are included. He desired to make it well understood that the success of the Institution was not due to the Superintendent alone, but to all who are connected with the Institution. He could say without boasting that the work carried on here from year to year was good, faithful work. He did not know that better work could have been done even had the classes been smaller, but what has been accomplished with such unduly large classes has been at the expense of great nervous force. Perhaps at some time in the future the classes could be reduced in numbers but he had to admit that the immediate prospects were not very bright. The Government had a good deal of money to spend every year but they also had many uses for it. He had received some slight encouragement that a new building would be erected and more teachers engaged, but not enough to build any very sanguine hopes upon, and for the time being they would probably have to continue to work as in the past. He was glad that all of last year's staff were present in the enjoyment of good health and ready to resume their labors with all their old time ardor. He was glad that none of them had met with any serious accidents. Mr. McIllopp, while riding on his bicycle in the States, had found a hill too steep for him and had made a vain effort to break open a rock with his head, but he was glad to see him with them again safe and sound. He was sure that all the teachers and officers were prepared to go on and do their duty to the very best of their ability. All of them felt that this was an noble work in which they were engaged and all were prepared to put forth their best efforts. There were not quite so many pupils present as there were last year, since a number who had been here the full time had been advised not to return, and others who should have returned had been detained by illness because their parents needed their assistance. But there were enough on hand to fill all the classes. He was sure that the pupils, as in the past years, and especially last year, would do their utmost to advance themselves. Many of their parents had sent them here at great sacrifice and the best way the pupils could show their gratitude was by making the best possible use of the opportunities thus afforded them. He was pleased that so many of the officers and teachers were able to attend the Convention at Brantford, and all of them were delighted to see that the deaf-mutes present were such an intelligent, well dressed and well conducted lot of people. All of them were evident in doing well in life and all of them paid their way to the Convention and did not ask to be billeted on the city as many conventions of hearing people did. There was no drinking or carousing among the mutes and the people of Brantford were surprised to see such an intelligent, well behaved, and thoroughly happy and prosperous lot of people, and the citizens of Brantford now had a much higher opinion of this Institution than they ever had before. He hoped that peace and harmony would prevail during the session. In a large Institution like this there would almost inevitably be some friction occasionally, but he hoped they would always

remember to judge kindly and considerately. Offence is not usually taken when none is intended, and if one thinks that he or she has been in any way aggrieved by any one, at least that can be done as to the probably unintentional offender, the opportunity to offer any explanation may be required. Let them ever be in mind, and carry out in their acts, the familiar motto of the Institution - "The truest happiness is in making others happy." He hoped that the pupils also would follow this motto. There were a considerable number of new pupils this term and he would like the old pupils to be very kind to them. They probably remembered how some and homesick they felt when they first entered the Institution, and therefore they could fully sympathize with the new pupils present. Last year he had been very little to complain of, regard to order, which generally was very good. One or two boys and one or two girls had been somewhat unruly, but he hoped there would be none this session. Order is said to be the first law and they must have that law enforced here also. He hoped that the pupils would work faithfully and honestly when it is time to work, and play heartily when the time comes to play. All pupils must pay due respect to the officers and teachers, and always obey all orders promptly and quietly. The girls must not go outside the grounds unless accompanied by some one in authority. Boys will be allowed to play, but must in all cases first ask the supervisor's permission. Officers and teachers are expected at all times to exercise a general supervision over the pupils. Last year one or two of the pupils thought the teachers had no authority over them after school was dismissed. On the contrary, the teachers must always call to account where or when, unless the pupil has no time in charge of some one else, who then becomes responsible. The student teachers are expected to be as pleasant for themselves and each other in the Institution as possible. They are welcome to invite their friends to visit them here, but if they wish to meet Miss Walker must be notified in advance, and if over night arrangements must be made with the Superintendent. If any of the teachers or officers expect to be absent from school or over night notice must also be given. He wished all teachers to talk to and with the articulation pupils on every possible occasion. In this way they can greatly assist in this part of the work. As few signs as possible should be used. Whenever possible all directions and communications should be in spelling or writing. The Examiner's report of the examinations in June was a very satisfactory one, all the classes doing very well indeed.

At the close of the Superintendent's address several of the teachers expressed their welcome to the pupils and expressed the hope that this would be a very pleasant and successful term. Mr. Denys also congratulated Mr. Mathison on having re-opened the school for the 18th time and hoped that he would continue to fill the position for at least that many more years in the future. The usual assignments to duty were then made and then the classification of the pupils completed, and work was at once promptly begun in the classrooms with every prospect of a very successful term.

The *Globe*, of Toronto, honored the Convention by printing in its Saturday edition of July 25th, a splendid photo of the members. The size was much larger than that in the *CANADIAN MUTE*, and those who did not purchase a photo at Brantford will find the *Globe* photo well worth preserving and even buying. With it was a very interesting synopsis of the proceedings and other information about the deaf from the pen of one of their staunch friends, Mr. F. Burton of Toronto. This cannot fail to send the hearing public and scatter members of the errors with which they are afflicted. The gathering was certainly a triumph for the deaf and shows that the true object in making them successful and law abiding citizens.

### DIED.

BURMAN. At 16 AGATE AVENUE, TORONTO, on 14th August, Isabel Christina, daughter of Alexander and Mary Burman, aged 10 months and 15 days. Deeply