



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 commences.

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 anyone 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



MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1897.

The Deaf in India.

Elsewhere in this issue we reproduce an article from the *Lone Star Weekly* which mildly criticizes our editorial in a recent issue urging our deaf readers to contribute towards providing educational facilities for the deaf in India. In a general way no doubt our contemporary is right; but it is a condition, not a theory, that we have to face. The fact is that the government of India has not provided the needed educational facilities, and are not likely to do so for some time to come. Nor do we expect that adequate facilities can be provided by charity to educate the, say 40,000, deaf people of school age in India. But we can help a little, and he that does his little best is as worthy of commendation as he who does more with ampler means. Unfortunately, so far as we know, the *CANADIAN MUTE* does not possess any influence with the Indian government, nor have we the honor of reckoning Her Gracious Majesty nor any of the India princes or London nabobs among our readers, so any appeals we might make along the lines suggested by our contemporary would be so much wasted effort. But we do affect to possess some influence among the deaf in this Province, hence our appeals are directed towards those among whom they may be effective. There is another consideration worthy of attention. A century or so ago the people of Europe did not deem the deaf capable of being educated, and the same was true in America even within the present century. The first efforts towards removing this false impression, and the first schools opened for the deaf in France, Germany, Great Britain, the United States and Canada, were supported, chiefly in all cases, exclusively in some, by private contributions. It was only after these charitable efforts

had demonstrated the possibility of educating the deaf, and had aroused the public to their duty in this regard, that adequate state aid was forthcoming. As regards educational matters the people of India as a whole are not now so far advanced as we in America were at the beginning of this century. The people there still discredit the possibility of educating the deaf, and as a rule governments, even such as they have in India, do not venture to antagonize public opinion even in a good cause. Schools supported by private contributions are therefore needed to act as pioneers and to demonstrate the fact that the deaf are quite as capable of acquiring an education as are the hearing. And if these small contributions we ask for will accomplish this object it will have effected a very great work indeed, even if but a very minute percentage of the deaf there are actually educated by means of these contributions. The deaf in the States and Canada, who owe so much to charity for the acquisition of deaf mute education here, should gladly and in extending a similar boon to the deaf of India.

Dr. A. M. Bell has taken the oath of allegiance and is now a full-fledged citizen of the United States, having heretofore remained a subject of Her Majesty. So far as we are concerned we do not feel inclined to take any exception to this action on his part. Of course we are very sorry that Dr. Bell had not seen his way clear to remain both a resident in and a citizen of the Great Empire which dominates the affairs of this mundane sphere. But he evidently deemed that the States afforded better facilities for the prosecution of his work than Canada does; and when a man has permanently taken up his abode in another country, especially if the inhabitants thereof are of the same race, it is, beyond a doubt, better for him to accept the full responsibilities of citizenship, as well as enjoy all its privileges. We hope Dr. Bell may succeed in accomplishing as great and beneficent a work while an American subject as he did while living under the inspiring folds of the Old Union Jack.

The Wisconsin School for the Deaf has recently received a very welcome addition to its buildings in the form of a manual training building. The new edifice cost some \$12,000 and is equipped in the best possible manner for the purposes for which it was erected. Departments have been fitted up for instruction in forging and iron work, carpentry and cabinet making, cooking, sewing and art work. We congratulate our sister Institution on its good fortune, and confess to a slightly envious feeling thereat.

The current session is moving swiftly along, and already it is more than half gone. Most of the teachers report their classes as doing very satisfactory work and making rapid progress, and no doubt examination day will show quite as good results as in former years. Between New Year's and Easter is generally the best part of the year for earnest, toiling work, and as a rule the pupils are responding nobly to the demands made upon them.

Some four years ago the Utah School for the Deaf started a little paper entitled *The Eagle*, but its publication was suspended after one year's existence. It has been decided to resume its issue and No. 1 of Vol. II. now lies before us. It has evidently a strong staff of editors and reporters and should, and no doubt will, succeed. It has our best wishes.

We welcome to our table *The Hypnotic Magazine*, now at the beginning of its second volume. As its title indicates, it is devoted to the investigation of the science of Hypnotism, its uses and abuses, and its therapeutic possibilities, and will no doubt be useful and instructive to all who are interested in such subjects. It is published by the Psyche Pub. Co., Chicago, and sells for \$1.00 a year or 10 cents a number, and each annual subscriber receives as a premium a 162 page book entitled "Hypnotism up to date."

Visit to our Institution

By A. V. McINTOSH, TORONTO

The writer celebrated Christmas at his *Alma Mater* in Belleville and New Year's day in Buffalo. He left Toronto Christmas morning, arriving at the school in time to eat turkey and plum-pudding with the teachers. An exclamation of surprise was generally expressed in meeting the old pupil after seventeen Christmases. What a lapse of time, and what changes has it not brought about! A few of the old teachers still survive in spite of them. How true it is what Shakespeare says: "We are the actors on the stage of life, appearing and disappearing to return no more."

On Christmas every one in the school, from the superintendent down, looked happy, caused by feelings of satisfaction with work well done in the past, and by the hope they entertained that better may be done in the future. As virtue is its own reward they have every reason to look so when the teachers do so well in imparting and the pupils in receiving the blessing of education. The pupils especially ought to be most thankful. The present system of education is a great improvement on that of ten, fifteen or twenty years ago, mature experience has made it almost perfect, giving every possible chance of rapid advance in knowledge. No doubt any ex-pupil who might visit the classes today would pause and reflect regretfully that he or she should have been born too soon to share the advantages of the present system. Now every class room is about completely furnished with school furniture, in the shape of maps, globes, fraction frames, pictorial object lessons, astronomical signs, etc., with which to aid the teacher the better in facilitating the progress of the pupils. More exercise in language and less in arithmetic is given—the very reverse of the old system. Every teacher seems to have made the individuality of his or her pupils, their special study, helping them as best they can according to their mental capacity, for all the pupils are deeply absorbed in their studies. Industry and seriousness are apparent in their attitude. How comes it to pass that, although so young, they possess many characteristics of older collegians? It must be attributed to the excellent management throughout. Regularity and order pervade the spirit of this noble institution.

The only thing that cannot fail to cause a murmur of disapproval is the crowded state of the institution, and consequently the waste of time incurred by the would-be pupils waiting for their turn. Better accommodation must be made at once, so that justice may be done to all the taxpayers, and that an equal chance be afforded their deaf children, coming there to be educated, without loss of time. What a precious blessing education is! Who that appreciates it can be selfish enough to make others wait for its advantages? Surely none can. It is hoped that better accommodation will be provided very soon.

The *Alma Mater* is dear to every graduate, and memory retains the thoughts of the happy associations formed in the school days gone by. It was a great pleasure to visit the *Alma Mater* again after so many Christmases, one may well pause and muse:

Long, long may my thoughts with such memories be filled,
Like the vase in which roses have long been distilled,
They may break, they may shatter the vase if they will,
But the scent of the roses will cling to it still.
More anon. *Winnipeg Silent Echo*

When infinite wisdom established the rule of right and honesty, he saw to it that justice should be always the highest expediency. *Wendell Phillips*.

Life

A little time for labor,
A little time for play,
And then there comes the dawn
Of else eternal day.

A little time for joying,
A little time for grief,
And then we fall into the grave,
As falls the autumn leaf.

A little time for laughter,
A little time for tears,
And then an ocean gathers,
The measure of our years.

A little time for loving,
A little time for hate,
And then, with swift and sudden,
We pass on an unknown gate.

A little time for singing,
A little time for wail,
And then our sails are torn and
Before an unknown gale.

A little time for meeting,
A little time for part,
And then a cruel hand tears us,
The flowers born on the heat.

A little time to waken,
A little time to nod,
And then, in glee, we close our eyes,
The image of the God.

The Deaf in India

The *CANADIAN MUTE* in its issue for Ontario contributes toward providing educational facilities for the deaf in India. There are over a hundred thousand deaf people in India and only a few small schools, one at Bombay and another at Calcutta. The editor of the *MUTE* says that some people might think the government should take the matter in hand but the government has not seen fit to do so. While the individuals to practise charity, if the matter were agitated as one would expect public consideration and the amount of solicitation were toward the government some public recognition would doubtless soon be secured. Individual charity is a good thing, but one of those virtues that may save and sweet, but the result of solicitation for its exercise in the case will be but as a drop in the bucket compared with the omniscience of the state. Over two hundred thousand deaf people depending upon isolated and sporadic efforts to induce charity! It should be the only source of revenue for the intellectual liberation of so many people. I fear that most of them will remain in hopeless mental thralldom. Let us hope India is a part of the great world empire, the richest upon which the sun shines. Its revenues have flowed into English coffers and its great resources have made merchant princes in London and nabobs with millions at their disposal. The ruler of this empire is as noble and generous as she is is reported to be the wealthiest woman in the world. If the work of educating the poor benighted deaf of India is to be carried on by charity why not make a vigorous effort to tap some of the accumulations of wealth? The only thing in proportion to the great need might be accomplished. *Toronto Star Weekly*.

A Story of St. Valentine's Day

There is an old legend that tells of this wise: A long, long time ago lived in France a priest who was a friend and confidant of all classes. They came to him with all their troubles, sure of his sympathy and interested in matter how small their troubles seemed to be. Their prayers were told to him and they learned from him the best of their children's petitions. The tale of his gentleness and kindly interest in "wee folk" spread far and near, and children came to him in such numbers that he hadn't the time to settle their little difficulties and disputes. Seeing this and feeling sorry that any child should go away from home comforted, he asked them to write all their little petitions and send them to him unsigned, and that he would burn them, and the smoke would carry the little message to its destination. Sometimes these notes were notes of love and gratitude to their kind parents. After awhile the good man died, and became a custom for the little children to send tokens of love to each other on his birthday, February 14. They sent them unsigned, and the day the same custom is observed. *Anne E. Allen, Head of Kindergarten Department, C. C. N. S.*

Say, mister, and the little child, as he watched the cattle on their end, do you have to buy all of them cows to chew?