



THE CANADIAN MUTE.

Four, six or eight pages

PUBLISHED SEMI-MONTHLY

At the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb,
BELLEVILLE, ONT.

R. MATHISON, Associate Editor.
J. B. ASHLEY.

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

ADVERTISING

A very limited amount of advertising, subject to approval, will be inserted at 25 cents a line for each insertion.

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THE CANADIAN MUTE,
BELLEVILLE,
ONTARIO



MONDAY, JANUARY 15, 1894.

CHAPEL SERVICES

Principal Currier, of the New York Institution, has abolished the practice of holding religious services in the chapel before school in the morning. This change has aroused some adverse criticism from Institution papers which, as the sequel shows, was premature and unjust. There has been no retrograde step that would retard or injure the moral training of pupils at that school. Instead of all the children meeting in the chapel for devotional exercises, as formerly, Principal Currier has the teachers conduct such services in the class-rooms before beginning the school work. By this means, he contends, the services are made more suitable to the age and comprehension of the pupils, and hence more helpful in moulding correct religious principles. We have entertained the idea that chapel services can be made little better than a farce, and that too great a familiarity with perfunctory exercises, even of a religious character, will sometimes breed a degree of contempt. When all the pupils of a large school are massed in one room for instruction of any kind, a large number—perhaps half of them, are not much interested in the proceedings, simply because they do not understand all that is being said and done. We rather commend Mr. Currier's innovation than condemn it. The general results will be made known in due time, and then criticisms may be in order, and judgments rendered *pro* or *con*. While saying this we would not favor the abolition of chapel exercises, of the nature most schools for the deaf adopt. Rev. Mr. Koehler's suggestion is somewhat radical. He would abolish all religious services in the chapel, excepting on Sunday, when he would have ministers of different denominations address the pupils collectively. We do not see how such an arrangement could be satisfactorily carried out. The addresses might be non-sectarian in spirit, but they would represent some kind of denominational thought or practice that might not be agreeable to all those as-

sembled. In large boarding schools, such as near all schools for the deaf are, it is necessary to have collective worship at least once a day. Such services should be brief, and always conducted with becoming decorum, and with due reverence for the place and purpose. We believe all colleges, academies, and boarding schools for hearing persons have collective religious exercises once a day, generally in the morning. The Sunday chapel services of our schools should not consume too much of the children's time and attention, or they may become an irksome task, rather than an agreeable religious duty.

THE CHAUTAUQUA SALUTE.

We find this item in several of our exchanges.

The Chautauqua salute, waving a white handkerchief, was first given at the request of Chancellor Vincent as a greeting to a deaf-mute.

The "deaf-mute" here referred to was the late S. T. Greene, for twenty years a teacher in this school. The incident occurred about twelve years ago. Prof. Greene was spending a day at Chautauqua, and there met Mr. J. L. Hughes, Public School Inspector for the city of Toronto, and a prominent member of the Society. Mr. Hughes was well acquainted with the genial and accomplished sign-maker, and is also able to converse freely with the manual alphabet. He insisted on Prof. Greene entertaining the vast company present with one of his masterly pantomimic exhibitions, and gaining his consent had it duly announced for the afternoon meeting. The two then retired to a secluded spot and Mr. Greene gave his friend leading notes on the subjects to be rendered in signs. Mr. Hughes was soon able to follow him with an intelligent interpretation. Those who know Mr. Greene and his powers as the most accomplished natural sign-maker then living, can estimate the success of the performance. At the close there was a general clapping of hands and other tokens of appreciation, but Dr. Vincent suggested that, as Mr. Greene was a deaf man, they should give him some other and more tangible expression of their approval. He asked all present to get their pocket handkerchiefs ready, and when he gave the signal to flutter them vigorously Mr. Hughes has assured us that the scene was one long to be remembered, and thus originated the "Chautauqua Salute." The man to whom it was first given was worthy of such a distinction, and for such a purpose.

"GRIP" REDIVIVUS

One thing for which THE MUTE feels especially thankful to the new year is the reappearance of its sprightly confessor, Grip—not in grippo—under the guidance of its founder and old-time conductor Mr. J. W. Bengough, whose pen and pencil have lost none of their power and piquancy, as a glance at the cartoons and comments in the new issue clearly indicates. Mr. Bengough's visit to this Institution a short time since is still remembered with pleasure by all connected with it, and he will at all times be a welcome visitor whether he comes to paint the handsome "pluz" of teachers and heads of departments or delight pupils and others with his inimitable sketches and stories. THE MUTE heartily welcomes the return to the journalistic field of its vivacious contemporary and wishes it a long and prosperous career under the new auspices.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Balis have not resigned their positions in this Institution as reported in *The Annual*.

Correspondents will please write on one side of the page only.

L. P. G. Gillett, President of the American Association to promote the teaching of Speech to the Deaf, has been at the Philadelphia School. The *Silent Worker* referring to this visit by the veteran instructor, says something for the encouragement of its Belleville friends, for which we return thanks. We will here remark, also, that the accomplished editor of that paper does not take offence at a well intentioned criticism of some favored system, but is ready to concede the right of opinion and the expression of that opinion to others. It appears that, after a careful examination of the classes in the manual department, and allowing for recent transfers of some of the younger pupils to the oral department, Dr. Gillett magnanimously remarked that "all of the brightest pupils had not gone yet." We take this to signify that, notwithstanding the disadvantages under which the manual teachers labor and the transference of the brightest pupils to the oral classes (as is usually the case), the manual department could successfully compete in the production of satisfactory mental development.

The *Silent Worker* would have the pupils of our schools taught more patriotism. They should early be imbued with correct sentiments of the extent, grandeur, and worth of the country they live in and of the paramount duties devolving upon them as citizens of such a country. We endorse all our New Jersey contemporaries on this subject. The people of the United States make patriotism a prominent feature of their public school work. Their text books abound with purely national literature, many of the selections being excessively American. Such mental pabulum may result in contracted views of other nationalities, as contrasted with their own, but it is a sure means of creating patriotism. We observe that the *Silent Worker* discourages the idea of teaching children of the United States that they live in "the greatest country the sun ever shone on; that they can 'lick all creation', can jump higher, dive deeper, and come up dryer than any other people under the sun.

Our Mr. Ashley is still confined to his home by illness but his many friends will be pleased to hear that his condition has considerably improved within the past week or ten days. Mr. Ashley is full of hope and in a little time received from him says "I am still very weak but expect to gain strength now that I can take sufficient nourishment. I regret this forced idleness but I do not worry over it. I love to work and hope soon to be able to resume teaching." A royal welcome awaits him when he is able to resume the work he loves so well at the Institution.

Col. Clark Superintendent of the Ohio School for the deaf, has been so much annoyed by petty fault-finding and unreasonable accusations, *anent* his management of the school, that he has asked for an official investigation, which Gov. McKinley has granted. Political interference with that school, the result of bitter partisan feelings among officers, teachers, and others, has already done much harm.

There is a little interest taken in the Convention which is expected to be held during the coming summer. The programme is looked for with anxiety.

The *North Hastings Review*, published at Madoc, is again on our table. Its publication was interrupted by a fire, but it has resumed publication, larger and better than ever before.

The death of Miss F. L. Wood, of sixteen years principal of the Institution, the deaf at Portland, Me., is a loss most connected with the U. S. Institution and Horace Mann School, Boston, Mass. She was an highly accomplished musician and a successful teacher. Her death is much regretted by all who knew her worth.

The School at Salem, Oregon, has been placed under the management of the State Board of Education, and placed in the Board of Charities. Just what the result will be. It is an educational institution in the fullest sense of the term. We want our school similarly placed, and hope a soon will be where it properly belongs.

We have received a communication from Mr. A. R. Spear, of the North Dakota School, in reply to some remarks that appeared in *The Canadian Mute* of Jan. 1st inst. It is unavoidable, but out of this issue, but will appear in the next.

An effort is being made to organize a club in St. Louis composed entirely of deaf young ladies. We prefer success for such a club. No more help need apply there.

A very neat and dainty album has been received from the *Western Press*.

Extracts from Letters

Miss Aggie McFarland writes to the Superintendent of the Institution more pleasure than I can say in writing to you. I have been quite well since I left Belleville. I acknowledge the receipt of some lovely papers. I cannot tell you how grateful I should be to you for your great kindness in sending me them. I am going to keep them to remember you by. I certainly have not forgotten your kindness to me when I was at school. I was very glad that you allowed me to stay in the Institution to learn my lessons and study hard. I am indeed thankful for my education. I am sure I shall ever remember to interest you and the teachers in my welfare.

A Parent writes: I feel that I should write a few lines to thank you and all for the kindness shown me at the Institution at Christmas and how delighted I was to see so many kindnesses shown to the pupils. Every one of us in the Institution seem to take a delight in making the dear pupils happy. I cannot express my thanks as I would like but I must say I never enjoyed myself so much in my life as I did when I was down there. To see all the happy beaming faces, the love and mercy and the kindness of the children one to another. It did my heart good and I was glad that my darling little girl was there and that there is such a place for our loved ones as the Belleville Institution.

When you doubt, abstain from speaking. Dignity consists not in possessing honors, but in deserving them.

Men are taught virtue and civility and independence by living in the world.

The Kansas and Ohio Schools have both been subjected to an investigation lately. The result up to date is not known, is that the stewardship of the former were removed. A few days after the recently appointed superintendent was told that his services were no longer wanted. The investigation of the latter is not yet certain charges preferred against the superintendent. The outcome has not yet been learned. These two schools have recently had considerable trouble with partisan politics, and the result is that a school peace and harmony generally take wings. *The Star Weekly*.

BIRTHS.

Moore. On Jan. 2nd, 1894, the wife of Moore, 8 Nassau St., Toronto, Ontario, bore a son.

Timbrell. On Jan. 15th, 1894, the wife of H. Timbrell, 119 Euclid Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, bore a son.