

PUPILS' LOCALS.

By the Pupils of Mr. Coleman's Class.

I am very glad to welcome 1901. We will do better this year than last. We must be careful during this wet season not to get our feet wet and catch cold. Mr. Mathison kindly permits us to use the rink every week during the winter. There is no sleighing in this city just now, but we hope to have a sleigh or team is going to challenge the school team to play a hockey match next week. Last week Marion Harper came to school and we are delighted to see her again. We must be attentive to our work, and not have any more holidays than we have. We are delighted at the coming of spring, but it is not to come until Friday. The small boys are amusing themselves this winter by rolling up snow and making out images. Mr. Kirk received welcome word from his parents, saying that his brother was promoted in school. The birth of a child was Caudace Zimmerman's birthday, and she was happy to receive word from home. Some of the captured Boer cannon were sent to Canada. We would like to see them at the Institution. We are much surprised that it is already, as the days have been passing so quickly since we left home. Farmers do not want wheeling, but sleighing because they can haul more than this to the market. Maggie Esson received word from her cousin Mary Brown from Michigan is visiting in Old Springs. There are new pupils came here lately. They seem to be happy to come to school. We hope that they will get the very best. We were shocked to read that the Orphan Asylum was burned three days ago and that 20 inmates were killed. Some of the girls gave Ida Justus some strawberries which she thought were poisonous. After tasting them she found her mistake. Mr. Mathison let some boys go to play hockey match between the Port Hope teams in the city on Friday evening. On the 7th inst. Maud Brackou was surprised to get a photo from Miss Smart, in Belleville. She thanked her kindly. On the 13th inst. Beatrice Fretz received a nice photo from her friend, Miss Nunn, and she was very proud of it. It is a good picture. On Bartley got a letter from home a few weeks ago saying that his father had been ill, but John is glad to hear that he is getting better again. A few weeks ago Maggie Smith got a letter from home saying that her cousin Davidson was married on the 20th. She congratulated him. The and Blanche Sager's parents were to see them before Christmas. They were delighted. Their parents had home, and she will not return. Last Christmas, Harry Grooms was on the platform in the city and recited a funny story beginning "Twas the night before Christmas." Maggie Smith was delighted to get a letter from Miss Georgina Fairbairn, saying that it is a good picture, and she was very well. She was a former pupil. On the 25th ult. Miss Nellie Mosey received a letter from Mr. Coleman received a letter from her saying that her father will not live long. We were pleased to see a hockey match between the school boys and the city on the 5th inst. The school boys won by the score of 4 to 2. Both sides played hard. Mr. Randall received a letter from his mother saying that she went from New Year. He will never live in Chatham. His mother was glad to see her.

TORONTO TOPICS.

From our Correspondent

We have been called to part with our faithful friend Mr. Nasmyth for a few months at least having sailed for China in company with Mr. Frost, the director of the China Inland Mission. We all wish him a safe voyage and anxiously await his return to our midst. Amongst those who attended the conference from a distance were, Misses Blackburn, Cunningham, Butler, Perry, McGillivray, Calvert, Campbell, Francis, M. Cunningham, and Messrs. Mortimer, Waggoner, Watt, Isbister, H. Gottlieb, H. Grant, J. B. Byrne, E. Gottlieb, McDonald, Averall Ormiston, McLaren, King, Carson, Taylor, Middleton, Johnson, Noyes, Gould, Armstrong, Wm. Nurse, Dean and Mr. and Mrs. Melroe. BIBLE CONFERENCE FOR THE DEAF. The Bible conference recently held in Toronto was in several respects a unique and notable event. It was the first of the kind ever held in Canada and proved so successful in the best sense, that it is to be sincerely hoped a permanent institution has been originated. The idea occurred to several friends during the last meeting of the Ontario Deaf Mute Association at Belleville in June. It was not proposed in any way to enter into competition with or to take the place of those indispensable bi-annual assemblies which are so essential to the deaf community of the province, and which do so much to revive and retain the impressions of their old associations and training, a training that is, in a sense, one in which no adequate parallel can be found amongst any other class. The Bible Conference proposed to gain for the deaf, what is attained by similar meetings throughout the whole hearing religious world. Great credit is due for the steady perseverance with which the conception was worked into a practical form that has well justified itself by its results to so large a degree. The arrangements were so carefully considered, revised and re-revised that it would not be easy to improve on the final shape in which they were submitted to the test of trial. The speakers were, with one exception, chosen from amongst the deaf, who have proved their capacity for active religious work. The subjects were in every case well chosen and their treatment such as to commend itself to a critical and impartial observer. They were interesting, instructive and deeply spiritual, and the delivery marked with a devoutness which left nothing to be desired. The limitation of time was well kept on the whole and added much to the effect of the meetings. The writer attended most of the sessions and watched with keen interest both the manner and subject matter of the various speakers and is confident that they would have commended themselves to the judgment of all who have the best interests of the deaf at heart. It was noticeable that though there were amongst the speakers some who hold special views strongly, no attempt was made to introduce them. The great fundamental truths of faith and practice, on which all can agree, were set forth with force and clearness that showed the speakers rightly appreciated the proportions of truth and the platform on which they stood. It is not necessary to discriminate between the different speakers. They are too well known amongst the deaf to need characterizing, and it may be safely stated that each was at his best in his own way. Mr. Nurse bringing with him the force of Belleville associations and intimate acquaintance with all present. He was a tower of strength to the conference which could have been ill spared. The committee in charge feel deeply gratified to the speakers who so willingly, at some sacrifice, came to contribute their large part toward the success of the undertaking. The final meeting was singularly impressive and to one long acquainted with the deaf it was a revelation of what may be accomplished by single minded and single hearted effort, directed to the highest ends. At the conclusion of the meeting an earnest appeal was made and a very large number both of Toronto and of visiting mutes came forward confessing their faith in Christ and their earnest desire to follow him closely day by day. Toronto has been favored with a good deal of earnest religious work amongst the deaf and this conference may be looked upon as a sort of landing place from which to estimate the effects of past work and has encouraged all to look forward to the future. It is a matter of sincere regret that one of the oldest friends, Mr. Nasmyth, was unable

to be present but we know his prayers and sympathies were with us during each session that blessing and lasting good might follow such an undertaking. The whole conference has been a cause for devout thankfulness to God, to whom be all the praise.

From another Correspondent

What are your twentieth century resolutions? On account of stock taking, Mr. P. Fraser has been taking a week's holidays and spent the same in idle repose at home. To Miss Fraser, of Toronto, must be given the credit for the conception and excellent arrangements for the late Bible Conference. The deaf cannot show so much appreciation for Miss Fraser's valuable help. Mr. Willie Lightfoot who has been engaged with Hunter & Rose, since leaving school some two years ago, is now employed by Hart & Riddell, on Wellington St. Good luck is our prediction for his future. Master Theodore Moore celebrated his birthday on Jan. 2nd., by inviting a few friends to a party, when all reported a good time. The first meeting of the Maple Leaf Club for the new century took place on Jan. 3rd, at Mr. Bridgen's residence, Rose Ave. Mrs. Ogilvie gave a very interesting lecture on what had transpired during the past 100 years, showing that progress had made a wonderful advance since the last decade. She handled her subject in a masterly manner. The next meeting will be held on the 17th, when the election of officers for the ensuing season and other important business will be transacted. Miss Nellie Cunningham spent Christmas at her home in Oakville, but returned to the city in time for the conference in company with her sister May, whom all were very glad to meet again. Both have returned to their parental abode again, much to our regret, for they were general favorites. Parties having items of an interesting character and wishing them sent in with the regular correspondence would please give such to the present reporter, Mr. Herbert Roberts, 13 Soho St. Miss Annie Blackburn, of Coe Hill, who came to the city for the conference, is still with us. She is now looking for work with the intention of remaining with us. We trust she will meet with encouragement. It has long been the ardent desire of our boys to have a place to hold their club meetings, and now, after much agitation, they have finally obtained a comfortable room at the corner of Church and Adelaide Sts., where they meet every evening. The club, though just in its infancy, should mature into prosperity under the present able management, constituted as follows:—Hon. President, F. Bridgen, President, A. C. Shepherd; 1st Vice President, E. C. Pickard; 2nd Vice President, F. J. Wheeler; Secretary Treasurer, G. B. Reeves. Executive Committee: G. B. Reeves, E. C. Pickard, A. C. Shepherd, N. Labelle and A. H. Jaffray. The election of officers will take place every three months. It is not as yet elected, but the choice of the following names is under consideration:—Royal Mute, Britannia, Modjeska, Bobs, Eureka, Bridgen, Balon-Powell, and Khaki. The evenings are devoted as follows:—Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays to conversation and reading. Tuesdays and Fridays will be given up to games of all kinds except those of a gambling nature, which are strictly forbidden, and Saturdays will constitute debates and lectures. This being the natal day of our dear Superintendent, the club desires to express its warmest congratulations to Mr. Mathison and trust he will continue to remain in that exalted position which he now performs with striking ability. We were very sorry to note that C. Gilliam was compelled to relinquish his work in the broom factory for a few days on account of ill health, but is now gradually regaining his normal self. He contemplates going to Depot Harbor early in the spring, where he intends sojourning for the summer. We trust the balmy breezes of the Georgian Bay will be of much physical benefit to him. There were a few mutes with the immense mass of humanity that congregated around the city hall at midnight on New Year's Eve, to hear the ringing of the big bell, but "Big Ben," as the bell is called, was so large and heavy that no mortal soul could pull it so they used sledge hammers to usher

in the new year as well as the new century. Those who were not there were either at parties or had taken an early retirement to dreamland.

We are pleased to hear, through authentic channels, of the marriage of two of our former college-mates, Mr. Alfred Gray, of Metcalfe, to Miss Eva Jamieson, of Ottawa. They certainly take the lead with the new century in the way of matrimony and have our heartiest congratulations, coupled with the best wishes for a long, happy and prosperous married career.

Miss Gusio Ogilvie has been spending the holidays away from the city. The little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wilson had a slight attack of the croup, but through careful precautions they have evaded further inroads of the grim visitor.

Several of us have had a visit from Mr. Lagrippe, who annually catches us by the throat, but in every case it is of a mild form.

Our Bible classes are being more largely attended on Sunday mornings, at either place. 'Tis the fruit of the conference.

Surprise parties and evening socials will soon be on the go.

WINDSOR NOTES.

From our own Correspondent

Edward White and Gilbert Leguille, of Charing Cross, were visiting the latter's brother in Detroit, during Christmas. They visited nearly all the Windsor mutes. Miss Georgina Fairbairn, of Sandwich South, spent nearly two weeks visiting Mrs. Albert Soper. She took the opportunity of having her photo taken, so I dare say some of her numerous friends will be pleasantly surprised by receiving one ere long. We hear that Miss Sophia Lafferty is getting on well at the Walkerville watch factory and is well liked by her associates. Chas. Davis, having tired of Windsor, returned to his old home in Essex a few months ago. He is better off on a farm as town has too many temptations for him. Well, I promised myself a good scolding for being so remiss with my items, but when I got the last issue and found I was not the only pebble on the beach, I guessed I would postpone it till I really deserved it. Many thanks to our kind Superintendent for the beautiful copy of Christmas Saturday Night. I have already framed two of the pictures. Mr. and Mrs. R. Stark, of Detroit, gave a very enjoyable party on the 7th inst. A large number of deaf mutes were present, nearly all the married ones being accompanied by their children (by special request). Mr. and Mrs. A. Soper and children, and Miss Georgina Fairbairn were the only ones invited from Windsor. Games and conversation whiled away the time pleasantly, till all were summoned to a splendid supper, presided over by the hostess and her mother, and to which more than ample justice was done. At a late hour all left after thanking the host and hostess for their kindness. That education to a deaf mute is of more importance than some parents think, was amply personified here the other day. The Aulherstburg stage driver brought a deaf-mute, just from France, to A. E. Soper, to see if he could make out what he wanted, as he was unable to write. The sign he employed were distinctly home made (in French presumably) for A. E. had never seen anything like them before. However, with the help of some bits of board he made a bridge, and motioned as if there was water running under, so at last A. E. made out that he wanted to go to Canard river, 11 miles away, the miles being signified by holding a plank on its end and counting 11 on his fingers. On his return trip the stage driver came in the shop and said he was all right. Rev. Mann held services a few weeks ago. He intended to have a social, but the Clero Club thought their lecture would not be a success if both were held on the same date, so Rev. Mann kindly postponed it, to the great disappointment of the ladies. —On Christmas, Misses Allendorf, O'Connor, Mosey and little Sophie Fishben were called upon the platform and made short addresses. After the girls, the boys were called upon and McCarthy, Wallace, Torrell, O'Neil, and Harry Grooms made speeches.