

Here I Come.

the little New Year, oh, but
 some tripping it over the snow,
 the bells with a merry din,
 open your doors and let me in!

(Letting for each and all),
 the little folks, short and tall,
 from me a treasure may win,
 open your doors and let me in!

the little New Year, oh, but
 some tripping it over the snow,
 the bells with a merry din,
 open your doors and let me in!

PUPILS' LOCALS.

From the Boys' Side of the Institution.

By DAVID LUDDY.]

A very Happy New Year to all.
 Who is going to turn a new leaf?
 North Labelle is working for Alfred
 Taylor's brother, on his farm near
 Mettelle.

William, Captain of our hockey
 team last winter, has joined the Grimsby
 hockey club.

It is strange to say that our teamster
 plowed two days before New Year's Day.
 An accident took place here before.

J. Tubois, S. Lett and J. Chambers
 are the only players here this winter
 that belonged to our hockey team of
 last term.

John Patrick will be engaged to
 work on the *Cap Star* for some months.
 He spent one term here working in our
 office at the same time as John Fisher.

The last time we heard from Alex.
 Swanson he was very busy with his
 studies at Kendall School for the Leaf
 in Washington, but will have a two
 week holiday at Christmas.

Had not Principal Mathison recover
 ed from his recent illness, which con-
 fined him to his bed for a few days, we
 wonder what we would have done with-
 out Santa Claus on Christmas Day.

We don't think we will form a hockey
 team this winter, to play for the silver
 trophy Mr. Corby put up for competition
 last winter, not because we are afraid,
 but because we have not as good advan-
 tages as the other clubs.

We were allowed to go skating on
 the bay for the first time this season on
 the 14th ult. and again on the 16th,
 when the ice was in fine skating con-
 dition. However, the weather soon be-
 came changeable and melted the ice.
 The snow also went, which made it re-
 ssemble April.

Lately, during the cold weather,
 some of the boys formed a skating rink
 on the same place as that of last term,
 but made it somewhat larger than the
 previous one. Unfortunately, when it
 would soon have been in good skating
 form the weather became changeable
 and it melted away.

James Delaney's cousin, James
 Henry, who was a conductor on a rail-
 way in the States, while putting on the
 brake slipped on the ice and fell under
 the train. Twelve cars passed over him
 and all that was left of him was his
 face and one hand. James has our sym-
 pathy in his sad loss.

It is with a great deal of pleasure
 we announce that John F. Fisher, who
 spent his entire time here for one term
 in the printing office two years ago and
 who afterwards secured a position on
 the *Tilbury News*, has succeeded in
 securing a situation in Cassopolis, Mich.,
 working on the *Liberator*, and is doing
 very well.

Our brother deaf-mutes across the
 border at Gallaudet College, put up a
 strong team during the late rugby foot-
 ball season, and it was nearly every
 game they played. The defeats it had to
 meet were only from some of the
 strongest teams. We congratulate them
 for having such a fine record; it almost
 equals our own.

Our old friend Mr. McAloney, who
 is at present a teacher at the Alabama
 School for the Deaf at Talladega, has
 been coaching the boys there how to
 play association football as we do
 here. The last game there was between
 the boys of the carpenter shop and those
 of the printing office, which resulted in a
 victory for the latter by 1 to 0. Mr.
 McAloney played at centre on the side
 of the printers.

Some of the boys who got up early
 have sometimes lately thought they
 had David Luddy being late to
 get up his duties as head-waiter, and
 as he always does they gave him a good
 shaking, but oh! how his heart had
 grown just then they found out their

mistake, and after saying "Please
 excuse me," at once slipped out of the
 room. It was Mr. Nuro, who has been
 spending the nights here for some time,
 as his wife and daughter are away in
 Newmarket taking care of his wife's
 mother who is sick.

—During the recent rumor of war
 between England and the United States,
 Mr. Douglas said that our senior boys
 would have to help their speaking broth-
 ers by forming a deaf mute company.
 Well, we might form a deaf mute regi-
 ment, and have Mr. Douglas as Lieut.
 Colonel; but so hope no such war will
 break out as both nations are like child-
 ren of the same mother. During the
 hottest days of the civil war in the United
 States the late Prof. Greene, before he
 came to Canada, raised a splendid deaf
 mute company, but it did not take part
 in the war.

By GEORGE MUSKO.]

—We had some snow since November,
 but it is all gone now. We hope to
 have lots soon.

—On the 14th and 16th ult., we were
 allowed to go skating on the bay, on
 which we had good times. Our boys
 are all young, but are becoming good
 hockeyists.

—On the 16th ult. our Superin-
 tendent was sick and couldn't come to
 his business, but the day was fine and
 he allowed us to go skating. He is very
 kind to us.

—Miko Noonan, our cook, is making a
 pond for us to go skating when we get
 permission. He makes water go through
 a hose over it. We think it will soon
 be finished.

—We have not a senior hockey club
 yet, but when the rink is finished, we
 will begin to select the boys for one.
 We hope that the rink here will have
 better ice than before.

The boys go to the bay every noon to
 measure the ice. A few weeks ago it
 measured from 10 to 12 inches thick,
 but the rain came and the ice was all
 broken up. We all are wishing for
 skating.

—On the 11th ult., when two men with
 a span of horses were crossing the bay,
 the ice broke, but the horses were not
 drowned. The men jumped out of the
 waggon, as soon as the ice broke.
 Nothing was lost.

—The boys have been busy fixing
 their iceboats since October. Some
 are all finished but the sails. They are
 trying to get them ready before New
 Year's, as they hope to have a good
 time on that day.

An American on the British Empire.

The Hon. Justice Field, of the United
 States Supreme Court, recently passed
 through Canada, and a long account of an
 interview with him appears in the *Mont-
 real Daily Witness*. In reply to a remark
 by the correspondent, who observed,
 "You have beaten us in the race for
 population," the judge said, "There were
 special causes for that. But you are
 bound to prosper. Greatness will come
 in time. It always does where England
 plants her foot, and that not because of
 her might, but for a nobler reason.
 Wherever England plants her foot she at
 once establishes order, she makes laws,
 she protects life and property. And those
 who place themselves under that flag stay
 under it, assured that they can sit under
 their own vine and fig tree. That is the
 secret of the British Empire—that it
 stands for order, for the sacredness of
 human life, for protection of every inter-
 est, however humble. You have a great
 country and are part of a mighty empire.
 When I think of Australia, New Zealand,
 South Africa, India and this great coun-
 try to the north of us, I am filled with
 wonder. "Do you think this unwieldy
 empire will last?" "Justice and
 righteousness will make it last," replied
 the venerable judge. "These form the
 cement which binds nations together.
 If they are absent, no nation can prosper.
 It may appear to be great for a time,
 but it will eventually go down in ruin.
 England's rule in the main, is for justice
 and righteousness, and therefore, I
 would safely predict permanence for
 her great empire."

—The Rev. T. J. Thompson, the new
 pastor of John St. Presbyterian Church,
 Mrs. Thompson, and Miss Mills and Miss
 Thompson, of Kingston, were welcome
 visitors at the Institution on Monday.

TORONTO TOPICS.

From our own Correspondent

To Hamilton correspondent. — We are
 at a loss to know who that deaf mute lady
 bicyclist is who is said to live in this
 city.

There is talk of having a social
 gathering of all the mutes in the city
 early in the New Year. A good time is
 expected.

Mr. Arthur Bowen, Penville, was
 visiting friends here at Xmas.

Mrs. James G. McIntosh, of Trinidad,
 West Indies, is visiting her brother-in-
 law, A. A. McIntosh. She is a niece of
 Hon. Mr. Haggart.

There is quite a stir at Mr. and Mrs.
 Moore's at present, preparations in an-
 ticipation of a wedding.

Mr. Nasmyth made a farewell call on
 the deaf mute class in College and
 Spadina Hall, Sunday, 14th, previous to
 his departure for Jamaica, West Indies,
 where he will spend a few months. It is
 the sincere wish of all that he may re-
 turn in better health.

Several of our workmen have been
 obliged to work late evenings on the
 approach of Christmas.

Mrs. Riddell's young children are re-
 covering from an attack of measles.

Wednesday evening, the 12th, there
 was a large gathering of deaf mutes in
 Queen and Dovercourt Hall, Mr. Bryden
 presiding. The following were appointed
 for Sunday services:—Messrs. Fraser,
 Slater, Mason Smith and Parkins.

Mr. Fraser has charge of Bible class
 in Dovercourt and Queen St. Hall, while
 Mr. C. Elliott, who bids fair to be an
 orator superintends the class in Spadina
 and College Hall every Wednesday.
 Mr. Bryden promised that they would
 have a lecture each month from some
 professional men, if there was an
 interpreter.

Mr. Slater recently received a letter
 from Alfred Chanton of Dyer's Bay, and
 he said he had received a copy of the
Mt and desired to send in his subscrip-
 tion. He may have made a mistake in
 thinking the paper was published in
 Toronto, but Mr. Slater has written him
 telling him to forward his subscription
 to Mr. Mathison Belleville.

We hope to see a larger attendance at
 our Bible class in the New Year as it
 is most important for the advancement
 of the young people who have left
 school. Parents make a great mistake
 in keeping their children at home when
 their minds can be refreshed to a great
 extent. Certainly any one can come
 from a distance on the electric railway
 in the week with more convenience
 than on Sunday.

A certain individual here keeps an
 alarm clock hung over his bed as he is
 an early riser. Not liking to disturb
 the inmates he contrived the idea to
 shut off the sound of the alarm and
 fastened a piece of wire to the spring
 with a vessel the size of a thimble filled
 with water on the other end of the wire,
 accordingly when the alarm is about to
 strike the contents of the vessel is upset
 over the face of the sleeper. He says it
 works admirably. F. E. M.

Another interesting Toronto letter has
 been crowded out of this issue.

Some pupils have a habit of "kick-
 ing" about their daily bills of fare. I
 used to, but being thrown into the battle
 of life I'd like to inform them before it's
 too late, if they can get as good food as
 that every day when they embark on
 the seas in the struggle for existence,
 they can count themselves as being very
 fortunate. — *A Small Observer, in The
 Silent Worker*.

A Superintendent in a distant land
 reprimanded a shy teacher for putting
 forward his brightest pupils in the pre-
 sence of visitors. When the Governor
 visited the institution the teacher, who
 had a good memory, brought out the
 dullest pupils in his class, and the su-
 perintendent was made to blush in the
 very presence of his Excellency. The
 Governor left, and, if I remember cor-
 rectly, superintendent and teacher had
 a long talk about a few things. — *Ex*.

Somebody has been asking where the
 inexperienced teacher in our schools
 should be put and what class he should
 have. There should be no inexperi-
 enced teachers in any school. Persons
 desiring to learn how to teach the
 deaf, and entering a school for that
 purpose, should be put in a class with a
 teacher of experience to observe his ways,
 learn of him and assist him as he may
 direct. When experience has rubbed
 off he may be appointed a teacher, and
 trusted to work alone. — *Rome Register*.

OIL SPRINGS.

From our own Correspondent

Hon. Clifford Sifton, Provincial Secre-
 tary of Manitoba, who is well known at
 the Manitoba Institution, was born and
 brought up here; his father, Hon. J. W.
 Sifton, was in the oil business.

Mr. Charles Sawery kindly invited his
 next neighbor, Willie Kay, to eat last
 Thanksgiving dinner. He was an old
 friend of the late D. M. Beaton, and was
 one of the six pallbearers at the funeral.
 He has been for years a clerk in Mr. A.
 Wilson's general store.

Mr. Wm. Eason runs the rig on Mr.
 Fairbanks' oil property, and his two
 oldest sons Duncan and Willie have
 started to battle for their lives, in their
 father's direction. Mrs. Eason sent her
 daughter, Maggie, at the Institution, a
 three storey Christmas cake, on which
 Maggie was expected to invite her
 teacher and classmates, besides a few
 who might choose who have a good
 relish.

The new Presbyterian church was
 opened for public worship on Sunday,
 Nov. 21th, and one of the four smaller
 stained glass windows was erected in
 memory of Mr. and Mrs. George Robert-
 son, for many years members of the
 church. They died in 1893 and 1890,
 respectively, and were uncle and aunt of
 Willie Kay.

For the third time the school trustees
 retain Mr. Hugh Beaton as the able
 principal of the public schools; also a
 young and talented lady-teacher, Miss
 Laura Miller, cousin of Willie and Wal-
 ter Wark, of Sarnia. Mr. Beaton is also
 the superintendent of the Methodist
 Sunday school and sometimes supplies
 the pulpits of his church, a handsome
 and substantial brick structure built four
 years ago, and elsewhere. He and his
 accomplished wife often assist at the
 concerts and socials here and its sur-
 roundings.

The Baptists have increased sufficient-
 ly to form into a congregation, and have
 fitted an old building into a new and
 neat chapel, which was opened for public
 worship on Sunday, Dec. 16th. So this
 village has five places of worship—two
 of which are the English and Roman
 Catholic churches—also a handsome
 brick post-office and other improvements.
 There is no fear that this quiet and
 obscure village will ever dwindle into in-
 significance. It also possesses a good
 weekly newspaper entitled *The Oil
 Springs Chronicle*, which emerged into
 public view more five years ago, after a
 lapse of over 20 years, and is as lively
 and now as ever. It is not generally
 known among your readers that Mr. R.
 Mathison, the beloved and respected
 superintendent of the Ontario Institution,
 once wielded the pen on that paper,
 during the great boom of 1866, and his
 eldest children, Annie and Robert, first
 saw the light here. Mr. Herring, of the
Petroleum Advertiser, began his career in
 the old office at that time.

This writer would like to relate to you
 a little story in regard to the fine illus-
 tration of Hon. J. M. Gibson, Provincial
 Secretary of this Province. It reminded
 him that about twenty years ago, on the
 occasion of Dr. Palmer's birthday, June
 11th, he was presented with an excellent
 and admirable ink portrait of himself in
 full figure, sitting at the desk looking
 forward, in the old office, which Mr. A.
 Matheson, the bursar now occupies. Mr.
 Green's birthday fell on the same day,
 and he was also presented with a
 similar portrait of himself. These works
 were done by Mr. A. W. Mason, now of
 Toronto. This writer earnestly hopes
 that some pupils now under instruction
 of such a competent teacher will some
 day equal or excel the veteran artist in
 that particular way.

DELTA ITEMS.

From our own Correspondent

It cheers me when I receive THE
 CANADIAN MUTE, for from its columns I
 learn about my former school-mates,
 where they are and how they are
 succeeding. I do not wish to miss any
 of the papers.

I had a visit from Joseph Newton, of
 Portland, a short time ago. He is very
 anxious to learn the shoe-making trade
 and wished to be an apprentice in my
 shop, but times are somewhat dull and
 I could not offer him employment.

Our old friend, Albert Howison, is
 suffering from ill-health and it is feared
 he will not recover. T. H.

When you look at yourself, look for
 faults. When you look at others, try to
 see something good.