

THE INSTITUTION AND SURROUNDINGS.

The Main Building was erected in 1870, and is a handsome, red brick structure, four stories in height. It contains the offices, libraries, most of the school-rooms and dormitories, the dining-rooms, kitchen, etc. Wood Hall, erected in 1877, contains the store, several class-rooms and the senior boys' dormitory. The Gibson Hospital, built in 1894, is well-equipped with all needed appliances and conveniences. There is also a trades' building, an engine-room and laundry, and fine barns and stables, while an up-to-date gymnasium is soon to be erected. The Institution is beautifully situated about a mile west of the city of Belleville, on the north shore of the picturesque Bay of Quinte, amid attractive and healthful surroundings, with ample play and recreation grounds, and spacious, well-shaded lawns.

WHAT THE INSTITUTION IS.

It cannot be too strongly emphasized that this Institution is not an asylum, nor a place of detention, but purely and only a Provincial School for deaf children, its purpose being to give to these children an education similar in character and extent to that obtained by hearing children in the other public schools of the Province. Of necessity, however, this is more than an ordinary school. For nine months of the year, during the most impressionable period of life, this is also the pupils' home. It is, therefore, incumbent on us to not only give them an education in the ordinary acceptance of the term, but also the training along physical, moral and religious lines which other children are expected to get in their home and church surroundings.

PHYSICAL TRAINING.

The mental, and to a considerable degree, the moral and spiritual development of a child, depends largely on its physical condition, and "a sound mind in a sound body" is an ideal that should be sought after by every possible means. Hence the health of the pupils here is carefully looked after, and everything reasonably possible done to promote their bodily vigor and physical development. The pupils are given regular and systematic physical exercises, and these will be supplemented by a course of gymnastic training, under the direction of a competent instructor, as soon as the new gymnasium is completed. Except in inclement weather, each pupil is required to spend a portion of every day in the open air, and is encouraged to be out of doors as much as possible during spare hours. All of the boys take part in football, baseball, bowling, and hockey, and other healthful sports, while the girls derive a great deal of pleasure, as well as physical benefit, from basket-ball, tennis, croquet and other recreations. There is a large skating rink for the boys and another for the girls, of which every possible advantage is taken. Cleanliness is insisted upon, and every pupil is required to bath at least once a week. The junior pupils go to bed every evening at half-past seven o'clock, the intermediates at eight and the seniors not later than half-past nine. Thus with regular hours, plenty of sleep, a sufficiency of wholesome food, and abundance of exercise and recreation, the conditions are as nearly ideal as we can make them for ensuring the good health of the pupils, and their best possible physical development.