

THE SECRET PLACE.

In the secret of His presence how my soul de-
 lights in His love!
 Oh how precious are the lessons which I learn
 On the other side!
 Earthly cares can never vex me, neither trials
 In the secret place!
 For when Satan comes to tempt me, to his secret
 place I go.

When my soul is faint and thirsty, 'neath the
 shadow of His wing,
 There is food and pleasant shelter, and refresh-
 ment for my soul;
 And my weary rests beside me, as we hold
 communion sweet,
 If I could not utter what He says when
 I meet.

When I know, I tell Him all my doubts, my
 fears and fears,
 Oh how patiently He listens! and my drooping
 soul He cheers
 He asks me if He never reproves me? what a false
 friend He would be,
 If He never told me of the sins, which I
 must see.

Would I like to know the preciousness of the
 secret of the Lord?
 Go and sit beneath His shadow this shall ther-
 e be thy reward.
 And whenever you leave the silence of that
 secret meeting place,
 You will find and bear the image of the Master
 in your face.

TORONTO TOPICS.

From our own Correspondent

A large number of mutes gathered in the Spadina Av. Hall last Wednesday evening for the purpose of listening to an address on "Anti-Poverty," by Mr. Brighton but as he happened to be sick that day he did not turn up at the meeting and the lecture had to be postponed. The mutes assembled decided upon having a debate instead, and the subject selected was "That country life was preferable to city life for deaf mutes." On a poll being taken as to which side of the question had to take, it was discovered that Messrs. Boughton and Slater had to champion the city side, and Messrs. Bradshaw and Whaley the negative. Mr. Phillip Fraser was elected moderator which position he filled in an able and impartial manner. Messrs. A. W. Jackson, W. Terrell and F. Allen were chosen judges. The city side won the vote to speak first. Each of the speakers were given ten minutes alternately and all done well considering they coming totally unprepared for the task before them, all of them bringing some strong arguments for their respective sides, and they were listened to very attentively throughout. When the debate closed the judges retired for about ten minutes, and brought in a verdict for the city. A very enjoyable evening was spent.

Mrs. Taylor (Mrs. Spaight) has extended an invitation to all the mutes who may feel disposed to go, to spend an evening in the new Parliament Building. She having secured permission for us to go into the visitors' gallery while the legislature is in session, next Tuesday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Moore's little boy was baptized the other day.

Thos. Bradshaw has been out of the city for a few days, but has returned again. We understand he was in Guelph for other reasons than business.

Mr. Pickard may be seen mounted on his Columbia any fine Saturday afternoon now. He says the exercise is exhilarating.

Dame Rumor has it that some more deaf mutes contemplate moving up to Parkdale to live.

One of our young bachelors takes pleasure in his long walks from the east to friends in the west end.

On the evening of Saturday, 7th inst., Mr. and Mrs. Slater entertained a few friends to tea. A pleasant time was spent. They were pleased to see Mrs. Slater looking better.

Many of the mutes live in the suburb of Parkdale, and they certainly are not behind the rest in the matter of hospitality. They vie with each other as to which shall show the most kindness.

They are all wishing for the warm weather now, which has not come as soon as was expected, the last few days having been cold and raw.

It is reported in the papers that Prince Waldemar, brother to the Princess of Wales is a deaf-mute. Is it so, Mr. Editor?

THE NORW.—We know nothing whatever about the matter. Some of the Royal Family of Denmark are hard of hearing, but we have not heard of any of them being deaf-mutes.

Mr. Lennox, a deaf-mute living near Philipston, paid a visit to Mr. and Mrs. John Needham, of that place, and took dinner and tea with them. John N. has been sick lately, but is at work (shoe-making) again. There is another deaf-mute living out there named Bernard.

THE MACKAY INSTITUTION.

From our own Correspondent.

Our winter has already approached its close and we can only wait in patient enduring chilliness until the spring fully appears in its verdure. It flashes on us this moment that we have had a very short but most delightful winter. The skating season especially was most pleasant.

On account of the prevalence of scarlet fever in the city and neighbourhood, precautions were taken to prevent its getting a foot hold here; not one of the pupils were allowed home during the Easter season; and those parents who insisted on indulging themselves at the expense of their child's welfare were given to understand that their return to school could not be permitted until next term. So far our health has been exceptionally good and all fear of an outbreak may be safely put aside.

On Easter Monday we were much gratified by a visit from the Bishop of Qu'Appelle, accompanied by the President of the Board, Mr. Wolfertan Thomas and Mr. Thomas. The latter gentleman addressed the pupils, soliciting their aid in favor of the Mission Fund of his Lordship's Diocese. We all heartily agreed to do what little we could to alleviate the distress of the Indians. Mr. Thomas said he wondered if the pupils realized how fortunate they were in having Mrs. Ashcroft as their Superintendent, etc. His Lordship then kindly delivered to us a very interesting account of his work in the far North West.

The approaching Deaf-mute Association Convention to be held at your Institution, commands our eager attention. Miss Macfarlane, one of our teachers, is very anxious to attend this auspicious gathering and if she is able to go, anticipates a grand treat.

As regards the mention of that little girl whose hearing was restored by an operation, which appeared in your former letter to your interesting paper, our Superintendent is sorry if that has given any wrong impression. It was an exceptional case. The child was not born deaf but had gradually become deaf by the growth at the back of her tongue, which when removed permitted freer breathing and improved hearing.

Mr. Frank Wiggott, one of our graduates, paid us a flying visit on his way to Ottawa, where he has secured a position in the Government Printing Bureau. His voice has improved wonderfully since leaving school, by tangleing with hearing people. Mr. Wiggott is congenitally deaf and two of his brothers and one sister were similarly afflicted, yet he acquired so good a knowledge of speech, and speech reading while at school here that he can, and does, make himself readily understood by hearing people. This is an argument in favor of the much abused combined method, but Mrs. Ashcroft insists that signs are a stumbling block, a lien in the path of the speech reader, and we are all obliged to use the signs as little as possible.

It is an current that one of our favorite teachers, well known to some of the Ontario deaf, has become engaged, and we prognosticate a very happy ending to a certain artist's bachelorhood, and consider him a most fortunate fellow. However we are not going to lose her this year. More anon. Y. C.

Montreal, April, 1894.

Signs not Tabooed.

In a sensible editorial on the use of signs at the Fauwood School, and in schools for the deaf generally, the *Journal* says:—"Principal Currier is an expert in the use of signs. He knows their value, and is not likely to repudiate an expedient which is by him so thoroughly understood. Because some of our institutions have decided to limit the use of signs, a great many have jumped to the conclusion that the sign-language is to be smothered to death. As they have not succeeded in doing that in even the ultra oral schools, it is hardly likely that any school whose system is eclectic will succeed even if it is attempted."

Six Months' Vacation.

Owing to a prevalence of diphtheria at the South-Dakota School the medical officer has recommended the closing of the school until next September. The *Banner* has, as a consequence, suspended publication for the same length of time. We will miss the bright little paper, and hope to greet it again in as cheerful a humor as usual.

Another Letter from the West.

When I wrote the last letter, I scarcely believed it would be accepted for publication, but as it was, I have concluded to send you another according to promise, provide my first was published. Since the *Mure* of the 1st April was received in the city, there has been a good deal of enquiring and guessing as to who "Majorie" is, but none seem to have discovered who she is so far, and I am glad of it, for I am afraid some would throw cold water on me if they knew, which would spoil my now spring hat. I see you have one or two good correspondents in the city, but I am surprised there is so little news published in the *Mure* from this quarter. I am inclined to think this is due to the mutes' indifference, rather than their inability, to write. It seems to me that the deaf after leaving school do not try enough to improve their mental faculties. I would like to see some try and express their ideas in writing by sending short letters to the *Mure*. I am sure you would not expect all who have attended school to try, but certainly there should be a few out of a hundred. A large number would find it far more profitable and interesting than spending almost their entire leisure hours in useless gossip, which I have noticed is very much the case with many of the deaf here. There are one or two born deaf-mutes in the city who are able to read almost any book of to day, and take great interest in telling their friends what they read.

Since I wrote my last letter, I have been visiting a great many deaf-mutes, and there is one I wish to say a few words about, as to what I learned of him and the impression he gave me. I will not give his name, but leave your readers who read this letter to find out for themselves. When I called upon him, he received me most cordially. I found him reading the newspapers with his legs crossed, and I found him tolerably well posted on the topics of the day:—politics, horticulture, science, religion, education, etc. Almost every deaf-mute in Ontario, who knows anything of the world, knows him. At any meeting of our class, be it a picnic, social, lecture or anything else he is sure to be on hand. He is one of the oldest mutes in the city, and is a born deaf-mute. He has no deaf-mute brothers or sisters. From the appearance of his home, it was evident he was not pinched by the hard times. Shortly after my arrival three or four other mute friends called (two ladies any way), and the evening was one of the most enjoyable spent in this city. Mr. — has a most happy home, and I was about to covet it, but remembered the Good Book forbids us coveting "thy neighbor's house." Any one who thinks marriage a failure will admit it is not so in his case. Mr. — is a jovial and good natured fellow. Who is he? I am afraid I am trespassing on your valuable space, so farewell for the present.

MAJORIE.

Toronto, April 7th, 1894.

Sporting Notes.

J. A. Isbister was elected Captain of the Senior Eleven at the last meeting of our Athletic Association. Willie McKay will control the Second Team. Mr. Douglass was chosen to represent us on the Executive Committee of the Belleville League.

The members of our first team will probably be the same as last season. A slight change in positions will, it is supposed, add to the strength of the club. Gillam was thought to have too much regard for opposing goal keepers, so his position at centre will be filled by Labelle, who certainly will not mince matters. Gillam will join Isbister on the right wing, and Smalldon goes to half back.

The Second Eleven will be materially changed, and some heavier players put on it. O'Brien, Dool, Bordeau and Lett are in training, and the ball will not roll through the goal so easily as last season, as Mr. McAloney will be there, also.

There will be only five clubs in the League this spring, as Albert College have signified that they will not enter. We are sorry for this, as they are doughty opponents.

At a League meeting held on the 6th inst., Mr. Douglass again received the unanimous vote for President. The careful guarding of the interests of our club are safe in his hands.

WONDERFUL WORDS.

Keep a guard on your words, my darling,
 For words are wonderful things;
 They are sweet like the bees' fresh honey—
 Like the bees they have terrible stings.

They can bless like the cheering sunshine,
 And brighten a lonely life.
 They can cut in the strife of anger
 Like an open two-edge knife.

If a bitter, revengeful spirit
 Promptly the words, let them be unsaid,
 They may flash through the brain like lightning,
 Or fall on the heart like lead.

Keep them back if they are cold and cruel,
 Under bar and lock and seal;
 The wounds they make, my darling,
 Are always slow to heal.

THE EDITOR'S TABLE.

WORTH AN EXCHANGE.

The fourth number of the *Illinois Idea* comes to us with a prominent request to exchange. We have looked it over carefully, and conclude that the *Idea* is worth an exchange. It is a good *Idea*,—full of interesting matter for juveniles, neatly printed, and attractively illustrated. But it was somewhat tardy in materializing here.

THE NATIONAL EXPONENT.

The initial number of this much-discussed, independent paper for the deaf has reached us. Its appearance and contents make a favorable impression. The "Salutatory" has an aggressive and confident tone, and leaves no doubt as regards the position the paper will occupy in the controversy about "systems." We wish it success.

THE EDUCATOR.

The first number of the fifth volume of this popular and useful publication is on our table. It is full of interesting matter, and is accompanied by a good portrait of E. M. Gallaudet, Ph. D., LL. D., the well known principal of the National College at Washington. The publishers announce some of the leading features of the present volume, and promise to spare no efforts in making the paper worthy the patronage of all interested in the work it so ably represents. We hope their expectations will be more than realized. The *Educator* is a good paper, and should be liberally supported by the profession.

THE AMERICAN ANNALS.

We have received and examined the April number of this well known and excellent publication. The contents are varied, interesting and instructive. Miss Sutton writes at length upon "The Desirability of Kindergartens for the Deaf," a subject with which she is evidently familiar. Supt. Clarke, of the Michigan School, contributes a second article on "Past and Present" forms of verbs for beginners. He very ably and courteously combats Mr. Blattner's contention that the past form is the best for the deaf pupil. Harris Taylor writes in a serio-comic vein about "Examinations," the utility of which he covers with well-intentioned sarcasm. He is always entertaining. Mrs. Bais, of this School, has a well-written article on "Drawing and Its Uses," in which she contends for the advantages, in an artistic sense, of drawing from models, "in laying a broad and sure foundation." There are several other articles and notes which complete this interesting number.

NEW HAMBURG.

From our own Correspondent.

Mrs. J. H. Buck, of Aylmer, who was visiting under the parental roof during the Easter holidays, has returned home.

Allen Wintemburg's father has moved to Washington, a small village some 8 miles south-east of New Hamburg, and has rented the blacksmith shop and its premises there. Allen is still in New Hamburg, and works as a painter. He thinks painting is better than shoemaking for wages as well as for work.

Mr. Henry Gies, uncle of Master Albert E. Gies, who now attends the Belleville school, has moved to New Hamburg from Huron County.

Mary Nahrgang is doing very well at home, and has enjoyed her new experience in winter here very much. Her sister Louisa, who had been spending two weeks at home, has returned to her duties again at her uncle's.

The making of maple syrup is going to be finished soon and the seeding will come next. O. N.

—Several communications are held over, as the writers failed to send their names.