

The Squirrel's Arithmetic.

The squirrel sat on a walnut tree
 looking so earnestly
 as if he were looking at?
 The green around him,
 The brown on his head,
 His tail in a hollow limb,
 His feet in a tree trunk in bed.

He was a problem o'er and o'er
 His mind was for his winter's store
 He was in the hollow tree.

He sat on the swaying bough
 You would have thought him asleep,
 He was trying to reckon now
 How many tables could eat.

He trembled he looked about,
 And then he ran,
 To see how he would do without,
 He was not an odd.

-Our Little Ones

PUPILS' LOCALS.

From the Girls' Side of the Institution.

By MISS LELLA HEATY.

Permission was given us for skating on the pond which was very good last Wednesday afternoon. We hope that we will have lots of good skating this season.

Three weeks ago Miss Jessie Munro was very much pleased to get a photo from her friend Miss Flossie Gardiner. She looks fat and is a little changed in appearance.

Before New Year's Day, Miss Belle Robinson went to Deseronto to make her friends a visit. When she comes back she intends to go to visit her friends in the west.

We are glad to hear that Miss Flora McMillan who left here lately on account of her weakness, is much better. We hope that she will be able to come back to school next September.

Our Misses, Miss Dimpsey's sister from Deseronto came to Belleville to spend a few weeks to stay with her friends. She sometimes comes up here to see her sister. We hope that her visit will be a very pleasant one.

Miss Annie Butler's mother intended to move to Belleville before New Year's, but couldn't bring her furniture down there on account of the roads being so very muddy. She will move there when the sleighing is good.

Law's Miss Mary McKay got a letter from home, saying that her brother whom she hasn't seen for five years had returned home from Manitoba, and she said that she expected to see him when she goes home in June.

On Jan. 1st Miss Bertha Nicholls was greatly surprised to receive a toilet set with which she was very much pleased and a photo from her brother in the North West Territory, who hasn't seen her since she was six years old.

After Christmas one of the girls went down town with Miss Walker to have some of her teeth filled and cleaned. When she came back, she looked very proud of having pretty teeth. We should always have our teeth attended to.

On the 15th inst., in the morning, the Catholic boys and girls were not allowed to go to church on account of the weather being very cold. If they had gone they might have had their ears and noses frozen, but they were very lucky not to go.

One afternoon, after school, in the evening room, Martha Leigh put an apple of which she had eaten a piece on the table. She darned a stocking with a wooden ball for that purpose and was going to bite the ball as she thought it was the apple but she was mistaken.

Lately Mr. Thompson, pastor of John St. Presbyterian Church, Belleville visited us with his young wife and presented to those of us who belong to that church. His talk was very nice and interesting. We all would like very much to have him come here often to preach to us.

The Sunday morning when it was very cold, Miss Jessie Munro went out for a walk and in a little while she got so cold that her feet were frozen. Miss Dimpsey told her that her feet would drop off, as it was getting black, but she was just joking. It is a good lesson for us to be all so careful about wrapping our feet when we go out in the bitter cold.

On New Year's Day, in the morning, one of the girls went out for a long walk with Miss Dimpsey to get up a good appetite for dinner in the afternoon. Misses

M. Hutchinson, H. Hammell and three young lady teachers were invited to Mr. Douglas' house to see his baby. They thought that the baby was a very pretty and sweet boy and looked somewhat like his father. After leaving her they went to see Mrs. Terrill, and while they were with her they had a good treat. They had a very pleasant time.

A Toronto Letter.

From a valued correspondent:
 There is nothing unusual going on in the silent community circles these last few weeks.

After the death of the late Charles Howe, his mother distributed amongst his late friends a number of books and pictures which belonged to her son. These Charles had preserved with great care, as some of them are old but appear just as if they were new. Among them was a photograph of the pupils of the old Hamilton Institution which must have been taken some thirty years ago. In that photo we notice quite a number of our most prominent deaf mutes of to-day. Let us mention a few: David Hambly, Nobleton W. Kay, Oil Springs; R. C. Slater, Toronto; Chas. McLaren, Raglan; Alex. McLaren, Osogood; Mrs. Sattou, Simoon; James Bremer, Waterford; Mary James, West Flamboro; Mrs. Riddell, Toronto; W. Baptie, Lakefield; Mrs. Terrill, Toronto; Mrs. Morse, Toronto; H. Ince, Manitoba; John Ellis, and Mrs. Jones, Toronto; F. Spinks, Carleton Place; W. Murdoch, Elora. There are some in the photo whom the writer has not seen or heard of since leaving the school over twenty five years ago. The remainder are those who have passed away: I. H. Matian, Belleville; Mrs. McCoy, Belleville; Mrs. Leeson, Aylmer; Henry Havill, Paris; Eliza Switzer, — Mark Ezzert, C. Howe, Toronto. The photo referred to is now in the possession of Mr. H. Mason, of this city. We believe these photos are the first of its kind ever taken in Canada. Quite a number of the pupils had these photos but it appears few have been preserved to this day. At the right hand side of the photo stands the late J. B. McGann, then Supt. of the above school, in his familiar dignified attitude, looking with pride on his pupils whom he loved so much. We think the photo would be well worth reproducing in the *Messenger* some day.

It is much to be regretted that some of our young and healthy deaf mutes instead of learning a valuable and respectable trade, are going through the country peddling court plaster which most people buy not for its worth but as an act of benevolence to the poor deaf-mute. One of our Toronto friends received a letter the other day from a deaf friend of theirs in the country, who states that a deaf-mute (well known here) was around his place recently and stated that the people there called such peddlars "lazy beggars." We think they are. We do not object to people deserving of charity peddling, but for one to do it because there is more money in it than working at some honorable trade we cannot help denouncing in the severest manner. They are a disgrace to the community they live in.

There is a lady deaf-mute in this city who left the Institution at Belleville a few years ago, we do not know just when. We understand she lives with her parents, or at least her mother, but does not associate in any way with her deaf-friends in the city nor attend any of our Sunday meetings held to worship and praise God. Her case was recently mentioned to our missionary, Miss A. Fraser. She said she would call and see the lady in question some day and has done so ere now, and since then we have seen Miss Fraser. What she stated to us was something similar to this: That the girl seemed to wish and was anxious to mix with her friends and go to our meetings, but her mother would not let her, as if they were not proper persons for her to be seen with, or that if she did, her mother was afraid she would fall in love with some of our young deaf fellows and get married, of which marriages she most heartily disapproved, and that if she ever got married it would be to a hearing gentleman. We are sorry to say she is still waiting on our. Her mother also said that her daughter mugged in the "best society." So do we. Now, Mr. Editor, we would like to know what you think of this case, and what should be done. It pains our heart to see a lady of her age and age tied down to her mother's apron strings.

HAMILTON HINTS.

From our own Correspondent

The mutes here were invited to hear of the death of Wm. Rose, of Brantford, and extend sympathy to the sorrowing friends. Mr. J. H. Mosher spent the holidays at his cousin's place, in Waterdown. He enjoyed himself.

Several mutes here are laid off from work for a few weeks.

Remarks, big and little, of all shades are freely exchanged between the mutes here on the threatened war.

Mr. and Mrs. Emil Gottlieb returned to the city after spending a week with their parents in Brantford. They report having had a pleasant time.

Henry Brockbank is very popular with the athlete sports of this city. He is a member of several clubs. The mutes rarely have any chance to see him.

Chas. Priest, an aged English mute, has been staying in the city several months, it is his intention of returning to England next spring.

Syrian Pettit, though living about 9 miles out of this city, is a regular attendant at the Bible Class every Sunday afternoon, and is generally the first one there. This is not a bad example for others.

Several mutes here have formed into a spelling club with Mr. Byrne as leader. Members are strictly forbidden, under a penalty to use any signs while the meetings are in session, except the leader only when necessary. Its plan is putting and answering questions on any topic its object is the education of word spelling and language among its members.

DENFIELD NOTES.

From our own Correspondent

The mutes here wish all the teachers and pupils of Belleville Institution a very happy New Year.

The correspondent L. M. and mutes of London are anxious to know the whereabouts of Noyes Brothers but they do not need to be anxious long, as Noyes Brothers are very industrious men and can be found on their farms at any time or on the London market every Saturday selling their farm produce. They own two of the finest farms in Middlesex County.

Poplar Hill is getting quite a popular place its population having increased considerably of late. Sidney and William Goe of Ducrest having removed there to assist John and Richard Pincombe.

John Noyes has just completed his great slaughter of fowls, having dressed and sold on the London market fifty fine turkeys, twenty geese and twenty ducks. Who among his mute friends can beat this?

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Gustin, of Forest, had the pleasure of entertaining Mr. and Mrs. Pratt, and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Gustin, of Manitoba, on Christmas, and they had a very pleasant time together. The family received many valuable and beautiful presents. Among the recipients was Alice Maule, of a beautiful gold watch from her father.

OTTAWA DISTRICT.

From our own Correspondent

Mayor Borthwick, who is an uncle of Mrs. M. Borthwick, one of our graduates, has been re-elected Mayor of Ottawa by acclamation.

Alderman Jamieson, uncle of Miss Jamieson, has removed from the city and did not become a candidate this year.

Miss Macfarlane, of the Mackay Institution spent her Christmas holidays at her father's in Ottawa.

Mr. and Mrs. Jas. McClelland gave D. Bayne a beautiful leather bound Bible on Christmas day in recognition of his services as class leader.

It is reported that Miss L. Baker is at present visiting Mrs. Hodgins, in Disbrow and that she will also come to see her friends in Ottawa before she returns home.

Xmas and New Year's passed off quietly in Ottawa among the mutes, lack of snow and an over supply of wind and rain was the cause.

Alex. McLaren who was laid up for six weeks with rheumatism of the knee is again able to be about.

Mrs. Noyes, who was visiting her old home was in Ottawa seeing old friends some time ago.

Papa exclaimed Johnny, struggling with a very copious brand of influenza. If the nose is an organ, why don't it have stops?

TORONTO TOPICS.

From our own Correspondent

The Christmas number of the *Canadian Mute*, was highly appreciated by all who received it. Please accept thanks.

Green Xmas, as your pupils term it, passed very quietly here. The majority of married mutes stayed home with their families.

The poor apparently were not forgotten, for Mr. Broomfield received three pairs stylish boots from his old employer, J. D. King, for his wife and daughters.

Mrs. Broomfield, who has been ill since Xmas, has been removed to the hospital to be treated for heart failure. We hope kind friends will not neglect the old man who is cut off from his sole support for a while.

Mr. Arthur Bowen was the guest of his sister, Mrs. Mason and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wilson.

Mr. Samuel Averell spent the holidays with relatives and friends. His sister was unable to accompany him on account of illness. He was a guest of his cousin, J. L. Ellis.

Miss Moore, of Whitby College, was home for Xmas. She made Mr. and Mrs. Ormiston a call on her way home.

Miss Alice Croukwright, of Belleville, was married at the residence of her sister, Mrs. H. Moore, on Xmas Eve.

Mr. Phillip Fraser was too ill to superintend Bible class last week. His place was filled by A. W. Mason.

Two deaf-mute journeymen tailors, Messrs. Darney and Buchan, who belong to the Union, are obliged to perform the duty of pickets at the present lock out, which is not a pleasant task when it is cold.

The residence of Mr. and Mrs. H. Moore was the scene of a brilliant gathering of gay young deaf-mute people on New Year's Eve. The evening was extremely cold, which rendered it more pleasant for the occasion. The party was kept up till early morning, then they marched to the nearest gallery and had a group photo taken. A second party was given them on New Year's Day before returning home, and the guests took advantage to present Mr. and Mrs. Moore with a beautiful rocking chair, as a token of gratitude to the host and hostess, who contributed largely to their enjoyment. Following are the names of those present:—Messrs. Waggoner, Preston; Ryan, Woodstock; McLaren, Brantford; Averell, Newton Robinson; G. Odbrand, Copetown; Bradshaw, Shepherd, Pickard, Gates, Allen, and Neil McGillivray, Toronto; Miss Ethel Irvine, Belleville; Miss Marion Campbell, Berlin; Miss Eva Zingg, Berlin; Miss Prudie McRitchie, Berlin; Miss Mary McGillivray, Nobleton; Miss Nellie Cunningham, Oakville; Miss Alice Francis, Toronto; Miss Mary O'Neil, Toronto, Miss Ogilvie, Toronto.

There is a large missionary school in Tokio, Japan, where the teaching is in English. One of the pupils recently wrote a composition on "England," and we append some choice extracts: "The England which occupied of the largest and greatest dominion which rarely can be. The Englishman always works with a very powerful hands and the long legs, and even the eminent mind and his chin is so strong as deserved iron. Being spread out from Europe to Australia to America his dominion is dreadfully extensive, so that his countrymen boastfully says 'The Sun are never sets on our dominion.' The Testimony of English say that 'he that lost the common sense, he never had any benefit, though he had gained a complete world.' The English are cunning mention to establish a great Empire of the Paradise. As the Englishman always consider the object of the pure and the order to be holy and they reproach him if any them are killed to death with the contention of other men. There should have been a prize offered for a key to that composition.

Teacher in geography class.—Jim Smith, can you name ten animals peculiar to the arctic region? Jim Smith—Yes, sir. Teacher—What are they? Jim Smith—Five seals and five polar bears, sir.

A man living out West states that he first met his wife in a storm, took her to their first ball in a storm, popped the question in a storm, and has lived in a storm ever since.

Be such a man, live such a life, that if every man was such as you, and every life like yours, the earth would be God's paradise.—Phillip Brooks.