



THE CANADIAN MUTE.

Four, six or eight pages

PUBLISHED BY M. MONTILLA

At the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb
BELLEVILLE, ONT.

OUR MISSION

First. That a number of our pupils may learn to read, write, and from the knowledge obtained be able to earn a livelihood after they leave school.

Second. To furnish interesting matter for and encourage a habit of reading among our pupils and deaf mute subscribers.

Third. To be a medium of communication between the school and parents, and friends of pupils, now in the institution, the hundreds who were pupils at one time or other in the past, and all who are interested in the education and instruction of the deaf of our land.

SUBSCRIPTION

Fifty cents for the school year, payable in advance, postage prepaid by publisher. New subscriptions commence at any time during the year. Remit by money order, postal notes, or registered letter.

Subscribers failing to receive their papers regularly will please notify us, that mistakes may be corrected without delay. All papers are stopped when the subscription expires, unless otherwise ordered. The date on each subscriber's wrapper is the time when the subscription runs out.

Correspondence on matters of interest to the deaf is requested from our friends in all parts of the Province. Nothing calculated to wound the feelings of any one will be admitted. If we know it.

ADVERTISING

A very limited amount of advertising, subject to approval, will be inserted at 25 cents a line for each insertion.

Address all communications and subscriptions

THE CANADIAN MUTE,

BELLEVILLE,

ONTARIO



WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14, 1899

End of Another Session.

We have now reached the end of another session, and when this issue of THE CANADIAN MUTE reaches its readers all of our pupils will we trust, have arrived safe at their homes. The session has been an uneventful one in most respects. There was one death in the early part of the term and we had an epidemic of la grippe of a mild type which interfered with our work for a few weeks, but which soon ran its course and left no ill results behind. With these exceptions, and a few mild cases of chicken pox, the health of the pupil has been excellent, while the officers and teachers have enjoyed complete immunity from sickness. The term has been marked by steady, faithful, earnest work on the part of both teachers and pupils, and the results have been most satisfactory. And now our halls are deserted and silence reigns where during the past nine months joyous life and animation have abounded. Most of our pupils we will hope to see again next fall. A few, however, have completed their course and will not return again, and as they go forth into the busy world to carve out each his or her own career, we give them our very best wishes for abundant success. We have endeavored to the very best of our ability to give them the mental training and manual skill requisite for the achievement of an honest livelihood, and now each one must depend on his or her own energy and industry. But it is "not all of life to live nor all of death to die," and it is well to remember that the highest kind of success does not consist in mere material prosperity. The true perspective of life is obtained by the retrospective view at its close, when the things of this world are revealed in their true proportions to eyes aglow with the light reflected from

above. And as a man stands on the brink of eternity, what is it that stands out most prominently in his life's history? How petty will then appear the material successes of life, the accumulations of wealth, the attainment of worldly honors, the plaudits of fickle multitudes? In the clearer light of the other world the smallest act of disinterested kindness, the slightest manifestation of devotion to principle and duty will dwarf into insignificance all the selfish achievements of life no matter how great they may have been. It is every man's duty to labor earnestly for his own maintenance, but we urge our pupils to peace character and principle and honesty and the strictest morality above everything else, and should the issue ever arise, to remember that "a good name is rather to be chosen than great riches and loving favor rather than silver and gold. There is much good advice that we might give the boys and girls for the vacation, but we trust it is not needed. The officers and teachers have endeavored faithfully throughout the session to inculcate the best principles of right thought and conduct, and we would simply urge the pupils to strive to remember the lessons taught them and to live up to their highest conceptions of duty, remembering that to fear God and keep his commandments comprises the whole duty of man.

A word to parents to some parents at least—might not be amiss. During the past nine months the pupils here have been under conditions that demanded the exercise of all their highest and best faculties. They have been required to obey implicitly all in authority over them, to give unremitting attention to their tasks and duties, to observe the law of kindness among themselves and, as far as possible, to suppress all instincts of selfishness and thoughtlessness and intolerance. Much may and assuredly will be done by the parents during vacation to either confirm or to weaken the good impressions made. We would urge all parents to require of their children the exercise of the same good qualities that we have endeavored to call into activity, so that the moulding of their characters and the firm establishment in them of right principles may be continuous and thus productive of the highest and best results.

Marrriages of the Deaf.

All readers of *The Annuals* are more or less familiar with a long series of articles prepared by Dr. Fay on "Marrriages of the Deaf in America" which contained the results of a most exhaustive investigation into this important subject. These articles have just been published by the Volta Bureau in book form together with the detailed tabular statement of the Marrriages of 4,171 couples. The whole comprises a large octavo of some 530 pages, and contains, we presume the final word on the various interesting questions discussed, namely, 1. Marrriages of the deaf are somewhat less productive than ordinary marriages. 2. Marrriages of the deaf are more likely to result in hearing offspring than in deaf offspring, in the proportion of probably nine or ten to one. 3. Marrriages of deaf persons, one or both parents being deaf, are much more likely to result in deaf offspring than the marriages of hearing people. 4. Marrriages in which only one of the partners is deaf is somewhat more likely to result in deaf offspring than in marriages in which both partners are deaf. 5. Congenitally

deaf parents are much more likely to have deaf children than are adventitiously deaf parents. Marrriages of adventitiously deaf persons are more likely to result in deaf offspring than ordinary marriages, but when both parents are adventitiously deaf or one of them is hearing, the liability is slight. 6. Deaf persons having deaf relations, however they are married, and hearing persons having deaf relations and married to deaf partners, are very liable to have deaf offspring. Where both the partners are deaf and have deaf relatives, the proportion of deaf offspring is about 28 to 30 per cent, but where neither of the partners has deaf relatives, even though both of them are congenitally deaf, the liability to have deaf offspring seems to be slight perhaps not greater than in ordinary marriages. 7. The marriages of the deaf most liable to result in deaf offspring are those in which the partners are related. Out of 41 such marriages reported 45 per cent resulted in deaf offspring.

The Michigan School is to have a woman physician when school opens in fall. Such is the wish of Governor Proctor.

This is the last issue of THE CANADIAN MUTE for October 1st when we hope to greet all our old readers and many new ones.

Pleasant Sights.

AT THE MACKAY INSTITUTION FOR PROTESTANT DEAF MUTES AND THE BLIND

From the Montreal Herald May 26th

He hath done all things well. He maketh both the deaf to hear and the dumb to speak. These were the words, with the suggested addition, He maketh the blind to see, that rose in the mind of the Rev. Principal Hackett on the occasion of a visit this month to the Mackay Institution for Protestant Deaf Mutes and the Blind. There are four blind pupils in the institution and sixty deaf mutes. The sight of the bright, smiling happy faces in the school the Principal says in a letter, "was enough to drive away all gloomy thoughts, the examination and its results ought to fill any man with gratitude to God."

The Rev. Drs. Mackay and Williams accompanied the Rev. Principal Hackett on the visit referred to, the occasion being the annual examination. They found that the questions in regard to prominent persons and events in Holy Scripture were readily answered. Most intelligent accounts of Droyfus and the Doukhobors and recent circumstances were written on the board, and the pupils were also tested in arithmetic and geography. A pleasant sight was the kindergarten class, which had not long been formed, and was taught by the German method but which showed itself admirably suited to develop the intelligence of the children. But the most wonderful result witnessed was the exhibition of articulation pupils taught by the Melville Bell system. Certain signs are written upon the board representing the notes of vocal sounds and by reading the sign the corresponding sound can be at once and accurately produced.

The carpentering, shoemaking and printing departments were also examined and the examiners were pleased to observe the degree of skill attained. Most of the wooden furniture in the building is the work of the pupils. They do all their own printing, and the printing establishment has been patronized by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company.

"We were greatly impressed," Principal Hackett writes, "with the skill and tact and patience with which the superintendent, Mrs. Ashcroft, and her competent assistants conducted the institution. As for Mrs. Ashcroft herself, she appears to have simply a genius for that most trying and difficult labor of love. Such work should never lack the sympathy and help of the Christian world, and we were thankful to know that no financial pinch was felt. It would indeed be a blessing to the Christian Church in Montreal if an institution like the Mackay should ever come to lack means or support."

Communicated The Toronto Dorens Society

The Dorens Society is one of the oldest of the kind in the world. It was organized in 1820 and has since that time steadily maintained its work. The main object of the Society is to promote the moral and practical education of the deaf and to give them the means of self-help. They also had the power to employ workers with trust by laboring for others. There has always been a measure of the spirit of self-help and helpfulness amongst the deaf and the Society has added to this spirit more effective means of help. The Society was founded on religious principles that the work should be done for God and given to God and thus be made a part of the growth of a living faith. The deaf women are of necessity in the many forms of social isolation from unity to deaf work, and it is no small gain that they should feel that they had a calling in the way of a Christian life. The religious work with world workers has been concluded by the Society. It has been carefully arranged for the deaf and it should be felt that the value of their setting aside their selfishness in this point is vital to the spirit of the Society.

In arranging for the work of the Society it was felt that it could be made helpful to the deaf and where help was needed and efficiently given. The work was provided for some of the poor who might without it have been delayed or hindered in their journey to the Provincial Institution for the Deaf. There was no financial aid, but contributions to some of our dear Missions contributions that have been fully recognized in letters received. For North Subscriptions for the material have come mostly from wives. The cutting-out and making various articles the Society has given good evidence of their love and practical habits. As the home economy and in ready ways the mothers show themselves and their children a number of their letters and it is a doubt if you whether you will be able to give any of the best for the highest average ability.

The meetings take place weekly in April. Our deaf home mother in a notable house was, and the work was so intimate, so far as the work was ever any one afflicts the deaf, but we believe that the deaf have a right, a pleasurable and conformable in general more helpful than in keeping variety. Even to the casual effect of the approach of the season, the meetings have been an obvious occasion for the annual migration of a close at this season is a fact that we would strongly recommend to be may be included. Attempt the work of a Society of this kind.

We are not acquainted with a society amongst any other deaf, doubtless such exist and we should hear from any whom this notice may lead to their methods and success. My Division it will be glad to give any of us to the organization of our society be desired.

We regret the omission from our Toronto Society of several steady business engagements. Mrs. Hackett, Mrs. Morse, the Misses Campbell, Munkie, McFinger, Elliott and Hallett show themselves enthusiastically ready to attend. The president of the Society, Mr. Sawhill, and the treasurer, Mr. regular attendees at every meeting. We will be glad to give any of us to the organization of our society be desired.

A Boy Stronger than a Man

A lad in Boston, rather small in age, works in an office as errand boy. One day the gentlemen were chaffing a little for being so small and thin.

"You will never amount to anything. You are too small."

The little fellow looked at them and said, "Well," said he, "as small as I am, I can do something that neither of you can do."

"Ah, what is that," said they, "don't know that I ought to tell you," replied.

But they were anxious to know, and urged him to tell what he could do. Neither of them was able to do it.

"I can keep from sweating," said the little fellow.

There were some blushes on their faces, and there seemed to be no more to say for further information. —L.S.

For Diphtheria.

The Scientific American gives a recipe which the whole world ought to know. At the first indication of diphtheria in the throat of a child, close the room door, then take a tin cup, pour into it a quantity of tar and petroleum, equal parts. Then hold cup over a fire, so as to fill the cup with fumes. The little patient inhaling the fumes, will cough up and spit out all the membranes and the diphtheria will pass out. A mixture of tar and turpentine has been used in the throat and thus all rebel that has baffled the skill of physicians.