



THE CANADIAN MUTE.

Four, six or eight pages.

PUBLISHED SEMI-MONTHLY

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

OUR MISSION:

- First. That a number of our pupils may learn to read, and from the knowledge obtained to 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. New subscriptions commence at any time during the year. Remit by money order, postage stamps, 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—it is known 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 subscription to

THE CANADIAN MUTE,

BELLEVILLE,

ONTARIO



WEDNESDAY, MAY 16, 1895.

A Longer Term Needed

According to the laws of New York State a deaf child may remain in the kindergarten department of the schools for the deaf until he is twelve years old, and then he may attend the school proper twelve more years. In this province, seven years is the term of attendance, no matter at what age a child enters. That if a child entering the Institution at seven years of age, as some of them do, leaves school when but fourteen years old. In the public schools, a hearing child is allowed by law to attend till he is twenty-one, and in practice is allowed to attend as much longer as he chooses, and after he leaves the public school he may attend a free high school for several years more. We boast, and with good reason, that the Ontario school system is the best in the world. But in our provision for educating the deaf we fall very much in the rear of the more advanced states of the Union. Deaf-mutes, being handicapped by the loss of one of the most important of the senses, should be given even better facilities for acquiring an education and an industrial training, than hearing children, but as a matter of fact they do not enjoy nearly as good educational advantages as do their more fortunate fellows. In this respect, as in others, this province should be in the van of progress.

Friend Moore, of the *Aton Free Press*, says a number of pleasant things about *The Mute* in his paper. They are so complimentary that were we to reproduce them our reputation for modesty would be seriously impaired. We appreciate them all the same, especially as the *Free Press* is not a whit behind any of our Canadian newspapers in ability, appearance and interest.

New Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, at Halifax, N. S.

The Directors of the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb at Halifax, Nova Scotia, have decided to erect a new building for the education of the deaf of that province. An illustration of the proposed new institution with basement and ground plans will be found on our first page. It will be erected on the site of the old building and it is expected to be ready for occupation by the first of November next. To complete the whole structure, with improvement to the grounds, will involve an outlay of \$50,000, or over. The Principal, Mr Fearon, in his report, says:



MR. JAMES FEARON

Now that we are about to leave the old building which has sheltered so many of the "children of silence," and witnessed so great efforts put forth on their behalf, it will not be out of place to glance back along the line of action of nearly forty years, and mark what progress has been made. Since its establishment in 1826, the Institution has educated and maintained no less than 76 deaf persons belonging to Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland. These, in nearly every case, have been made useful, self-supporting, and respectable members of the community, who but for the training they received at the Institution would have grown up ignorant alike of the things of this life and the life that is to come, as well as a burden to their friends or the community in which they resided. Forty years ago no provision whatever existed for the education of the deaf of Nova Scotia; and not only was this the case as regards this province, but the same state of affairs existed throughout the length and breadth of Canada. Indeed, to Nova Scotia belongs the credit of being the first province of the Dominion to make at least some legislative provision for the education of her deaf children. Ever since its inception the Institution has been advancing, not by leaps and bounds, but steadily and unobscuredly. The progress as observed from year to year is not so apparent, but if the condition of the Institution in 1826 and subsequent years is compared with what it is to-day, some idea will be got of the great progress that has been made in spite of very great difficulties. Thirty-eight years ago the Institution was represented by a small ill-furnished house in Argyle Street, with four or five pupils, and a single teacher. In the year that has closed there were 77 pupils in attendance under the training of a capable and experienced staff of ten here, and when the work resumes after the summer holidays, it will be in a new brick building large enough to accommodate, if need be, 120 pupils, with large airy class-rooms, play-rooms, and dormitories carefully arranged and constructed in every particular with a view to the health and comfort of its occupants.

The following is a description of the proposed new institution:—

The building will sit north and south, covering part of the present site and part of the newly acquired grounds adjoining. The total length when completed will be 201 feet. This length includes the hospital apartment, which is not covered by the present building contract. The width varies from 52 feet to 75 feet. The building will be two storeys and a half, the roof running up on the central portion sufficiently to admit of two storeys in the mansard, making four storeys in this portion and three storeys at each end. There will also be a high basement the entire length and breadth of the building, and finished throughout.

The basement walls will be constructed of granite, faced on the exterior above the grade line with brick. The two main storeys will also be of brick trimmed all round with olive freestone. There will be six entrances to the basement and five to the ground floor. Four of the latter will be on the west side towards Gillingham Street. The main entrance on this side will be finished with a spacious portico supported on eight polished red granite columns, and the main entrance on the east side with a semi-circular veranda.

The faces of the walls are relieved by several square and octagon projections topped in most cases with high-pointed tower roofs, and surmounted with iron finials, the walls of some of these projections running up through the third storey, those at the main entrance on the west side being carried even through the fourth storey, finished with a curved roof and surmounted with a flag pole. There will be 21 windows in the building.

The basement will contain a spacious dining hall, teacher's dining-room, kitchen, general store room, laundry, serving pantry, scullery, cold store room, drying room, ironing room, cellarage, boiler and fuel rooms and corridors. The main basement partition will be of brick. There will be five stairways from the basement to the ground floor.

On the ground floor will be the Principal's study, parlor, dining-room, kitchen, pantry, corridor and main and back stairway, halls, waiting room, office, two large sitting rooms for girls and boys, assembly room, 15 by 42, with sloping floor. The hospital will be connected with the main building by a covered passage, and will contain four rooms besides a bath room.

The second storey contains, besides four bed rooms and a bath room for the Principal, the

Matron's parlor and best room, male teachers' parlor, female teachers' parlor, ten large-sized bed rooms, two spacious dormitories, lavatories and hospital. In addition to that in the ground storey there are six stairways from the ground to the second storey.

The third storey will have thirteen small bed rooms and five large dormitories—12 side lavatories, linen rooms and closets.

The fourth storey in the central portion of the building will have two large trunks and two bed rooms.

The basement ceiling will be 10 feet high, the ground and second storey ceilings generally 11 feet, the third storey 11 feet, and the fourth storey 9 feet. The Principal's ceilings will be 11 feet, the hospital 10 feet, and the assembly room 15 feet.

The building is admirably planned, the rooms, corridors and stairways spacious, dry, and well lighted throughout. The boys' apartments are completely separated from the girls' apartments, the latter being north and the former south of the main cross corridor.

The Principal's apartments are at the extreme south end and make a complete residence in themselves, but are connected with the general apartments by a door in the end of the main corridor. In both ground and second storeys these apartments contain a parlor and dining room, with sliding doors between, a convenient kitchen and pantry, and a study on the ground floor and four bed rooms, bath-rooms and closets on the second floor with main and back stair way. There is a private entrance to the Principal's apartments on the west side. The principal corridor of the main building runs through from the west to the east entrance and is 12 feet wide, and an 8-foot corridor runs from the north end to the south end in each storey. Besides these there are several cross corridors for light, the boys and girls stairway halls are in the east side of this longitudinal corridor and connect with the play rooms, sitting rooms, dormitories and lavatories. With this arrangement the boys and girls can reach the basement play-rooms from the upper story without entering the main corridors.

The building will be finished inside generally with white wood, hard oil filled. The floors will be of best right sawn hard pine.

The basement will be concreted throughout. All doors will have adjustable transoms.

The plumbing will be of the best description. All exposed waste, supply, overflow pipes and faucets will be nickel plated brass.

The Directors, Principal and people of Nova Scotia are to be congratulated upon the erection of a building which will be a credit to all concerned.

There is a man in Pennsylvania who claims to have "telescope eyes." It is said he can tell the time by the town clock at a distance of two miles. Of course we never for a moment doubt stories about prodigies, but there is nothing wonderful about this. We know a hundred men who can tell the time by a clock two miles away if the clock is large enough. If, however, this man really has such wonderful visual powers we would suggest that he be employed by the advocates of the pure oral method of teaching. It is just possible that he might be able to see some of the superior advantages of this system as compared with the combined system. People with ordinary vision are to fail to discover any such advantages.

Although with us it was a case of "I told you so," yet none the less were we genuinely sorry to learn of the demise of the *Educator*. We never thought there was a sufficiently large constituency to support both the *Annals* and the *Educator*, since they covered practically the same field, and as was to be expected, the one first in the field has maintained its position, owing to exceptional circumstances. But while it existed the *Educator* was an excellent journal, and was always full of interesting topics ably discussed. The regret felt by the publishers at the failure of their enterprise is tempered by the knowledge that though their paper was short-lived yet its brief career was a most useful one.

An exchequer tells of so simple and easy a method for getting rich that it is a wonder there are any poor men in the world. No one is so poor that he cannot get hold of a cent to start with. Now on the first day of the month deposit a cent in a bank, and on each succeeding day double the deposit of the previous day. Any one can surely do so simple a thing as this, and at the end of the month your account will show the sum of \$5,368,709.12 to your credit. With this little sum you can retire and live in modest comfort the rest of your days, and even enjoy a few of the luxuries of life.

When an American says on a quiet night, "good evening," and when they separate says "good night." But in Canada one who hears the latter phrase in a tall tale, will say "good bye." To an American it is as good as "good bye," for the latter adverb is the English word. How are you?

In other words, when it is evening Canadians say "good evening" and when it is night they say "good night," while Americans say "good evening," whether it is evening or night or the wee-sunn' hours of the morning. We like our way better because it is in accord with the facts.

A Trolley Accident.

One of our old pupils, Isaac Wilson, who left here in 1890, was run over by a trolley car and killed at Fort Worth, Texas, on the evening of the 29th of April. Wilson when here was an exemplary young fellow and his friends will be sorry to hear of his untimely end. The Fort Worth (Texas) *Gazette* gives this account of the accident:—Between 10 and 11 o'clock last night Joe Wilson, a deaf mute, was run over by car No. 2 on the Fort Worth street railway at the corner of Main and Tenth streets and instantly killed. The car was run by Motorman Thompson. Wilson in company with W. F. Featherhoff, another deaf mute, was crossing Main street from the east, when, just as they reached the centre of the crossing of Main and Tenth streets, he was struck by the car. Featherhoff, seeing his companion's danger, undertook to pull him from the track, but Wilson, not seeming to understand his friend's purpose or his own danger, sprang back on the track and was knocked down. The body lay for about a half hour covered only by a badly torn clothing, before an ambulance arrived and conveyed it to Robertson's Justice Undertaking establishment. Justice Wright was notified and arrived soon after, but the inquest was postponed until 8:30 o'clock this morning. After the accident the car, which was on its way to the sheds on the South Side from its last trip uptown, continued on its way, and no arrest was made of the motorman. He is described as having been almost prostrated by the fatal accident. Wilson was from Ottawa, Can., and was said to be well educated and intelligent, though deaf and dumb. He was about 35 years old, and had no relatives in this city. At the time he was killed he was working as porter in the bar-room of the Spring Palace hotel. He had just left that place when he met his death. It is supposed that being deaf, he did not hear the car or the bell and not seeing it, he allowed himself to be caught on the track.

A strange coincidence is the fact that about a year ago a close friend of the dead man, one Laddell, also a deaf-mute, was run over by the same car at almost the same place, and killed.

Unsterily Words.

Two little sisters who were very fond of each other, and generally quite happy together, were playing "keep house and go visiting." The elder sister was the housekeeper, and she bustled merrily about, spreading the table and arranging her little tea set upon it, meanwhile chatting with little Anna, who, for the time, was "a very fine lady from the city."

Just as the preparations were completed, and she was about to summon her guest to the miniature repast, Anna quietly climbed into a large easy chair and rocking slowly back and fourth, she said:

"I don't want to play any more."

Not noticing the sudden pallor of the sweet little face, the sister angrily retorted:

"I'll never play with you again as long as I live!"

And she never did. She went to her little bed alone that night and lay with a heavy, aching heart, longing for the morning to come, that she might put her arms around her little sister's neck and tell her she was sorry. The morning came, but Anna was dangerously ill. Her parents had watched over her through the weary night, and were alarmed for her safety. Her sister was allowed just to see her, but she would not speak. The poor child grew worse and worse, and in a few days she died. The last words she ever heard from that loving but petulant sister was that bitter, angry sentence.—Selected.