



INSTITUTION FOR THE EDUCATION OF THE DEAF AND DUMB, BELLEVILLE.

ity they are shut out from hearing what is transpiring around them, and it is only after a laborious and tedious process of study that they are enabled to grasp and comprehend by reading the ordinary occurrences of life. Schools are of far greater moment to the deaf than to those who can hear and speak. The hearing child is continually adding to his store of knowledge by listening, to what is said in his presence. The deaf child only knows what he has been taught; the one learns through the ear, the other by the eye. Very few of the congenitally deaf become eminent in the literary walks of life, but the larger proportion of those who have been instructed for a term of years have their minds enlightened to such a degree as to make them good and useful citizens. Uneducated deaf-mutes are a very ignorant class of the community, and deserve the greatest amount of pity and consideration for being so through no fault of their own. All civilized countries now recognize the importance of deaf-mute education, and for their special instruction institutions and schools have been opened to the number of 603, with 22,500 pupils and 2,120 teachers. Australia has 3 institutions, Austria-Hungary 17, Belgium 10, Brazil 1, Canada 7, Denmark, France, 67, Germany 90, Great Britain and Ireland 40, Italy 35, Japan 2, Luxembourg 1, Mexico 2, Netherlands 3, New Zealand 1, Norway 7, Portugal 1, Russia 10, Spain 7, Sweden 17, Switzerland 11, and United States 61.

The special institutions in Canada are the Catholic Deaf and Dumb Institute for Males, Mile End, Montreal, established in 1848, 124 pupils and 25 teachers for the year ending 18th September, 1881; Institution for the Female Deaf and Dumb, Montreal, established 1851, 165 pupils and 20 teachers; Hall's Institution, established 1857, 73 pupils and 4 teachers; the Ontario Institution, Belleville, established 1870, 286 pupils and 15 teachers; McKay Institution for Deaf Mutes, Montreal, established 1870, 45 pupils and 4 teachers; New Brunswick Institution, Portland, N. B., established 1873, 32 pupils and 2 teachers; Fredericton Institution, New Brunswick, 20 pupils and 2 teachers. Whole number of pupils under instruction for the year, 380 males and 367 females; 747 in all. Whole number of teachers, 42 male and 45 female; 87 in all. The total number of deaf-mutes who have received instruction in the institutions of the Dominion up to the 30th September, 1884, as per returns, is 1,670.

The institutions are supported by the several provinces, pay pupils and voluntary contributions.

As before stated, the late John Barrett McGann was the first teacher of the deaf and dumb in Ontario. He arrived in New York in 1854, and became interested in the work at the Institution in that city. He removed to Toronto during the year following, and while engaged as a grammar school teacher, learned of the whereabouts of a number of deaf mutes, had them collected and opened a school for the deaf and dumb in this Province, in Toronto in 1858. A society was formed to assist him, and the school continued until 1864, when it closed, Mr. McGann, in the meantime, having retired from it to found another in Hamilton, where greater encouragement was proffered, and where he would have less interference with his mode of management. The institution in Hamilton was located at Dundurn Castle, and continued until the opening of the Provincial Institution at Belleville in 1870, supported by government grants, pay pupils and payments from counties for pupils whose friends were unable to pay. Mr. McGann's persevering efforts on behalf of deaf mutes called public attention to the necessity of a public national institution to meet the wants of the country, and he lived to see his fondest hopes realized in the erection of an institution capable of accommodating 250 pupils. He was a principal teacher for a number of years in the new institution, and only retired from active work on account of ill health a few months prior to his death, which occurred on January 22nd, 1880. A handsome and costly monument, erected by the subscriptions of deaf mutes, marks his last resting place in the Belleville cemetery.

The old Parliament of Canada took the initiative in the matter of establishing public institutions for the Deaf and Dumb, and Blind in this Province, and commissioned the late Dr. Ryerson, Chief Superintendent of Education, by order in Council, dated Ottawa, October 19th, 1866, to make an educational tour in foreign countries with a view of collecting information as to the best mode of conducting such institutions and reporting the same to the government. Confederation vested the educational interests of the country in the several Provinces, and his report was made to the Government of Ontario under the Premiership of the late Hon. John Sandfield McDonald. Dr.

Ryerson's instructions assumed the expediency and avowed the intention of providing for the deaf mutes' instruction, and his report urged the necessity, the patriotism, the Christian humanity of institutions for the education of the deaf and dumb, with suggestions in regard to the subjects and method of instruction, the ages at which pupils should be admitted, the periods of their continuance, and the accommodations and apparatus for their instruction. His recommendations were very generally acted upon, and the large and commodious Institution for the education and instruction of the deaf and dumb at Belleville, is the result. The accompanying engraving shows the main building.

The following is a description of the site and buildings as given by the architect of the Public Works Department: "The site is about one mile west of the city of Belleville, on the shore of the Bay of Quinte, and contains 82 acres. The building was erected in the domestic style of gothic architecture. The work was commenced in 1869, and completed in 1870. The main building is 203 feet in length 50 ft. in width and four storeys in height, 12 and 13 feet each, built of red brick, made in the vicinity, and cutstone dressings from Ox Point, and the roof of slate and galvanized iron. In the rear of the main building, but connected with it by a covered passage, is the dining-room, 90 feet in length by 50 feet in width and 14 feet in height. A kitchen 41 feet by 22 feet, with pantry and other apartments for domestics and store-rooms. A boiler house with laundry and drying-room over, 64 feet in length by 30 feet in width, 13 and 12 feet for each storey, respectively, has been recently built north of the kitchen and connected with same by a covered passage. On the west side of the dining-room is a play-room for girls, 28 feet by 20 feet with a ward for sick over same, and a class room in the east side, each extremity being connected by a covered passage to main building. The centre hall is 12 feet wide, which connects with the dining room. In this hall is the principal stairs, on the first landing of which is a passage connecting with the large lecture room over the dining-room. The main corridors are six feet wide, connecting with the centre hall, school rooms and dormitories in the wings, 60 feet by 37 feet. On the ground floor are the Principal's and Registrar's offices, reception, etc. The Matron's, Teachers' and assistants' apartments are on the first floor in the centre portion, class-rooms and

dormitories being in each wing. The two upper stories are occupied as associated dormitories, 60 feet by 30 feet, 36 feet by 32 feet, and 46 feet by 16 feet, respectively, on each side of the centre. The building is heated by steam, from two boilers, passing through circulating pipes and coils in the apartments and passages. The water is pumped from the bay into iron tanks containing about 10,000 gallons, from which the wash basins, baths, water-closets, etc. are supplied. The sewerage is discharged into the bay by brick drains 22 inches in diameter. The light is supplied by the Gas Company of Belleville, the mains having been extended for the purpose. In 1877 a dormitory for boys was built on the east side of the grounds about 100 feet distant from the main building; it is 86 feet in length, 28 feet in width, and two storeys of 11 feet each in height, with a mansard storey 9 feet in height. The dormitory is also heated by steam by means of circulating pipes and coils. The gas and water pipes were extended to the building. A separate residence for the Principal was also constructed in 1877, on the west side of the grounds. The out-buildings consist of a brick workshop, 80 feet by 32 feet and two storeys in height; stables, wagon-house, 90 feet by 23 feet, with hay loft, etc. The avenue extends from the Trenton road to the building, trees having been planted on each side, and a gate-keeper's lodge is built at the entrance. The buildings afford accommodation for 250 pupils, including the dormitory, and the total expenditure for land, buildings and furniture to the end of 1884 was \$201,218.91."

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Young ladies who faint on being "proposed to," can be restored to consciousness by just whispering in their ear that you were only joking.

In the handkerchief line linen lawn is the preferred material for nice wear, and these are embroidered by hand in red, blue, pink, brown, gold and olive.

A clergyman in Toronto lost his hat one evening last week and was obliged to wear home a shabby one, which had been left in its place. Next day the hat was returned by the penitent appropriator, who thus apologized: "I'll never take a minister's hat again. You cannot think what queer things I've had running through my head ever since I put that hat on."