



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 type-setting, 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 (50) cents for the school year payable in advance

ADVERTISING

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

ROY V. BOMFREVILLE, 100 Times Building, New York, is our agent for United States advertising

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THE CANADIAN MUTE,
BELLEVILLE,
ONTARIO



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 1893.

JUSTIFYING THE WORK.

Dr. Noyes, in his last report of the Minnesota School, speaks of the record of thirty years work with pride and satisfaction. He especially refers to the records made by the 586 deaf pupils "who have enjoyed for a longer or shorter time the advantages the school affords." They are all filling places of more or less responsibility, and filling them well, too. Not one, Dr. Noyes asserts, so far as known, "is making merchandize of his infirmity, or living on public charity." These deaf citizens are not unlike other people in their aspirations and failures, and are just as liable to err and act indiscreetly. But they are conspicuous for industry and integrity of purpose, rather than for the faults and foibles of mankind. The same can be truthfully said of the deaf graduates of this and other schools, who are engaged in the battle of life, and whose records are known. Is this not all the justification that can reasonably be expected for the work done in schools for the deaf? The primary object is to make good citizens, in whatever light citizenship is viewed, and if this object is attained, the work is justified. We believe that, in comparison to numbers, and in consideration of potent causes, there are fewer deaf persons found in the criminal ranks, or subjects of public charity, than of other classes. Deafness, accompanied by loss of voice, is a great deprivation but it does not obliterate the finer sentiments that make men and women conscientious, affectionate, and morally disposed. Education, rightly applied, can lift the unfortunate ones above the need of pity.

The *British Deaf Mute* refers to *The Canadian Mute* as "our dear little sister." We acknowledge the graceful compliment, and assure our lusty English brother that his good opinion is highly appreciated. He is worthy of our esteem. We are proud of his grace and intelligence.

READ BOOKS.

We want to impress on the minds of our pupils the importance of reading good books and good papers. "Reading makes a full man," somebody has said. The meaning is plain enough. If we read much we will be full of knowledge. Deaf persons, especially, should read a good deal if they want to know what is transpiring in the busy life around them. They cannot hear what people are talking about, and few persons will take the time and trouble (it is a trouble to many) to tell them more than is actually necessary. If, therefore, they do not read whatever is available they will be ignorant of much that they should know. The habit of reading will save them from loneliness, and consequent discontent. A good book is a good friend. It never slumbers nor sulks. Its pages are always ready for a pleasant talk. No matter when you approach it, the same cheerful greeting awaits you. Reading is the very best aid to the acquirement of correct language. By this means we become familiar with the thoughts and feelings of others, and we will imitate their manner of expression. The following short and pithy paragraphs, taken from an article on "Books," by Prof. O'Donnell, a prominent American educator, are applicable here:

Books are for use and not for ornament. Work well and play well, do read sometimes. Good reading gives health and strength to the mind.
Books are alive. Books speak. You can hear them.
Books are gold mines. You may dig them.
Books, good books, are bubbling crystal streams. You can angle in them. You'll be sure to fill your basket. Oh, what lovely fish you will catch!
Books give character, knowledge and power. Did you ever take a trip around the world? You can travel everywhere in books. Do you wish you had lived a thousand years ago? You can go back and live then in books.
Do you want to know how this is made, or that is done, why so and so happened, or why it did not? Read books and you'll find out.
Reading is the key of all learning.
Books are the golden gates through which we must steer our ship, if we would sail on the boundless ocean of knowledge.
Don't be melancholy! Books will cheer you.
Don't be lonesome! Books are jolly company.
Don't be ignorant! Books are noble teachers.
Boys and girls, do read books.
Read! Read! Read!

Over twenty years ago two separate departments were created in the control of educational and administrative affairs pertaining to the New York Institution. The heads of these departments were clothed with distinct official authority, and were designated the Principal and the Superintendent, respectively. This system of control prevailed uninterruptedly until the beginning of the present year. When Dr. Peot retired from the Principalship, and Mr. Currier was promoted to the vacancy, further changes were considered advisable. We are now informed that the office of Superintendent has been abolished, and the entire charge of the institution entrusted to the Principal, Mr. C. N. Brainerd, who so ably discharged the duties of Superintendent and steward for many years, retired, to spend the rest of his time in quiet life.

The *Kentucky Deaf Mute* very kindly yet forcibly reproves such of its confederates as are guilty of publishing strictures and alleged faults of the deaf. Our contemporary justly remarks that most of these faults and failings are "common to all classes," or "arise primarily from the deprivation of hearing, and for which the deaf are not responsible." We have not found, from many years' experience, that the deaf are more liable to err in moral, social, or business matters than those who are considered more fortunate, because they can hear and speak.

Experiments made at Washington by scientists seem to account for a peculiarity of deaf persons. They show that when the nerve leading to that part of the auditory apparatus known as the "labyrinth" is cut or otherwise injured, it affects

the equilibrium of an animal or person. It is well known that most deaf people have an unsteady gait, and walk with a shuffling or dragging step. May not this peculiarity be owing to a defect in the labyrinth nerve of the ear? It seems a plausible solution of the question.

THE EDITOR'S TABLE.

The *Juvenile Range* is as neatly printed as it is ably edited. No "soft velvet" for you, Bro. Taylor. 'Tis our honest conviction.

Hope and Hope for March has been received. It contains the usual amount of interesting matter, editorial and otherwise. We notice an article from Mr. J. C. Bahr, one of our teachers, with the title "Impressions of Canada" which we will refer to again, and perhaps give extracts herefrom.

The *Western Pennsylvanian* is on our table. That gentle hint was sufficient. It is certainly one of our most interesting exchanges. The editor and others concerned in its make up deserve, and are receiving, the credit that is their just due. The preparation of matter, and its arrangement, are especially commendable.

We acknowledge the receipt of the Proceedings of the Twelfth Biennial Meeting of the American Association of Instructors of the Blind, which was held at Brantford, Ont., commencing July 5th 1892. There was a large attendance of distinguished persons present, and the proceedings were of a highly interesting nature. Mr. A. H. Dymond, Principal of the Ontario Institution for the Blind, received well merited praise for his successful efforts in providing for the comfort and convenience of the delegates. Hon. A. S. Hardy, in his address of welcome gave some figures relative to the management of educational and charitable institutions in the United States and Ontario, which showed that the system in vogue here is conducive to economy as well as efficiency. For instance, he stated that the average cost of maintenance per capita for a year of five institutions for the deaf, in New York and adjacent states, was \$250, while the cost of the Ontario Institution was \$180. In the maintenance of other institutions the cost was also much less in Ontario.

OTHER SCHOOLS.

The shoe shop has a new Wheeler & Wilson cylinder sewing Machine. Four of our cases were converted into a good dinner one day lately. Our baking department will be moved into new quarters soon. Our reading room is a great source of attraction. The pupils of A grade are studying Natural Philosophy. The baking department has two new large sifters, two scrapers two scraping knives and a large wooden bowl. The Supt. intends to have the title of the school printed on button badges and distributed. *The Hawkeye*.

New desks and recitation seats have been placed in the school house this week. The drawing class have taken up the study of water colors. The Athletic Association has organized and elected officers. P. J. Paterson will be Captain and Henry Pagan Manager of the base ball team. The ice taken from the pond is nearly three feet thick. *Wisconsin Times*.

We all had a holiday on Washington's birthday. Two new pupils have lately arrived. Mr. Brown's class (8th grade) were entertained by Supt. Clark and his accomplished wife on a late Saturday evening. It was a great pleasure. A representation of little Lord Fauntleroy was given by the pupils on the evening of Washington's birthday. It was very fittingly received by the audience. *Union*.

The Dakota school is a instituted a new department. The new items for *The Advocate* are written by the pupils. Each morning when they come to school they write down on their slates such items as they can think of, and have their teachers correct them. They are then handed to the editor. Such work cannot fail to have good results, it will be a good language lesson, and also make them observing.

Deaf.

The poet Wadsworth describes a deaf-mute as one—
From whom, in early childhood,
The precious gift of hearing,
From year to year in loneliness,
And this deep mountain valley,
Soundless with all its streams,
Did never rouse this cottager from
With startling summons, not for
The verbal cuckoo shouted, not for
Murmured the laboring bee. When
Were working the broad basin of
Into a thousand sparkling waves,
Hocking the trees, or drifting clouds,
Along the sharp edge of your lofty
The agitated scene before his eye
Was silent as a picture, even when
Were all things silent, whereso'er

Letters from Former Pupils.

WINNIPEG, Feb. 21st 1893.

SIR—THE CANADIAN MUTE is a noble journal with which we have afforded to dispense, and its thoughtful visits to our far north western home eagerly awaited, and every paragraph diligently perused by Mrs. Lamb and myself, not because of scarcity of news out here, for you are aware we have a very little paper of our own, the *Silent Echo*, but because we have not reached the depths and affections of our hearts for (please don't feel tickled, and allow me to say) our *alma mater*, the *Canadian Mute*, and under-graduates of whose well-being and success we have longed to know through the medium of THE CANADIAN MUTE. May it long live to accomplish its grand and noble mission, is the fervent wish of
Yours in earnest
W. Lamb

WINNIPEG, March 3rd 1893.

DEAR MR. MATHEWS—It gives me much pleasure in writing to you while we are at school. Many thanks to you for sending me some papers and a book at Christmas. Several weeks ago we got an invitation from Mr. M. Dermond's friend to go to Magu, a town of entertainment; we had no evening work, so we went and had a pleasant time. The next morning we wrote composition on it in school. We write local letters to *Silent Echo*. I think we write better than we did at first, as the States papers help us. Mr. McDermond selected me to take care of the papers for the girls, and told me to take the papers for the boys to read. I do that till June. Our school has a paper on the wall in school to pin down our conduct and lesson notes. It is good for us to be industrious. Last Saturday evening there was a meeting of the Debating Society, and some members told us stories which were nice. The president chose the topic for the next debate. It is a resolution that fire is more dangerous than water. I remember you always for you know while I was at school there. I am glad to bring this letter to a close, and say good bye. I am, yours sincerely,
GERTIE M. P.

WINNIPEG, March 1st 1893.

DEAR MR. MATHEWS—I hope I have not forgotten you, and I have thought I would write you a few lines. I read in THE CANADIAN MUTE that there are about two hundred and sixty pupils at the Institution, and I am very much pleased to hear that your pupils are making such good progress. You are to be congratulated upon your success in your pupil training. The Belleville School, the first of the Canadian Institutions, has started a printing office for the *Canadian Mute*. The CANADIAN MUTE is a prospectus and neat paper, and I am very much interested in it. We know how to appreciate a splendid paper. I often think of the Institution and the good things that you have. True, I got a few letters there, but I was never locked up. You will be pleased to know my health is times excellent. I am getting on well with my studies, and my work this year are Language, Arithmetic, Canadian History, Geography and positions. Of course Language is the hardest study, but we like it very much on account of its being so useful. I have learned about some wise and noble men. I am sure you are very kind to our teachers and officers. I hope to bless you. I wish you health and prosperity. Yours truly,
A. G. S.

BIRTH.

VANCOUVER, B. C., Feb. 1st 1893. The wife of Mr. A. P. Van... daughter