



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, 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

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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



THURSDAY, JUNE 1, 1899.

The Akoulallion.

In our last issue we referred to a new invention called the akoulallion for aiding the deaf to hear, in which we declared our skepticism relative to the sweeping claims made for the machine by the inventor. Since then our Mrs. Bais has made some inquiries about the instrument from Principal Johnson, of the Alabama School. In his reply Mr. Johnson speaks, in part, as follows:

As to the merits of the machine and the results obtained, will say that with those whom we class as totally deaf there were no results of value. But with the semi-deaf the results really did amount to something. Many of our children who could hear a cornet, say, one foot from the ear without the instrument, but who could not hear it at a distance of three feet, could, with the aid of the instrument, hear not only the cornet but the human voice at a distance of thirty feet thus demonstrating that the instrument is very sensitive and powerful where there is a slight degree of hearing. The chief value of the instrument, in my opinion, is to be found in its use as an aid in class instruction of children whose degree of hearing ranges from ten to seventy-five per cent. In all cases where the flexible tube can be used to advantage this instrument can be used to greater advantage. It has this advantage over Currier's duplex tube in that there is no limit to the number who can be cut into line at one time, and the class can occupy their proper seats in the classroom, at any distance from the teacher.

Mr. Johnson's observations indicate, just as we believed, that this, or any other possible invention, can never enable a totally deaf person to hear. It is quite feasible, however, to give mechanical aid to the partially deaf, and it may be that the akoulallion is the best instrument yet devised for that purpose.

Rich Wright pulled his gun down on a rare bird, on route to Canada from South America. The bird surrendered before he would be shot. He was taken to Prof. Connor to be placed in his museum. The bird has since died of fright. It is not known who scared him to death, Rich or Mr. Connor. Mr. Connor "set it up" and it now occupies a perch in his office.—Georgia School Helper

We missed that rare bird from our grounds and thought it was a little late owing to the backwardness of the season. We are glad to know it is with Mr. Connor and hope he will bring it with him when he comes to visit us. Georgians are everywhere and always appreciative. Friend Connor is one of the best of them.

Visit of Archbishop Gauthier.

On the 10th ult., we had the pleasure of welcoming to the Institution a distinguished visitor in the person of His Grace, Archbishop Gauthier of Kingston, who was making his first official visit to Belleville since his recent elevation to the chief pastorate of this diocese. His Grace, who was accompanied by Mgr. Farrelly, the Rev. Father Meagher, of Kingston, and Rev. Father Spratt, of Wolfe Island, arrived at this Institution shortly after two o'clock and was received and welcomed by Superintendent Mathison and Inspector Chamberlain. The first visit was made to Mrs. Bais' class room, thence to Prof. Denys, Mr. McKillop's, Miss Templeton's and Prof. Coleman's. The visitors were thus enabled to see classes at work in various grades, from the lowest to the highest. The articulation classes were next visited, and the sewing room, and afterwards the printing office, bakery, laundry, shoe-shop and carpenter shop. The hospital was duly admired after which the party proceeded to the chapel, where the pupils and staff were all waiting to receive them. As His Grace entered he was welcomed by the Chantrel psalmists, with which His Grace was visibly pleased.

Superintendent Mathison, on behalf of himself and of all present, extended to His Grace and the other visitors a most hearty welcome to this Institution. He was always pleased to have clergy men visit the Institution since in the discharge of their pastoral duties they have exceptional opportunities of influencing the parents of the deaf to send their children to the Institution and to utilize the advantages here offered them. Since this Institution was opened over 1,200 pupils have received instruction here and have gone forth to engage in the battle of life, and it was most gratifying to know that nearly everyone of these were earning a comfortable livelihood while many had acquired a competence and not one, so far as he knew, was in jail or had ever been guilty of dishonorable conduct. As head of this diocese His Grace was most heartily welcome to the Institution, in which there were some 40 pupils of his faith. No distinction is made here between the various sects, and the utmost harmony had always prevailed among the children of all denominations.

"All Hail! the Power of Jesus' Name," was then signed by several of the girls, followed by "Now I lay me down to sleep" by two of the small girls. The Roman Catholic pupils next presented an address to His Grace, which was beautifully rendered in sign by Miss Cunningham, and interpreted by Mr. Denys. The address was as follows:—

To His Grace, The Most Rev. Charles H. Gauthier, D. D., Archbishop of Kingston.

MAY I PLEASE YOUR GRACE. It is scarcely a year since the faithful of the important Diocese of Kingston hailed with grateful delight your elevation to the high dignity of chief Pastor. And among the hearts that gladdened at the distinction thus conferred upon themselves, there were more sincere joy than ours. "Our ears are closed to sound, yet had not your name fallen with the fragrance of urbanity, kindness and learning, been borne to us on the wings of renown?" From, therefore, is the honor sacred to welcoming your Grace in whom we see not only a distinguished Prelate but a father and a friend.

We are pleased to tell your Grace that whilst we cannot seek instruction by the side of our more fortunate brothers and sisters, we have in this Institution the sign-privileges of being taught our own religion, as well as secular branches, and of preparing ourselves for the earnest duties of life. Our satisfaction is increased by the fact that every opportunity is afforded us with an open kindness and courtesy. To Mgr. Farrelly we have contracted a debt of gratitude it were impossible to repay. Ever vigilant, he has not rested to us, seemingly the whole portion of his flock with untiring solicitude, care and affection.

Your Grace's visit shall be a most precious page in the annals of our school life. We know that it is the only solid basis on which society flourishes, and the encouragement given by your presence in our day will strengthen our ambition to become an ever remaining good Christians and good citizens.

With the respectful homage of our trial devotion and prayers for your blessing, we are your Grace's,

Most humble and dutiful children,
The Canadian Deaf Mutes
Institution, 12th May 1899.

His Grace's response was a most happy and appropriate one. He expressed the very great pleasure his visit had afforded him, and only regretted that he had not a much longer time at

his disposal. He had heard many good things of this Institution but what he had seen had convinced him that he had heard but little compared with all that might be truly said. In the classes he had been deeply impressed with the methods of instruction employed, and was especially struck with the kindness and patience of the teachers. Today read that when the Divine Master moved visibly among men he healed all manner of infirmity, and among others he gave speech and hearing to some who were dumb and deaf. Had he the power he would gladly perform a like miracle for all present, yet it was a miracle that he had that day witnessed, for in practical effect, and to some extent, even in literal reality, the deaf were made to hear and the dumb to speak. Surely he who invented the beautiful and expressive sign language and who devised methods for instructing the deaf was one of the world's greatest benefactors! He would always be delighted to do anything in his power for the deaf and would try to have all deaf children of his church sent here, being sure that they would be most carefully looked after, that belonging to his church would not in any way be a bar to them and that pupils of all denominations received fair play and equal treatment. He was grateful in his heart of hearts for the welcome they had given him, he was thankful to V. Mathison for his most courteous attentions and to Dr. Chamberlain for doing him the honor of coming from Toronto to welcome him, and he wished to express his gratitude to the government which had erected and so liberally maintained the Institution.

Mgr. Farrelly also spoke briefly. He wished especially to say that he had always found the deaf pupils most courteous and polite, whether on the streets or wherever they might be referred now not only to the pupils of his own denomination but to all of them. They always had a smile and a kindly greeting for him. He had noted with pleasure that they always conducted themselves like ladies and gentlemen, that they always manifested the most kindly disposition towards each other and all seemed to dwell together like children of one household.

Dr. Chamberlain followed with a short but pregnant address. He expressed the great pleasure it gave him to welcome His Grace. He always liked to have people in authority in church or state to visit the Institution for it showed that the children were thought of by them and were the objects of their kindly solicitude. As Inspector of the Institution he wished to bear testimony that he had always found the Superintendent and teachers and officers most earnest and faithful in their efforts, and he believed their life's work was devoted to making those under their charge happy and preparing them to become prosperous and respected citizens. In his official capacity he visited all the jails of the Province and seldom if ever had found therein any pupil who had attended this Institution, he had never seen one intoxicated or addicted to drink, and had found very few who were not able to earn a respectable livelihood. He hoped the pupils would fully appreciate and take full advantage of their opportunities here, and when they left school and entered on the earnest duties of life he hoped they would never do dishonor to their alma mater, but would be upright, industrious and virtuous, and then they would assuredly be happy and successful in the best sense of the term.

His Grace requested that the pupils be given a holiday in his honor, and Mr. Mathison promised to do so in the near future. The pupils then signed the Lord's prayer in unison, led by Prof. Bais. The Archbishop then met the Roman Catholic pupils for a few minutes alone in Mr. Denys' room, and then he took his departure followed by the admiring regard of everyone connected with the Institution, and the hope that he will make us another and a longer visit in the near future.

NOTES.

No attempt was made at decoration, with the exception of a few flowers placed in the chapel. The desire and intention was that His Grace should see us just as we appear every day.

Miss May Cunningham quite captivated all her spectators by her modest, unassuming and lady like deportment

and the clear and graceful manner in which she presented the program. —Little Marion "Largo" Branson signed "Now I lay me down to sleep" in a most reverent manner, and His Grace was greatly charmed with the program.

As His Grace walked through the form he was confronted by the "Welcome" beautifully mounted on large slates with colored letters being intertwined with green leaves. Mr. Forrester was present and it was as chaste a but it has ever been seen in the city.

—One of the most interesting features in the Institution is Mr. Langmuir's picture gallery in his room at the hospital. His Grace of course did not pass this by and he spent some minutes viewing the portraits of persons which adorn the walls. He very kindly promised to send some photos to Mr. Langmuir.

For some time past Mrs. Johnson has been training a class of girls in a number of hymns, and it was their first public appearance at His Grace's visit, and they were recipients of many complimentary signs were very graceful and their interpretation of the sentiments of the hymn vivid and expressive. The hymn was composed of the following: Misses N. Ito Mosey, May Cunningham, Elizabeth Scott, Annie Gilliland, Hannah Hammett, Fanny Chantler, Ann Asendorf, May P. McCormick and Vera Johnson.

—Archbishop Gauthier, before leaving the city, requested Mgr. Farrelly to give the earliest opportunity to again visit. Mr. Mathison has heartily thanked the very kind manner in which His Grace would ever have to his recollection of his visit with a great interest in the work that was being done here on behalf of the suffering children. We can assure His Grace that regard inspired by his visit will be reciprocal, and it will be our pleasure to remember his kindly words as well as to retain his valued sympathy.

The visit of His Grace, Archbishop Gauthier, to the Institution was in every way a delightful event. We were always pleased to receive visitors, persons occupying positions of authority, whether civil or ecclesiastical, to arouse in them an interest in the work result that invariably follows after a few hours spent at the Institution. Especially his Grace was exceedingly well pleased with what he here witnessed and every sentiment of admiration and good will he expressed was heartily reciprocated by all connected with the Institution. His Grace is a man of exceptional culture and erudition, and he quite captivated the hearts of all by his cordial deportment, his keen and intelligent interest in all that pertained to our work here, and the spirit of benevolence and good will which manifested itself in every act and attitude.

Teachers of the deaf are beginning to fear that their occupation will soon be gone. Nearly every day we read of one or more deaf persons being killed while walking on railway tracks. The number of deaf persons so killed seems to be of all proportion to their percentage of the population, and it almost looks as if the deaf were trying to extinguish themselves off the face of the earth. Anything more foolhardy than for a deaf person to walk or stand on a railway track it is difficult to imagine, yet in spite of the repeated warnings of numbers who do so seem to increase rather than diminish.

Several typewriters have been added to the equipment of the Nebraska Institution for the use of the pupils. The principal having evolved the idea that they greatly aid the pupils in acquiring facility in the use of language.