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The Canadian Mute.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1, 1893.

In nature there is no blemish but the mind; /
 None can be called deformed, but the unkind /
 Virtue is least.

THIRTEENTH NIGHT, III. 4.

A Red-Letter Day.

AN ANNUAL EFFORT IN THE LITERARY CLASSES.

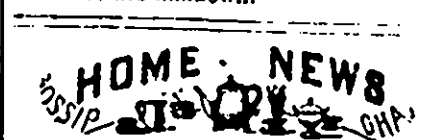
Thursday, 16th ult., was what we called a red letter day in the literary classes of our school. Principal Mathison had decided to make an exhibit in connection with the educational department of the World's Fair at Chicago, and in compliance with the request of the Executive Committee of schools for the deaf. He could not send examination papers, which would best represent the complete work of the classes, as such papers had been taken home by the pupils at the close of school, for several years, and were unavailable. The teachers were notified to prepare a brief list of questions, best calculated to show what the pupils were capable of doing, and then, the order of procedure was made known. The task must be completed as soon as possible, as the time was limited, and each class, from the smallest juniors to the tallest seniors, went to work with a will that bore good results. The completed papers were carefully read by the teachers, the errors marked, and then Mr. Mathison took charge of the collection. As it was the middle of the session, and the curriculum of studies not much more than half completed, the results could not be as satisfactory as desired, but they were uniformly creditable. At any rate, they were the honest productions of the pupils, and can be considered a fair representation of what we are doing in that line. The mechanical classes will prepare specimens of their handwork with some excellence in their ability to maintain the reputation of our school.

Warning to the Deaf.

AN EPISODE IN THE LIFE OF THE LATE PROF. S. T. GREENE.

When the late S. T. Greene was a student at Washington College, he went to Baltimore one evening to visit a friend arriving there at midnight. Proceeding to the residence of his friend he rang the bell several times rather vigorously as he did not want to keep watch dogs on the door-step at that hour of night. He was not aware that he was making more noise than was necessary, as he could not hear. The inmates were aroused by the loud ringing concluded that an unusual visitor was seeking admittance. His friend raised an upper window and demanded the name and business of the nocturnal caller. He also held a loaded revolver in his hand, and receiving no response to his enquiry threatened to shoot the strange intruder unless he answered his question. Mr. Greene was in blissful ignorance of all this, and continued to pull the bell with increased vigor. A shot from the upper window was sufficient to warn him that he was in some danger. He made rapid strides for the street, and

with excited gesticulation succeeded in revealing his identity and saving himself from his friend's revolver. Mr. Greene frequently referred to this experience, and used it to warn the deaf of the danger they are exposed to by not knowing what disturbance they are creating, nor the demands made upon them under such circumstances. They should always be careful how they conduct themselves when their identity and infirmity are unknown.



'Tis spring by the calendar.

The pupils are beginning to talk about going home.

Good Friday will be our next holiday. It occurs on the 31st inst.

Moses Sicard's big sleigh was in great demand so long as the ice in Mr. Ponton's field lasted.

The winter has been remarkable for steady cold and absence of heavy winds, until the 19th ult., when we got a little blizzard.

There are several promising juveniles in the primary classes. They will make their mark if permitted to graduate.

Mrs. Terrill was absent from her class for a few days, having a sore foot. The doctor told her to keep quiet for a while.

There were many cars, cheeks, and noses frost-bitten on the 17th ult. The good ice and strong breeze tempted the boys and girls to brave the cold on the bay too long.

Some of the boys report having seen crows and other birds flying about, which they think are signs of coming spring, if the mercury does continue to register near zero.

Mr. Balis took part in an entertainment given by the students of Ontario Business College, on the evening of 17th ult. He described "A Lady's Toilet" in pantomime, and greatly amused the audience.

Miss Bryon, of Coulonge, Que., and Miss Gillies, of Carleton Place, paid Miss Hodgins a hurried visit one day last week. They were guests of Mrs. R. Templeton, Belleville, who accompanied them to the Institution.

The usual flood of valentines poured in on the 14th ult. Most of them were of the trashy kind, but no one felt hurt at the whimsicalities. "A little nonsense now and then, is relished by the best of men."

This term we have had several interesting periodicals added to the files in the pupils' reading-room. The "Pratt Institute Monthly," a technical magazine, and "The Orange Judd Farmer," are the latest. The pupils enjoy reading them.

A teacher asked one of her pupils to tell the time of day. He went and looked at the clock, and returned with the information that it was 14 o'clock. She told him there was no 14 on the clock. He insisted there was, saying 12 and 3 are 14. It was a quarter past 11.

It is now decided that we are to send an exhibit of our pupils' work to the World's Fair. The pupils in the drawing-class, sewing-class, and shops, are now making up work to show their manual skill. We hope there will be a good showing from all departments.

The Ottawa Free Press of 20th ult. has this item, which is of interest to our readers:—"A class of deaf mutes met in the Y. M. C. A. rooms yesterday afternoon for religious instruction by Mr. McClelland. It is understood that the meeting will be made a permanent appointment."

On Wednesday last, Dr. Scott, accompanied by Mrs. Scott, Mrs. Catherall and Mr. John F. Scott, visited our Institution. Mr. and Mrs. Scott are under appointment to Ceylon, where they are going to take charge of an hospital. Mrs. Catherall is one of the officers in the Marchmont Home. Mr. J. F. Scott is a student of Knox College, and expects to graduate at the next examination.

The afternoon of the 16th ult. was a time that our pupils have long been waiting for; a day when the bay glistened with clear ice, and a nice breeze was blowing. We don't have such days often, and when they come we make the most of them. As soon as school was out, the pupils were excused from work, and all, both great and small, were off to the bay, where a pleasant time was spent skating and iceboating, until evening.

Mrs. Balis' father and mother arrived in Belleville at an early hour Saturday morning, 17th ult., from Ohio. They will make a protracted visit with their children here. We are glad to learn that Mr. Chapin's health has improved, and that he is much pleased with his experience in Canada thus far. Mrs. Chapin was here last summer.

We had quite a flock of visitors on the 14th ult. About 80 young ladies from the Convent School of Belleville drove out in charge of their teachers, and visited as many classes as their time would permit. Miss Williams, the evangelist, who has been holding revival services in the Tabernacle Methodist Church, was also a brief but interesting visitor.

Since the evening of the 19th ult. we have experienced some rough winter weather. The light snow that fell on that date has been blown into formidable heaps, and travelling is thus much impeded. Our stalwart snow-brigade have found it quite impossible to keep the walk clear between the Institution and city. The Superintendent understood the situation, and with his usual thoughtfulness sent the big team down in the morning for those who must walk to the school.

We don't have many runaways here, and when any of our large family cut their moorings and escape it causes a ripple of excitement. They don't get far in these days, the swift telephone sets the country on the watch, and they are generally "nabbed" the first place they touch at, by some gentleman in blue. It is a mystery to us why one of our boys took advantage of the skating on the bay, to make off. He was in no trouble with his officers or school-mates, and has been here long enough to know better. He only got as far as Trenton, when he was stopped and returned to school.

Are our girls warmer blooded than the boys, or are they less susceptible to cold? This question has often stuck us as we have watched the pupils while out skating. The girls did not seem one bit bothered by the cold. They glided around with only a little arrangement of felt and feathers stuck on their heads, and with nothing to protect ears or noses. The boys, on the other hand, with fur caps pulled down over their ears and heavy coats on, had to rub their cheeks vigorously every little while. Very few of the girls have had their ears frozen this winter, but quite a number of boys have worn appendages that would not disgrace a donkey.

The assessors for the township of Sidney were prompt in their distribution of the slips among officers and teachers of the Institution. The occupations assigned to each were somewhat mixed, and caused considerable amusement. Some of us found ourselves put down as "gentlemen" (of leisure, we presume,) who have little leisure and less means to act the part of a gentleman. Others were designated as "laborers," whose daily occupations do not soil their fingers. This is a matter of little consequence. The tax-collector will follow in due time and gather in the "shekels," irrespective of occupations. It is some sort of a consolation to know that the payment of these taxes gives us the right to exercise the franchise when elections occur. Every man who has a vote should use it in support of good government.

Extracts from Letters.

Edward Barthel writes.—I left Seb ringtonville on the 24th of January, and arrived in Emporia, Kansas on the 27th. On the way I passed through the St. Clair tunnel. In Chicago I met two deaf mutes who were educated at the Illinois Institution, George Duffy, of Covington, and Frank Luttrell, who is homo in Chicago. Things are different here to what they are in Canada.

A father writes.—I should be very grateful if I did not feel thankful to you and teachers for the improvement my daughter is making, and although we feel the loneliness of home without her, yet how thankful we should be that we have such an institute to send her to, and I think we would be lacking in true parental love if we were not willing to make the sacrifice for their good. May a kind Providence reward you in your labors of love.

Principal W. J. Young, of the North Carolina School for the Deaf has met with a severe bereavement in the death of his wife, Dec. 27th. We extend our sympathy to him and the sorrowing friends.

Sporting Notes.

Mr. A. Chamberlain, the bustling Secretary of the Kingston Association Foot-Ball Club, predicts a boom in the game during the coming season. He hopes to see a league formed among the clubs of Napawee, Tweed, Deseronto, Picton, Kingston and Belleville, and a cup offered for competition. He thinks that Kingston would lead the league if it could be formed. The only club Kingston need fear are the "Mutes" of Belleville. Our boys feel a tinge of pride in their reputation as foot-ballers, and will endeavour to maintain it this season as in the past. They are not very large or heavy but they know a "few things" about foot-ball, and the team that defeats them will have to do some "tall" kicking. As soon as the ground dries up our Athletic Association will put several foot-ball and base-ball teams in the field, and will be ready for all comers.

THE EDITOR'S TABLE.

We must thank the Nebraska School for a calendar of unique design. It is both useful and ornamental.

The Texas Mute Ranger has been enlarged and otherwise improved. It is a well-ordered and well-edited paper.

The British Deaf-Mute for January is on our table. We admire it so much as to pronounce it a model publication of its kind. The quantity and quality of news furnished, about the deaf of Great Britain and other countries, are far above the average.

The Western Pennsylvanian is the name now worn by the paper published at the Western Pennsylvania School. It is a great improvement on the old Gazette, and a credit to all concerned in its preparation. We give it this notice, although we have not received a copy of the new edition. A friend has shown us one. Will editor Branson please examine his list of exchanges, and tell us if he receives THE CANADIAN MUTE. If he does, we ask a quid pro quo.



New York City has within her borders 1000 deaf mutes, Philadelphia 10, and Boston 500.

The leading mutes of Indiana are talking of postponing their reunion to the summer of 1894 on account of the world's fair. The mutes of Ontario are talking of doing the same thing.

The Iowa School has two artesian wells a few rods from each other. The last one to flow is 1080 feet deep, and is flowing at the rate of 50 gallons per minute. With water galore, they are afraid of neither thirst nor fire.

The pupils of the North Dakota Institution congratulated their Superintendent upon the thirty-fourth anniversary of his birthday not long ago, and he is claimed to be the youngest Superintendent of the deaf schools in the country.—Advance.

Miss Ella Hale, of Upper Sandusky, O., has had two remarkable experiences. The first was about five years ago, when in a violent fit of coughing, she lost her voice and remained mute. The second was a few days ago, when she coughed with like violence and recovered the voice that had been missing for years.

The rotary system at the Olathe school is used, being practiced with the first, second and third classes. Mr. J. H. Brown, M. D., teaches botany, physiology, history and geography; Prof. B. T. Bunsted, grammar, and Prof. D. S. Rogers, B. A., mathematics. Rumor says it is only an experiment, but the classes seem to be delighted with it. Those teachers are responsible for the progress in language of their respective classes.

There are about sixty deaf people in and near Louisville, nearly all of them former pupils of the Kentucky School. Mr. Argo speaks in the highest terms of the deaf of Louisville. All work industriously, every one is at least earning a living, some have comfortable bank accounts, earned by their own exertions, while a number are supporting their parents, brothers and sisters, and with hardly an exception they are sober, intelligent, self-respecting citizens. Principal Argo and the teachers of the School will deliver monthly lectures for their benefit.