



Scene nearly like the above in the Girls' Sitting Room on Christmas morning, about 10 o'clock, when the cords of boxes and presents are distributed to our deaf children.

Kept by His Pencee.

It is Christmas eve. In a plain room not wholly comfortless, nor yet utterly cheerless, a woman sits with folded hands, and thinking. What pictures unfold before her mental vision? A rural home, the broad, beautiful river which used to sing such happy prophecies to her childish fancy, the quiet haunts in the shadows of the elms; the fields where daisies grew in June; woods where brown nuts were gathered in autumn, and a happy-hearted child the full possessor because the dearlover of it.

Then the school days; the seminary in the midst of a generous lawn surrounded by protecting trees, the companions, true and true-hearted friends; the dreams, the plans, the preparations for a life of purpose and achievement in noble service. Then the day crowning all others, when, with a new hope in her heart and a new light in her eyes, she went out into what seemed indeed the beginning of her real life, to share it with one in perfect sympathy with her own high aspirations. Then the years that followed—those years freighted with heart's deepest, tenderest, unutterable realities; the sweetest joys; the deepest griefs; hopes realized; prospects bright. Then the shadows; bereavement, losses, broken health; the sudden going out of that life which with the years had become more and more a part of her own. Then the struggle for self-support, the weary days; the heart-aches, the defeats; the brave overcoming of difficulties with no one even to tell them to and now alone, within sound of the merriment of happy household, but not at all a sharer in it.

It was not a cheerful panorama, one would say, for Christmas eve. And yet, as the light from the low lamp upon her table fell upon the woman's face, it revealed such patience, sweetness and calm content as would have befitted a Madonna. A gentle knock upon her door, followed by the entrance of a bright-faced girl, aroused her.

"O, come in, Madeleine," she said, with an eager welcome in her voice.

"I have stood here for five minutes watching you, Mrs. Weston," said Madeleine. "Your face is a study. What were you thinking?"

Mrs. Weston drew a chair for her visitor close to her own, then looking steadily in her eyes for a moment, said, with a long sigh and a tender little smile:

"O, my child, I've been thinking, remembering, yes, and if I cannot say, 'Merry Christmas' to myself to-morrow, I can say, 'Happy and thankful Christmas.'"

"I saw that in your face," said Madeleine, "while I watched you. But dear Mrs. Weston, I came with a message from my mother. She will be alone to-morrow. We are all to be away, and she, you know, is not well enough to go with us. She wants you for company; and I may as well tell you what she said, so that you may be sure you have a special Christmas Day mission. She

says you always make her think of some grand old hymn of triumph and peace, and it rests her to have you near her."

Mrs. Weston's eyes filled with tears. "Madeleine," she said, "I am often tempted to think I have no mission in life but to drudge for my daily bread. You make me very happy with the thought that I can be of any possible comfort to your mother."

When Madeleine left her, Mrs. Weston still sat thinking. Perhaps her life, with its disappointment, was not the failure it had seemed. Perhaps the early dreams of achievements were fulfilled better than she knew. If out of the pain and seeming loss she had gained even a little of the precious power to comfort others with the comfort where with she herself was comforted of God, surely that gift was worth all it cost. To be is better than to do.

"O blessed Christ," she murmured, "I have not walked this path of sorrow alone. Thou hast been with me, and if in fellowship with thee I have learned aught of thy spirit, and thus may show forth thy praise, truly I thank thee." As the bells rang out the old, old story, with its ever new song of love and good will, one heart at least rejoiced with renewed exultation that "unto us is born a Saviour," through whom we may, in the midst of tribulation, know the deepest meaning of the Christmas chiming of peace.

Grand Trunk Railway.

TRAINS LEAVE BELLEVILLE STATION.
 WEST—3:15 a.m., 4:20 a.m., 6:00 a.m., 11:15 a.m., 2:30 p.m., 6:20 p.m.
 EAST—1:20 a.m., 10:47 a.m., 12:10 p.m., 5:20 p.m.
 MANS AND PETERBORO BRANCH—5:40 a.m., 12:10 a.m., 5:25 p.m., 6:30 p.m.

Uneducated Deaf Children.

I WOULD BE GLAD TO HAVE EVERY person who receives this paper send me the names and post office addresses of the parents of deaf children not attending school, who are known to them, so that I may forward them particulars concerning this Institution and inform them where and by what means their children can be instructed and furnished with an education.

R. MATHISON, Superintendent.

TORONTO DEAF-MUTE ASSOCIATION.

DELICIOUS SERVICES are held as follows, every Sunday.
 West End Y. M. C. A., Corner Queen Street and Davenport Road, at 11 a.m.
 And Y. M. C. A. Hall, on Yonge and McGill Streets, at 10 a.m.
 General Central, up stairs at Broadway Hall Spadina Ave. 16 or 12 doors south of College Street, at 3 p.m. Leaders: Messrs. Nasmith, Bragden and others.
 Bible CLASS—Every Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock, corner Spadina Ave and College Street, and on Queen Street and Davenport Road. Lectures, etc., may be arranged if desirable. Miss A. Fraser, Missionary to the Deaf in Toronto, 1 Major Street.

Institution for the Blind.

THE PROVINCIAL INSTITUTION FOR THE Education and Instruction of blind children is located at Stratford, Ontario. For particulars address
 A. H. DYMOND, Principal.

CHRISTMAS.



SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE,
 BELLEVILLE, DEC. 1, 1898.

To Parents and Friends.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS—The holidays are approaching. I wish the pupils could go home, for then those of us who are on duty, or on call for 24 hours of every day, would get a rest, but as we cannot close the school then we are expected to remain and we shall try and afford our children unalloyed pleasure at the Institution. Only Christmas Day and New Year's Day will be strictly observed as holidays—the classes will go right along as usual, with evening amusements instead of study most of the time.

If parents must have their children at Christmas or New Year's we shall offer no objection to their coming for them to the Institution, but pupils who are thus taken away will not be received again until next September. Pupils taken home during the Christmas holidays a few years ago, brought back measles, scarlet fever, mumps, etc., and scores of children here were infected.

We shall have a grand time on Christmas morning when the boxes, parcels and letters are given out, and the hearts of parents would rebound with joy could they see the little ones grasping the love tokens from home. Send some inexpensive article and forward it so as to reach here not later than the 19th inst. Ship by express charges prepaid or through the post office, put the name of the child, in care of the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, Belleville, on each box or parcel. Something from home is highly prized. BE PROMPT IN THIS MATTER and do not put it off until the day before Christmas and then expect your child to be happy brooding over somebody's neglect in not sending earlier.

There are a few children who have no parents living, and some whose friends are too poor to send them anything. I feel sure they will not be forgotten by well-to-do parents and friends.

We have a large Institution but every room in it is in use. Our hearts are large and we would like to be hospitable if we could, but under the circumstances we cannot furnish lodgings or meals to friends of pupils at the Institution. Parents will be welcome visitors to the classrooms during school hours. Any of them coming to the city may obtain excellent accommodation at reasonable rates at the hotels in Belleville. The following are recommended: Hotel Quinte, Kyle House, Queen's, Anglo-American, Dominion, and Doctor's near the G. T. R. Station. Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

I am, yours faithfully,

R. Mathison

SUP'T.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

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Classes:

SCHOOL HOURS—From 9 a.m. to 12 noon and from 1:30 to 4 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday of each week.
 GIRLS' FANCY WORK CLASS on Monday after noon of each week from 3:30 to 5.
 EVENING BELLEVILLE from 7 to 8:30 for child pupils and from 7 to 8 for junior pupils.

Articulation Classes:—

From 9 a.m. to 12 noon, and from 1:30 to 4 p.m.

Religious Exercises:—

EVERY SUNDAY—Primary pupils at 9 a.m. and junior pupils at 11 a.m. General Lecture at 2 p.m., immediately after which the Bible Class will assemble.
 EVENING PRAYER the pupils are to assemble in a Chapel at 8 o'clock, and the teacher in charge for the week will open by prayer and afterwards discuss the text which they may teach their respective school for the next week. In the afternoon of each week the pupils will assemble and after prayer will be dismissed in a quiet and orderly manner.
 REGULAR VISITING CLERGYMEN—Rev. Canon Burke, Right Rev. Monsignor Farrelly, A. G. Rev. F. J. Thompson, M. A. (Presbyterian), Rev. Chas. E. McIntyre, (Methodist), Rev. A. H. Cowart, (Anglican), Rev. M. W. Maclean, (Presbyterian), Rev. Father Connolly, Rev. C. W. Watch, Rev. J. J. Rice, Rev. S. Hill.
 BIBLE CLASS, Sunday afternoon at 3. International Series of Sunday School Lessons. Miss ANNE MATHISON, Teacher.

Clergymen of all Denominations are cordially invited to visit us at any time.

Industrial Departments

PRINTING OFFICE, SHOE AND CARPENTRY shops from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. and from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. for pupils who attend school. For those who do not from 7:30 a.m. to 12 noon, and from 1:30 to 5 p.m. in each working day except Saturday when the office and shops will be closed at noon.
 THE SEWING CLASS Hours are from 9 a.m. to 12 o'clock, noon, and from 1:30 to 4 p.m. for those who do not attend school, and from 5:30 to 7 p.m. for those who do. No sewing on Saturday afternoons.
 The Printing Office, Shops and Sewing Room to be left each day when work ceases in a clean and tidy condition.
 Pupils are not to be excused from the various classes or Industrial Departments on account of sickness, without permission of the Superintendent.
 Teacher, Officers and others are not to allow matters foreign to the work in hand to interfere with the performance of their several duties.

Visitors:

Persons who are interested desirous of visiting the Institution, will be made welcome on any school day. No visitors are allowed on Saturdays, Sundays or Holidays except to the regular chapel exercises at 2:30 on Sunday afternoons. The best time for visitors on ordinary school days is as soon after 1:30 in the afternoon as possible, as the classes are dismissed at 4:00 o'clock.

Admission of Children:

When pupils are admitted and parents come with them to the Institution, they are kindly advised not to linger and prolong leaving-taking with their children. It only makes discomfort for all concerned, particularly for the parent. The child will be tenderly cared for and if left in our charge without delay will be quite happy with the others in a few days, in some cases in a few hours.

Visitation:

It is not beneficial to the pupils for friends to visit them frequently. If parents must come, however, they will be made welcome to the classrooms and allowed every opportunity of seeing the general work of the school. We cannot furnish lodging or meals or entertain guests at the Institution. Good accommodation may be had in the city at the Quinte Hotel, Hoffman House, Queen's, Anglo-American and Dominion Hotels at moderate rates.

Clothing and Management:

Parents will be good enough to give all directions concerning clothing and management of their children to the Superintendent. No correspondence will be allowed between parents and employees under any circumstances, without special permission upon each occasion.

Sickness and Correspondence:

In case of the serious illness of pupils, letters or telegrams will be sent daily to parents or guardians. IN THE ABSENCE OF LETTERS FRIENDS OF PUPILS MAY BE QUITE SURE THEY ARE WELL.

All pupils who are capable of doing so, will be required to write home every three weeks. Letters will be written by the teachers for the little ones who cannot write, stating, as far as possible, their wishes.

No medical preparations that have been used at home or prescribed by family physicians will be allowed to be taken by pupils except with the consent and direction of the Physician of the Institution.

Parents and friends of deaf children are warned against Quack Doctors who advertise medicines and appliances for the cure of Deafness. In 99 cases out of 100 they are frauds and only want money for which they give no return. Consult well known medical practitioners in cases of adventurous deafness and be guided by their counsel and advice.

R. MATHISON, Superintendent.