



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. New subscriptions commence at any time during the year. Remit by money order, postage stamps, or registered letter.

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 to

THE CANADIAN MUTE,
BELLEVILLE,
ONTARIO



FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 1895.

An Educational Institution.

The Governor of Maine, in his annual message to the Legislature of that State, made some wise and pertinent remarks relative to the education of the deaf. Among others he stated that the schools for the deaf should be placed under the charge of the Department of Education instead of that of State Charities. His remarks apply with equal force to Ontario. This Institution has no reason to complain of the wise control over and warm interest in it always exercised and manifested by the Provincial Secretary. But despite this fact there is still the sentimental objection that at present this is classed as a charitable Institution, when as a matter of fact it is simply a part of our educational system, which provides that every child is entitled to and shall receive a free education. It is very galling to the pride of deaf-mutes to be looked upon as recipients of public charity, and it is most unjust that they should rest under this imputation, when their parents are taxed the same as other people for educational purposes. A great many people look upon this as a charitable institution, and many others think that deaf-mutes are as a class mentally unsound, and these false impressions are largely due to the fact that this Institution is classed with our insane asylums, among the charitable institutions of the province. It is only ordinary justice that this very unpleasant impression should be removed, which can best be done by transferring this Institution to the Department of Education, and administering it as one of the schools of the province, which of course it is.

In language work it is rank nonsense to allow children to describe the details of a picture without seeing its motive or conception.

More Vagaries.

A medical crank in the States, after having from the infinite depths of his ignorance demonstrated to his own satisfaction that all the deaf can be taught to speak intelligibly and to read the lips readily, has now turned his attention to the idiots and the blind. For the former he has a plan by which he can build their minds anew, and for the latter he proposes an artificial electric eye which will enable them to see as well as other people. His next scheme will probably be for the restoration of amputated limbs, which will be followed doubtless by a plan for raising the dead to life. After this he can retire on well won laurels as the man who has crowded more unmitigated bores in a few score columns of space than any one who has lived before him or probably who will ever come after him. This man seems to think that the chief qualification required to fit a man to write authoritatively of any subject is absolute ignorance of that subject, and that the assumption of wisdom displayed should be in inverse proportion to the paucity of his ideas. The "puro oralists" were jubilant when this alleged doctor's first article appeared. They are not so jubilant now, and may well pray to be saved from any more such champions.

Obituary.

After long and varied suffering, there entered into rest on Saturday evening, February 10th, 1895, Leonidas Chapin, at the home of his son-in-law, Mr. J. C. Balis, Commercial street. Mr. Chapin was for a long time a resident of Mattoon, Ill., and later of Berlin, Erie Co., Ohio. His health failing, in 1893 he came to Belleville, to make his home with his daughter, Mrs. Sylvia Chapin Balis, of this Institution. Mr. Chapin was born in Middletown, Vt., in 1827, of an ancestry dating back to Samuel Chapin, "The Puritan," founder of Springfield, Mass. The people of Belleville quickly found a way to his heart, and he often expressed his respect and esteem for those among whom he had come to reside. A lover of Nature, our sparkling, wayward Bay appealed strongly to his affections, and, after a visit to that beautiful abode of the dead beside its shores, he repeatedly desired that he also might there be laid to rest, feeling no longer a stranger in our midst.

The funeral took place on Monday afternoon at 3 o'clock, after a service at the house, under the ministry of the venerable Canon Burke, for whom Mr. Chapin entertained a profound regard. The following gentlemen acted as pallbearers:—Col. Hendricks, U. S. Consul, N. D. MacArthur, W. N. Ponton, R. McMullen, W. E. Vandervoort, and Wm. Douglas, who represented the Institution, and the presence of a large number of friends testified to the esteem in which Mr. Chapin and his family were held in this, the land of his all too brief a sojourn. He leaves a wife and four daughters, Mrs. Van Bouschoten, of Tiffin, Ohio., Mrs. J. C. Balis, Miss A. Dewey Chapin and Miss Alma L. Chapin, besides three grandchildren.

"They shall be mine if they, as on earth we know them—
The lips we kissed, the hands we loved to press—
Only a fuller life be circling through them,
Unfading youth, unchanging holiness"

Mr. Hasson, the deaf architect, of Minnesota, has been engaged to prepare the plans for a \$30,000 building for the Gallaudet College at Washington. Mr. Hasson has done some excellent work in the past and will no doubt add to his reputation on this occasion. His success shows that deaf-mutes are in no respect inferior to hearing people in natural talents and in acquired skill.

The Late Mr. Beaton.

The news of Mr. Beaton's death, though by no means unexpected, was received by his many friends here with feelings of deep regret. For many years he had been the victim of that ruthless foe to mankind—consumption; and it was well known when he left the Institution that he could not long survive. But he fought a gallant fight and by his determination and strength will be delayed the final result for a much longer time than was generally anticipated. During the six years that he spent here, Mr. Beaton proved himself to be a faithful, conscientious teacher, and a devoted friend of the deaf, among whom the deepest sorrow is felt for his death. He was a man of rare integrity, his scrupulous honesty and conscientiousness amounting almost to an idiosyncrasy. During the last two years of his service here he labored with the hand of death upon him, yet manfully stood at his post of duty even when scarcely able to stand. In the summer of 1893, however, he felt it incumbent on him to resign. He then spent a few months in Colorado and finally settled in California, hoping much from the salubrious climate of that State. He himself entertained strong hopes of recovery, and not till a few months ago was he convinced that all such hopes were vain. Towards the last he sank rapidly, and seeing death near he started for his parents' home, which he reached only a few days before his death. He passed away on the 17th ult., the fifth anniversary of the death of Mr. Greene, Greeno, Ashby, Beaton—death has indeed been most cruel to this Institution when three such men were removed during the past five years. The day before his death, Mr. Beaton wrote the following pathetic letter of farewell to Mr. Mathison:—

On SPRING, Feb. 16th, 1895.

DEAR SIR,—I stuck to California till I saw there was no possible hope of being benefited. I knew the journey home would be a most dangerous risk, but the pleasure it gives me to be amongst my relatives and friends is more than I can express. My dear sir, I am assured now, even to-day, that I have only a few days to live and I think that likely the doctor has made no mistake this time. To-day I had the pleasure of meeting an unbroken family circle, and the presence of my beloved relatives and friends, together with a strong hope for the future, sustains me for the change. I wish I could write personally to all the dear friends there. They have been kind in their remembrance of me, but all I can do is to ask you to remember me kindly to them all. Ere this reaches you I shall probably have passed to another world. I feel as if I can say no more than to ask God's blessing upon the Institution and the noble work performed within its walls. Good bye to all.

Yours sincerely,
D. BEATON.

The State of Pennsylvania sets an example of liberality towards its deaf-mutes that might well be imitated in this Province. The Legislature of that state has been asked to appropriate \$642,352 to the various schools for the deaf there. That of course is much more than Ontario needs, but in order that the best results may be accomplished we need considerably more than is now granted us. Deaf children are deprived of their hearing through no fault of their own, and the community at large should recognize that these children, who must go through life handicapped by being deprived of one of the most important of the five senses, have a peculiar claim on their fellow citizens; and in order that they may be placed as nearly as possible on a plane of equality of opportunity with their fellows, special provision should be made for the giving of a thorough education and a complete industrial training to each one of these children. This is not a matter of charity but of justice, humanity and expediency. No money is better expended than that judiciously devoted to education, for it is returned to the state tenfold through the increased morality, industry and productive power of those on whom it is spent.

"Why should the deaf marry the deaf" is the title of a paper read at the World's Congress of the Deaf, at Chicago, the writer of which uses many ingenious arguments in support of what he advocates. On the other side there have appeared in many of our exchanges equally plausible reasons why the deaf should not marry each other, or even at all. We have no sympathy with either view of the case. Our theory is that a deaf man—like a hearing one—should marry anyone whom he chooses, if the lady is willing, which she generally is. We have a good deal of faith in the old adage, proven true by many millions of well-authenticated experiments—that love goes whither it will and not where it is sent, that it is a spontaneous sentiment rather than a forced growth, a tyrant that obeys no law but follows its own blind instinct, and not a pliant servant subject to fine theories or abstract logic. Yet, by a strange paradox, it is the slave of that tyrant who is happy and the free man or woman who is wretched—with a few exceptions to both rules.

During the recent troubles in the Toronto University one of the Professors so far forgot the dignity and responsibilities of his position as to speak disparagingly to students of some of his colleagues, and being found out resigned. A Toronto paper says:

Under such circumstances it is only by a very ample latitude of language that the term resignation can be employed, seeing that for such an offence peremptory dismissal could be the only proper punishment. Indeed, it is very questionable whether the so-called resignation should be considered at all in connection with such a manifest and unjustifiable breach of propriety.

Officers or teachers in any school, college, or Institution who would be guilty of inciting students against a colleague deserve very little consideration.

Two Words.

There are some teachers, who have only an object in teaching, and that is to get a living out of it. We do not think there are many such. To all these we have just two words to say, and we say them earnestly, but kindly. They are "Stop teaching."

There is no work that demands more true, honest endeavor than teaching. If one cannot do it faithfully, enthusiastically, and for its own sake—take a good long rest. If one cannot feel a true interest in the children under him—do not associate with them. If one cannot grow proud of the school he works for, be ashamed to remain in its service.

We leave out of consideration now pupils, fellow-teachers, superintendents, boards, parents and every one except the teachers, and honestly and kindly advise them if they feel that they are not doing good work, or that they are not improving and on the road to do good work in the future, to stop teaching at once.

A change may bring some immediate inconvenience, but in the long run, more money can be made in something more congenial; and the added self-respect amounts to something also.—Michigan Mirror.

A Deaf Community.

A syndicate letter has been going the rounds, entitled, "The Wonderful Deaf and Dumb Inhabitant of Chilmark Martha's Vineyard, Where one Person in Every Four is Born Speechless." It is a fine description of the small town of Chilmark and its deaf inhabitants. A town of about 115 persons, of whom 30 are deaf and dumb or about 25 per cent of the entire population. In five families of Chilmark, of the 28 children 15 are deaf and dumb. This is a large percentage, and necessitates the hearing inhabitants of Chilmark becoming thoroughly acquainted with the manual alphabet and pantomime in order to understand them and to make themselves understood in their daily intercourse with them.

According to the article in the New York World they are all well educated and intelligent deaf-mutes who have occupied the town for a long time and are contented and happy in their abode.—Silent World.