



# THE CANADIAN MUTE

Four, six or eight pages,

PUBLISHED SEMI-MONTHLY

At the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb  
BELLEVILLE, ONT.

## OUR MISSION

First - First 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 cents for the school year, payable in advance, postage prepaid by publisher. New subscriptions commence at any time during the year. Remit by money order, postal notes, 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.

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THE CANADIAN MUTE,  
BELLEVILLE  
ONTARIO



WEDNESDAY, MAY 1, 1901.

To inculcate self reliance should be one of the great aims of the school, and in order that this shall be attained the pupils should be thrown as much as possible on their own resources. A child that is always carried will never learn to walk.

Mr. Blattner, of Texas, has been asked to take charge of the "Question Box" in connection with the Buffalo Convention, and the way in which he is taking hold of it indicates his determination to make this one of the most interesting and valuable parts of the programme.

Mr. Warren Robinson, Chairman of the Industrial Section of the Convention, is urging that there should be a large representation of instructors in the industries from the various schools at the Convention. He points out that the work of the industrial department is constantly assuming an ever-increasing importance, but in the past the industrial instructors have been conspicuous by their absence. He hopes for a large attendance on this occasion.

The deaf seem to be favorite subjects for exploitation by frauds of every variety. The latest we have heard of is a doctor who advertised to cure deafness for \$18.60 without fail. To those who sent the required amount he forwarded 2000 pills with directions to take one every day, and on no account to miss a day, or it would be necessary to start all over again. This is so palpable a fraud that it would seem impossible for anyone to be deceived by it, yet it is said that the doctor has received thousands of dollars from dupes all over the continent. It would be impossible for anyone to perpetrate a fraud, no matter how transparent, that would not deceive some person. Not a few people appear to be hunting for such opportunities of being gulled.

## The Deaf and their Social Relations with the Hearing.

SYLVIA CHAPIN BATES, BELLEVILLE, ONT.

A quarter of a century or more teaches us many things. And in that period we have been taught much; probably resignation first, indifference next, and finally, contentment with our lot explains our manner of progression since becoming deaf.

Super-sensitiveness has often been declared to be a marked attribute of the deaf. I am inclined to the belief it is an adjective not misplaced when applied to them in the first years of their affliction, yet, to find it still existing after years of the blessed outward quiet, seems a species of selfishness and ingratitude to the Creator, who has provided the light and glories of a great world which all are free to enjoy. Unfortunately there are some persons who are never able to wholly overcome the desire to shrink and hide from their fellow beings; such people are to be sincerely pitied; but in the larger number of cases deafness becomes a matter of absolute indifference. Every one is liable to loss of hearing, through accident, disease, or age; and while not a condition to be desired it is nothing of which to be ashamed.

I fear the writers in the last *Association Review*, on "The Deaf and Their Social Relations with the Hearing," have either been most unfortunately situated, or are most acutely super-sensitive. Our experience has been that as we face life and meet our fellow men, our happiness and usefulness will be proportioned. Go forth with a smile and kindly words, and smiles and kind words are most likely to be your portion; start out with a scowl and a grumble and you will meet with their near relations at every turn.

The weary old world has sorrows and troubles enough of its own, ours do not concern the universe. Some people are born with a faculty for extracting misery from pain; others are blessed with such sunny natures that clouds flee as by magic at their approach. If all who are deaf could only be brought to realize how much worse their condition might have been had their horizon been broadened very considerably. Perhaps our lives have been cast in pleasant places, for we positively delight in the society of the hearing, and many are the congenial friends and acquaintances whom we have.

Possibly, travel and much reading has extended our outlook and prevented self-absorption, so that what appear as slights, if nothing worse, to the self-conscious deaf person, to us have no significance and are not considered as worthy of notice. I do not think the question of one sense more or less over occurs to the majority of people with whom we come in contact. It is certain we have never met with discourtesy because of our lack of hearing from any class of people. Among the educated an instant recognition of our difficulties has secured us every consideration and attention a reasonable being could desire. All social intercourse and business matters are transacted orally. Though we do not claim to be expert lip readers, a pencil and pad are usually the very last things we consider essential to our needs or comfort. Calling and the receiving of calls is a regular and recognized institution in our household. The attendance at all social functions furnishes us as much pleasure as is derived therefrom by those who can hear, probably more, when one considers the bedlam of voices and sounds that rack some nerves so severely. We simply ignore our deafness and others do the same. Of course there are occasions in the course of conversations, when we may miss something that has been said, or misunderstand some remark, in which case, if it seems a subject of importance, we do not hesitate to request its repetition, or even that it be written down.

Life is too short and time much too precious to waste in guessing at things that a gesture, a turn of the hand, or a few pencil marks will make clear. There are some persons whom the best lip readers living can never understand, and they are often good people too, frequently well worth the trouble of cultivating. We have all met them at

one time or another, and have struggled and strained and worn out nerves and temper in the process of trying to understand them. In the end we have secured about as much satisfaction from the proceeding, as we would had we tried interviewing a Cheshire cat.

Teachers, family, and friends alike too often forget, if they have ever over thought of it, how great a strain upon our whole system is demanded by lip-reading. Upon occasions it is a positive relief to run away from everybody and find other amusement or occupation than conversation.

The companionship and solace to be found with our books is the greatest blessing vouchsafed us. I care not whether a deaf child is or is not, taught to utter an intelligible word, if it but be so taught and trained as to enjoy reading when thrown upon its own resources. If its teachers have removed that, it has had placed in its hands the most inestimable blessing and the greatest power for good granted humanity. Be they deaf mutes or semi-mutes, it matters little. An education that places within their reach the key to knowledge, places them upon an equality with their fellow-men. The system or method by which they are given this ability is of small consequence if the result achieved is an education and the power to do.

We have never had cause to feel that the methods employed in our education have had any bearing upon the treatment we have been accorded by society and the world in general. In short, it is not methods of education, but personality that demands consideration, attention, and respect. Where discourtesy is shown, it is quite safe to conclude, the same treatment would have been accorded hearing persons. Those who are guilty of such conduct are scarcely worth wasting a thought upon; moreover, they invariably receive their just deserts sooner or later.

If we choose to search for slights and insults we will find them in abundance, lying around loose, waiting to be recognized, codified and nursed. Persons who go about with chips upon their shoulders get them knocked off with most astonishing promptitude and rapidity; and almost invariably it is done by innocent individuals who are entirely too busy to notice the pestiferous little slights, or to care an atom if they are knocked down.

If the deaf insist upon forcing a recognition of their affliction, it seldom and out of season, upon their friends and associates, and enjoy wandering about the highways and byways with long faces and enshrouded in gloom, no one can blame normal persons for giving them a wide berth.

We do not think hearing persons intentionally slight or inflict pain upon those who are deaf because they are deaf. They simply are completely at a loss, as a rule, how to communicate with them. If the deaf will meet hearing persons half way and try to be entertaining and interesting also, they will have little cause for complaint. - *The Association Review*.

There are over four hundred deaf children in Illinois, between the ages of 7 and 15 years, who are not attending any school. This is a very discreditable state of affairs and indicates a sad lack of a proper sense of their responsibility on the part of the parents.

Make life a ministry of love, and it will always be worth living. - *Browning*.

Come, take that task of yours which you have been hesitating before, and shirking, and walking around, and on this very day lift it up to do it. - *Phillips Brooks*.

The *British Deaf Monthly*, CANADIAN MUTE and a number of American school papers report praiseworthy tributes to the memory of Queen Victoria the Good from the deaf in various parts of the country. Such appreciation of her worth suffices to emphasize that she was a great friend of the deaf. The *British Deaf Mute* hope and trust that the new King will take as much interest in their welfare. He can converse on the fingers. It is understood that he inherited his mother's disposition. Some day when England is at peace with the whole world, when she has more time to devote to domestic affairs, when war expenses are small, and when her great political issues are settled, she can spare money to provide schooling for the deaf on a more liberal and a broad national basis. - *The California News*.

## The Other One.

Sweet little maid with winsome eyes  
That laughs all day through the tangle  
Trazing with baby look so wise  
Over the arm of the oaken chair  
Dearer than you is none to me  
Dearer than you there can be none  
Since in your laughing face I see  
Eyes that tell of another one

Here, where the freight softly glows  
Sheltered and safe and snug and warm  
What to you is the wind that blows  
Driving the sheet of the winter storm  
Found your head the ruddy light  
Glims on the gold from your tress  
But deep is the drifting snow to-day  
Over the head of the other one

Hold me close as you safely stand  
Watching the dying embers shine  
Then shall I feel another hand  
That nestled once in the hand of mine  
Poor little hand, so soft and chill  
Shut from the light of stars and sun  
Clasping the withered roses still  
That hide the face of the sleeping one  
- *Harry Thurston*

## Turrill - McKenzie Homestead

From our own Correspondent.

Instead of going out for Easter as previously, we all spent it together in our usual quiet way, devoting nearly all day to reading matter.

We had a house moving bee lately. It was only a log house from our newly acquired farm purposely to be fitted up as a large granary, and to be raised ten feet higher. There is a good large room above, intended to be a carpenter shop where every kind of work will be done for this farm.

Mr. Wilho Summers is now busy getting in lumber for his new barn. He is disappointed at Mr. Rod. McKenzie's inability to come over to build it, so he has secured a speaking builder.

Mr. David Turrill was in Thamesville lately and went to see Mr. Duncan Bloom, and found him busy as ever in his shoe-shop.

Returning from Dresden Mr. McKenzie met a market gardener and by means of writing he asked to buy some of his garden products, when to his surprise he learned that the stranger was Mr. Gibson, father of your Wm. Gibson. Needless to say they both were pleased at the unexpected incident.

Misses Turrill and McKenzie paid their first visit to Miss Lena Shew after her return home from Thamesville and reported her looking first rate for her long sojourn in that village.

To Araminta Jones, Windsor. Are you aware that Mr. Albert Symington, an ex-pupil of Flint School, was one of the Sarnia Curlers who vanquished your team on your own ice? We have been looking but in vain for an item about you in your recent letters.

The announcement of the death of Mr. John Torrell, provincial detective inspector of fisheries and chief of police of Sarnia, at his mother's residence in Hamilton, at the comparatively young age of 37 years, caused painful impressions among the mutes here. The writer had learned the sad fact only a little while previously that his health was so precarious that he relinquished his duties and went back to Hamilton. He was a brother of Miss Kate Torrell of that city, to whom the writer referred only for the first time in his other letter. A widow and four children survive.

Mr. Hugh A. Beaton, brother of the late Donald M., who has been for many years the principal of the Oil Springs public school, left for Walkerton during the Easter holidays, to assume the principalship of the public school there. Before leaving, addresses and presentations were tendered him by the pupils and also the members of the O. O. F. lodge, one of whom he had been. - *W. K.*

## Hears, but Can't Talk

A boy, 16 years of age, appeared bright mentally, and good sense hearing, who cannot talk, lives in the east end of the city, and has been attending the public schools for many years. Physicians cannot account for the phenomenon. The F. H. S. School of Broadway Tabernacle Sunday School have taken up the case, and are going to have the boy specially taught. He recently held a handkerchief sale at Broadway Hall to raise funds. The tickets it was stated: "Some months ago the members engaged a gentleman to give him private instruction, and results thus far are so gratifying, although he was unable a very short time ago to utter more than five or six words, it is confidently expected that he will acquire the power of speech." - *The Globe*.