

PUPILS' LOCALS.

(Continued)

Last week, Henrietta Hannucll got a loving letter from Miss Ada James, saying that her health is much improved. We all miss her very much indeed, because she was a great favorite of ours.

We have two photographs of the Conventions of deaf mutes in Brantford and Grimsby Park, in our class-room, and many girls come in at noon to look at them and to see their old friends' faces.

On the 10th ult. Miss Dempsey went to Toronto in charge of a new pupil that was not in good health. We were very sorry for her that she couldn't get an education here. She is better at home with her parents.

Misses Thomas and Leigh intended to go visiting Miss Eva Irvine last Saturday afternoon, but rain prevented them. We all are sorry to hear that Eva is coughing again, but we hope she will recover soon.

Our Supt. Mr. Mathison, said that our class in futuro should write items for the CANADIAN MUTE on the first day of each month and Mr. Deuys' class on the 15th of each month, and we are much pleased to do it.

Our two picked elevens played their first game in Rugby football on the 20th ult. and the winners scored 20 goals, and the losers scored 14 goals. Some did not like it but others did. They played under the American rules.

The 23rd ult. was Mrs. Terrill's birthday. Her friends gave a nice address to her. We wish to extend our most hearty congratulations, and we hope that she may be spared to see many happy returns of the anniversary of her birth.

Melvin J. Cartier got word from home that his brother was struck by the train in Colorado Springs two weeks ago and was almost killed. His bones were not broken, but he got some bruises and cuts on his body. We hope he is all right again now.

TORONTO TOPICS.

From our own Correspondent

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Moore are away to Kingston, Tweed and Belleville for a two months' visit.

The Misses Eva and Laura Elliott, who have been away to Detroit and London, are back to Toronto.



Mr. Ducan Morrison and bride, miss Mary Graham, of Collingwood are spending two weeks of their honeymoon in Toronto and we are delighted to have them with us. Mr. Morrison was the first pupil of your school. They were married on the 19th of October, and have our heartiest congratulations. We wish them a long, happy and prosperous matrimonial career.

Mr. Neil McGillivray took in the Woolbridge Fair on the 19th ult., and reports having had a good time. His sister Mary and Mr. and Mrs. D. Hamby, of Nobleton, were among the other mutes there.

Mr. Knight, missionary to China delivered an interesting address on the Passover, in Broadway Hall, Spadina Ave, on Sunday afternoon, the 14th ult. to a large audience of the Toronto mutes. About 50 of the mutes took the Lord's Supper on Sunday, the 23rd ult.

Mr. Thos. Bradshaw paid Mr. and Mrs. I. M. Hodgins, of Diamond, Carlton Co., a few days' visit last month, and found them and their two children doing well. He was pleased with his outing east, but regrets he had no time to visit Ottawa. He will do so next time, which he hopes will not be very long. He wheeled from Stittsville to Diamond, a distance of 16 miles, and is pretty loud in his praise of the roads down east. With your "wise men come from the east," says, "the best cooks in Ontario are down east."

Mr. David S. Luddy is at present

employed with the Bocckh Bros & Co., Manufacturers of brooms, brushes and woodenware. Mr. N. McGillivray and he work in the brush factory, and Mr. Chris. Gilliam in the broom factory. Mr. McGillivray has held his position for seven years. Mr. Luddy was out of a job only two weeks after he got laid off at the C. P. R. Shops, Perth.

Messrs. Ishister and Luddy are great mates. They once worked in Peterboro at the same time and were on the best association foot ball team there, then they worked together in the C. P. R. shops, Perth, and now they have employment in Toronto.

Mr. Luddy was in Peterboro for a day and a half before he came to Toronto. He was offered a position on the Times, to learn to operate the type setting machines, but for some reasons declined to take it. He found Mr. John Crough working on the Examiner and doing well.

Miss Ada James is still staying in Toronto. We are glad to notice she is greatly improved in health. Toronto, of course, agrees with her.

Mrs. Bradshaw's mother is staying with her this fall and will remain all winter.

Bible class meeting was held in Mr. Bridgen's house for the first time on the 19th ult., since it has been altered. Those present speak in the highest terms of it. It has every modern convenience.

We regret the names of several were omitted from the list of visitors in last issue. They are Robert and Richard Allen, of Oshawa, John King, Baglan, Miss Annie Gilleland, Oakville.

We are sorry to hear of the serious illness of Mr. Francis Spinks for several months past, with Bright's disease and was thought to be dying at one time.

Mr. Ernest Powers, of the Fredericton, N. B., Institution for the Deaf, spent part of his holidays with us. We were all pleased to meet him and by his kindly christianlike disposition he soon won the love and fellowship of the deaf in this city. May he come again.

Miss Barbara Wolfe has moved to Palmorston, where she is a dressmaker. She will be pleased to see any of her friends.

We hear that another of our old bachelors up north is about to enter matrimony, he having won a fair and wealthy farmer's daughter. Who is he?

Miss B. Wolfe and sister Kate were guests of Mrs. A. W. Mason during Exhibition.

During the summer holidays all was not joy. Mr. R. Slater was called on to mourn the death of his favorite sister, Mrs. Martha Slater McKay, who died after a lingering illness of about a year.

Mr. and Mrs. Buchau were presented with another son in June last.

Mrs. Fanny Fettoley Boughton was pleased with a visit from her sister Martha in September when she took little Sarah Boughton home with her.

There is talk among the deaf-mutes' lovers of association foot-ball in the city, of forming a team next summer, when the days are longer and they can take advantage of the Saturday half holidays. They will have plenty of time for practice and no doubt have a good team in the field. They have a lot of good material now and expect more during the summer when your school closes. D. S. L.

SIMCOE ITEMS.

From our own Correspondent

The names of those who visited Simcoe the past summer were Samuel Pugsley, Jarvis Armstrong and Herbert Roberts, from Jarvis, Tom Hill, from Toronto, Levi Lewis, from Vanessa, James Chambers, from Silver Hill, Veron Woodward, from St. Williams, John McIsaac and Eli Corbiere, from Delhi, Mabel Steel, from Dolwaro, Mrs. Featherston from Forestville, Mr. and Mrs. Baillie, from Ingersoll, and Mrs. A. Barton, from Wilson.

Oct 15th Mr. J. Goodbrand and Mr. R. Sutton, from Brantford, drove to Simcoe and were guests of Mr. C. Bowly. Mr. J. Goodbrand, Mr. R. Sutton, Mr. C. Bowly, Mrs. C. Bowly and Mabel Hodgson spent all afternoon with Mrs. Wm. Sutton on Sunday, Oct. 15th. They had a splendid time.

Mr. Samuel Snyth and family have moved here from Brantford. We wish him success in his new situation.

Mabel Hodgson paid a visit to Ethel Swayzee in Tilsonburg and glad to say Ethel is getting very much better.

Mr. A. Barton and Mr. and Mrs. Crozier were the guests of Mrs. Wm. Sutton lately.



MRS. F. MASON.

OF THE CANADIAN MUTE

Mrs. Mason is the daughter of an English soldier. Her gentle and amiable character would little suggest, to those who know her, any warlike strain in her parentage, but her father, Samuel Lewis, served in the English ranks for some years, and the fighting instinct led him later on in life to leave his quiet Canadian farm to take part in the sanguinary struggle between the Northern and Southern States.

Soldier Lewis gained his first experiences in war, in the long and bitter campaign of the English army in the Crimea. He saw the fall of Sebastopol, and on the re-ward of the troops received his discharge. He then found work at his old occupation of a stone mason at Fordsham, where there are large stone quarries. This was in the neighbourhood of his native place, and here he met and married a good and gentle woman named Elizabeth Humphreys. Mr. Lewis was still young, and the restless spirit that had learnt in travel and war to hold its own fearlessly, beyond the limits of the Old Land, could not settle down contentedly to the hard work and dull outlook of the British workman, so within a year of his marriage he emigrated to Canada, and after a few months at Hamilton took up some wild land in South Essex.

It was during the short stay at Hamilton that Mrs. Mason was born, in 1857, and she first began to discover the world around her within the moss-caked walls of a little log cabin. We trust that before the last of the rough nurseries of Canadian people shall have done its work and passed away, some gifted spirit that has received its nurture in thought and feeling in one of those quaint homesteads will obtain its memory in story or in song, in such form as the world will not willingly let die.

Mrs. Mason gave the writer some pleasant reminiscences of her first years, in a short paper that she sent some months ago. In substance she writes:—"The greater part of my childhood was spent in the backwoods, almost out of the reach of civilization. My memory often goes back pleasantly to those bye-gone days. In my little bed I then sometimes on sleepless nights listened and cowered at the fierce cries of wild animals in the forest that closed in on every side, and where the solitude and far-offness gave mystery to the sounds of the trees. At other times I have been lulled to rest by the sharp monotonous note of the whip-poor-will or the tooting of the owls close to my window, there were many answering one to another, far and near." Another recollection is of the Indians who were wilder in those days, in looks at least, and little Fanny Lewis would shake with fright at their hideous painted faces, taking refuge in the folds of her mother's dress. Their errands, however, were innocent enough, they only sought food or drink, offering in barter their baskets, skins and plaited work.

It was a hard life in the little cabin, especially in the winter months. Coal oil was hardly known in those days. The great American underground reservoirs were only receiving little experimental or accidental taps now and then, and the millions of wealth hidden in the black petroleum was not dreamt of; great streams of it were running to waste unused. Rough, dull, winking candles were made in the log cabin, and to spare them, little Fanny would toddle to and fro and pile up a heap of dry bark, to make a cheerful blaze in the grate at night. The wood stove was not much known in South Essex in the

sixties; big logs were most commonly burnt in open grates in the log house now clearings, and in many parts of the old forest home life would appear bare and unwelcome to us now, with multiplied comforts and conveniences which low prices put within the reach of all. But home life in its pleasant and trials was in spirit the same as to-day. Soldier Lewis had a talent for music, and in the long dark winter evenings his violin or flute was brought out, and in the flickering light he would play from memory, then Fanny would sit on a low three-legged stool at his side, and sing with free delight as the birds sing. The little five years old child had a sweet voice, and the good country folk who dropped in from distant farms, from time to time, for a chat, would be drawn with grave faces, give that sincere applause that comes from pleased hearts, and prophesy great things.

So nine years passed, when one day scarlet fever came, unwelcome and remorseless, into the little log cabin with its scant accommodation, and its strong hold on small Fanny. No touch but that of wrong seemed in it. Rough as a crude ungenial spirit crushes a weak stand, so fever played with the delicate strings of hearing and of speech and snapped the one and wrenched the other; so that Fanny never again knew when the whip-poor-wills or the owls came to talk at her window. The sweet little voice gift too was lost,—not for ever we believe, either loss stored in sparrow losses, and who sees that each falling hair, and each falling leaf, reaches its destined place, for its destined fullness of good.

There is a surprising amount of difference of opinion amongst M. P.'s, sitting on different sides of the house as to what is good or bad to do, on most questions, but we are sure that there cannot possibly be any difference of opinion, as to its being an irrefragable good thing to promote the education of the deaf, and we are glad to record the name of Mr. Wm. McGregor, M. P., a kind friend to Fanny Lewis. He got to know the quiet intelligent deaf girl, straddled like a wail on one of the little islands of cultivation in the great ocean of forest. Soldier Lewis was now lost amongst the battling hosts of Federalists and Confederates, and Mr. McGregor filled a father's place, he exerted himself to secure for Fanny the only means of education possible for one in her position, by obtaining for her a free admission into the Institution at Belleville. We wish there was more like him, that the understanding and conscience of relations, friends and neighbours might be everywhere more fully aroused to the paramount duty and incalculable advantage of availing themselves of the only hope of mental liberty, which the specific training of the Institution holds out, for the deaf of Ontario. Everything gives way before the cry of the drowning; and we would stand, that the plea of the deaf education, though it be but a silent one, should be recognized as just as urgent. There is no other resource for them, but in the hand that the State extends. May that hand be so open, that none may plead in vain.

At fourteen, Fanny Lewis was placed under the capable instruction of Mr. Coleman, and she records with gratitude the benefits received; great as were the benefits in her case, they would have been greater still, had she been born deaf. In such a case, the most striking effects of the special education provided by the Institution are produced, faculties and operations of the mind, dormant till brought under its influence, are then awakened to active life, as the palace of the sleeping beauty leaped round by impetuous growth is aroused by the magic touch of the Prince. Besides the direct advantages of the education given by the training of the Institution, the social life there does much to enlarge, broaden, and invigorate the character generally, and Mrs. Mason traces much of the cheerfulness and efficiency of her life to the influence of associations, and friendships formed at Belleville. She was married to Mr. Mason, the artist, in November, 1884. It might be enquired too curiously to ask how this came about, but we can state that Mrs. Mason is one of the pleasantest in Toronto, that kind and gentle cheerfulness that always ready there, to give a genuine welcome to every visitor, and the hardships and trials of early life, which were very real, have left no mark but that of a ready sympathy with all that is in need.