



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 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, APRIL 1, 1898

Canadian Child Saving Work.

In our next issue we hope to present to our readers several cuts illustrative of the Canadian Child Saving Work which is carried on at Brighton under the able and devoted superintendency of the Rev. C. W. Watch. The object of this Institution is to help orphan and needy children in any part of Canada by accepting the legal guardianship of the same, and by placing them in christian homes either for adoption or for service. The aims of this agency and the methods employed appear to be entirely commendable, and should enlist not only the warm sympathy but also the liberal material assistance of every lover of children. It is especially to be noted that the Brighton Institution has no connection with any of the societies which are devoted to the importing of destitute children from other lands. Its work is exclusively in the interest of Canadian children, and it depends entirely on voluntary contributions for the needed monetary assistance. There are two methods, both of which have their advocates, by which destitute children can be rescued and taken care of. Some maintain that an orphanage or some such an institution is the better place in which to properly care for and train such children and fit them for future usefulness and good citizenship. Others claim that it is better to place them in good christian homes, and it seems to us that the preference must be decidedly in favor of the latter system. Nothing can take the place of proper home training, and not only so, but every child is entitled to the love and sympathy that can be found only in the home, and which no amount of faithful oversight in an orphanage can supply. Great good has been accomplished by this latter method, but we believe that this will in time be entirely superseded

by the home system, except for such few children as prove incorrigible, or for whom no homes can be found. During the past two years Mr. Watch has placed over one hundred children in happy homes, and in nearly every instance with the most satisfactory results to both the children and the foster parents. This is largely due to the strict precautions taken as to the character and disposition of would be foster parents, and to the careful and constant supervision maintained over the children after their adoption. All children placed in homes remain under Mr. Watch's guardianship until they reach their majority. They are regularly visited by persons especially sent out for that purpose, and if the home in which the children are placed is not satisfactory they are removed and now homes for them. Mr. Watch is now making an appeal to the public for sufficient funds to enable him to double his facilities, and to erect a suitable shelter for the children which are placed in his care till such time as homes can be found for them. Such a work as this is surely merits the sympathetic interest of everyone. The lot of a child whose parents are dead, or worse than dead, is a very sorrowful one. Love and sympathy are the very breath of life to the little ones, and no nobler work can engage our attention or elicit our co-operation than that of rescuing these children from their unfortunate conditions, and placing them in happy and comfortable homes, and thus bringing joy and solace to hearts that ache with wretchedness and tears, and crave with unutterable longing, and, alas too often all in vain, for that care and affection which is the birthright of every child born into this world.

A Deaf Man Shot Dead.

The public papers record a terrible affair that occurred near Brockville on the 22nd ult. A deaf man named J. M. Scribner called at the home of a friend, named Wm. Pear, at eleven o'clock at night and awakened the family. Mr. Pear called and demanded his name saying that he would shoot if he did not reply. Getting no response and thinking him a burglar, Mr. Pear fired through the door, and killed Scribner instantly. Mr. Scribner was in Belleville a few months ago getting orders for a patent bed of his own invention and is said to be a steady man. This should be a warning to deaf mutes calling on hearing friends at night, especially in lonely places. They should make some sound to enable their friends to recognize them.

In our last issue we inadvertently somewhat severely on a certain member of the deaf-mute press fraternity—whose name we did not give—who assumed, or rather presumed, to set himself up as a censor at-large of his brother journalists. Apparently we blundered better than we know, for the shoe has been put on by some for whom it was not intended. We have received a letter from one esteemed friend who thinks our remarks were somewhat cruel towards himself. We hasten to assure him that he was not the person we had in mind at all. He is entirely too good a friend of our selves and of our Institution, too able a writer and too pleasant a comrade for us ever to say aught harsh or unkind to or of him. We extend to him this expression of our esteem and good will though, since the subject has been introduced, we might say, in the most friendly way, that we think he also is a little too much given to criticism. It is better philosophy and better practice to search for the good things and to commend them than to seek after and criticize that which is faulty. We will

now hope to hear that the person to whom we really referred in our former comment has taken our rebuke to him self, though it is by no means an uncommon thing for a man whose faults are being pointed out to try to fit the shoe on his neighbor rather than on himself.

In a recent issue we gave expression to our admiration for the *Lone Star Weekly*, both as to its mechanical appearance and to its contents. We were, therefore, especially sorry to learn that so able and successful an editor as Mr. Mattner should have relinquished his position and laid aside his pen. The reason is that he found his journalistic work interfered with his duties as Principal of the school. Mr. Mattner has done excellent work as editor of *The Weekly* and we will all be sorry to lose him from our small company. His successors will be Messrs. Richardson and Williams, to whom we extend our greetings and best wishes.

The work of putting in the electric light system into the Institution is now completed and we feel that justice demands a word of warm commendation to Mr. George Thompson, who had the contract for the work. It is no small task to place 420 electric lights in one building, with all that implies of switches and branches and side-branches and various other ramifications—we do not guarantee the technical accuracy of these terms which such a work necessitates. Mr. Thompson has accomplished his task in a most workmanlike manner and the result is in every way satisfactory.

The last issue of *The North Dakota Banner* contains an interesting description of the beauties, resources, etc., of Dakota. It would appear from this that Dakota is not a bad sort of a country. But if our contemporary wants to know what a really good country looks like he should take a trip up north of the 49th parallel of latitude.

The Deaf Hear.

Not by miracle, but by a mechanical device, in several of our churches people who were barred from the benefits of public worship by defective hearing, have been restored to full enjoyment of their Sabbath privileges. The device is so simple that it might be applied in almost any church or hall.

A space is cleared inside the pulpit for a wooden hopper, about fifteen inches square or more at the top, and tapering to four inches at the bottom. Here it connects with a four inch tube, which passes through the floor and onward under the pews, where it divides into smaller tubes of one inch calibre. These pass up through the door to the seat, and a flexible tube with a vulcanite ear piece completes the arrangement. A light wire netting over the mouth of the hopper will prevent small objects falling into it, and will not impair its value. This general plan may be modified to meet any difficulties arising from an unusual shape or position of the pulpit. A little ingenuity will suggest any requisite changes. The expense is slight and the satisfaction ample.

One lady, who with strained attention could hear but a small part of the services, was able, after the ear piece was taken to her pew, to hear the rustling of the paper from which the pastor read his notices.

Dr. G. B. Spalding of Syracuse, with characteristic enterprise, was first in this region to give his people the benefit of the contrivance, about three years ago. The Fayetteville Church follows, and now the church in Cazenovia, and possibly some others, are doing likewise.

The Evangelist

The Rev. T. J. Thompson, Presbyterian minister in Belleville, had made a similar arrangement which is very effective.—Ed. C. M.]

The greatest part of mankind employ their best years to make their last miserable.—*Brayere*.

The Robin.

My old Welsh neighbor over the
Crept slowly out in the sun
Pushed from his ears the locks of
And listened to the robin sing.
Her grandson, playing at marbles
And, cruel to sport as boys are
Tossed a stone at the bird, who from
From brought to bough in the air
"Nay!" said the grandmother
Heard.
My poor, bad boy! of the first
And how, drop by drop, this merrily
Carries the water that quenches
"He brings cool dew in his little
And lets it fall on the souls of
You can see the mark on his red
Of fire that scorches as he drops
"My poor, poor, my dear
Singing so sweetly from limb to limb
Very dear to the heart of Our Lord
Is he who pities the lost like this
"Amen! I said to the beautiful
"Sing, bird of God, in my heart
Each good thought is a drop where
To cool and lessen the fire of
"Prayers of love like rain-drops fall
Tears of pity are cooling dew
And dear to the heart of Our Lord
Who suffer like Him in the good

The Deaf in India

The following letter has been received from Mr. James Chandler Dutt Secretary of the Calcutta School for the Deaf. It will be of interest to all who have contributed to that school not long ago.

Calcutta Deaf and Dumb School,
1 College Square,
CALCUTTA, INDIA, January 1898.

DEAR MADAM, I have the pleasure to express the heartfelt thanks of the Committee of the Calcutta Deaf and Dumb School to the ladies and gentlemen who kindly made contributions to the fund of the school which is good for your kind and steady support. I beg also to communicate to you the following information and use the following information recently passed by the committee.

Resolved: That the collection of money be appropriated to the Building Fund, and out of consideration to the sympathy of the American donors, a scholarship be established with it free board in the school, at the suggestion of the Principal, the scholarship be called "The Gallaudet Scholarship" in honor of J. M. Gallaudet, President of the Columbia Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, Washington.

Resolved: That the committee be requested to give Mrs. G. E. Maxwell for her efforts in money on behalf of the Institution, and that she would continue her interest in the will, dear madam, be glad to know that the Department attached to it, the Department made for raising funds for a house of some 2000 rupees have already been made for the purpose by some liberal-hearted men. We want of least one lot of rupees, and we earnestly hope through your kind and enthusiastic exertions a still more liberal help will be secured from American friends. Wishing you a Happy New Year.

I remain, yours truly,
JAMES CHANDLER DUTT

Secretary Calcutta School for the Deaf

There is but one thing in these solutions which I take exception to and that is the name given to the scholarship. For private reasons I prefer that the committee change the name from Gallaudet to "The American Scholarship." In my estimation, and in that of Dr. Gallaudet's hearty concurrence, that name more suitable to an American. When I forwarded to the secretary last August the sum of \$63 18 1/2 for the accounts open for further contributions, and they are still open to whom chooses to continue in helping me along with this work. A total of \$4400 had been sent from America, and as they have now fairly started the school I ask, is it right we seek to discourage a noble and worthy a cause? Can we not little by little continue to swell the sum until the amount yet required is secured? Suppose after so much has been gained through our efforts, the school must finally disband because of the need of more funds to help it along, how then will we feel? India, as you may say, may now well look to England for its greatest support, to which I say, *indeed, true*, but we must bear in mind we now have a class there that is being educated upon American funds and we must accordingly look after its interests otherwise our good efforts shall surely fail. It will not, we trust, be long before the goal is reached and then the Calcutta School will be enabled to support itself and we may then justly attribute a large portion of this reward to ourselves. "Well, done good and to the servant."

GERTRUDE E. MAXWELL
1108 West Ave., Buffalo, N. Y.

Mr. Jno. Brown and Mr. J. Carcadden, of Lindsay, were married on the 5th of January last. Mr. Brown is a brother of Mrs. John Flynn of Toronto.

An epidemic of measles is spreading rapidly at the Ohio Institution. The little boys was called home by a sick mother and when he returned to school, he brought the contagion with him.