

The financial prospect of the Institution is far from being a bright one.

By the Sec.-Treasurer's statements, herewith submitted, it will be seen that on the 30th of June, 1872 the end of the fiscal year there was a balance on hand of \$4,118.19. But \$4,000 or nearly the whole of this sum would be used in July to pay the first half of the purchase money of the present premises of the Institution. And the liabilities and the current expenses of the Institution are such, that on the 1st of October it will not only be without funds but will be slightly *in debt*.

The Managers would briefly draw attention to the penniless condition of the institution, and the following urgent wants :

1. Money for current expenses.
2. Funds to pay \$4,000, the balance of the purchase money of the property now occupied by them.
3. This property is rising in value to such an extent that it is too expensive a place for occupation by a charitable institution. Moreover, the present buildings are even now very much too small in every way, and the land about them too limited. The Managers propose to sell the property in a year or eighteen months, and meanwhile, to secure as soon as possible, a cheaper site elsewhere, where they would have land enough to teach the pupils agriculture, and where they could erect buildings suitable for such an institution as this is. As a proof that this course is necessary, it need only be stated, in addition to the foregoing facts, that there are known to be 22 deaf mutes in the Province of Quebec besides those now in this institution, and the majority of these are of proper ages for instruction. Nor is there any doubt that there are more than the number just stated. In all countries it has been found impossible to ascertain the total of its deaf and dumb inhabitants.

The Managers must then provide for an increased number of pupils, and can best do so in the way which they have indicated above. Land enough to teach the pupils agriculture, and buildings in which several of the leading trades could be taught, are very requisite. It has been well said that "the intellectual education of a deaf-mute will in many cases be a very doubtful advantage if we neglect to train him up in some good trade, whereby he can support himself and gain means to indulge the æsthetic and literary tastes he acquires in an institution." The deaf-mutes must look to trades as their only means of support.

It is earnestly hoped that the mention of these pressing wants of this Institution will move many to come to its assistance. The expense of founding and of sustaining it for the past two years has been borne almost wholly by about a dozen persons. The managers feel the others should now share with these generous individuals the burden of the support of this charity. This assistance would be generally given if it were only generally remembered that the work which this institution is doing is as noble a one as can engage the sympathies and services of men. That work is to rescue deaf and dumb persons from an insolation which can only be compared to that of prisoners from a dreary cheerless condition of life, to rescue them, above all, from a state in which they are peculiarly exposed to temptation to sin and its consequent wretchedness.

And this institution gives to these children of silence such positive pleasures as the light and comfort of religion, a fuller intercourse with their families and friends, a share in the pleasures of literature, science, and art, and in the happy toil and triumphs of humanity.

The pupils of the institution were then examined and they nearly all displayed a good deal of acuteness, some of them, especially bright clever fellows, commenced by giving the Lord's prayer in pantomime, and in the midst of the examination two of them gave a very amusing scene in the same manner. They closed the entertainment by giving "God Save the Queen" by signs. This entertainment was very interesting and developed in the audience a warm sympathy for the unfortunates whom the association takes in charge. Some specimens of the drawing and composition were also shown, which displayed considerable talent, the former more especially. One of the pupils, a semi-mute, that is one who is recovering his speech, read an address of thanks which he had prepared, and which was a very creditable performance. Altogether, this part of the programme convinced every one present of the good work that was being performed in a very unostentatious way by the Institution.

The Rev. Dr. Wilkes moved that the report be adopted, printed and circulated. He remarked there could be no question whatever that they could teach the mutes; they had been taught and now they saw that they could be taught amongst

themselves, and taught too, the highest, purest and most important truths. The mutes could be trained for useful positions in society, and they would be recreant to their duty to God and to man if they failed to do all that in them lay to aid in their instruction. It were a shame if they who could speak and hear did not help those who could do nothing in the absence of such instruction as they were then obtaining. He had been very much struck with the thought that both the Principal and his wife were deaf mutes, which showed what could be done. There were two intelligent, enlightened and cultivated Christian people, who were themselves in that situation, and who devoted their lives to the training of those who were in that situation. He hoped they would hear no more of the debt, and that the annual subscriptions would be large, would be paid promptly, and that there would be enough money paid into the treasury to carry on the Institution and purchase a new house and land. (Applause.)

The Rev. Gavin Lang seconded the resolution, and in doing so said that he trusted the Christian people of Montreal would realize the claims that the institution had upon them, and unite to place it on a firmer and more extended basis.

The Rev. Dr. Bancroft moved a vote of thanks to the governors, the board of management, and the officials of the institution, for the faithful and successful manner in which they had discharged their respective duties. It seemed to him that God raised up in such crisis as these the very persons to carry on those institutions. He seemed to give them the love and the enthusiasm which were necessary for carrying on the work: they entered upon it with the help of God, and their efforts were crowned with success. He had great pleasure in witnessing what he had seen that day; the pupils commenced with the Lord's prayer, showing their loyalty to God, and they ended with "God save the Queen," showing their loyalty to the Queen. If that institution raised up faithful servants of God and faithful servants of the Queen, he was sure they would all bless God that it had been established. He thought, with Dr. Wilkes, that they would be recreant in their duty were they not to endeavour to carry on an institution which took hold of the deaf mutes and educated them for time and eternity. Might God bless and guard the managers in their work. He rejoiced to see that the name of McKenzie was so prominent in it, and that one who had lately gone to a better land had left it a noble legacy (applause).

The Rev. Dr. Taylor had much pleasure in seconding the resolution, and in recommending the institution to the liberality of the inhabitants of Montreal. They had had decisive evidence that they had patient and able teachers, that the pupils were receiving the truth; and the Christians of this city should act with a good resolution to be instruments in aiding these unfortunates.

Principal Hicks expressed his opinion that the pupils had answered the questions in a way that was quite equal to the pupils with a similar period of training in their ordinary schools.

The Chairman stated that the visitors would be welcomed to the institution to see the method of teaching, which was very interesting. He hoped that the results of the meeting would be to excite in many minds a hearty and earnest sympathy in the institution.

The meeting then closed.—[Gazette.]

### The Queen's Statue.

Those who have the misfortune to possess a large edition of the British Poets, and who have also been sufficiently ill-advised to endeavour to read the Birth-day and Coronation odes, versified rejoicings over great victories, and other *obligato* achievements of our Laureates and aspirers to the next Laureateship, will probably experience something like a sensation of nausea, at any praises of Royalty. There are so many instances in which sovereigns not now in very good repute, were during their lives, cited by occasional authors as the "best of monarchs"—so many occasions in which "great Anna" has shone through otherwise very dull stanzas, as if she had herself commanded in the field when Marlborough won: that eulogy addressed to the holder of supreme power, has usually some flavour of mere conventionality, if not of interest and hypocrisy. But certainly those who have chosen the representation of their Queen as the most agreeable and suitable ornament for the largest British city of