

Your Gifts.

If you have a gift of seeing, ever look for beauty
 Soiling faults in all your friends is plainly not
 your duty.
 If you have the gift of hearing, list to what is
 said.
 Give your ears to everything that is not good
 and sweet.
 If you have the gift of talking, use but pleasant
 words.
 Let your speech be glad and cheery as the songs
 of birds.

—EMMA C. DOWD

PUPILS' LOCALS.

Contributed by Pupils of Mr. Denys' Class.

Life
 Is short.
 Brief, boy, brief!
 Mr. Kano is most able.
 1899 is a good youngster.
 John is quick, but not fast.
 Tears are drops in the ocean of time.
 It is a wise boy who knows he knows
 nothing.
 Think what to write and write what
 you think.
 If one talks ever, what time has he
 for thinking?
 The mumps are over—“all swell
 that end swell.”
 Watch for a useful thought, when
 it comes, capture it.
 Jas. Vanco had both his ears frozen,
 but he is all right again.
 —We often go out. Mr. Mathison told
 us “skating is better than medicine.”
 —Stephen A. Lett, a brother of Birch,
 writes that he is doing well at carpenter
 ing.
 Mary Derocher's brother went to
 Toronto and she felt bad. Her brother's
 name is James.
 We heard that a Chicago girl, on
 Xmas morning, found a piano in her
 hung up hose.
 Some pupils went to the Roman
 Catholic Church on Friday morning last,
 it being Epiphany.
 —We are glad a new boy, whose name
 is S. Campbell, came last Wednesday.
 He looks bright and happy.
 The pen is mightier than the sword
 —so says the little piggy as, those cold
 nights, he hides him in the straw.
 We had a magic lantern exhibition
 last week and we had a pleasant time.
 Mr. Mathison gave us a lot of fun.
 —Dr. G. Mathison went to Winnipeg
 last Wednesday. He has many warm
 friends in the Institution and the city.
 On Friday, 30th ult., some of us
 worked in the printing office all forenoon
 to get the paper mailed. We liked to do
 so.
 We skated on the bay two afternoons
 last week. We must thank Mr. Mathi-
 son for his kindness in allowing us to do
 so.
 —We have no sleighing which is very
 bad. It is snowing now. We expect we
 will have sleighing which will be very
 good.
 George Wallace often speaks of his
 brothers Bert and Herbert, who, he says,
 are good, hard working fellows and doing
 well.
 Mr. Mathison kindly gave us per-
 mission to go out skating this week and
 we had a very nice time. We got our
 cheeks rosy.
 I would like to be an editor, since I
 read that journalists usually get rich and
 so luxuriously until they die and then
 go to heaven.
 —On the evening of the 27th ult.,
 Mrs. Mathison entertained a number of
 her friends from the city. A warm,
 graceful welcome was extended.
 —Our Burns is Scotch.
 And o'er bears in mind,
 The last of the month
 Is for Auld Lang Syne.
 Nellie Mowoy got worn from home
 that her moans were at a Christmas tree
 at the Methodist church to sing and it
 was lovely. Nellie was proud of them.
 —The Christmas and New Year holi-
 days have passed away. A new year was
 born 1899. We must work hard and
 be attentive in school now after our dis-
 ruption.
 Florence Hill went home and stayed
 for two weeks as her little sister Annie
 was very ill with typhoid fever. She
 cannot speak but can hear. She is a
 good girl.
 —Now that balloons have become
 dingy, cycling had better look to its

laurels. There will be no tax collector
 up above, nor magistrate to fine you—
 no indeed.

—One of the newest organizations is
 the “Sudden death Club,” of New York.
 Only those are eligible who are afflicted
 with heart disease. The Club has no
 constitution.

—Speaking of the Queen City, the
 question, incidentally was asked the
 class to “name the two leading Toronto
 papers.” One little man wrote “The
 Daily Globe and The Weekly Globe.”

—Miss Edith Wiloy came here on New
 Year's, she visited Miss Ethel Irvine's
 home, where she was invited for dinner,
 then Edith came to the Institution.
 We were both surprised and glad to see
 her again.

—Little Ella's letter. Dear Mamma,
 we had, thanks be to God, turkey for
 dinner and cranberries and other kinds
 of fruit. They were lovely and I ate
 them too much. We are all well. I
 love you and papa.

—Miss Maggie Noonan went to the
 Catholic church on New Year's day,
 after that she went to meet her aunt,
 Mrs. Deason, who lives in Belleville.
 She gave her a cup and saucer, and her
 cousin Willie gave a lovely gold brooch
 to Maggie. She was very much pleased
 with them and was grateful for their
 kindness.

STRATFORD NOTES.

From our own Correspondent
 Mr. and Mrs. Holt Hoy and little
 girl, of Avonton, were away on Xmas
 for a few days visiting friends in London
 and Denfield, they renewed acquaint-
 ance with many old school mates, and
 accepted an invitation from their old
 school chum, Mr. Noyes, to eat a Christ-
 mas turkey for the memorial of the
 happy school days they had spent in
 Belleville.

Miss Maggie Fuller, of Mitchell, had
 a pleasant visit from Mr. Thos. Hill,
 lately, and they thoroughly enjoyed a
 conversation together. She was visiting
 her sister near Fullarton. I don't know
 if she is back to Mitchell yet.

Mr. Wm. Quinlan is as jovial as usual,
 and enjoys delivering milk to the city
 creamery which is three miles from
 his farm.

Mr. Jas. Duncan is still in the t outer
 office, Embro.

Miss Claudia Moore is keeping house
 for her uncle, Michael Kichina. She
 changes places with her sister Carrie
 every three weeks.

Mr. J. R. Byrne has resumed his
 shoemaking after spending three weeks
 holidays in Stratford and vicinity. Mr.
 Byrne is a successful and industrious
 worker and prospects for his future are
 very good.

Mr. Rice, father of Miss C. Rice, died
 suddenly lately and his death was
 greatly regretted by the community.
 Mr. Rice left all his family in comfort
 able circumstances.

Mr. John Trachwell, of Shaker peare,
 is rushing his business very well in
 company with his partner, and the flax
 mill has commenced operations for the
 winter. There are about a dozen hands
 employed this year and several months
 will be required to manufacture the
 large amount of flax which is on hand.

Mr. J. R. Byrne, of Stratford, was in
 Avonton lately and called on Mr. Robert
 Hoy. Mr. Byrne made a personal
 inspection of the poultry of Mr. Hoy and
 was greatly surprised to find such a fine
 lot of pure bred.

Mr. Wm. Smith, South Easthope, was
 in Stratford on December 24th, to
 prepare for his Christmas. Mr. Smith
 is reputed to be a wealthy farmer, as he
 has a 100 acre farm of his own. Billy
 is keeping back and it seems to his
 friends that he dislikes the idea of
 becoming a married man, but they hope
 he will change his mind before long.

Mr. Robert Watson got a place to
 work for a farmer near Stratford for his
 board this winter.

JALVIS JOTTINGS.

From our own Correspondent
 Mr. Hesloy Grant, of Hamilton, was
 the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Crozier,
 of Springvale, during the happy yule
 tide. Mr. Herbert W. Roberts received
 an invitation to spend New Year's Day
 at their hospitable home, but he was
 sorry he had to decline, owing to another
 pressing engagement.
 Mr. Samuel Pugsley, of Cheapside,
 contemplates making a visit to Brantford
 soon. Mr. H. W. Roberts will likely
 follow suit.

TORONTO TOPICS.

From our own Correspondent
 There was an interesting debate at
 the last monthly meeting, held on the
 6th inst., the subject being, Resolved—
 “That men have done more for the bet-
 terment of the world than women.” The
 affirmative side was supported by Messrs.
 Slater and A. W. Mason, the negative
 by Miss Munro and Mr. Bridgen. Mrs.
 A. W. Mason was chosen to support the
 negative side also, but was unable to
 be present, and Miss Campbell the
 affirmative, but withdrew though at
 meeting thereby leaving Miss Munro
 the only lady in the debate, which she
 stuck to till the last and acquitted her-
 self very creditably, giving many strong
 points in favor of her sex. The debate
 lasted for an hour and a half and was
 exceedingly exciting throughout. As to
 the flourish of trumpets we admit the
 negative side had the best of it, but as
 to solid facts we think the affirmative
 side had it pretty strong, although they
 had Mr. Bridgen, a heavy weight, against
 them. Of course we do not mean a
 heavy weight physically, but mentally.
 The judges appointed, who were young
 men and strong admirers of the fair, and
 very tender hearted gave their decision
 in favor of them. We could hardly have
 expected it otherwise as at criminal
 trials women often have strong influence
 over the jury, and in many cases
 outweigh the evidence against the
 prisoner. From the beginning of the
 debate it was clear the whole audience
 was in sympathy with the negative
 side. As it was, however, the meeting
 was thoroughly enjoyable, and broke up
 about eleven o'clock, after the usual
 refreshments had been served.

The first silver wedding probably ever
 celebrated in Toronto by our friends
 took place at Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Terrell's,
 No. 118 Artylo Street, on the 30th Dec.
 Invitations were sent out to a large
 number of their friends to an evening
 party to celebrate the event and a large
 number turned out. The host and
 hostess were presented with a large
 number of valuable articles of silver-
 ware. The evening was spent in games
 and various other ways, Mr. and Mrs.
 Terrell serving the guests with abundant
 and choice cakes, fruits and candies.
 Before the party broke up all present
 wished Mr. and Mrs. Terrell many more
 years of life and happiness.

Mr. Luddy has gone back to his old
 situation at Perth, Ont. We are sorry
 to lose him from amongst us as he was
 very popular with all his friends here.
 We hope to see him with us again before
 long. We understand we are going to
 lose one of our popular married couples
 some time soon, but will wait further
 particulars before rushing into print.

Miss Annie Fraser has been called
 away to Mount Forest to assist in the
 wedding ceremony of Mr. Neil Calder to
 Miss Jessie Brown, on the 11th inst.
 We tender them our congratulations
 and wish them a long and pleasant life.
 Mr. and Mrs. Calder will reside in
 Manitoba.

Mr. S. C. Sheppard went to Barrie on
 New Year's Day.

Mr. J. Gates went to Belleville on
 the 9th inst. He will stay with his
 sister, Mrs. Baird, for three weeks.

Mr. Neil McCallum spent New Year's
 holidays with Miss Annie Henderson and
 Mr. Jontie Henderson in "shotville."

Miss Ker leaves for B. C. in a few
 days, where she will reside in the future.
 We wish her success in her new home,
 but sorry to lose her from amongst us.

Mrs. Hodgins from near Ottawa is
 spending a couple of weeks in the city,
 the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas
 Bradshaw.

Mr. Nasmith is going to give a grand
 social next week and a good time is
 expected.

OTTAWA NOTES.

From our own Correspondent
 Owing to the failure of Warrington &
 Co., of Montreal, Mr. A. Gray had the
 misfortune to lose \$80 worth of milk
 which he supplied to the cheese factory
 in Metcalfe, who sold all their cheese to
 the above named firm. Mr. Gray paid
 a visit to Mr. Bayno and together they
 visited the Experimental Farm.

Miss Culligan and her friend, Miss
 Lett, of Carr, paid Ottawa a flying visit
 on New Year's Day.

The writer spent a pleasant evening
 last week with Mr. and Mrs. McClelland,
 who told him things were very quiet in
 deaf mute circles and that there was
 very little news of any interests to be
 had. Mr. McClelland reports brisker
 work in the printing bureau and expects

the rush in preparation for the opening
 of Parliament soon to set in.

Dr. Smith reported that he met Mr.
 Hodgins, of Diamond, in Ottawa a few
 days ago. Mrs. Hodgins is at present
 visiting Mrs. Bradshaw, of Toronto.

Mr. Wiggot spent his holidays in
 Sherbrooke, Que.

Mr. Holland is at present in Ottawa,
 where he intends to spend the winter.

The Ottawa Bible class for the deaf
 has ceased to exist, owing to the non-
 attendance of some of its members, and
 as the writer very seldom meets the deaf
 now, in future you may expect to hear
 from him only at long intervals.

FOR THE CANADIAN METEOROLOGICAL.

Turrill - McKenzio Homestead.

This is the new homestead, fourteen
 miles from the Showers' homestead and
 six miles from Oil Springs, owned by
 David A. Turrill and Kenneth McKenzio
 jointly. On Dec. 6th I came here to
 make my new home with my good
 friends. They were in Sarnia lately
 doing business with Mr. Symington, the
 manager in connection with this new
 farm. They had the pleasure of meet-
 ing his nuptial nephew, Edward Sym-
 ington a graduate of the Michigan
 Institution for the Deaf, whose brother
 is a leading dry goods merchant in
 Sarnia. The boys, assisted by a genial
 and experienced woodcutter, Fred
 Wilson, so fortunately secured, are
 rushing their work in wood. The first
 delivery in Oil Springs is at Mr. Fair-
 banks' pumping rig, run by Mr. Wm.
 Esson, father of Maggie, of your school.
 Shortly before my arrival here, the
 first visit was exchanged between the
 boys and Willie Summers, within six
 miles of each other.

On Sunday, Dec. 11th, Miss Christina
 Showers was made happy by the un-
 expected visit made by us, and then we
 were all surprised and delighted who
 Duican Bloom and Wilho Thompson
 unexpectedly arrived. The other in-
 teresting visitors were the tall and
 strately Mrs. Kenneth Munro and her
 children, Alex. and Eliza, aunt and
 cousin of the Showers girls of your
 school.

Two of our thoughtful and helpful
 neighbors, the Mason brothers, who are
 now settlers like us, were home in
 Wyoming the other week and met
 William Wark on his farm, four miles
 from theirs, reporting him well and
 prosperous. It is understood that his
 brother, Walter, has a situation as a
 harness maker in Flint, Michigan. His
 preference for that place is a matter of
 curiosity among the mates here.

To A. L. McP., of Gallaudet College.—
 Isn't the Washington monument 606 feet
 high? Are you or any one else aware
 that there was or is a figure of the first
 President of the United States between
 the two trees, close by the tomb, on
 Mount Vernon?

We are so fortunate as to have kind
 and hospitable Mr. and Mrs. James A.
 Jackson, parents of Elroy, now of your
 school. They live just two miles from
 here and have relations around here.

Mr. Bloom informed me that he was
 so overworked in his shoe shop that he
 would like a mule assistant of steady
 habits. Any one wanting a job had
 better write him at once. His address
 is Thamesville, Ont.

Mr. Thompson still lives with his
 uncle, Mr. Shorman, on his farm near
 that place.

On Xmas eve we made a raid on Mrs.
 Michael Showers' place for the night
 and found among the presents awaiting
 us a pair of shoes from Thamesville,
 where Miss Christina Showers, ac-
 companied by a hearing friend, visited
 Mr. Bloom a few days ago and brought
 them. We spent Xmas day at old
 Mr. Turrill's place—Kenneth McKenzio
 doing with his former employer, Mr.
 Alex. Debby, first and supping with us.
 On the same evening we returned,
 calling at Mrs. Showers' place for an
 hour or so on our way and finally arrived
 here after midnight. The boys resum-
 ed their activity in cutting and drawing
 wood while I am making myself useful
 at whatever I can do in this small and
 humble place, which we call the shanty
 for the present. Wm. Kai.

President Lincoln, one morning, found
 that a robin's nest, containing three
 little robins, had been knocked off an
 overgrown tree near the White House by
 a careless cabdriver. Kneeling on the
 ground and putting the birds back in the
 nest he replaced it saying, "Those birds
 are helpless, and I'll make them happy
 again."