

The Fool's Prayer.

The royal feast was done, the King
Bought some new sport to banish care.
And to his jester cried: "Sir Fool,
Kneel now and make for us a prayer."

The jester doffed his cap and bells
And stooped the mocking court before.
They could see the bitter smile
Behind the painted grin he wore.

He bowed his head and bent his knee
Upon the monarch's silken stool.
His pleading voice arose: "O Lord,
Be merciful to me, a fool."

"No pity, Lord, could change the heart
From red with wrong to white as wool.
The rod must heal the sin, but, Lord,
Be merciful to me, a fool!"

"Tis not by guilt the onward sweep
Of truth and right, O Lord, we stay.
Tis by our follies that we long
We hold the earth from heaven away."

"These clumsy feet, still in the mire,
Go crushing blossoms without end.
These hard, well-meaning hands we thrust
Among the heart-strings of a friend."

"The ill-timed truth we might have kept,
Men crown the knave, and scourge the fool.
That did his will; but thou, O Lord,
Be merciful to me, a fool."

"Our faults no tenderness should ask,
The chastening stripes must cleanse them all.
But for our blunders—oh! to shame
Before the eye of heaven we fall."

"Earth bears no falseness for mistakes,
Men crown the knave, and scourge the fool.
That did his will; but thou, O Lord,
Be merciful to me, a fool."

The room was hushed; in silence rose
The King, and sought his garden cool,
And walked apart, and murmured low,
"Be merciful to me, a fool."

—J. H. SULL

Gallaudet College.

DR. FAY'S LECTURE ON "MARRIAGE."

Dr. Fay delivered a valuable and interesting lecture recently to the deaf students of Gallaudet College, Washington, on the subject of marriage, as follows:—
"I wish to speak to you to-night on a subject to which I have given a great deal of attention and thought during the past few years. I do not intend to give you Punch's oft-quoted 'Advice to Young People Intending to Marry: Don't'; on the contrary, I advise you, if, when the right time comes, you feel that you are fit to marry, do; for I believe that through marriage happiness is, not doubled, but far more than doubled, and that the power of giving happiness to others and of being useful in the world is also far more than doubled.

I take this subject now, not because I think it desirable for you to think a great deal about marriage now while you are in college, to become engaged now, to arrange to marry as soon as you are through college. No; it is better to postpone these things until you are through college. You have enough to think about now with your studies, your literary societies, your athletics and sports. Don't add much thought about marriage at present. In fact, I have noticed that students who became engaged while in college generally deteriorate somewhat in scholarship and injure both themselves and the college; I do not say this is always the case, but generally; so that members of the faculty have sometimes talked of making a rule that students who become engaged in college, or showed they were thinking a great deal about some one in particular, should be required to leave college. I have chosen this subject because I have a few things I think it will be useful for you to know, when you come to think about marriage later; but then you will be gone from here, and I shall not have an opportunity of saying them to you. So I say them now, not expecting you to put them in practice at present, but hoping you will keep them in your mind and remember them when the right time comes for you to think about marrying.

1. Marriage concerns not only the two people who marry, but it also concerns society at large. Young people sometimes forget this. For some reason, good or bad, they wish to be married and keep their marriage secret for a few months or years; or to be married secretly, and then surprise their friends. That is a great mistake, and people who marry in that way often bring trouble and shame upon themselves. Society makes laws to try to prevent secret marriages. When one wishes to marry, a license must be obtained, and that license anybody has a right to see; the names of the persons who apply for the license are often printed in the newspapers. When a minister or officer marries a couple he is required by law to report the marriage, and everybody has a right to know about it. Why have others a right to know? Because marriage affects the relation of the

married couple to other people. A married man cannot sell property without his wife's consent; when he dies, his property is divided differently from that of a single man. Children often result from marriage; it makes a great difference in their position in society whether their parents were married or not. So I hope I shall never hear of any of you that you were married secretly. I do not say you must have a great, expensive wedding; that is a matter of taste; for my part, I prefer a quiet, simple marriage; but let it not be a secret one.

II. When one thinks of marrying, one should ask oneself several serious questions:

1. Am I fit to marry? (a) physically. If one has any disease, or weakness, or defects, (as consumption or insanity) which may be transmitted to children, he ought not to marry. This seems hard; but when one thinks of what a dreadful thing it is to bring misfortune upon one's children, it seems right for one to deny himself the joys of marriage, if there is danger of such result.

(b) Morally. If one has a bad habit, like the use of intoxicating liquor, he ought not to marry. No woman ought to engage herself to a man with such a habit, as women sometimes do, in the hope that her influence after marriage will reform him. If a man will not reform before marriage, he will not after marriage. If a man has ever been dissipated, the woman should be sure before engagement even, that he has entirely reformed; even then she runs a great risk. And all persons, man and woman alike, before marriage, should ask themselves: Have I the power of self-control, or self-denial? If not, one should not marry; for married life has great need of those virtues.

2. A man should ask, Can I support a family? Before marrying, one should be free from debt; he should have a settled occupation which is likely to be sufficient to support a family; and he should have something "laid by for a rainy day," not necessarily a large sum; but sickness may come; loss of work may occur; and before marriage there ought to be some provision for such contingencies.

3. Both man and woman should ask themselves, Do I love the person I think of marrying with my whole heart? If so, on what is love based? On a pretty face? on a brilliant intellect? on lively manners? Those afford a poor foundation for marriage. A sincere love and perfect respect, based on a good character, on both sides, is the only good foundation. The many unhappy marriages that we see, the many divorces and separations, are due to lack of this foundation.

The Victoria Cross.

STORY, IN BRIEF, OF THE MOST PRECIOUS BIT OF METAL IN THE WORLD.

The Victoria Cross was instituted by Her Majesty at the close of the Crimean war, January 29, 1855.

Apart from those who have won V. C. in the present war there are 160 living holders of the medal.

Sixty-two Victoria Crosses were won in the Crimean war; six in the Boer war of 1881. In all 430 odd crosses have been won.

The V. C. is a Maltese cross made from cannon captured from the enemy. In the centre is the Royal crest below a scroll bearing the words "for valor." The reverse side is bare.

When a large number of men are engaged in a daring enterprise, the cross is awarded by votes of their comrades to one officer, one non-commissioned officer, two privates, seamen or marines.

The first V. C. was won by Midshipman Lucas of H. M. S. Hecla, on June 21, 1854. During the bombardment of a Russian fort, a live shell fell on board the Hecla. Lucas picked it up and threw it overboard. It burst just before touching the water.

The V. C. is worn on the left breast, suspended by a blue ribbon in the Navy, by a red ribbon in the Army.

It is illegal for a pawnbroker to accept the Victoria Cross as a pledge under any circumstances.

The Rev. James William Adams, the only clergyman who has won the V. C., gained it in the Afghan war of '70.

The V. C. measures one inch and two fifths square. The actual weight of the metal is 431 grains, just three and a half grains less than an ounce. Its intrinsic value is a penny farthing.

The Cross is only awarded to officers and men who have performed some signal act of valor or devotion to their

country in the presence of the enemy. It carries with it a special pension of £10 a year, and should the holder do some deed which if he had not already won the cross would have gained it, another bar is attached to the ribbon by which the cross is suspended. This bar carries an additional £5 a year pension.

Strange Case of Corp. Anderson.

Here is the story of Corporal J. Anderson's marvellous experience in the South African war. He belongs to the Black Watch, and was at Magersfontein. Finding himself amongst a scattered section of the Highland Light Infantry, he assumed the command. A Lyddite shell suddenly burst on the left of his section, killing three of the men instantly, and hurling Anderson to the ground insensible. He became deaf and dumb, and Sir W. MacCormac said he must have had a wonderful constitution or he could not have survived the awful shock. During the voyage home some rough weather was experienced, and one day Corporal Anderson was thrown violently against the side of the vessel. His speech and hearing instantly returned, after having been lost for over six weeks. He is now as well as ever, and fit for another "go" at the enemy if called upon.

Do You Feel Tired?

"When you hear a man complaining of 'that tired feeling,' you may be sure that he spends more of his day talking and lounging than working," said a well-known physician.

"A truly hard worker never suffers from this disease, for such it is. It arises from not working off, by either mental or manual exercise or work, the superfluous energy given to every man. This energy, if left, turns itself, so to speak, to forming poisonous juices which sap the vitality."

"Just as a thoroughly trained athlete waits with certainty his second wind, so every really hardworking business man knows that he does his best work after he has shaken off 'that tired feeling.'"

In fact, you will find that a really hard worker never complains of it after he has passed his twenty-fifth or twenty-seventh year, because he has then trained this energy to do its proper work—that is, keep his mind and body fresh and vigorous."

Grand Trunk Railway.

TRAINS LEAVE BELLEVILLE STATION:
WEST—3.15 a.m.; 4.30 a.m.; 6.00 a.m.; 11.15 a.m.; 2.30 p.m.; 5.20 p.m.
EAST—1.20 a.m.; 10.47 a.m.; 12.10 p.m.; 3.30 p.m.; 5.40 a.m.; 12.10 a.m.; 3.55 p.m.; 6.30 p.m.

DEAF AGENTS
EARN
"GOOD MONEY"
Selling the handsome illustrated 32 page booklet, "The Lord's Prayer in the Sign Language." They sell at 15 cents each, and interest Acquiring ordinary people old or young. Our agents say "they sell like hot cakes." Write for free circular with terms to agents and testimonials. The booklet mailed postpaid to any address for 15 cents.
AGENTS WANTED. Com. Magazine Co., Hartford, Conn.

MONEY To PATENT Good Ideas may be secured by our aid. Address: **THE PATENT RECORD,** Baltimore, Md.

Uneducated Deaf Children.
I WOULD BE GLAD TO HAVE EVERY person who receives this paper send me the names and post-office addresses of the parents of deaf children not attending school, who are known to them, so that I may forward them particulars concerning this Institution and inform them where and by what means their children can be instructed and furnished with an education.
H. MATHISON, Superintendent.

TORONTO DEAF-MUTE ASSOCIATION.
RELIGIOUS SERVICES are held as follows every Sunday:—
West End—Y. M. C. A., Corner Queen Street and Dovercourt.
And Y. J. A. Hall, cor. Yonge and McGill Streets, 11 a.m.
General Central, 67 St. vs at Broadway Hall, Spadina Ave., 10 or 12 doors south of College Street, at 3 p.m. Lecturers—Messrs. Nasmith, Bridden and others.
Bible Class—Every Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock, corner Spadina Ave. and College Street, and Cor. Queen Street and Dovercourt Road. Lectures, etc., may be arranged if desirable. Miss A. Fraser, Missionary to the Deaf in Toronto, 25 Division Street.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

Classes:
SCHOOL HOURS: From 9 a.m. to 12 noon, from 1.30 to 3 p.m. DRAWING 1 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday.
GIRLS' FANCY WORK CLASS on Monday of each week from 3.30 to 5 p.m.
EVENING SUNDAY from 7 to 9 p.m. for pupils and from 7 to 8 for adults.

Articulation Classes:
From 9 a.m. to 12 noon, and from 1.30 to 3 p.m.

Religious Exercises:
EVERY SUNDAY—Primary pupils and senior pupils at 11 a.m.; General at 1.30 p.m., immediately after which the Class will assemble.
SCHOOL DAY the pupils are in charge of the Chapel at 11.30 a.m., and the school afterwards dismisses them at 12.30 p.m. to reach their respective schools later than 9 o'clock. In the afternoon at 3 o'clock the pupils will again assemble after prayer will be dismissed in an orderly manner.

REGULAR VISITING CLERGYMEN: Rev. J. J. Thompson, M. A., (Presbyterian); Rev. Chas. F. McIntyre, (Methodist); Rev. H. Cowart, (Baptist); Rev. M. W. McCreary, (Presbyterian); Rev. Father Crowley, (C. W. Watch, Rev. J. J. Rice, Rev. N. H. H. B. L. Class, Sunday afternoon at 3.30 p.m. National Series of Sunday School by Miss ANNIE MATHISON, Teacher.

Clergymen of all Denominations are cordially invited to visit us at any time.

Industrial Departments.

PRINTING OFFICE, SHOW AND SUNDAY Hours from 7.30 to 8.30 a.m., and from 5.30 p.m. for pupils who attend school. Those who do not from 7.30 a.m. to 8.30 a.m. and from 1.30 to 2.30 p.m. each working day except Saturdays, when the office at 1.30 p.m. will be closed at noon.

THE SUNDAY CLASS HOURS are from 9 a.m. to 12 o'clock, noon, and from 1.30 to 3 p.m. for those who do not attend school at 1.30 to 3.30 p.m. for those who do not attend school on Saturday afternoons.

The Printing Office, Show and Sunday, will be left each day when work is done in a clean and tidy condition.

PUPILS are not to be excused from the various Classes or Industrial Departments except on account of sickness, without permission of the Superintendent.

Teachers, Officers and others are not to allow matters foreign to the work in hand to interfere with the performance of their several duties.

Visitors:

Persons who are interested, desiring to visit the Institution, will be made welcome on any school day. No visitors are allowed on Saturdays, Sundays or Holidays except to the regular class exercises at 2.30 p.m. on Saturday afternoons. The best time for visitors on ordinary school days is as soon after 1.30 in the afternoon as possible, as the classes are dismissed at 3.00 o'clock.

Admission of Children:

When pupils are admitted and parents are with them to the Institution, they are always advised not to linger and prolong the taking with their children. It only causes discomfort for all concerned, particularly the parent. The child will be tenderly and for, and if left in our charge without delay will be quite happy with the others a few days, in some cases in a few hours.

Visitation:

It is not beneficial to the pupils for friends to visit them frequently. If parents must come, however, they will be made welcome to the class-rooms and allowed every opportunity of seeing the general work of the school. We cannot furnish lodging or meals, or entertain guests at the Institution. Good accommodation may be had in the city at the Quinte Hotel, Hoffman House, Queen's, Anglo-American and Dominion Hotels at moderate rates.

Clothing and Management:

Parents will be good enough to give instructions concerning clothing and management of their children to the Superintendent. No correspondence will be allowed between parents and employees under any circumstances without special permission under each occasion.

Sickness and Correspondence:

In case of the serious illness of pupils, letters or telegrams will be sent daily to parents or guardians. IN THE ABSENCE OF LETTERS FRIENDS OF PUPILS MAY BE QUITE SURE THEY ARE WELL.

All pupils who are capable of doing so will be required to write home every three weeks. Letters will be written by the teachers for the little ones who cannot write, stating, as far as possible, their wishes.

No medical preparations that have been used at home, or prescribed by family physicians will be allowed to be taken by pupils except with the consent and direction of the Physician of the Institution.

Parents and friends of deaf children are warned against Quack Doctors who advertise medicines and appliances for the cure of deafness. In 999 cases out of 1000 they are frauds, and only want money for which they give no return. Consult well known medical practitioners in cases of adventurous deafness and be guided by their counsel and advice.
H. MATHISON, Superintendent.