

WHATEVER IS, IS BEST.

BY ELLA WHEELER WILCOX

"I know as my life grows older,
And mine eyes have clearer sight,
That under each rank Wrong somewhere
There lies the root of ill;
That each sorrow has its purpose,
By the softening of unguessed
But as sure as the sun brings morning,
Whatever is, is best."

"I know that each sinful action,
As sure as the night brings shade,
Is sometime somewhere punished,
Though the hour be long delayed,
I know that the soul is aided,
Sometime or there the heart's unrest,
And to grow means often to suffer,
But whatever is, is best."

I know there are no errors
In that great eternal plan,
And all things work together
For the final good of man,
And I know as my soul speeds onward
In the grand, eternal quest,
I shall say, as I look earthward,
Whatever is, is best."

TORONTO TOPICS.

From our own Correspondents

The Annual Tea Social given in connection with the deaf-mute services, was held on the 5th ult., in the lecture room of the Congregational Church. The entertainment, which was contributed by Mr. Nasmith, was a great success. The only thing amiss was a proper programme to be carried out after tea, but owing to the short notice given it was impossible to prepare a suitable one, however, the evening was a very enjoyable one never theless. There could scarcely have been less than 100 who sat down to tea, there being a great many hearing friends present. Among them was the church's new pastor, Rev. Mr. Hyde, and his amiable wife, who only came recently from Chicago, where Mr. Hyde had been laboring with Mr. Moody during the time of the Columbian Exposition. They made themselves quite at home with the mutes present. We were also pleased to see Mrs. Nasmith there, who is always ready to assist the deaf mutes in any way in her power. After all had satisfied themselves with the good things, the tables were cleared and Mr. Bridgen was elected chairman, who, after a few preliminary remarks, called for the fulfilment of the programme hastily gotten up for the evening, which consisted of speeches, recitations, pantomimes, etc. Mr. Philip Fraser gave the story of "Go to the ant, thou sluggard." Mr. Nasmith was next asked to come up and give a few words, which he did, and said he did not wish to be like the old woman in the shoe, but would rather see "his children" get plenty to eat, and gave some practical advice, which was well received. A. W. Mason gave "The Minister and the Wasps," in which he succeeded admirably and proved to be a fairly good successor to the late Prof. Greeno. He also recited "Christ stilling the tempest" in good style. Thos. Bradshaw and Chas. Howo rendered the "Dentist and the Patient." Harry Mason and Ellis gave "A scene in a photo gallery," and much laughter. A few words were given by J. W. Boughton and Mr. Bridgen, after which Mrs. A. W. Mason gave "Nearer my God to Thee" in a graceful style. By this time it was after 10 o'clock, and the meeting was drawn to a close with a vote of thanks to Messrs. Nasmith and Bridgen, and the officers of the church for their kindness in giving the use of the room, and thus closed another successful social.

Mr. and Mrs. Flynn have returned from an extended visit to her father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Brown, at Lindsay. They seem to have had a splendid time by their appearance. John R. Newell, of Milton, made his friends a call two weeks ago. John is an industrious young man. He helps his aged father on the farm. Thomas Johnson has purchased a number of views of the interior of the New York Institution. Any one wishing to see them may call at his home, 711 Young St. Mrs. J. L. Smith keeps a large variety of flowers. We think Mrs. Smith has a thorough knowledge of them by the way they thrive. Mrs. A. W. Mason had some Morning Glories blooming on the coldest days, Feb., 4th and 5th. Miss Annie Fraser is visiting at Mr. and Mrs. Philip Fraser's. We are pleased to state that Mr. Thos. Bradshaw has secured a situation in the Massey Works here. He hopes it will be permanent. There are two other deaf mutes there—H. Mason and W. J. Terrell. J. J. Ward had two peculiar customers the other evening. They were deaf

mutes, and Mr. Ward wasted considerable talk before he discovered they had no desire to talk. His recollection, however, of the dumb alphabet stood him well. "It is a long time since I took an order before without doing some talking," remarked J. J. afterwards. Star Mr. Percy Allen met with a rather serious accident lately at Grenadiers Lake, while out there for a skate. He fell heavily on the ice and sustained an ugly wound over the eye, which was dressed by Dr. Spence, requiring seven stitches to close. He has now nearly recovered. Mrs. R. Riddell gave a party on Friday evening, the 9th ult., in honor of her daughter, Miss Mary Moore, who had attained her eighteenth birthday. A good number of young folks were invited, and as Mr. Riddell's birthday happened at about the same date, some of his mute friends got an invitation also. The weather promised to be very unfavorable by a continuous pour of rain, but this did not mar the pleasure of the number of about fifty. Miss M. Moore, who is a graceful little brunette, entertained her friends with much hospitality by many games of amusement, etc. Thomas Bradshaw dressed as an old hump back woman, causing considerable merriment by going through a form of marriage with a young man who expected her money. Mr. McGillivray also dressed up and was masked, representing an Indian, and they had some difficulty in discovering who he was. After this, games were indulged in for a few hours, then came a supper, all sorts of goodies being handed around until the inner man was thoroughly satisfied. Games were renewed, which were enjoyed by all. The party broke up at a late hour, after a vote of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Riddell for their hospitality.

Great blizzard on the 12th ult., many frozen ears. Miss Annie Fraser, Stenographer, is looking for employment in this city. Mr. Mundlo is confined to his bed with a cold. Mr. and Mrs. H. Moore gave a party to a few friends on the 22nd ult. Miss Lotta Henry is visiting her friends here. She is looking well. Mr. J. D. Nasmith lectured on the Conversion of the Jew, Hermann Warszawiak, Sunday the 18th ult. Mr. Headley Grant, of Hamilton, has just returned from a visit to Minneapolis, U. S. He made his friends here a call last week. He and J. R. Byrne are zealous in the Gospel Mission work in Hamilton. Miss Nellie Cunningham has steady work at dressmaking among the mute ladies of this city. Having a preference for deaf society, she has quite given up her numerous customers in Oakville. The meeting at Mr. Slater's last week was well attended. Mr. S. gave a short lecture on Talmage's travels in the Holy Land.

FROM CHICAGO.

The Pass Pass club had its ball last Saturday night. The hall was filled with mutes and their friends, many out of town points being represented. There were greetings, introductions and lively conversations, but all in silence. There was an orchestra to furnish music, and when it came to dancing the mutes seemed to enjoy it though they heard nothing. The pleasure seemed to be in the motion of the bodies. The most perfect waltzers were some who had never heard music. A few mutes catch the time of the music by its variation, others govern their steps by watching those they know are right, while many are able to keep step by the imperceptible vibration of the floor under their feet. In the figure dancing, it is almost entirely a question of copying the movements of a couple that understand the figure. A church fair was in progress in a side room during the evening. The proceeds from this annual event will be devoted to securing new quarters for the club, which is now located at Clark and Randolph Sts. Mr. and Mrs. Jefferson, of Toronto, and Mr. Thomas, of Oakville, were present. Chicago, February, 1894.

The sweetest word in the Saxon tongue is home. It has in it the brightness of sunshine and the fragrance of flowers. It suggests love and rest and gladness. It calls up pictures painted imperishably on all our hearts. It speaks of fatherly care, mother love and wife's tenderness and devotion. The home is the safeguard of the nation.

Letters from Former Pupils.

Lindsay, Feb'y 10th, 1894.

R. MARINSON, SECT. DEAR SIR:—It is with great pleasure that I pen you these few lines to let you know how I am getting along here. I am enjoying good health and hope you and all connected with the Institute are favored with the same blessing. I am still working at the Post printing office, though on account of work not being very brisk recently I was laid off for two weeks, but have started again and like the job very well. The CANADIAN MUTE is always a welcome visitor and I am glad to be a subscriber for another year, and hope the subscription lists will be increased. I see that the pupils' locals are well gotten up and hope it may continue. Reading a few numbers I saw that your boys still hold the coveted cup at the Institute and you, the teachers, and officers ought to feel proud, and also the ex-pupils. I heartily congratulate every member of the Senior Eleven on their usual success and I hope "the Cup" will stay with you for many years to come. Now, that the boys have gotten up a hockey team I hope they will get along all right. If they get beaten once or twice it will not matter, as it is the first season they have played the game. The convention, to be held in Belleville this summer, is not far off. I don't know whether I will be present or not, but I will try and go to see all my old friends. Wishing you all prosperity, I remain, Yours faithfully, GEORGE REEVES.

HOUSTON'S RAPIDS, Feb. 1894

DEAR SIR:—The talks of pupils in the paper make it like visiting with old friends. We are having a very light winter in Muskoka, having had as much rain as snow, so that we have good ice, and lots of fun skating with our friends. There are two deaf mutes in this neighborhood, Joseph Brooks, who is uneducated and his sister Mrs. Tylor, who was educated at the Hamilton Institution. I am working with my father and brother making shingle bolts this winter. I hope to attend the Convention next June. Yours truly, WM. A. FLATNER.

PUPILS' LOCALS.

From the Boys' Side of the Institute

BY HERBERT ROBERTS

We are having some good sleighing these days. Dr. Chamberlain, Inspector, paid us a visit on the 21st ult. Good Friday comes on the 23rd day of this month. We hope that day will be pleasant. On the 19th ult., William Smallidon got a letter from his cousin, saying that four of their horses had died of influenza. Mr. Douglass showed us some pretty views with a magic lantern on the evening of the 17th, and we enjoyed the scenes. We had permission to go skating on the bay on the 20th ult., and we had a good time. We had not been on the bay for several days. We all say that John Isbister is a good skater and he is the captain of the hockey club. We hope he will get along well with his team in the future. The little boys wish they were at home now, because they would like to see the merry little lambs, but they have to wait sixteen more weeks. On the 20th ult. Eddie Lesho got a letter from his father saying that he slipped over a thousand hogs in three weeks. Don't you think he is rich? While some of the pupils were out skating on the bay last week, they got their ears, cheeks and fingers frozen. They now wish old Jack frost would soon pass away. Our boys played a hockey match with the city boys in the rink at Belleville, on the evening of the 22nd ult., but the speakers won the game by a score of 2 to 0. The names of our team were J. Isbister, captain, J. Patrick, goal keeper, J. Fisher, H. Hanco, C. Gillam, S. Labelle, and W. Smallidon.

The Desert Eagle has an interesting paper on the sign language of the Indians of the plains, by Lieut. Scott, in which he shows that this was the universal language of the various tribes.

PUPILS' LOCALS

From the Girls' Side of the Institute

BY BOLLA HERRINGTON

The girls in the sewing class had plenty of work this week. Flossy Gardner takes a walk nearly every day and seems to enjoy it. Mabel Ball is a general favorite with the girls and so is her sister Emma. Annie McPhail received a nice photo of her only sister, whom she is very fond of. Mr. Campbell teaches the Bible class instead of Miss Annie Mathison. He is a good signer. Miss Ada James took tea with Mrs. Balts on the 21st, and reported having a most enjoyable time. Mr. Robert Mathison Jr. and Miss Annie Mathison left here for Toronto to see their brother George. Dr. Chamberlain, the Inspector of this Institution, was here on the 21st ult. We were glad to see him. Mrs. Joe. S. McEwen is a summer sister of mine, calls on at Borthwick every time she gets a chance to go to Ottawa. When the bell rings for dinner we girls are always anxious to get our letters, this shows that we think of it a day and night. Mrs. Baber refuses an offer of the girls when they ask her to buy things in the city. She is kind hearted, so is Miss James. February is over. How fast the time flies! Spring is almost here and we shall be happy to see the leaves and flowers again. Miss Ada James was pleasantly surprised by an unexpected visit from her mother and was made happy by seeing her again. On Valentine's Day Annie McPhail got a parcel containing valentines to some of the teachers and girls. Some one has not forgotten them. Florence Hill had a call from her sister Blanche and a friend Laura. Blanche comes to see her quite often as their parents live in Belleville. Minnie Hayward has finished her drawing work and it is admired by all. Some of the girls who have not finished theirs yet cannot help but envy her. Miss Maggie Watt, a graduate of this Institution, keeps up a correspondence with some of her friends here. We expect to see her at the Convention in June. Bolla Herrington received a nice sunbeam photo of Miss Mabel Steel and sister, which she appreciates most highly. We think they have changed quite much. Ethel and Eva Irvine were called home on the 18th ult. to see their dear brother Will, who has been away for the past five years. They were delighted to see him. Miss Ada James, who had a dozen of her photographs taken, sent one of them to Miss McFarlane, a teacher at the Mackay Institute, in Montreal. It is a good likeness of her. Mabel Ball has suffered with a severe cough recently but happily she is all right now. It is strange she always gets a bad cough every year, in February. She says she is glad it is better. On the 17th ult., we enjoyed skating as the pond was in good condition, and we also had a grand time on the bay on the 20th. We wonder how often we can go skating before the ice gives out. The girls of the sewing class are taught penmanship one afternoon of each week. They appreciate the superintendent's kindness in giving them an opportunity of learning to write well. Bertha Mitchell used to live in Sarnia, but her parents live in their Sound now. She tells us of her intention to visit her old friends in Sarnia, who school closes. We hope she will enjoy herself very much.

Mr. John H. Craig, of Danville, Ind. is said to be "the biggest man in the world," his height being considerably over 7 feet, his weight, measurements and body. He is 37 years old, stands six feet ten inches in his stockings, and weighs just 47 pounds. He measures eight feet four inches around the hips, eighty inches around the ankles, twenty nine inches around the knee, sixty six inches around the thigh, and requires forty one inches for a suit of clothes.