

THE CANADIAN MUTE.

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To A Beautiful Mute.

BY BENJAMIN HENRI, EARL OF BRACONFIELD.

Tell me the star from which she fell,
Oh, name the flower
From out whose wild and perfumed bell
At witching hour
Sprang forth this fairy maiden,
Like a bee with honey laden

They say that those sweet ll, - of thine
Breathe not to; look;
Thy very ears that see it so fine
No sound can rock
And yet thy face beams with emotion
Restless as waves of ocean.

Thy will thy form and face agree,
And both are fair!
I would not that this child should be
As others are!

I love to mark her, in Christian
Smiling in ecstasie vision
At our poor gifts of vulgar sense
That cannot stain
Or mar her native innocence,
Nor cloud her brain
With all the dreams of worldly folly,
And its creature melancholy.

To thee I dedicate these lines,
Yet read them not;
Cursed be the art that e'er refines
Thy natural lot.

Lead the bright stars, and read the flowers,
And hold converse with the towers.



TEACHERS OF THE DEAF.

They should be Paid Well, and Their Services Retained.

Principal Wyckoff, of the Iowa Institution, in his biennial report to the General Assembly, says:—Hemmed in by barriers considered so unmountable that among ancient nations deaf mutes had no legal rights, their delivery from the ban of ignorance is difficult. It will therefore readily be seen that teachers capable of this should not be classed and paid with those of public schools. This has come to be generally recognized, but perhaps not to the extent that justice and expediency demand. During the two years just past, we have, as in the years before, been compelled to admit that the State of Iowa, proud as she is of her educational record, has not held out such inducements to her teachers of the deaf as would suffice to keep them in her service. As compared with the schools for the deaf in other States I feel that we have in Iowa an institution that does not suffer by comparison, but to reach the far from the possible goal, to reach it or approach it our instructors must be of the best, and of the ripest experience. When they become efficient in our service, we must be able to retain them. Since the date of my last report our number have handed in their resignations. Yono, Miss Kennedy, to become the higher obligations of married life, and three others—Mr. McDermid, Miss Gorman and Miss Sutton attracted by greater inducements elsewhere than we were able to offer. Iowa need not become merely a training school for other States, but in order to retain its own it must furnish adequate provision for them.

Will Burn Oil.

In the future the Indiana Institution will burn oil as fuel instead of gas, a change made necessary on account of the inadequate supply of the latter. The *Indian Hoosier* says: The cost of the plant is \$1,915. What it will cost to burn oil a year is estimated as follows: Amount of oil, 5,000 barrels, or 210,000 gallons; this will be supplied on a year's contract at .537 per barrel, or \$112.74; three barrels of oil are equal to one ton of coal; cost of the oil, as compared with the coal, \$1.61 per ton, making the work of shovelling it, cleaning out ashes, etc. The oil burns with a clear, hot blaze, and is entirely clean. Ark. Optic.

Photography of Lip Movement.

The art of photography is employed for an ever-increasing variety of uses, from the photography of the stars to that of the smallest germs.

One of the most useful and recent photographic efforts is the so-called "method of analyzing motion by the chronophotograph," widely known in its former application by M. Moroy in the case of moving animals, and lately employed by M. Demeny, a preparator at the physiological station of M. Moroy, to examine the movement of the lips in speaking.

Until the now investigations of tones which result in the beautiful "voice figures," or drawings produced by the voice breathed through an instrument, this photographic effort is declared to be wholly practical.

Its results are especially valuable in educating deaf-mutes; since they show that the form of the mouth is quite definite for the different articulate sounds. The photographs of the movements of the lips make a picture-language which a deaf-mute who has been accustomed to read from the lips of the speaker can easily understand. It is said that a young pupil of the National Institution of Deaf-Mutes in France could read the vowels and diphthongs as well as the labials.

In bringing the matter before the Academy of Science in Paris, M. Demeny expressed the hope that in continuing his researches he would be able to develop a new method of educating deaf-mutes by sight from more perfect photographic images. A magic lantern lecture could be delivered to the deaf mutes in this way.

The experiments are an interesting illustration of the readiness with which scientists seize upon all practical methods in pursuing their investigations. Photography is applied to the advance of physiology as well as to that of astronomy. In its reproduction of lip movements it opens a field that may prove interesting to philologists, educators and scientists.—*Yonkers Statesman*

No Danger From the Patient.

A somewhat breezy incident happened in the office of a Winsted professional man a few days ago. He had concocted a very savory liquid from a mixture of several choice brands and invited his friend, a local physician, to "have something," which he did. A day or two afterwards the invited friend thought he would like another taste and leisurely wended his way to his friend's office.

When he entered, the doctor had a lady in his dental chair, filling her teeth. He looked around and, seeing his caller, said: "Hello! come after some more rum?" The caller nearly fainted at the salutation, and simply stared at the dentist, who blurted out: "You look pale around the gills. Hold on a minute and I'll give you some more rum."

The caller again was thunderstruck, but finally managed to say: "Doctor, can I see you a moment in your parlor?"

"Certainly," said the dentist, and he immediately stepped away from his lady patient, and passed into the parlor.

When there, the friend, bridling with indignation, said in a freezing tone, "Doctor, what is the matter with you, any way? Are you crazy, are you drunk, or are you the simon pure extract of a fool? What's the matter with you, any way?" "Oh, that's all right," said the dentist, "that lady won't give you away—she's deaf and dumb." *Hartford Courant.*

The St. Louis deaf cigar makers appear to have made a favorable impression, as one firm announces its willingness to employ any deaf-mute who understands making cigars by hand.

Mr. Thomas Penn, a deaf-mute of North Carolina, has invented a cat-coupler which promises to bring him a fortune.

A Superintendent's Duties.

A Superintendent's life and lot is not always a happy one, though the "soft bits" are sought after most industriously by many men who imagine they "could run the thing." They simply do not know what "running the thing," as they term it, means. They are in a position to see only the pleasant side of a superintendent's duties and the dark side is wisely kept in the background. The wear and tear on the nerves of a man who has the responsible management of a state boarding school of from two hundred to three hundred students and a retinue of officers and employes of from 10 to 50, earn every dollar he gets from his salary and his "board and keep" thrown in. Beside being fitted by education for the place he must be a man of undoubted executive ability, good judgment, good business ideas, good health, a hard worker, courteous and "nery." He must exercise these qualities from early morn till dory eve, and not flinch if he receives an occasional "back hander" from some powerful official or an investigation from a legislative committee. He must be willing to listen once in a while to wise dictation from parents of his pupils who presume to be able to give him a few pointers on running the school. And finally he must understand that his exalted position is a gift from the people or a part of them, which fact must never be lost sight of for a moment, else he might become too high and mighty on his throne. Humble yourself then, O ye superintendents, and remember you are but enjoying your elevated position through a combination of lucky circumstances, and not because of any special fitness you may have for the responsibilities you are carrying.—*Kansas Star*

A Good Judge of Signs.

Sitting opposite to me in an elevated car the other day, there were two deaf-mutes, a stalwart, stylish young man and a handsome young woman, engaged in conversation.

With skill, grace, and vivacity, the fingers and features of the mute pair were brought into play in the dialogue. Now it looked to me as if he were giving an account of something, at one time their faces were radiant while communicating with each other through silent manoeuvres, at another time a thoughtful mood appeared in the countenance, or again a resolute spirit, or yet again some other mental condition.

Perhaps all my inferences as to the nature of their sign language were erroneous, but I stand ready to wager a nickel that some of them were right, as they were founded on analogy.

It is Julian Hawthorne who maintains that the time is coming when mankind will cease to indulge in vocal speech, which, according to her opinion, is a very inadequate exponent of thought, and a poor substitute for the subtler methods of expression to which mutes are accustomed. *John Scanton in the N. Y. Sun.*

How to be Happy.

Some one gives these directions for making life happy: "Take time. It is of no use to fume or fret or do as the angry housekeeper who got hold of the wrong key and pushes, shakes and rattles it about the lock until both are broken and the door still unlocked. The chief secret of comfort lies in not suffering troubles to vex us and in cultivating our undergrowth of small pleasures. Try to regard present vexations as you will regard them a month hence. Since we cannot get what we like, let us like what we can get. It is not riches, it is not poverty, it is human nature that is the trouble. The word is like a looking glass. Laugh at it and it laughs back, frown at it and it frowns back. Angry thoughts enker the mind and dispose it to the worst temper in the world that of fixed malice and revenge. It is while in this temper that most men become criminals." *N. Y. Ledger.*

DEAF-MUTE TEACHERS.

Important Meetings Arranged by the Standing Committee.

The Washington Star of the 10th inst. has an account of the meeting there the previous week of prominent representatives of deaf-mute education in Canada and the United States. These educators hold conventions and conferences at stated times and these meetings are arranged for by a standing committee which is elected by the convention. The first of these meetings was held in 1850, when but thirty-four representatives were present. Since 1868 conventions have been held every two years, one of these being in Belleville, Ont. At the last meeting held in August, 1890, fifty schools out of eighty-one then existing were represented by 316 delegates. The standing committee which met in Washington consists of six members, one of which is H. Mathison, the Principal of the Institute here, and one of the most popular and efficient deaf-mute educators in America. The chief business of the committee was to arrange for a conference of superintendents and principals to be held at Colorado Springs next July and a general convention at Chicago in the summer of 1893. The latter meeting will take the form of an ecumenical congress of teachers of the deaf, at which representatives from all parts of the world are expected to be present. The members of the committee were given a private audience by President Harrison.—*Belleville Ontario.*

Talk on Their Fingers!

The other day while rambling through several hundreds of papers that find their way into our sanctum, we ran across the item appended hereto—which, though containing nothing strange to deaf-mutes, is peculiar in itself:— "Twenty years ago John B. Stetson of Ottawa, Kansas, fell out with his wife about correcting a child, and vowed he would never speak to her again. She in turn vowed never to speak first. They are both superstitious about the effect of breaking their vow, and years ago learned to talk on their fingers and make signs freely to each other. To their seven children they talk as much as ever. This has been going on now for twenty out of forty years of their married life."—*Deaf Mutes Journal.*

Filled With Lizards.

Daniel Mummert, a farmer living near East Berlin, Adams county, Pennsylvania, had been suffering for some time past from what was supposed to be pulmonary consumption. A week or so ago he was seized with a violent spell of vomiting and expelled six small lizards from his stomach. His condition became worse and last week he died. It was found that his stomach was literally alive with the reptiles. Mr. Mummert was a road supervisor and in the course of his work frequently drank from springs along the roadside, and it is thought that in this way he got the lizards while very young in his stomach.

Mrs. Elizabeth Acuff, a deaf-mute, sued a Tennessee railroad company for \$20,000 damages for the death of her husband, C. Acuff, also a deaf-mute, who was killed on the railroad May 21, 1890. Prof. T. L. Moses acted as interpreter and the jury returned a verdict of \$2,750 for the plaintiff.—*D. M. Register.*

Mr. Ray, of the Colorado School, has "struck it rich." He is interested in a silver mine at Leadville, at which a big strike of pay dirt is reported. Congratulations.

The colored department of the North Carolina Institution for the Deaf suspended work for a week, as every pupil was sick with "La Grippe."

Miss Maggie Tucker is a pupil of the North Carolina Institution. She stands six feet in her slippers, but fortunately she has a pacific disposition.