

Ontario Deaf-Mute Association.

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R C BLAYEN	Toronto	
A W MASON	Toronto	
A J SMITH	Hamilton	
D J McHILLIP	Belleville	
D R COLFMAN	Belleville	
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Secretary	Wm Nurse	
Treasurer	Wm Douglas	
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President	R Mathison	
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Treasurer	D J McHillip	
Manager	Ada James	

THE CANADIAN MUTE.

LOCAL REPORTS.  
MONDAY, APRIL 2, 1891.

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of the *Palmerston*

Easter at the Institution.

Another year has rolled by, and Easter, with its accompanying supply of good things has come and gone. According to our usual custom we had a holiday on Good Friday. Mr. Coleman gave an impressive address in the forenoon of that day to the pupils assembled in the chapel.

The children had a very enjoyable game in the dining room on the evening of Easter Monday, when games and innocent amusements of all kinds were indulged in and every one seemed perfectly happy. Besides the officers and teachers a number of hearing friends joined the social by their presence. Refreshments were served during the evening.

Ontario Deaf-Mute Association.

I hope that all who have received the circulars will let me know as soon as they conveniently can if they will be able to attend the meetings of the Convention. We wish to gain an approximation of the number who will likely be present. A large number of replies have already been received, and the prospect is very favorable for the largest gathering in the history of the Association.

I have received communications from several of our old foot-ball players asking me to arrange for a match between the ex-pupils and the present team of the Institution during the Convention. The pupils here now, are eager for a trial of skill with the members of the teams of by gone years, and will be very happy to accommodate the ex-pupils with a match. We hope to be able to arrange for our players to remain to the meetings and do not anticipate any difficulty in getting a team together. I would suggest that all the old members of our first eleven send a postal card to Mr. Waggoner of Preston, Ont., inviting him to take the captaincy, and offer his services, he would then be able to make a choice of players. As Mr. Waggoner is one of the best deaf foot-ballers in Ontario I consider him worthy of being selected to the post of captain. He also challenges any deaf person to enter the lists with him in running and jumping contests, and will be ready to meet them at the Convention. If possible, part of the afternoon of Monday, the 18th of June will be set aside for Athletic contests.

Yours faithfully,  
April 2, 1891, Wm. Nurse.

One of our lady teachers was the unhappy recipient of one of "Job's sweeteners" as an Easter gift. It was very unpleasant for a few days.

HOME NEWS

—Mr. Cunningham and his boys in the bakery had a busy time on the 22nd ult. In addition to the usual batch of bread a supply of cakes and hot buns had to be baked for Good Friday. It took them far into the night.

—On the 17th ult., Mr. McAloney entertained the pupils with an instructive lecture on George Washington. Mr. McAloney is now in charge of the boys' side on Saturday evenings, and endeavours to get something interesting every week.

—Jumping and putting the stone are the boys' chief amusements just now. If they kept up practice, we think they would be able to defeat the crack athletes who are coming to the Convention, but foot-ball will soon absorb every thing.

St. Patrick's Day was duly honoured, every true child of Erin sported a bit of green on their breasts. The Catholic pupils attended church in the city in the morning, our gardener, Mr. Wills, taking care that each was supplied with the regulation colour.

—Our friend Cowen, of the National College at Washington, is quite happy now, but he has been in a bad humor for a while. The Customs authorities interfered with the transit of his wheel from Canada to the College, which caused considerable delay. He has it now.

—The harbingers of spring, the robins and blue birds are again with us for their summer visit, and the happy possessors of the aural sense can hear them chirping among the trees. We wish that the pestilent English sparrows would relieve us of their presence for a time, but these we have with us always.

—During the winter the material for a handsome summer house has been cut and fitted by Mr. Flynn and his staff of boys in the carpenter shop. It will be built on the west side as soon as the ground is dry. In a week or two the boys will get a little exercise at fence building as quite a stretch was blown down during the winter.

The *Rockwood Review*, Charles M. Clarke, Business Manager is the latest edition to our sanctum. It is an amateur publication, cleverly edited by Misses Goldie and Margery Clarke, both aspiring scribblers in the journalistic profession. The paper is neatly printed, and altogether presents a very creditable appearance. We gladly put it on our Exchange List.

Long before the ground was properly dry, the boys had the foot-ball out, wading through mud and slush in their wild rushes after the rubber. In consequence, plenty of mud was brought into the building, much to the disgust of those responsible for the cleanliness of the floors. Providentially the rubber soon burst, and we guess, the boys will have to whistle for a new one until the ground is favourable.

—The attendants had another fitting a few days ago and changed their domicile again. They were nicely settled in their new quarters last year, but the opening of the session brought contagious diseases and they had to vacate their rooms to be turned into hospital purposes. With the completion of the new hospital they may consider themselves a fixture, as these rooms will probably never be required again for that purpose.

Our farm team of horses, which have done honest service for many years, will likely soon experience a change of masters. In their younger days they carried off first prize, time and again, at the annual Agricultural show in Belleville, but age is telling on them, and a younger span will soon be in their harness. Two or three teams have been here on trial, but were not satisfactory. Work presses, and all, even the horses, have to hustle.

—The March number of the *Ladies Journal*, published in Toronto, contains a beautiful half tone photo of Miss Mary Keegan in theatrical costume. Miss Keegan is well known here, as she was a favorite companion of many when her mother was matron of this school. She is now a rising theatrical star in London, England, and has won eulogistic notices from stage critics in her renditions of difficult Shakspearean characters. She has also travelled through the Holy Land and Greece, spending a considerable time in Athens. She made her first appearance on the London stage in 1892, and immediately won public favor.

—Our gardener, Mr. Wills, is very busy. He is getting his hot beds ready for early vegetables and flowers. The greenhouse is flourishing, but those who are admitted to view its beauties are very select. "Once caught, twice shy," is Mr. Wills' maxim now, it almost needs a certificate of character to get in. Who ever purloined that bulb deserves to be ostracised.

—Miss Ostrom and her aged mother have the sympathy of all here in the great affliction they now suffer by the death of Mrs. Gilbert, in Brooklyn, N. Y., which recently occurred. A beloved daughter and affectionate sister has been taken away by death, and a husband and six children are also left to mourn the loss of one who was an angel friend to them.

—After being gone over a year, the exhibit of our pupils' work, sent to the World's Fair in Chicago, has just been returned in as good condition as we could expect considering the distance it has travelled, and the amount of handling it has been subjected to. Just what will be done with it, we have not yet learned, it will either be returned to the several departments, or preserved entire as a memento of the great show. Perhaps the latter would be best.

—Our pupils may well take pride in the general good showing made in the conduct column of our paper, but the last issue was a surprise, even the best conducted boys and girls, who have never got less than the highest number of marks, were cut down wholesale. The rules of our Institution are not so strict as to be irksome, they are just rigid enough to maintain discipline a 'no more. Pleasures that may be deemed innocent enough elsewhere, may not be conducive to order in a great school. "Circumstances alter cases; different ways suit different places." We don't expect to see such a lot of No. 5 in that column again.

We cannot too often bring to the attention of parents the pleasure that a letter, postal card, or some illustrated papers will bring to our pupils. The letters and papers are distributed every day at dinner, and to see the faces of the recipients beam with pleasure as they receive some remembrance from absent friends, is a happy sight. On the other hand, many faces wear a very disappointed look as the mail delivery passes them day by day without a line from home. Their friends may love them dearly, and be constantly thinking of their children here, but the absent ones need some tangible proof of it to be assured. So write often please.

—Here's a bit of human nature artlessly expressed. Recently one of our teachers asked a pupil in her class these questions: "If you were buying something in a store, and the clerk did not return you enough change, what would you do?" After cogitating awhile the boy answered "I would not trade in that store again." Then the teacher asked, "If the clerk gave you too much change, what would you do?" With little hesitation the pupil answered "I would often trade in that store." The answers were not what the teacher sought, but they were not so far amiss as to merit reproof. The boy did not grasp the exact import of the questions, but he had an idea of loss and profit in trade.

Extracts from Letters.

—A subscriber writes,—"Having been highly pleased with the CANADIAN MUTE, I cannot be without it in the future life to come. Our friend will have to do without the paper in Heaven, where we feel sure he is going, we do not send any copies there. The Institution is about the nearest place to Heaven, for the deaf of Ontario, that we know of. Will try and make it interesting for him however while he remains on this mundane sphere.

—A fond mother writes,—"I have been reading cards, and am so pleased to notice the steady improvement in his writing, unless there is a gradual growth in every respect, which is very gratifying. The pleasant thought is always present with me that we shall have our boy at home again soon, and with this thought comes feelings of gratitude towards the kind officers and teachers who are doing so much for him and we should like you to know how satisfied we are with his improvement, and so pleased when four tens are attached to his name in the paper, which is very often the case."

PERSONALITIES.

—Mr. and Mrs. Sutton, of Simcoo, visited Miss Ettie Grace on Sunday the 25th inst.

—Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd, of Brantford, spent a week with Miss Ettie Grace at Waterford.

—Mrs. (Dr.) Foster, of Hamilton, spent the Easter holidays with her mother, Mrs. Terrill, in this city.

—Charles Meintz is working in a mill at Pembroke where he receives good wages. He purposes coming to the Convention.

—John Terrell, 13 Suburban Place, Toronto, is working at a Pork Packing House in that city. He writes that he will attend the Convention.

—Miss Lillo James, of Oshawa, is looking forward to meeting many of her old friends and class-mates at the Convention to be held here in June.

—William Bryce, of Hamilton, has commenced to learn the book binding business in that city and we feel sure that his industrious habits will commend him to his employer.

—Mr. R. P. McGregor, of the Ohio School, lately lectured before the faculty, students and fellows of the National College, his subject being "Signs." At considerable length, and in an able manner, he defended the use of signs in teaching the deaf. He is a doughty champion of the combined system.

Mrs. W. Ward, of South Los Angeles, California, an old pupil of our school reached another birthday on the 9th of March. Her thoughtful husband issued invitations to their friends to spend the afternoon with them. They responded in numbers that insured a pleasant gathering, at which a richly laden table was an important factor in refreshing the proceedings.

George A. Kelly, an old pupil writes that he thinks farming is the best occupation that a deaf-mute can engage in, as it is more sure in results. He finds it suitable for him as it makes him healthy, happy and from the fruits of his labors he has a comfortable home. He has been making improvements lately, and built a new barn, 50 x 60, a short time ago in which to store his products.

—We regret to learn that Mrs. J. L. Smith, wife of the editor of the *Companion*, is in poor health, and is compelled to seek a milder climate in search of strength. Mr. Smith has been granted leave of absence for some time, and has accompanied his wife to Tucson, Arizona. Mr. P. Hanson will have charge of his work, in the school and on the paper, during his absence. We hope the change will result in a complete restoration of health to Mrs. Smith.

—Mr. B. E. Walker, of Toronto, brother of Miss Walker, of this Institution, delivered a lecture on Italian Art before the students of the Provincial University, on the evening of St. Patrick's Day. The *Globe* speaks thus of it:—"The lecture was one of the most interesting, and this is saying a great deal, for this winter's series of Saturday lectures has been a succession of masterly efforts which makes us more than ever proud of our University—of the whole course. The subject was one not often treated in Canada, and, unfortunately, one which few Canadians can really appreciate, for not many of our people can spare either the money or time to visit the land of art and see the wonderful works in its picture galleries, and the poor, uncolored photographs which are all we have to guess from can give us no adequate idea of those pictures of the old world. What Mr. Walker did was to show the development of Italian art from Giotto to Michael Angelo and Raphael, to point out the general features of the art of this period and describe some of the most celebrated masterpieces. He did this in language which was more poetry than prose throughout, and was besides interspersed with many apt and beautiful quotations from the poets. Of these the happiest was a quotation from Browning's Unknown Painter, who, after one longing look to the world and half desire to paint such pictures as will make him famous, turns to the contemplation of his ideal in art, and declines to degrade it for the sake of vulgar applause. Mr. Walker referred naturally in speaking of the art of the old times to Ruskin, whose well-known estimate of the modern as compared with the old masters has drawn forth so many protests from lovers of the antique. The lecture gave evidence of the man of culture and travel and it would seem comparative leisure."