

TORONTO TOPICS.

From our own Correspondent.

In the 30th ult., Miss Annie Fraser arranged with the deaf-mute ladies of the city to meet at the home of Mrs. A. Mason, No 1 Garden Ave., for the purpose of forming a society, to be known as the Deaf Society for the deaf. Accordingly about twelve were present. Miss Fraser then explained the rules governing the society. Mrs. Nasmith was selected President, and Miss E. Bridgen, Secretary Treasurer. This useful society, as all may understand, is devoted to the purchase and making of clothes for those in extreme poverty, especially for the deaf. The society will meet every Thursday afternoon from 2.30 to 4.30. Two destitute deaf children, brother and sister, have already been discovered in the east end, and we will endeavor to send them to the Institution by next Christmas. The society commenced its work at the home of Mrs. Riddell on Wednesday, the 6th inst. Mrs. Nasmith brightened the meeting by her presence, though her numerous duties may prevent her from attending regularly. In the event of her absence Miss A. Fraser will preside. Miss E. Bridgen, an energetic young lady, proved a valuable assistant in cutting and overseeing the work. Mrs. Nasmith at the close gave some most timely advice as to what they should do and what they must not do. She was strongly opposed to idle gossip and false stories as a rule with many women. She then presented all with a few scriptural texts to carry home. We hope our benevolent friends will not forget to contribute a little towards this useful work; of course, funds are greatly needed at present. Any one wishing to contribute may send it to Miss E. Bridgen, No 103 Rose Ave., Toronto.

Mr. ... who has been in China the last 10 years, but who was home on a visit, conducted the deaf-mute service on the 10th inst. He spoke of the great love God has towards men in sending his Son Jesus Christ into the world, which was the reason of his going to China to tell the teeming millions of the good news. He returned to China last Saturday. He was the old assistant Secretary of the Shaftsbury Hall Y. M. C. A. of this city. He remembered quite a number of us.

The Toronto Engraving Company have moved into their own handsome new building on Bay street. The building is a four storey structure, and all except a store on first floor are occupied by the company. The largely increasing business rendered this removal a necessity, and we heartily congratulate the President, Mr. Fred. Bridgen, Sr., on his business. This firm is one of the largest of its kind in the Dominion.

Our old friend, Mr. Beale, in England, in writing to an acquaintance of his wished to be kindly remembered to all his old friends here. We are sure they will highly reciprocate his good wishes. We still kindly remember the many pleasant social gatherings the mutes used to have in his hospitable house. We are pleased to hear they are all well. His son, whom we remember as a little boy is now, we understand, manager of an important business.

Mr. Bates, Belleville, appeared at one of our Sunday meetings some time back and gave an exposition of the sermon on Mount, which was highly appreciated by all present. His recitation of several hymns was a great treat. We heartily need remind our Belleville friends how much their visits are enjoyed both from old time memories and the words of help they may bring us.

In the last issue of MUTE we reported that our friend, Wm. Torrell, had a new bicycle. We are sorry to state that since that time he has met with a rather painful accident. He was riding behind a vehicle and in attempting to pass came in collision with considerable force with another bicyclist riding in the opposite direction. The other fellow, though escaping unhurt, had his wheel pretty badly wrecked. It is a mystery more serious results did not happen. William, after being laid up for a few days, was able to resume work. By the way, in this writing, we are glad to state that he has almost entirely recovered from the mishap.

Miss Jennie Johnston, sister of Mrs. Fraser, was married on the 10th September last to Mr. Geo. McIntyre, of Buffalo, N. Y. Miss Jennie was well known to a large number of our deaf friends here. We wish her every happiness in her new sphere of life, but we have not so many hearing friends

that we can willingly let any of them go without some regret.

Mr. Thos. Bradshaw is wearing a broad smile these days. He is now the happy father of a bouncing little boy. We heartily congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Bradshaw on their new acquisition. All their friends will be looking for the return of Mrs. Bradshaw and the little stranger to give them a welcome, they having been spending some time in the country at Mrs. Bradshaw's parents. We learned of the happy event too late to make the announcement in last issue of MUTE.

Mr. Pickard is the happy possessor of a new Rapid bicycle. He is an expert bicyclist and has travelled into almost every nook and corner of the Province on his wheel. He is just back from a 100 mile trip up to his native place.

Mrs. Fraser, Woodstock, mother of Mr. P. and Miss A. Fraser of this city, was spending a couple of days here, the guest of her son and daughter.

Mr. W. Nurse, Belleville, came here some time back on the Forester's excursion, and on the same day mounted a silent steel and headed for Nowmarket. He no doubt made the wheels hum. However on his return he staid over a day visiting his old friends. He is the same jolly and talkative old fellow. His visits are always welcome.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Moon have gone to Belleville on a visit.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Mason have been spending a few days in the country with friends. They have returned bright and cheerful.

Mr. P. Fraser is kept unusually busy these days.

Quite a number of the deaf are at present studying the art of wheeling, some with more or less success.

A meeting to arrange the winter's work amongst the deaf-mutes was held at the West End Y. M. C. A. the last week in September and was attended by all the leading mutes of the city. Mr. Slater was elected chairman. There was much lively discussion over the different proposals. In the end Mr. Bridgen, in a vigorous and earnest speech, proposed a new course as regards the weekly Bible class meetings. He said that enquiries had convinced him that there was a great want of a definite knowledge of many of the simplest facts of the Bible, that it was indeed a want common amongst many if not most hearing people. As a simple illustration he tore up some paper and distributed it and asked all present to write down the name of the place where the greatest deed in the world was done, - the place where the Saviour died. The result was that when the papers were collected only five were found correct. This gave much point to the emphasis with which the speaker dwelt on the need and blessing of closer and positive knowledge of the Redeemer's life; that mutes should know the loving Jesus as they know and trusted their best friends on earth. He proposed to write a series of lessons specially adapted to the needs of the mutes if the few really capable would undertake to visit the homes of the mutes in turns and teach one or two at a time the simple facts of the life of the Divine Master, till all were so fully instructed that when gathered once a quarter they might be able to relate each in turn what they knew of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. The proposal was heartily agreed to by all present. It is to be hoped that real good may come from a plan that will require much patience and steadiness to carry out. A weekly Bible class on the Epistles was arranged for a few, to whom it might be of service, and a monthly lecture on some topic of the day. The first on "Gold Finding." The mutes of Toronto have a good prospect of a busy and profitable winter.

JARVIS JOTTINGS.

From our own Correspondent.

There are six or eight mutes living in this locality at present, and are all doing well.

Mr. Samuel Parsley, of Cheap-side, who graduated from your school eighteen years ago, is the sole support of his aged parents, and by the death of a wealthy relative he has just fallen heir to a little "Klondike."

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Crozier, of Springvale, are doing as well as could be expected on their stony acre farm, also their little daughter, Edith, not yet two years old.

Mr. Bryce, of Hamilton, and Miss M. Kennedy, of Mitchell, both ex-pupils of your school, have been working for Mr.

and Mrs. Thomas Crozier during the past summer.

Your little paper comes with the painful intelligence of the death of Miss Lotta Henry. Though it be our loss it is her gain.

Damo rumor has it that there is a deaf boy by the name of Walker living near Nausicoke. He is of school age, but your scribe does not know if he is totally deaf, but would recommend the Superintendent to Mr. Wm. Walker.

All the mutes here expect to attend the convention next June, if nothing happens. H. W. R.

WINDSOR NOTES.

From an occasional Correspondent.

271 pupils this year. Phew! a great big responsibility for Mr. Mathison, and assistants.

Mr. Albert Sepmer has rented a sweet little cottage on Elliot street, and removed there with his wife. They will be pleased to see any of their old friends who should happen to stray this way.

Miss Sophia Gafferty, who has been in Tecumseh, on a visit to her married sister for several months has returned home. She says she had a great time.

It was a great surprise and shock to us, hearing of Miss L. Henry's sad demise. She had many warm friends here, and her untimely end is the main topic of conversation among the mutes.

Talk of Irish Bulls. Here's one of very frequent occurrence. Our own A. E. got a card lately, and one sentence read "Mr. M. is to give a lecture for the deaf in Detroit, tell all the Windsor Mutes to come and hear it."

Will that extremely nice young man who was tip enough to suggest that Mr. Sepmer should call his cottage "Dove Cote," step this way, in order that we may pat him on the head with a club.

At last our old friend Charles Davis has been located. He is at Paquette, about eighteen miles from here. We shouldn't be at all surprised to see his burly form loom into view one of these days. Get a move on, Charlie, and stray this way.

Last time we heard from Bobbie who was learning to ride a wheel. As it is several weeks since, we are anxious to know if she has got over it yet, or is dead. If you don't see this, Bobbie, let us know and we'll write again.

Misses Mabel and Fannie Ball spent a pleasant time at Nellie Mosoy's home in Fargo, this summer. They speak in the highest terms of her parent's kindness to them.

Ed. Ball is still at the Salt works and does pretty well. He is a very steady, quiet fellow, but quick enough to see a joke, and is much liked by all.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Sepmer drove out to visit Adolphus St. Louis on a late Sunday. He had a sister, Annie, a former pupil of your school, who is doubly or trebly afflicted, for in addition to being deaf and dumb she is a cripple, dropsy and rheumatism being the cause. They had a very pleasant day. Before they left for home, Mr. St. Louis gravely presented Mrs. Sepmer with a fine young foreign brood chicken.

Reading that article in last issue of the MUTE, one of my friends remarked: "Matrimony dampen your ardent spirits, indeed!" "No!" It would take the whole ocean to do it and you would be slip enough even then. Compliment is rather questionable.

Nearly every evening the Windsor mutes gather at the home of our young married couple, and spend a pleasant evening. Once Mr. Albert E. gets started on the chicken tack, he sticks there till some one sits on him. This is usually the climax. In our humble opinion, what he doesn't know about chickens isn't worth knowing.

We hear that our young friend Marion Campbell, of Berlin, is coming here on a visit to Mabel Ball. Come on, Marion, we all have a warm corner for you.

Miss L. McMurray has gone to Berlin to work with the other deaf girls. There is an aching void in some one's heart over in Detroit, these days.

There is a little mute girl here named Bam, of school age, whom we think would be better off at school. She seems very bright, and can sign a little.

I'm glad I graduated before the days of electric lights dawned on the Institution. When I think of those jolly times, I along with a chosen few, had eating salmon sandwiches, swiped while the cook's back was turned, I feel a great and awful pity for the "Ducks" who will never know they are caught till the electric light is on, and they're caught in the act of taking a horse-bit.

Calcutta, India, School Fund.

I beg to inform all who have so kindly contributed to this fund, which I started in 1895, that I have to-day, August 11th, 1897, sent to Babu Jamini Nath Banerji, by exchange on London, their contributions, the amount being 53 pounds 18 shillings and 3 pence, which is in American money \$265.80.

My total collection along on deposit before withdrawing the whole amount from the bank was \$261.60. The bank's interest increased this sum to \$266.05. The interest was \$4.36 at the time of withdrawal.

The New York bank which I had to send to for the exchange charged 25 cents thus reducing the sum to \$265.80.

Dr. E. M. Gallaudet's report to July 23rd, 1896, was \$176.00, making a grand total of \$480.80 sent to the Calcutta school from America.

This work has been one of genuine pleasure to me and I desire to avail myself of this opportunity to thank all those who have so kindly lent me their aid in pushing forward my humble efforts.

With this report I wish to state I have not by any means closed up the accounts. If others at any time desire to contribute to this noble cause, they need feel no hesitation in doing so. They may either send their contributions to Dr. E. M. Gallaudet or to me. If sent to me, they will be as faithfully forwarded to Calcutta as have been the former donations.

As before, I earnestly request that all sending donations will please send with them their full names and addresses so receipts can be sent them, and if so desired by the donors, their names will as before be made public through the columns of the deaf press.

I also desire to express my sincere appreciation of the courtesy shown me by the editors of the various school papers who have so kindly given space to my frequent appeals for this cause.

My success so far is largely due to their kind consideration.

Mr. A. A. McIntosh, of Toronto, Canada, also is deserving of thanks for his share in assisting me; and if it becomes necessary I shall hope for a continuance of the services rendered me by all.

GRACE E. MAXWELL, Collector.
1198 West ave., Buffalo, N. Y.

DETROIT NEWS.

From our own Correspondent.

The mutes held a social in the Parish Building. All who attended enjoyed themselves.

A surprise party met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Gustin one evening lately. Games were played, refreshments served and the party broke up at an early hour.

Mr. Gould, of London, Mr. McKillop, of Belleville, Mr. Maddou and Miss E. McIntyre spent part of the summer in Detroit.

The pupils who, during the vacation, have neither read nor written much, are placed at such a disadvantage with those who have obeyed the injunction of their teachers that they appear in comparison to have forgotten every thing they ever know. The difference is great in the first few days of school that it would lead one to the conclusion that some of the class had missed one year. This is no exaggeration and we most earnestly hope that the parents will permit this fact to sink deep into their minds. The full measure of mental development cannot be attained without there is continual effort on the part of the child to absorb knowledge by means of reading and writing. Many of our pupils have reached that degree of proficiency that enables them to learn much outside of school, and while it is difficult to estimate the true value of reading and conversation by writing, there can be no doubt as to its importance and strong influence upon the progress of our children. Some of our pupils kept a diary during the vacation, and have shown by this record that they read the newspapers and books as well. These pupils have resumed the thread of their work as if they had not been out of school a week, while on the other hand those who neglected the advice of their teachers in this direction have fallen by the way, temporarily, of course, but it will only be by repeated efforts they will catch up to the faithful pupils just mentioned. - *Silent Echo.*

The man that has begun to live more seriously within, begins to live more simply without. - *Bishop Brooks.*