

**Ontario Deaf-Mute Association.**

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2nd Eleven	J. Henderson	
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Master of Arts	Ada James	
	J. A. Isbister	

**THE CANADIAN MUTE.**

MONDAY JANUARY 2, 1893.

The only aliant that can wisely suffer  
The worst that man can make, and breathe  
The wrongs  
He wishes to wear them like his tunic,  
areless!

TIMON OF ATHENS, III. 5.

**CHRISTMAS CHEER.**

GLAD AT THE INSTITUTION — A  
HAPPY TIME GENERALLY.

The joyous Christmas season is welcomed by all classes in nearly all communities, as it brings an echo of the song chanted by the heavenly host o'er Judah's plains, when the Babe of Bethlehem was cradled in a manger. "Peace on earth, good will toward men," is the sentiment, breathed by every word of cheering call heard on the street, or when friends meet in social pleasure. Nowhere else is there a more genuine cheer and joyous anticipation than at a large school of small children like this. Absent from home, and separated from much that makes Christmas a time of domestic rejoicing, they are encouraged to expect a day of exceptional delight and good will.

Everything possible is done to complete their enjoyment, and in the hands of sympathetic, competent persons success is easily attained. This year Christmas came on Sunday, and the following Monday was observed as a holiday. The principal rooms of the Institution were very tastily decorated with evergreens, pictures and artificial flowers. The whole building was transformed into a bower of beauty, the very sight of which made the children dance with delight. The chapel exercises on Sunday were of an appropriate character and were unceremoniously participated in by all. Monday morning, after a hearty breakfast the pupils prepared themselves for the auspicious occasion. Chapel services were conducted at 9.30 by Prof. Balis, and at 10 all were summoned to the girls' sitting room where the Superintendent stood upon a raised platform surrounded with a motley collection of boxes, parcels, books, etc. The officers and several others were also present. As the children filed into the room their eyes brightened with anticipated pleasure and the pyramid of gifts appeared in view. They were put in position, and the distribution began. It took some time to go through the list, and when the end was reached there was as happy a lot of children ready for dinner as could be found anywhere. In addition to the many and generous gifts from home the Government added the usual fine collection of suitable books.

The spread that made the long tables literally groan beneath the load of good things was enough to tickle the palate of an epicure.  
It was a sight to tempt even ghosts  
To rise from their more substantial feasts.  
The feast ended with an expression of good will all round and with a disposition to take things easy during the rest of the day. The afternoon was pleasantly spent reading the books received in the morning, inspecting toys, pictures, etc. and mutual congratulations for the good things so beautifully bestowed.  
In the evening the usual party was held in the dining room, when games

and other amusements were enjoyed until 10 o'clock. The pupils also received bags containing nuts, candies, popcorn, raisins, apples, &c. These pleased the little ones. All went to bed well satisfied with what they had experienced during the day, and dreamed of roast turkey, and other delicacies, with which their stomachs had been filled.

Among the guests of the day and evening were Senator Bowell, Mr. and Mrs. McLellan, Montreal, Mrs. Lightfoot and daughter and Mr. Hutchinson of Toronto, Mr. Ballagh, Starkville, Miss Anderson, Bethany, Mr. J. C. Jamieson, Mr. and Mrs. O. Holton, Miss Holton, Mrs. Dool and other friends and relatives of pupils.

**Fight It Out.**

The *Optic* now accuses the *Nebraska Mute Journal* of having stolen that very "squib" from its column, which the latter accused us of pilfering. This accusation complicates the case, and we retire from the contest. Our lively American confrores can fight it out to their own satisfaction. If needed, we will act as bottle-holder at the battle. We will merely remark, however, that the "squib" was duly credited to the *Mute Journal* when clipped, but typo omitted the credit, and the proof reader overlooked the omission. If anything can be found in the *CANADIAN MUTE* worth clipping, take it without credit, even if it be a two-column editorial. We will not complain.

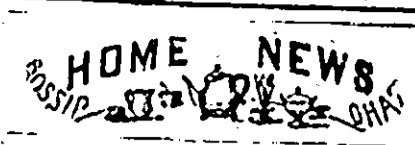
**The Difference.**

One of our exchanges furnishes this information for amateur foot-ball players:—What is the difference between Rugby and Association foot-ball? That is the question that bothers those not skilled in the game. In a nut shell, the difference is this: In Rugby the players have the privilege of taking the ball under the arm and running with it to the goal when he "touches down" as they say. In Association ball they simply kick the ball under the goal.

Albert E. Howison, Brockville, writes:—"I was very glad to receive a Christmas present from you, and thank you for it. I have suffered for four years with abscesses, and am very weak in consequence. I feel a little better now than I did a short time ago, and I am able to walk out every day for a little air. I am inclined to be lonely, and would like to hear from some of my old friends. I wish all a Happy New Year."

THE CANADIAN MUTE is a welcome visitor; it does one good to hear of the Institution where I spent happy days, and to hear of the welfare of the Superintendent and teachers whom I learned to love, and also the pupils with whom I had many happy times. I heard from George Dickson this week, through a talking friend who is working in the bush with him, near his home at Parbroke. George is well and is supporting his widowed mother and her family. We have a little snow, sufficient to make nice sleighing on the road. The ice is not very good on the Lake "Kah-shah-bog-a-mog." My brother and some friends went skating on it, and my brother got in the lake and might have been drowned. I have bought a farm, and shall have it all paid for in two years more. God willing. Yours Truly, Wm. N. FLETCHER, Housay's Rapids.

Miss Mary Keegan, more familiarly known as "Daisy" to numbers of the pupils who were at the Institution, a few years ago, is achieving phenomenal success as an actress in England. As a child she was a general favorite, her kindly and frank disposition winning for her hosts of friends who are more than pleased to hear of her great success. The *London, England, Sunday Times*, says of her:—"The winter season of dramatic shows, to working class audiences, under the direction of Alec Nelson, began at the Borough of Hackney Workmen's Club. To a vast and most enthusiastic crowd another triple bill was presented. A scene from 'King John,' with a child actress of great promise, Miss Katie Bornstein, making her first appearance on any stage. Alec Nelson's 'For Her Sake,' with that excellent and sound actress, Miss Charlotte Morland, as Mother Bishop; and charming Miss Mary Keegan (who made the hit in 'Shakespeare at the Globe as Elizabeth Throgmorton) playing Graco, and playing it with a singular beauty and pathos. Miss Keegan is one of our most promising emotional actresses."



Mr. and Mrs. Scott, late of Oshawa, are now residing in Chicago.

The Institution is now "a thing of beauty." The Christmas decorations are unusually attractive.

It required four trips of our waggon and team to the woods for evergreens, and then there was a shortage.

We have passed the Rubicon. Dec. 21st was the shortest day of the year. We will soon have more daylight.

What used to be the messenger and workman's room was utilized as a work-room for those making the decorations.

We have never seen the pupils' dining room, main hall-way, and sitting-rooms so artistically decorated as this year.

The pupils were anxious to visit the city when permitted during the holiday season, as the shop windows were very attractive.

We have the neatest and best equipped printing office in this or any other country, for the purpose required. Who says nay?

Mrs. Jefferson, of Chicago, threw a pail of water over a lady whose clothes were on fire, and saved her from being badly burned.

Did not the boys cast longing eyes towards the smooth glacial surface before the damp snow fell and spoiled the picture?

Our boss baker and his assistant can turn out bread good enough for any bishop's stomach. 'Tis a fact. The "staff of life" is A 1.

Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Jefferson live at No. 1338 Wabash Avenue, Chicago, where they will be pleased to see all their friends during the World's Fair.

People living "down south" should not talk about hyperborean Canada. We have had very little cold weather yet, and not snow enough for sleighing.

Mr. Nurse, instructor of shoemaking, was nursing a swollen hand and arm for a few days last week. He scratched his hand, and the wound became poisoned somehow.

The Grand Jury have again paid us the customary visit of inspection. They were shown the usual courtesies, and expressed themselves well pleased with everything.

D. Luddy, a pupil of the second class, received a letter from home recently informing him of the death of a cousin in Dakota, who was accidentally shot by a companion.

If the lessons were not recited quite so well as expected during the past week, teachers know the reason, and dealt leniently with offenders. It was Christmas time.

Tuesday morning, Dec. 20th., was the first real intimation to winter that we had felt. The air was biting cold, but as there was no wind everybody enjoyed the crisp, bracing atmosphere.

Mr. Bateman, photographer, whose whereabouts we enquired after, is now in Brantford, having found a good position in a leading studio there. We hope he will succeed well. He is a good artist.

Mr. Burns, instructor of printing, entertained his "staff" at his residence one evening lately. The boys and girls reported having enjoyed the occasion very much, and voted Mr. B., his wife and daughter O. K.

The Superintendent gave the pupils a half holiday on the 21st ult. Those who wanted to go to the city for Christmas presents embraced the opportunity, as the shops were crowded with country people on Saturday.

It is not so easy a task to gather evergreens for Christmas decorations now, as it was a few years ago. The groves from which supplies were so readily procured, not far from the city, have been cleared away.

We are sorry to learn that our old friend Edward Bartol, in jumping from a waggon some time ago, sprained his ankle which recovered slowly and left him lame. We hope he will soon be in his accustomed health and strength.

Not benumbed by the cold, sought shelter inside the hospitable walls of the Institution, a few days ago. It could not evade the sharp eyes of the children, who soon had it a prisoner. The little creature fought bravely for freedom.

We usually receive a visit from some of our old pupils during the holiday season, but this year is an exception, not one put in an appearance. Hard times, perhaps, was the cause.

The decorations were somewhat late this year, but a few days before Xmas the all-day-work-boys from the shops turned in to help, and they soon brought things to their usual level.

Mr. Douglas superintended the putting up of the decorations. Miss Walker put in the finishing touches with paper ornaments made by the girls. Mr. O'Meara kept the boys to the work of putting things together.

Greetings were received by telegram on Christmas morning from Vancouver, B. C., nearly 3000 miles distant; sent by R. Mathison, Jr., son of the Superintendent, and Wm. Wallace, an old time pupil. All in the Institution were remembered.

Venturesome and reckless city lads and lasses disported themselves on the thin ice that covered the bay two weeks ago. The pupils of this school were not permitted to indulge their longings for a skate. There was some danger of a cold bath.

That the pupils enjoyed the Christmas fare, goes without saying. The tables were loaded with good things and all were nicely served. The usual staff of attendants in the kitchen were reinforced and they put forth their best efforts to please the palates of our 260 pupils.

Two cardboard boxes, with suitable presents, came to the Superintendent, accompanied by a note which tells its own kind story:—"Belleville, Dec 20th, 1892.—For the little ones who haven't friends to send them Christmas cheer.—A Loving Friend." Several little hearts were made glad.

A mother writes:—Surely we mothers ought to be thankful for such a home for our dear little afflicted children, also for such kind officers to watch over them; and now that the Old Year is drawing to a close, I hope that not a cloud will cross your path, but that all may be bright and prosperous during the coming year.

No fooling with the boxes this year. Mr. Mathison put his foot down emphatically against it. There used to be several boxes, parcels, &c., smuggled in at this season, filled with old rags, potatoes, coal and other rubbish. They were carefully packed, and labelled with the usual express tickets, and frequently deceived the cutes. The disgust and disappointment of the recipients when they were opened went far to dampen their enjoyment of the day.

In the *Missionary Outlook* for December, in the report of the meeting of the Central Branch of the Women's Missionary Society in connection with the Methodist Church, the following paragraph appears:—"The invitation extended to the delegates to visit the Deaf and Dumb Institute was largely accepted, and none could help feeling how beautifully Christianity developed the influences of its founder in really making the 'deaf to hear and the dumb to speak.'"

We are all delighted to see Miss Ada James with her class again. Two weeks ago she was taken quite ill, her condition being such that her mother came to see her. Under the skillful treatment of Dr. Eakin and good nursing of the Matron and assistants she soon rallied from her sickness, and her recovery was rapid. As a monitor teacher of one of the junior classes Miss James has shown marked ability, and her winsome manner and genial disposition make her a general favorite.

The ice-boats were taken to the bay for an initial sail on the 21st ult. There was not wind enough for good sailing, so the boats were safely moored, and boys and girls indulged in skating. One reckless wight, of considerable avoirdupois weight, got a cold bath; by skating through shelled ice. He was in no danger of drowning, as the water was shallow, but he did not feel comfortable until his wet clothes were changed. Mr. Douglas' "Sea Gull" is expected to carry the broom again this winter, but she will probably have some lively competitors for first honors.

Prof. F. B. Yates, for eleven years connected with the West Virginia Institution, has been appointed to fill the vacancy in the Arkansas Institution occasioned by the resignation of Superintendent Clarke.