

meet with them and with them study the word and the works of God.

Mr. Mathison stated that he had received a letter from Mrs. Terrill, who was too ill to come. She sent her love to all her old pupils. The session closed with prayer by Rev. Mr. McCaughan.

Arrangements had been made with Mr. Cochrane, of Hamilton, to photograph the Convention, and at 6 p. m. all assembled on the beautiful lawn of the Park and a photo was taken of the group, an engraved copy of which will be found in this issue.

EVENING SESSION.

In the evening session Mr. Noah Phelps opened with prayer. Mr. Nurse then gave a paper prepared by Prof. Denys. After pointing out the great pleasure enjoyed by friends long-separated when they meet again, he proceeded to give them some good advice relative to the duty of each of them to God, to their fellow-men and to themselves, and the motives that should actuate every true man and woman.

Prof. Balis followed with a very interesting discourse. After congratulating all of them on living in a land where provision is so liberally made for the education of all classes, he discussed the various methods employed in teaching the deaf, and pointed out the superiority of the combined system. That the deaf under equal conditions of education and opportunity are able to hold their own with hearing people is amply demonstrated by the fact that nearly all of them are doing well and many of them have attained to high positions. But to succeed it is necessary to merit success. The world demands a *quid pro quo*. Life is a mutual exchange of relations, and only he who gives, receives.

Mr. Smith, of Brantford, who had just arrived, was then called upon for a few words of greeting, after which those present were treated to a series of magic lantern views by Mr. Mason, assisted by Messrs. Slater and Fraser, Mr. Bridges, of Toronto, supplying the views.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION.

Saturday morning's session was opened with prayer by Prof. Campbell.

Mr. A. W. Mason then gave a very thoughtful paper on "Mental Improvement." He urged that it was the duty of everybody to constantly improve their minds. Stagnation means decay and death. Progress is the law of life. The deaf labor under many disadvantages in mental advancement, but it is within reach of all of them to make constant progress. They must learn to understand books by constantly reading them, and how to use language by writing. No expensive library is needed, a few good books and a dictionary is sufficient. It may be difficult at first to understand what is read, but perseverance will accomplish wonders, and a little added every day will soon aggregate a great deal. Many people think that their education stops when they leave school. On the contrary, it is but begun. The school instruction is simply the key that will enable them to unlock the great treasure-house of knowledge. And they should never forget to study the Book of books, for in it will be found the fountain and source of all true wisdom.



Wm. Nurse, Secretary.

Prof. Coleman then gave a short address, full of reminiscences of the past, the central idea being the mysterious way in which Providence works out its beneficent ends.

Mr. Nurse then enlivened the proceedings by relating an amusing story, after which a paper prepared by Mrs. Mason was read by Mr. Campbell and interpreted by Mr. Coleman, relative to the advisability of engaging a missionary for the deaf of Ontario. Many years ago this had been mooted, but nothing had been done, and she thought the time had arrived when some steps should be taken in this direction. Much money was contributed to aid foreign missions and she thought it was time to do something for

those in this Province who are deprived of religious instruction, as most of the deaf are. She thought it would be better to have the Convention meet only every three or four years and utilize the money so spent for a missionary. The cost of such a religious instructor would be only five or ten cents a week for each mute, and she hoped an effort would be made to supply this great need.

This paper elicited an animated discussion, participated in by Miss Fraser, Messrs. Nurse, Smith, Jefferson, Bayne, Mason, Fraser, Slater and Nasmith. The consensus of opinion seemed to be in favor of continuing the biennial convention, and it was decided to further consider the practicability of supporting a missionary.

Prof. Campbell then made his maiden speech before the Convention, and gave an instructive and practical address. He alluded to the discussion on fruit culture which had taken place the day before, and said that there were other kinds of trees which each one should plant, whose fruit is perennial and always good. Some of the trees in this orchard are Industry, Perseverance, Patience, Temperance, Love, etc., which all should seek to plant in the heart, and whose fruitage would produce naught but joy and satisfaction but never satiety. The Convention then adjourned until the evening.

AFTERNOON SPORTS.

The afternoon of Saturday was devoted to athletic sports. A good programme had been arranged by Messrs. Bradshaw and Isbister, and assisted by Mr. Sutton the whole was ably carried out. Rain set in during the dinner hour and for a time it looked very unfavorable for an afternoon on the athletic grounds, and all rejoiced when it cleared up and allowed the games to proceed.



D. J. McKee, Treasurer.

The first item on the programme was a ball-throwing contest, in which R. McKenzie, Summers, Clark, Hill, Mellae, Jefferson and O'Rourke competed. R. McKenzie took first prize, W. O'Rourke second.

Throwing Base-ball.—Ladies—Mrs. Moore, Mrs. Mason, the Misses James, Campbell, Borthwick and Cunningham. Miss N. Cunningham, 1st; Miss Campbell, 2nd.

Running hop, step and jump.—Gillam, R. McKenzie, K. McKee, D. Bloom, Noonan and O'Rourke. R. McKenzie, 1st; Noonan, 2nd; O'Rourke, 3rd.

Married Ladies' Race.—Mrs. Terrell, H. Mason, Bradshaw, Pincombe and Gottlieb. Mrs. H. Mason, 1st; Mrs. Terrell, 2nd.

Throwing Stone.—Robert McKenzie, O'Rourke, K. McKenzie, Jefferson, Clark and Roderick McKenzie. Roderick McKenzie, 1st; Robert McKenzie, 2nd; K. McKenzie, 3rd.

Ladies' Spoon Race.—Misses Campbell, O'Neil, Moore, Borthwick, Jamieson and Mrs. H. Mason. Misses Moore, 1st; O'Neil, 2nd.

The Slow Bicycle Race was very interesting. Messrs. H. Gottlieb, Gillam, Bloom, Terrell, Holton, McKay and Shepherd competed. All went down except Terrell and Holton, the latter winning. Little Freddy Terrell deserved the hearty congratulations he received in competing with and beating the big fellows.

Ladies' Hat Race.—Miss Campbell, 1st; Miss James, 2nd.

Eating Contest.—Messrs. Bradshaw, Gottlieb, Robert McKenzie, Clark, Pettit and Clouch. S. Pettit, 1st; Bradshaw, 2nd.

Ladies' Walking Race.—Misses Ballagh, Borthwick, Cunningham, L. James and Campbell. Miss Campbell, 1st; Miss L. James, 2nd; Borthwick, 3rd.

Blindfold Bicycle Race.—Messrs. Bradshaw, Gillam, R. McKenzie, Terrell, Gottlieb and Bloom. H. Gottlieb, 1st; Gillam, 2nd; Bradshaw, 3rd. Those ap-

pointed to follow the blindfold riders forgot themselves in the excitement of the race and one bicycle got several spokes broke, and Mr. Bradshaw ran up against a tree, happily without any injury.

Tug of War, Single vs. Married Ladies.—Mrs. Pincombe, Riddle and Terrell were opposed to Misses Melatyre, Borthwick and Lafferty. In such an unequal contest there could be but one result, the married ladies of course carried the day easily.

The Tug of War, City vs. Farm, was an exciting struggle. Robert McKenzie captained the grangers and had behind him Messrs. K. McKenzie, R. Pincombe, Mellae, Middleton and Pugsley. The city men, captained by A. E. Smith, were a heavy lot, they were Messrs. Roderick McKenzie, Isbister, Jefferson, Goodbrand and Symington. After a long and obstinate struggle the city boys pulled their opponents over the line, and after changing legends did the trick again, winning the contest.

Several other contests were on the programme but the sun made it so warm our friends preferred to seek the shelter of the trees and from there witness the foot-ball match between two teams captained by Messrs. Gillam and R. McKenzie. The boys showed up well, and although some had not kicked a ball since they left school they showed that their old training had not been forgotten. Two fifteen minute halves were played in the hot sun and during that time Gillam's team put through two goals, winning the match. At the close both teams were photographed by Mr. H. Mason.

We must not forget that Mr. Nasmith sent down several packages of choice confectionery to be competed for by those who had a sweet tooth. His thoughtfulness was appreciated. During the races Mr. Cochrane took a number of snap shots of the contestants, copies of which we hope to publish, if not in this issue in some future one.

After tea, in the evening, as a large number had arrived during the day and were disappointed at not being photographed with the others the day before, the photographer kindly took another smaller photo of the Convention.

EVENING SESSION.

The evening session was devoted to the winding up of the business of the Convention, the first item being the addresses of the retiring officers. The President, Mr. Bayne, on resigning office, thanked the members for their regular attendance at the sessions and for every needed assistance given him in the transaction of the business brought before the Convention. The relations between him and the members had been of the most cordial character, and whoever they might place at the head of the Association he hoped they would receive the same support he had. The 1st Vice-President, Mr. Waggoner, and the 2nd Vice-President, Mr. Mason, followed in a few well chosen words. Their duties had been light but they had been ready, if called upon, to do anything to bring the Convention to a successful conclusion. The Secretary, Mr. Nurse, while he was appointed permanent secretary at the Convention at Brantford in 1896, did not wish to forego his services on the Convention if they preferred another and gave the members the opportunity to make a change if they so wished it. An unanimous vote that he stay in office soon settled the matter. Mr. McKillop, Treasurer, then came along with the money bag of the Association and was ready to hand over his charge to anyone the Convention might appoint, but the members recognize the responsibility attached to the office and promptly refused to receive his resignation and by an enthusiastic vote returned him to the care of the Convention funds. The two gentlemen who have so kindly given their services to the convention as interpreters, Profs. Coleman and Campbell, of course could not be spared or replaced and the members fully appreciate their valuable services to the Convention and requested them to remain in office, which they kindly consented to do.

Mr. Balis then took the chair and called for nominations for President. Messrs. Bayne, A. E. Smith, McIntosh and Fraser were proposed and accepted. A standing vote was taken, giving A. E. Smith, of Brantford, a very slim majority over Phillip Fraser, of Toronto, and Mr. Smith was escorted to the chair amid the plaudits of the members. For 1st Vice-President there were three nominations, Messrs. Bayne, Fraser and Sutton. Mr. Fraser leading, was elected. For 2nd

Vice-President, Messrs. A. W. Mason, McIntosh and Slater. Mr. Mason receiving the largest support took the office. As he wished to catch the train for home the newly elected President asked the Convention to excuse him, and called Mr. Fraser to the chair to wind up the business of the Convention. Resolutions of thanks were passed to the retiring officers; to Mr. Mathison, who quietly and unostentatiously had done so much to help the Convention, the resolution being coupled with a unanimous vote that whenever he could so arrange it, the Convention would be happy to meet again amid the scenes of their school



D. R. Coleman, M. A., Interpreter.

days in Belleville. Dr. Burns, the representative of the Board of Directors, Mr. Phelps, Superintendent of the Park, Mr. Ford, of Toronto, who did so much to help the arrangements in many ways, and Mr. Strawn, proprietor of the Park House, were all remembered with unanimous expressions of thanks. The meeting closed with prayer by Mr. Nurse.

SUNDAY SERVICES.

For Sunday, special services had been arranged and printed programmes provided, so that hearing visitors would be partly able to follow the services. By previous arrangement the deaf of Toronto conducted the morning service. Mr. P. Fraser opened with prayer, followed by Misses Moore and O'Neil singing together the beautiful hymn "Oh, Crown of Rejoicing that's Waiting for me." It was grandly done, in perfect time, and all present, both the deaf and hearing, were deeply impressed. Mr. W. Mason led the Convention in saying the Apostles' Creed. An earnest reading of scripture by Mr. G. Elliott, from Luke xii. 16-31, and all joining in the Lord's Prayer, led by Mr. McGillivray, followed. Mr. Nasmith then took up his address, interpreted by Miss Fraser. His subject was "Head, Heart and Hands for Jesus." It was a very thoughtful address and the closest attention was given him throughout. Miss M. Campbell signed the hymn "Lalol Lalol So Lalol" and the meeting closed with the benediction.

The afternoon meeting opened at three o'clock. As in the morning, many hearing visitors were present and took a close interest in the proceedings. Prof. Balis led the meeting in signing together the doxology. Prof. Coleman followed with prayer, and Prof. Balis then signed the hymn, "I Need Thee Every Hour." Prof. Coleman then took up his address for the afternoon, his subject being "The Christian Warfare," from II. Timothy iv. 6-8. Mr. Coleman did successfully what few ever succeed in doing well, he both signed and spoke his address at the same time. He spoke of the sufferings of Paul, his patience under persecution, his readiness for whatever he might be called upon to endure for Christ's sake. His life and death was a lesson for us to follow. Prof. Balis struck a key note to the address by signing in the most impressive manner the grand old hymn, "Onward, Christian Soldiers," and closed with the benediction.



W. J. Campbell, Interpreter.

In the evening another meeting was held. Several of our young friends had expressed a desire to say a few words and relate their religious experiences. Mr. Nurse led the meeting and, after