



THE CANADIAN MUTE.

Four, six or eight pages.

PUBLISHED SEMI-MONTHLY

At the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb,
BELLEVILLE, ONT.

OUR MISSION.

- First.—That a number of our pupils may learn type-setting, and from the knowledge obtained be able to earn a livelihood after they leave school.
- Second.—To furnish interesting matter for and encourage a habit of reading among our pupils and deaf mute subscribers.
- Third.—To be a medium of communication between the school and parents, and friends of pupils, now in the Institution, the hundreds who were pupils at one time or other in the past, and all who are interested in the education and instruction of the deaf of our land.

SUBSCRIPTION

Fifty (50) cents for the school year payable in advance. New subscriptions commence at any time during the year. Remit by money order, postage stamps, or registered letter.

Subscribers failing to receive their papers regularly will please notify us, that mistakes may be corrected without delay. All papers are stopped when the subscription expires, unless otherwise ordered. The date on each subscriber's wrapper is the time when the subscription runs out.

Correspondence on matters of interest to the deaf is requested from our friends in all parts of the Province. Nothing can be printed to wound the feelings of any one will be admitted—if we know it.

ADVERTISING

very limited amount of advertising, subject to approval, will be inserted at 25 cents a line for each insertion.

Address all communications and subscriptions to

THE CANADIAN MUTE,
BELLEVILLE
ONTARIO.



WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 1896.

Institution Papers.

The Minnesota Bulletin has issued a special number dealing elaborately with the question,—"What is the proper scope of Institutional journalism?" For our part we have no patience with those people or papers who are always trying to regulate the universe by reducing everything to a dead level. Such a question as the above is an absurdity, since no possible answer could be given which would apply to all cases. As a class the scope of Institution papers is almost unlimited, while the scope of each individual paper must be determined, not by nicely written theories founded on impossible conditions, but on circumstances and limitations which may apply to that paper but to no other. Much depends also on the object aimed at. Some of these papers are published chiefly as a means of entertainment and instruction for the pupils. Others pay more to the deaf-mutes at home; and of course the scope of these two kinds of papers must greatly differ. It is folly to try to define the proper scope of such papers unless and until a similarity of circumstances and motives can be assured; which, however, is neither desirable nor possible. It would be quite as sensible to discuss the question, "What sized boots should people wear?" It all depends on the feet. Our opinion is that any man who is qualified to conduct an Institutional journal is quite competent to define the scope of that paper as determined by the circumstances under which it is issued and the main object held in view.

A large number of pupils in the Winnipeg Institution have been suffering from mumps, and brother McDermid has been able to witness the anomaly of deaf-mutes being obliged to "hold their jaws."

A few weeks ago a teacher was murdered in a certain New York Oral School for the Deaf. Some of the pupils were arrested on suspicion but no evidence has been forthcoming to prove their complicity in the crime. But from this simple fact, that one or two, out of the tens of thousands of deaf mutes in America, have been suspected of murder, some newspaper writers, whose love for sensational copy is much greater than their love for truth or justice, have asserted that deaf mutes as a class are morose, sullen, revengeful, suspicious, passionate, etc. All of which is of course a shameful libel on the deaf. In no respect are the character and disposition of the deaf less amiable than those of the hearing, while in some respects the former are superior. It is really too bad that respectable journals should give currency to such utterly false reflections on a class of persons who are really distinguished for their high moral characters and amiable dispositions.

It has been found that the attention given in the course of the term, are a hindrance to the work of the classes. It has therefore been decided to have no recess at Easter, as has been the custom hitherto.—*Silent Worker*

This Institution long ago abolished all holidays during the session, except of course, legal holidays such as Christmas Day, Good Friday, etc. There are no Christmas or Easter holidays, and the pupils are kept persistently at work from the day school opens in the fall till the day it closes in June. Mid session holidays were found to be in every way unadvisable and now the holidays are given all together during the summer, and we can recommend this as a great improvement on the old plan.

Deaf-mutes everywhere will regret to hear of the retirement of Dr. Noyes, Superintendent of the Minnesota Institution, due to the infirmities of age. Dr. Noyes has spent the best part of his life in the service of the deaf and his labors have been crowned with abundant success. He has always been in the vanguard of the progressive forces in educational methods, and to him deaf-mutes owe and will always accord their deepest gratitude. He retires from the profession as full of honors as of years, and we hope that many happy years of life may yet be vouchsafed to him.

A strong effort is being made in Iowa to have the manual alphabet placed in all the text books used in the public schools in the State. We have often urged that the same be done in Ontario. This could be done so easily, and the resulting advantages would be so great to the many thousands of deaf-mutes as well as to hundreds of thousands of hearing people, that we hope our representations will be heeded. The cost would be so small that it is not worth considering.

The death of Mr. W. O. Jenkins, of the Hartford School for the deaf, leaves a vacancy in the ranks that will be hard to fill. He was one of the most successful educators of the deaf in America, and always made the welfare of those placed under his charge paramount to his own interests. He was an adopt in the most improved methods of instruction and did not hide his light under a bushel but freely gave to others the benefits of his own experience.

The New York Institution has lost eight pupils by death from measles and diphtheria, and the school was quarantined for some time. The record for this Institution has shown but one death during this session and none during the last. We cannot be too thankful for our comparative immunity from epidemics and fatal diseases.

The pupils and others connected with this Institution were much pleased to receive their mail on Sunday, the 22nd ult. For three days no letters were received owing to the snow blockade, and many of the boys and girls were very anxious to hear from their friends. On their behalf we thank Mr. Taylor, the postmaster, for his courtesy in giving out the mail on Sunday under these unique circumstances. Of course this was a technical breach of the letter of the Sunday law, though certainly not of its spirit and intent, since the Sabbath was made for man and not man for the Sabbath. The office staff have our good wishes for courtesies at all time.

The Ohio Legislature has enacted a law which extends the school term at the Institution to twelve years. For the past twenty-five years the limit has been ten years. We hope we will be forgiven if we break one of the commandments to the extent of coveting Ohio's privileges in this regard. In Ontario we have to be content with a seven year limit, but we hope soon to have it extended to at least ten years.

The Kentucky Institution is in a similar predicament to our own—the attention has become so large that there is not room for all, so the legislature has been asked to grant \$60,000 for a new building. Though our need is quite as great yet we would be satisfied with a smaller sum than that.

The United States "M. D." who last year wrote such ridiculous yarns about the education of deaf mutes, had an article in the last number of *Popular Science* on the mental status of the dog. The learned (?) doctor is getting down to his proper level.

The Bicycle Races.

To the Editor of THE CANADIAN MUTE

DEAR SIR,—Allow me to say a few words in your valuable paper in regard to having bicycle races held in Brantford at the time of the Convention. I think if it could be arranged to have them, they would be very interesting for the delegates. If we could get some of the deaf-mutes to race, we would see if we could get the free use of the track in the Mohawk park, and if we could not get it we could use some good road about five miles and return, but which is not good for the spectators. I know about fifteen deaf bicyclists in Ontario and I think they would be pleased if this arrangement could be carried out. We would like to have two classes in the races, say the Seniors and Juniors. I trust that there will be a great many delegates present at the convention and I hope all that have bicycles will bring them. I would like that one of the races would be for the Championship of Ontario. Trusting all the boys will take an interest in this and make arrangements for the same. Yours, &c.,
A BICYCLIST.

March 23rd, 1896.

Teacher Wanted.

Wanted in the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, Belfast, an ASSISTANT TEACHER (Male or Female), with some years experience (Combined System). To a competent, energetic male Teacher the Governors offer a salary of £40 with board, &c., and to a suitable lady Teacher £30 and board, with an annual increment for some years in each case. Applications stating age, qualifications, experience and other particulars, and enclosing testimonials to be addressed to the Hon. Secretaries, and endorsed "Teacher" on the back of envelope.

The greatest miracle that I know of is that of my conversion. I was dead and I live. I was blind and I see: I was a slave and I am free. I was an enemy of God and I love him. Prayer, the Bible, the society of Christians—these were to me a source of profound ennui, whilst now it is the pleasures of the world that are a weariness to me, and piety is the source of all my joy.—*Pinet*.

Evor of Thee

Ever of thee I'm fondly dreaming
Thy gentle voice my spirit can
Thou art the star that kindly beams
Shone o'er my path when all was
dear!

Still in my heart thy form I bear
Every kind that's like a bird
Ah! never till life and death part
Can I forget how dear thou art
Morn, noon and night, where'er I roam
Fondly I'm dreaming ever of thee

Ever of thee, when sad and lonely
Wandering afar my soul joy'd to roam
Ah! then I felt I loved thee only
All seemed to fade before affection's
Years have not chilled the love I bear
True as the stars hath my heart
Ah! never till life and death part
Can I forget how dear thou art
Morn, noon and night, where'er I roam
Fondly I'm dreaming ever of thee

Donations to Calcutta, India, School Fund.

Previously acknowledged—
A. J. Ont., Belleville, Canada
Miss Nora A. Morey—
Mr. Apollon H. Long—
Mr. Charles B. Voss.

Total to date
March, 25th, 1896.

GERTRUDE E. MAXWELL

1108 West Ave., Buffalo, N. Y.

BUFFALO NOTES.

From our own Correspondent

There was a birthday party at St. James' Hall on February 10th and a good number of deaf mutes were invited. The writer was also invited but could not go. It was reported that the party was a success, and they had an enjoyable time. Those who were invited were to put in their bags as much money as they were years of age and the one who gave the most money would get a prize; the one who gave the least would be awarded a "looby" prize. The money will be devoted to Rev. M. Lantzer's travelling expenses as missionary to the deaf.

On February 12th, in the evening, a number of deaf-mutes assembled in St. James Church, and Fr. M. Mann, a Missionary of the Deaf in the Mid West ern States, lectured to them about the "Antiquities of Rome, Italy" which proved to be very good, and instructive to the deaf. The lecture continued for two hours.

The writer is sorry to say that Mrs. G. E. Maxwell's only sister, Mrs. Jones is ill.

There will be a Convention in Philadelphia next summer, and some of our deaf mutes of this city intend to go.

The writer was very sorry to learn of the death of Miss Maggie Blashill, who died recently in your school. May she be happy and sing with "Jesus Our Saviour," forever in Heaven.

I wish all the readers of this paper a pleasant Easter. Who will eat the most eggs?

To the lady readers: "Beware of Leap Year." There will be a Convention in Brantford, Ont., and it is hoped many of them will get a prize before the Convention is over. As it will be eight years before another Leap Year comes, the ladies had better be wide awake and not lose a chance this year.

The Wind and the Sun.

A dispute once arose between the wind and the sun as to which was the stronger of the two. They at length agreed on a plan to settle the question. Each ever first made a traveller take off his cloak was to be accounted the more powerful. The wind began with all his might to blow a cold and piercing blast but the stronger he blow, the closer the traveller wrapped his cloak around him. The sun then broke out, and his warm beams dispersed the cold. The traveller felt the genial warmth, and as the sun shone brighter and brighter he sat down, overpowered with the heat and throw off his cloak. The sun was therefore, declared the winner. From this fable we learn that kindness is better than harshness. Gentleness often effects what force and violence fail to accomplish.

BIRTH.

BIRTHS.—On Thursday, March 19th, at 11 o'clock, Mrs. Geo. Bridgen, Toronto, a daughter.

DIED.

DEATHS.—On Wednesday, March 11th, at 11 o'clock, Avenue, Henry Bowen, only son of the late beloved son of Henry and Mary Bowen, aged 13 months.

"A lovely bud, so soft and fair, called me to early dawn
Just sent to show how sweet a flower should bloom."