

FREDERICTON INSTITUTION  
FOR THE  
EDUCATION  DEAF AND DUMB.

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**MANAGING COMMITTEE.**

Hon. Chief Justice Allen, Chairman; Rev. J. McLeod, Rev. Mr. Tippet, Messrs. G. T. Whelpley, J. Spurden, E. C. Freeze, W. Anderson, Rev. G. Goodridge Roberts, Secretary; Mr. Geo. A. Perley, Treasurer; Mr. A. F. Woodbridge, Principal; Mr. Ernest Powers, Assistant; Mrs. Woodbridge, Matron.

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WOODSTOCK.—Rev. Mr. McDonald, Dr. Stephen Smith, Dr. Bruce.  
SUSSEX.—Rev. C. T. Phillips, Rev. Mr. McEwin, Postmaster Boal.  
MONCTON.—Rev. T. J. Deinstedt, Wm. Knight, Esq.  
CHATHAM.—Rev. D. Forsyth, Rev. E. Wallace Waits, F. E. Winslow, Esq., President Montreal Bank.  
NEWCASTLE.—Rev. Wm. Aitken.

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**REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL.**

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The Fredericton Institution for the Deaf and Dumb was opened on the 1st of September, 1882, to meet an imperative need, and to supply, as far as possible, an ever growing want in the educational requirements of the Province

The following, among other considerations, led to its establishment.

**STATISTICS.**

In 1871 the population of New Brunswick was 285,594, and its deaf and dumb population 306. In 1881 its general population was 321,000, and calculating one deaf mute for 933 of its population, which obtained in 1871, its present deaf mute population would be 344. The Province within this decade added 35,000 to her population and 37 to the number of her deaf mutes.

As New Brunswick is increasing her population year by year, it follows as a natural sequence that the number of her mutes is increasing in the same proportion.

Increased provision then became necessary to overtake the education of these afflicted people, unless New Brunswick was willing to leave the responsibility of their education to a neighboring province, where but few could obtain the privilege, owing to the disinclination of parents to send their little ones 300 miles away to school.

That she was not indifferent to their welfare was evidenced by the encouragement met with in the various sections of the Province where the question was ventilated. The establishing of a home school for the deaf mutes of New Brunswick was felt and acknowledged in all quarters to be a step in the right direction, and one which should be supported by all who took an interest in their welfare. A tangible proof of this encouragement lay in the collections made in various portions of the Province for this purpose, in the promises made by numerous friends of the movement to seek out the deaf mute children of their respective localities and get them forwarded to Fredericton for education, and in the number of children who were waiting to take advantage of its opening.

#### OPENING OF THE INSTITUTION.

On deciding on its establishment various difficulties presented themselves for consideration; finding a suitable site and building for our purpose not being the least of these. At last, after much search, both these conditions were amply met in locating the Institution at the residence of Senator Botsford, at Hawthorne Hill.

In accordance with the announcement of our intention made two months previous, the Institution was opened for the reception of pupils on the 1st of September, 1882.

Six pupils immediately presented themselves for admission, which number was afterwards increased to eighteen. It was a great satisfaction to us to have met with a location so beautiful and so admirably adapted in every particular to our wants and purposes. No finer site could be found in the Maritime Provinces. The ample facilities which it afforded for fresh air and exercise were most conducive to the health and happiness of our pupils. The building was exceedingly convenient, and all who paid us the honor of a

visit testified to our comfort, convenience, and advantage, and thoroughness. Several of the mutes presented to us, and we were

Our pupils were in a few months of the Institution with a success of the Institution. This opening removal, Hawthorne Hill, the time lost was a calamity the following ledgement forward period.

The pupils what the children, able to do, lied principles, contributions, committed, Government, this part.

As Secretary Hill, the vote \$50,000, secure to a subcommittee for the

visit testified to the arrangements made for the children's comfort. The pupils themselves fully appreciated its advantage, and their noisy shouts when at play indicated thorough enjoyment.

Several well known gentlemen of the city kindly consented to act as directors. An appeal was issued for funds and we quietly settled down to work.

#### INSTITUTION DESTROYED BY FIRE.

Our prospects appeared exceedingly bright, but after a few months of steady endeavor to increase the usefulness of the Institution and to bind friends to its interests, we met with a serious and unexpected discouragement in the loss of the Institution by fire.

This occurred on March 25th, 1883, and necessitated our removal to our present abode, a few minutes walk from Hawthorne Hill, and which was fortunately unoccupied at the time. None of our furniture was burned; what was lost was taken away during the confusion incidental to such a calamity. We were glad to be enabled to re-open school the following week. In this connection our sincere acknowledgements are due to those friends who so kindly came forward and rendered valuable assistance during this trying period.

#### GOVERNMENT GRANT.

The parents of our pupils are willing and have paid what they could towards the board expenses of their children, but most of them being poor, they have been unable to do more than find clothes for them. We have relied principally on Government aid and voluntary contributions to sustain the work. Steps were taken by the committee to lay the claims of the Institution before the Government at their last session, and \$1500 was voted for this purpose.

#### PURCHASE OF SITE.

As Senator Botsford offered the estate at Hawthorne Hill, the site of the late Institution, consisting of 117 acres, for the very reasonable sum of \$1000, it was decided to devote \$500 of the amount granted by the Government to secure this eligible site. It is now vested in the hands of a sub committee, who desire to erect a suitable building for the work this spring, if funds are available.

## PUPILS AND TEACHERS.

We had sixteen pupils, natives of the Province, at the commencement of the present year. One was discharged, and another, Master Stanley King, of St. John, died on the 13th of February, from jaundice, being his second attack within a few years. Everything was done that medical skill could suggest to retard the disease, but without avail. He was a bright, intelligent boy, and full of promise. We found it hard to realize the loss of one whose happy, cheery ways had endeared him to every member of our little household. Our acknowledgments are gratefully rendered to Dr. Brown for his kind care and attention during his sickness.

Miss Smith, our lady assistant, was called away in May last year to attend her mother during a serious illness, which resulted in her death some time afterwards. Mr. Ernest Powers came out from England in Dec. 1883 to take charge of the elementary class. He likes the work, and his assiduity promises to make him a successful teacher. It will shortly be necessary to secure the services of a lady teacher, who will take entire charge of the oral department.

The following fourteen pupils are at present in the house :

Ernest Prince, 12 years, St. John.  
 Sumner L. Jones, 11 years, St. John.  
 Frederick J. T. Boal, 11 years, Sussexvale, King's Co.  
 Murray McMackin, 11 years, Butternut Ridge.  
 Ernest Ward Hagerman, 15 years, Woodstock.  
 John Herbert Bryden, 9 years, Woodstock.  
 Henry Morrell, 12 years, Grand Falls, Victoria.  
 Blanche Young, 10 years, Portland, St. John.  
 Mary Upham, 17 years, King's Co.  
 Isedore Ricker, 15 years, Turtle Creek, Albert Co.  
 Avondale Smith, 11 years, Albert Mines, Albert Co.  
 Lena Logan, 7 years, Portland, St. John.  
 Elizabeth M. McLaughlin, 8 years, St. Stephen, Charlotte Co.  
 Lilly Whelpley, 13 years, St. John.

We have an intelligent lot of children, and there is no doubt that our number would have been much larger if the Institution had not been destroyed by the unfortunate occurrence of Easter Monday.

We have several applications for admission, but many

parents are waiting for the new building to be erected before sending their children. We have sufficient accommodation for our present number of pupils, but if it were much increased we should be cramped for room. It is therefore highly important that the work should be proceeded with without unnecessary delay. The responsibility of carrying on an institution of this kind, which is Catholic in its aims and usefulness, should not rest on the shoulders of a private individual, and we would strongly urge upon the Government to take the Institution into their own keeping, provide amply for its various needs, which would increase its usefulness tenfold, adopt a system of surveillance through the numerous charitable organizations scattered throughout the Province, to ascertain the whereabouts of our deaf mute children, and then bring influence to bear upon the parents to induce or compel them to secure an education for their unfortunate little ones.

I would take the liberty of instancing the noble example set by the United States in the aid and facilities it has provided for the education of its deaf and dumb population.

An analysis of a tabulated statement compiled by Prof. E. A. Fay, and published in the last January number of the American Annals of the Deaf and Dumb, shows that 40 of the 58 Institutions established in various parts of the States (since the year 1816, when the Hartford Institution was opened) are possessed of property in buildings and grounds to the value of nearly seven million dollars; that during the last fiscal year the munificent sum of \$1,418,520 was expended in increasing the accommodation of these buildings and providing for the current expenditure.

It also shows that the responsibility of these institutions principally rests on the Legislature of the States in which they are located, that the education of the deaf and dumb is recognised by them as a work of necessity, and State aid is cheerfully rendered year by year to the extent indicated.

Dividing last year's expenditure by the number of pupils receiving the benefits of these institutions, we find that the cost was over \$253 per capita.

I am indebted to Dr. Peet, Principal of the New York Institution at Washington Heights, for the following particulars in reference to the relation existing between the institutions and the governments of the respective States in which they are located.

Dr. Peet says that an analysis of the census of 1880 enables the managers of every institution for the deaf to learn the name, age, residence and condition of every deaf mute child in their State.

That the six Institutions in New York are chartered as benevolent societies—the members of which elect the trustees or directors. The means of support and instruction being supplied directly or indirectly by the State at a certain pro rata for the exact time each pupil is in the institution. Children between 6 and 12 are supported by the counties. Those between 12 and 20 by the State Treasury for a period of five years, which, upon the recommendation of directors, may be increased to three years longer. Every three months a bill is rendered to the State Comptroller for the actual time the pupils have been inmates of the institution.

The usual charge is at the rate of \$250 per annum for each pupil.

At the American Asylum at Hartford, Conn., and at the Clarke Institution in Northampton, Mass., pupils are received from all the New England States, which pay a certain sum per annum for each of their pupils. The expenses of the Columbia Institution at Washington, D. C., are defrayed by the General Government.

All other prominent institutions in the United States are the property of the States in which they are located, and are governed by boards of trustees appointed by the Government and approved by the Senate.

Separate appropriations are made for buildings and improvements for the support of the pupils and for the salaries of employees without requiring pro rata bills.

Here is an example worthy the imitation of any people. Such a system does away with the necessity of seeking aid from private sources to sustain a public work, the burden of which is not allowed to fall on the generosity and goodness of the few, but rests equally on all.

To depend on voluntary contributions, though extremely valuable in sustaining numerous charitable organizations, is often but a precarious means of support, which cripples the energies and impairs the usefulness of many institutions whose only object is the good and well being of the community at large.

The United States may be pointed out as the most

liberal and advanced country in the world in the great cause of education, and especially is she distinguished in the solicitude displayed and amplitude of her provisions for the welfare of her deaf and dumb. She has erected for this purpose nearly sixty institutions, most of them large, noble structures, well furnished and equipped in every respect, during the past sixty-eight years. She has educated upwards of 20,000 deaf mute children, who, but for this timely help, would have been left in a state of ignorance, unable to communicate their thoughts, useless to themselves and a burden to those around them. She has converted them into responsible beings by a knowledge of themselves and their God, and made them useful and respectable members of society.

Let New Brunswick imitate this great example by taking this Institution into her own keeping; let her provide a good and suitable building at once; watch over its interests; make ample provision for its usefulness, and an impetus will be given to the movement, which will be a satisfaction to every one of its inhabitants. A lasting obligation will thus be conferred on this portion of its population. An institution will be erected which will be not only a monument to the wisdom and foresight of its Legislature, but an ornament and credit to the Province.

ALBERT F. WOODBRIDGE, Supt.

## BALANCE SHEET.

From the opening of the Institution in 1882, to 1st of  
March, 1884.

*Receipts.*

By Collections and Subscriptions, .....	\$1300 67
" Payment by Parents, .....	499 50
" Government Grant, .....	1000 00
" Proceeds of Concert, .....	16 35
" Advanced from private funds, .....	650 00
Total,	<u>\$3,466 52</u>

*Expenditure.*

To Household expenses, .....	\$1900 50
" Furniture, .....	1006 82
" Salary and wages of servants, .....	247 95
" Rent and Insurance, .....	245 55
" Fuel, .....	65 70
Total,	<u>\$3,466 52</u>

## COLLECTIONS, SUBSCRIPTIONS, &amp;c.

The following amounts, with names of subscribers and items specified, have been acknowledged in the public press.

## COUNTIES.

St. John Co., including \$50 from Mr. W. L. Prince, \$40 from Mr. Daniel (Daniel & Boyd) and \$30 from Messrs. Manchester, Allison & Co. ....	\$433 50
York Co., .....	275 29
Carleton, .....	123 85
Charlotte, .....	119 25
King's, .....	114 51
Westmorland, .....	90 64
Northumberland, .....	83 33
Victoria, .....	60 30

H. A. CROPLEY, PRINTER, "CAPITAL" OFFICE, FREDERICTON.

*with  
K. J. ...*