

**LIGHT FOR THE BLIND.**

**A NOBLE INSTITUTION THAT DE SERVES SUBSTANTIAL AID.**

The Maritime school for the blind at Halifax and the work it does—The claim that it has upon the Lower Provinces—An effort to make it more effective.

If the charitable and educational institutions of a county or city are its crown of glory Halifax may certainly be said to be rich indeed; perhaps no city in the Dominion is better off in this respect and it is not to be wondered at that Nova Scotians everywhere have a just pride in the educational system of the city by the sea.

and to share with others the pleasures and trials of life, may be really said to be the miracle of the nineteenth century and has aptly been called the youngest daughter of modern education.

The Halifax school does not exist merely for a local purpose but has strong claims on the province of New Brunswick, whose pupils are admitted on the same condition as those from Nova Scotia. The blind of this province participate in the endowments of the institution, and by its very existence New Brunswick is saved a large expenditure.

The number of pupils in attendance is seventy and the building occupied is really

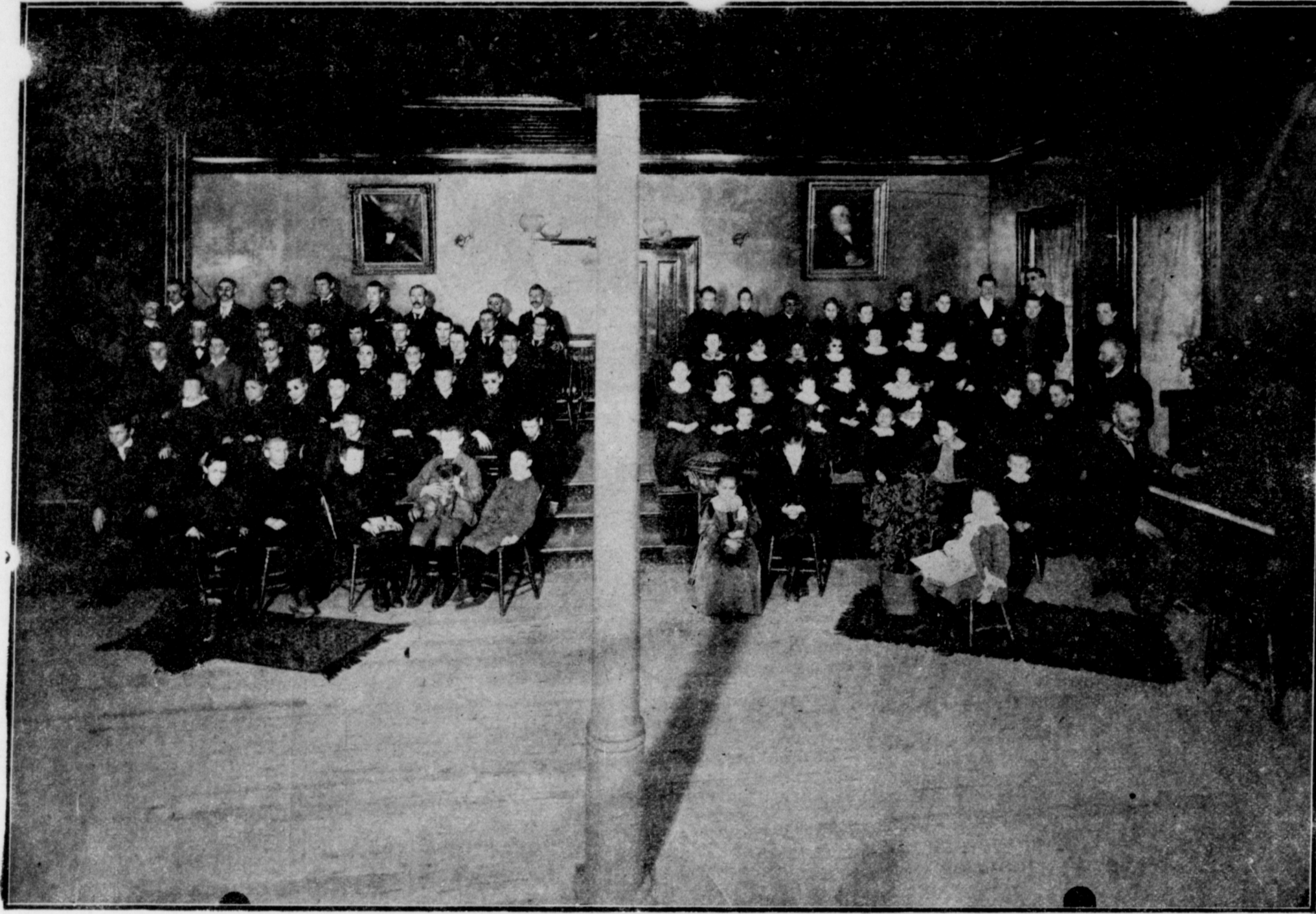
has a legal settlement. 2 The interest on investments. 3 Subscriptions and donations.

The institution is by an act of incorporation under the control of a board of managers consisting of 12 members elected yearly by the members of the corporation. The premiers of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island are ex-officio members of the board.

The facilities for teaching are excellent and the school is fully prepared to impart a liberal education to those who are deprived of sight. All the usual branches are taught while some of the pupils are given special courses in music and language

Settlement; Maud McTavish, Red Bank; Adelaide Bullock, Forreton; Mary McDonald, Welsford; Martha Rankine, Chipman; Jacob Wilson, St. John City; Beverley Campbell, Campbell Settlement; James Steeves, Coverdale; Arthur Duffy, Hillboro; Stanley Day, Moncton; Willard Smith, St. Stephen; Paul Duffy, Moncton; Sanford Upham, Prosser Brook; Chas. White, Moncton; Edward Riley, St. John City; John Johnstone, Chatham; Hollis Lindsay, Woodstock.

The philanthropic people of this province will without doubt respond generously to the urgent appeal being made by the management of the institution, in extending a



THE PUPILS AND STAFF OF THE SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND OF THE MARITIME PROVINCES.

One of the noblest of these institutions is the School for the Blind which is just now having its claims placed before the philanthropic people of the lower provinces and it is to be sincerely hoped that a generous response will be made to the appeal for help.

While blindness is in itself thought to be one of the most terrible afflictions that can befall a human being, the affliction becomes tenfold greater when the mental faculties of the afflicted person are allowed to remain dormant. It is only when the blind have received no training, no development of mind or character that their condition becomes truly pitiable. Strength of character is largely the result of difficulties met with and blindness to the educated is simply an obstacle to be overcome. To the system by which those who live in perpetual darkness are taught to be useful citizens

only suited to the accommodation of sixty, so that the extension decided upon by the management is an absolute necessity. Applications for the admission of blind children are being constantly made and the erection of a second wing to the present quarters is the only solution of the difficulty. The people of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and P. E. Island are therefore being asked to contribute to the cost of a building capable of accommodating 120 persons, involving an expenditure of \$20,000 of which Halifax people have contributed \$7000.

The current revenue of the school is derived from three sources; 1 A per capita grant of \$150 for each pupil in attendance. In Nova Scotia and New Brunswick one-half of this amount is paid by the government of the province and the remaining half by the municipality in which the pupil

ages or in whatever branch they seem best fitted to help themselves in after life. The following table from the annual report will give some definite idea of the result of the work of the institution

28 per cent. of the graduates are engaged in teaching music; 12 per cent. in conducting or taking part in concert companies; 8 per cent. in pianoforte tuning; 8 per cent. in business; 4 per cent. in manufacturing; 12 per cent. giving instruction in or working at trades; 2 per cent. as agents; 2 per cent. in farm work; 2 per cent. in literary callings; 22 per cent. residing at home.

The superintendents report shows that steady and satisfactory progress has been made and the attendance registered December 1, 1895 was 49 boys, 20 girls, and 1 adult and of these the following were from this province. Alma Campbell, Campbell

helping hand to a class of people whose condition would be sad indeed, were it not for the inestimable blessing of education. The blind children of this province have a strong claim upon the sympathy of every more fortunate person and the most practical way of expressing it is by assisting the institution where they are taught to become independent members of society and to look upon their darkened life as perhaps a blessing in disguise.

**WHAT BOSTON IS DOING.**

**THE CITY HAS A NEW BRAND OF SPRING WEATHER.**

Larsen Talks of Matters in the Hub in His Usual Entertaining Way—Everybody is Wearing his Overcoat—How Work is Progressing on the Subway.

BOSTON, MAY 13—This has been a very backward spring, but we have been having large chunks of it which seem to give some idea of what may be expected this summer. After two months of cold raw genuine Boston east winds, came a few days of warm weather a few weeks ago. Some people were foolish enough to shed their winter overclothing, and there has been considerable lost time in various branches of business on account of it. That warm spell was of short duration, and after another seige of east winds we are getting it again at an uncomfortable temperature. Boston weather is worth talking about.

Any one who attempts to keep up with its lightning changes will not have time for anything else. The street railway makes a good bluff at it. But the weather usually gets the best of the big corporation every time. It is quite the thing nowadays to come down town in the morning in open cars and go home in the afternoon in the closed ones with the greatest desire to get a seat over one of the heaters.

Everybody brings his coat into town with him, although he has not the faintest idea whether he will need it or not. So far there has been very little thought given to the beaches, although what is now left of the common is sometimes pretty well populated. The common just at present is simply a big hole on one side, and bears a striking resemblance to a mountain on the other. Since work on the subway began there has not been much of it left for the people. Nobody knows what the exhorters and agitators who used to make the common their stamping ground will do this summer. They were certainly much more interesting than the big yellow fences with which the place is now honeycombed.

The subway is one of the biggest undertakings in the history of the country, but

whether it will do all that is expected of it is something on which there is the greatest difference of opinion.

When it is completed Bostonians will be able to ride underground from the Park Square depot, under the Public Gardens and the common, and down through Tremont and Sudbury streets to the Union station. They can also start from the corner of Pleasant and Tremont streets where there will be another entrance.

The work of digging out this big hole under Tremont street is now going on without any great interruption to travel, and the methods used to carry away the dirt excavated are interesting in the extreme. For instance, on Tremont street near the Boston Museum where the excavating is going on, the dirt is hoisted up in large buckets, which are then run along on an elevated railway into Court square where they are emptied into the carts which take it away.

On the common one of contractors has built a steam railroad which runs the whole length of the common from the subway to the dumping ground near Charles street.

This is presidential election year, and this fact is said to account for the present state of business, which is not certainly all that might be hoped for. Times are dull, and there are a good many people out of work in all lines of business. The big stores have been discharging hands by the hundred, but some of these are taken back again temporarily. When the elections are about to come on there is always the greatest uncertainty as to what will be done with the tariff, and business men generally are prone to wait until they can be sure of what they are doing. No matter what the condition of trade may be it is impossible to form any opinion by observing the people on the streets and in the stores. Take Washington and Tremont streets any day and they are thronged with shoppers, and in the big stores it is always as much as one can do to get through the crowds:

"Sandy" Baxter, who is well known in St. John as an athlete, and at one time connected with the Record, is now in Low-

ell, where he is in the employ of the Boston & Maine railway. He is already looking around for an opening in some good athletic club, and hopes to appear in some of the meets here this summer.

R. G. LARSEN.

**A TRICKY LIMB OF THE LAW.**

An Imprecious Halifax Lawyer who Lives in a Strange Way.

HALIFAX, May, 12.—Is there a city without its imprecious lawyers? Probably not, and certainly not Halifax. An illustration of this occurred last week. One limb of the law, who has often been guilty of unscrupulous conduct, added to his offences when he entered a Barrington Street clothing shop, and asked the young man behind the counter to show him some ready made pants. This was done, and a pair eventually taken into the back shop to be tried on. The old garments were removed and the new ones donned. They were found to fit fairly well, at least they might have been worse. Then clerk and lawyer returned to the front together but their was not the usual pause necessary to count out a cash equivalent for the goods which now covered the barrister's nether limbs. He made straight for the door, heeding not the call of the clerk to come back and pay for the trousers and in a moment the lawyer was far off among the madding throng, leaving the clerk breathing out "threatenings and slaughter" and gazing disconsolately on the discarded garments left by the lawyer. There was talk, and it meant business, of a suit-at law for the cost of the pants, and it eventuated in their being paid for.

This is the same lawyer who some time ago obtained the money from a friend of a poor woman locked up in the police station with which to pay her fine, but instead of doing so pocketed the cash, allowing the unfortunate to come within an ace of going to Rockhead where she would have been imprisoned had not another friend more honest than the lawyer, at the last moment come to her rescue. An interesting story is also told of how on another occasion this lawyer received a considerable amount of cash to pay the license fees of several foreign peddlars who struck the town. He paid the fees, not into the city clerk's office, for Henry Trenaman never saw a cent of the money, but he kept it in his pocket, and the poor peddlars had to pay license money over again or go to jail.

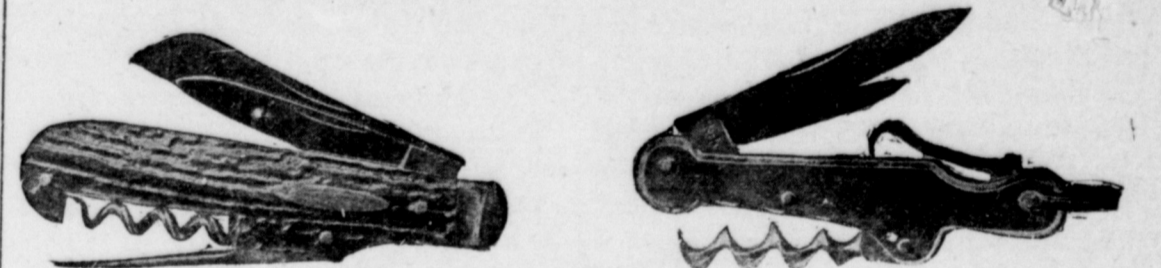
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