

Erection of a small octagonal Fire-Proof Edifice for the Museum and the Library of the College of St. Laurent.

*An Appeal to the friends of General Education.*

The Rev. Father Carrier, of the Congregation of the Holy Cross, former College Superior, and, for many years, Professor of the mathematical, natural and physical sciences, having, for over half a century, zealously devoted himself principally to the study of the different branches of the natural sciences, has succeeded in collecting about eighty thousand (80,000) objects of all kinds, which he has named and classified, and which he has stored away in a large apartment of St. Laurent College. This room, large as it is, has become absolutely too limited; and—what is still worse—it is not fire-proof. An unlooked for conflagration, such as have at times visited educational establishments, would, in one fell hour, reduce to ashes the fruits of many years of incessant toil.

The said Reverend Father, with the full approbation of his higher Superiors, desires to create a small octagonal shaped *fire-proof* building, to be constructed of no other materials than brick, cement, iron and glass. The building is to have three stories; the first one will contain the Canadian Library (another of Rev. Father Carrier's patriotic undertakings); The second, the museum; and the third, the cabinet of physical science and the observatory.

It is calculated that the entire cost of this building will not be more than twelve thousand dollars. As the financial management of the St. Laurent College is unable to furnish that sum owing to lack of funds, Rev. Father Carrier is consequently obliged to secure the amount by means of subscriptions, not general or public (which would take too much time and cause too much annoyance), but by special and selected donations; that is to say, limited to the rich or more liberally endowed class.

Rev. Father Carrier, therefore, takes the liberty of respectfully addressing this circular-letter, to you, dear Sir, who happily belong to that more influential, intelligent and honorable class which God has more particularly favored with this world's goods.

It may not be invidious, perhaps, to mention that the well-known philanthropist, Sir Donald A. Smith, has generously subscribed the sum of one thousand dollars, to the erection of this building; a worthy ecclesiastic, who desires that his name remain unmentioned, has also subscribed twelve hundred dollars, in instalments; a good Christian has offered five hundred dollars; a Superior-General of an Order has donated two hundred francs, and about thirty of smaller sums. But that is all that as been subscribed, offered or donated up to the present time. There remain, now, from seven to eight thousand dollars to be collected. The corner-stone of the edifice was laid last year, as announced; and it is now nearly finished. JOSEPH-C. CARRIER,

*Priest of the Congregation of the Holy Cross.*

*Seen and Approved: PH. BEAUDET, Provincial of C. S. C.*