

THE NEW PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.



MR. CHARLES F. SMITH.

In these days of scientific business methods, keen competition and colossal enterprises, the man who wins his way to the position of sole owner by his capacity, energy and perseverance in an establishment which is one of the leading, if not the leading one of its kind in Canada, has given proof of the possession of what may be termed rare individuality of character. In the case of Mr. Charles F. Smith, to whom we refer, and who has just been elected President of the Montreal Board of Trade by acclamation, the further fact that he occupies a leading position in the Dominion's commercial metropolis because of his breadth of view, his urbanity of disposition, and his well-known integrity, is emphasized by the circumstance that he is an English-speaking Catholic.

Mr. Smith was born in England in 1810 and came to this country in 1861. After working at the wholesale boot and shoe manufacturing business for eleven years he was taken into the large firm founded by Mr. James McCreedy, through whose death our section of the community sustained a heavy loss. Mr. Smith is now sole proprietor of the business of James McCreedy & Co. The "True Witness" heartily congratulates him upon his election to the highest office within the gift of the leading business men of Montreal. Mr. Smith has given substantial evidence of his interest in education by subscribing liberally to the building fund of the new Catholic High School, while his general benefactions embrace institutions for the help of the poor and needy of every creed and race.

St. Ann's Gymnasium and Drill Hall Inaugurated.

The herculean efforts which the zealous Redemptorist Fathers, who have charge of St. Ann's Parish, are continually making on behalf of the moral, physical, intellectual advancement of the boys and young men of the parish, were again exemplified on Tuesday evening, the 24th inst., when the new gymnasium and amusement hall were formally inaugurated.

Thanks to the untiring zeal of Rev. Father Strubbe, and his able assistants, also to the continued support of the parishioners and the executive ability of its officers, St. Ann's Young Men's Society is to-day the most flourishing association of its kind in the whole Dominion. At present they possess a fine building devoted to the sole use of the members, which contains a well equipped gymnasium, billiard rooms, library, reading-rooms, ball alley, smoking room, drill and concert hall, and in fact everything that can contribute to the amusement and development of its members; thereby fostering and encouraging a spirit of social, national and religious unity, second to none in Canada.

Desirous of advancing the boys and youths of the parish under eighteen years of age, the Rev. Fathers established two years ago, a junior branch of the young men's society, which possess all the advantages of the senior one; and in addition to a thorough course of military and physical training. The members are known as the St. Ann's Cadets. A file and drum and bugle corps have also been formed and all are under the direction of able instructors.

Owing to the establishing of this

junior branch, and also to the increased membership to the society, larger accommodation was considered necessary, and through the generosity of Father Strubbe and several of the parishioners a new and spacious extension was built as an addition to the present building. The ground floor of the new wing consists of the gymnasium, and is fitted with all the paraphernalia of the latest kind. Attached to the gymnasium are shower-baths for the use of members. The second floor is set apart for an armory and general amusement hall, for the use of the cadets and junior members, and is very nicely finished. The building is 30 x 60 feet, two storeys high, and built of brick at a cost of \$6,000.

A very large number of members and friends of the society were present on Tuesday evening. Among those were noticed: the Rev. Fathers Strubbe, Billeau, Jackman, Scanlan, Flynn and Grogan; Rev. Bros. Prudent and Tobias; M. J. F. Quinn, Q. C., M.P.; J. Morrison, B.C.L.; J. Johnson, Hon. Pres. St. Ann's Y. M. S.; J. Whitty, pres. St. Ann's Y. M. S.; J. Killeather, pres. of St. Ann's T. A. & B. society; M. Shea, Chief Ranger, C. O. F.; J. B. I. Flynn; E. Fitzgerald; A. Jones and R. Whitty.

The evening's programme opened with the blessing of the new extension. Rev. Father Strubbe officiated, assisted by Rev. Fathers Billeau and Scanlan. Some gymnastic exercises were then most cleverly executed by the following athletes of St. Ann's Y. M. S.; John Whitty, Patrick O'Brien, John Kanehan, John Hagan, Michael

O'Donnell and Thomas Dillon. One and all of these young men displayed wonderful muscular development and could without doubt compete with some more pretentious associations in our city.

From the gymnasium these present paid a visit to the armory, and then all proceeded to the concert hall where the remainder of the programme was carried out. The St. Ann's Cadets performed marching, formation and manual exercise under the command of their instructor Major Fegan; and although they did not go through the various movements with the most perfect precision, the marked improvement they have made during the last two months is deserving of great praise. The senior officers are as follows:

Captain Fred. Hogan; First Lieut., G. Gimmerson; Second Lieut., John Mooney; and Color-Sergeant, Thos. Corcoran.

The file, drum and bugle band, under the direction of their instructors, Messrs. J. and M. O'Donnell, then rendered some selections and were much applauded by the audience. This was followed by the boys of St. Ann's School, in dumb-bell, club, and bar-bell exercises. Their performance reflects great credit upon themselves and upon their instructors, the Christian Brothers. Mr. O'Dowd, who presided at the piano during the various movements, did his part most satisfactorily. The Orpheus Male Quartette, which is composed of Messrs. W. Murphy, M. Mullarkey, J. Penfold and Ed. Quinn, with Mr. E. J. Shea, musical director, gave some choice selections including "The Georgia Camp Meeting," "Handicap" and the "Kerry Dance." They were voraciously applauded. Mr. A. Jones, jr., also gave some comic songs which were very well received. A hymn to St. Ann, by the school choir under the direction of Bro. Tobias, closed the evening's entertainment.

Father Strubbe then rose to speak, and was greeted with loud applause. He thanked all for coming to witness the opening of the new gymnasium and the exhibition of the cadets and complimented the cadets upon their proficiency. He also expressed the hope that next summer they would be able to compete for and win the Duke of Connaught's Flag. He thanked all those who had helped to make the entertainment a success, also the Rev. Fathers for their share in organizing the junior branch of the society. He called the attention of the boys to the many sacrifices that the Rev. Father Billeau had made for them and he hoped that they would continue to show their good will for the parish depended much upon her boys. In conclusion he said:

"There is not a parish in the whole Dominion that has received so many signal favors. We are not sorry for the sacrifices, so long as we can depend on you. Try to be grateful, that is all we ask."

Mr. M. J. F. Quinn was then introduced. He said it was always a great pleasure for him to come to St. Ann's Hall, as he always found there a first class entertainment, better than any other in the city, and the Rev. Fathers, the Christian Brothers, and the young men were to be congratulated upon the evening's performance. He thought that St. Ann's is undoubtedly the banner parish of the city. He recalled the time when he was a boy and said that the acquirement of such exercises as he had witnessed that evening, then, would necessitate considerable expense. In closing he said, he had no words to express the pride and gratitude he felt in representing such a noble body of young men as there are in St. Ann's Parish.

Father Grogan, Father Billeau, Bro. Prudent and Mr. M. J. Morrison then followed in short speeches. After which all dispersed amidst the strains of "God Save Ireland."

At the annual meeting of the St. Ann's Y. M. S. which was held on Saturday last the President for the year 1898, Mr. John Whitty and the Secretary, Mr. Daniel J. O'Neill, both read their annual reports of the Society for the past year. They are voluminous documents and contain much valuable information which will be of very great service in the future. Mr. Whitty's report makes feeling reference to the death of Mr. Thos. J. Quinlan, one of the founders of the society.

The financial operations during the term just closed are also reviewed in an able and interesting manner.

MGR. BEGIN RECEIVES THE PALLIUM.

Seldom, if ever in the history of the Ancient Capital was such an imposing ceremony held in the Basilica as that which took place on Sunday last, upon the occasion of the investiture of Mgr. Begin, with the Pallium.

The arch-episcopal throne was occupied by His Grace Monseigneur Begin, whose deacon and sub-deacon were Rev. Mr. Rheault, Caputary Vicar of Three Rivers, and Rev. Father Murphy, of Halifax, representing the Archbishop of that diocese. Mass was sung by His Grace of Ottawa, Archbishop Duhamel, Mgr. Lacombe officiating as arch-priest, and Rev. Messrs. Arsenault and Fane as deacons of honor. The prother was the Rev. L. A. Paquet, D.D., the eloquent professor of Dogmatic Theology. After the ceremony of High Mass was concluded, the investiture with the Pallium was proceeded with His Grace being assisted by the Rev. Mr. Lindsay, chaplain of the President, and Rev. Mr. Belandier, of the Continental Seminary. After receiving his oath of allegiance to the Catholic Church, Mgr. Begin left his throne and repairing to the foot of the high altar knelt there, remaining some moments in prayer. He was then invested with the Pallium by Mgr. Duhamel, and after bestowing his benediction upon the assembled multitude, returned to his throne and the proceedings were closed by the singing of the Te Deum.

The podates present, for whom special seats were reserved in the Sanctuary, were:

Mgr. Cameron of Antigonish; Mgr. Bouché of Montreal; Mgr. Levesque of Sherbrooke; Mgr. Bois, of Rimouski; Mgr. Emard, of Valleyfield; Mgr. Gauthier, of Kingston; Mgr. Labrosse, of Chateaufort; and Mgr. Desjardins, of St. Hyacinthe. Special seats were also reserved for the Lieutenant-Governor, Madam and Mademoiselle Dore, and Major Sheppard, A.D.C., the representatives of the Dominion Government, Hon. Messrs. Turin and Fitzpatrick; the representatives of the Provincial Government, Hon. Messrs. Marchand, Duffy, Parent, and Dechené; Sir C. A. P. Pelletier, speaker of the Senate; Sir L. N. Casault, C.J.; Justices Routhier, Caron, Pelletier, Larue, Langlois, Lemieux and Chauveau; Recorder Dory; Sir Hector Langevin; Hon. Messrs. Flynn, Charbon, Sharples, and Larue; Messrs. Malouin, M.P., Carbray, M.P., Wickenden, etc.

In the afternoon a dinner was tendered to His Grace in the great dining hall of the Seminary and on his behalf of the clergy of the archdiocese was read by Mgr. Marois, V. G., to which Mgr. Begin replied with his usual felicity.

NEW YORK'S PROTEST AGAINST IMPERIALISM.

In the name of the Continental League, whose avowed object is to protest against the "policy of imperialism and entangling alliances," a meeting was held last night at the Academy of Music. Men of Irish descent made up the larger part of the assembly. As president of the Continental League, William Temple Emmet opened the meeting by introducing as chairman Austin G. Fox, who read letters from Bishop Potter and Grover Cleveland.

Bishop Potter expressed his belief that expansion threatens the moral sense and the essential well-being of the nation and that the arguments of those favoring it are "grotesque and hypocritical."

Mr. Cleveland referred to the movement against which the meeting was directed as "expansion craze now affecting the body politic," and said that he sympathized with any body that was opposed to expansion.

Hon. Bourke Cockran was introduced and said in part:

"Any person who is a Democrat must, by the very elements of his faith, be opposed to the doctrine of imperialism that threatens the very foundations of our country. From a material point of view it is a policy of infamy. The advocates of this policy say that trade follows the flag. Does it? We point to the long preserved colonial policy of England, and ask how it has profited her, except to maintain pampered younger members of the British aristocracy. No conquest has ever helped commerce."

"This nation must not look to military conquest. We must not grovel."

Cure of Sister Bernadette At St. Anne de Beaupre.

About the middle of July we received from Rev. Mr. Hervieux, of Tupper Lake, N. Y., a letter respecting the remarkable cure indicated in our title. Among other things it said:

"The sister is now quite well. I know not whether any bodies have written to you in connection with this miracle, but please speak of it in your Annals."

From that time we have been corresponding with Rev. Mr. Hervieux. He has fully confirmed the first information that he gave us. It therefore seems to us that the cure has come to be made known. This striking proof of St. Anne's goodness, we shall do so by giving all the details that we have received from the sister's sources.

It was on the 22nd of June of this year that Sister Bernadette, a Nun of the convent of St. Joseph, Watertown, N. Y., was miraculously cured at the shrine of St. Anne de Beaupre.

On that day came the pilgrimage from Ogdensburg, N. Y., a pilgrimage admirable for its piety and beyond contradiction one of the most and most edifying of the season. Among the 7000 pilgrims were several sick persons, Sister Bernadette being one of the number.

She is a young girl, twenty-five years old. For two years she had suffered from an internal disease which was extremely painful and dangerous, and had lost the skill of the best physicians of that region. The disease had progressed to such an extent that all hope was lost, and the Sister was warned to prepare herself for death. She received the last sacraments in perfect resignation to God's holy will and mercifully made the sacrifice of her life.

Nevertheless, the physicians who attended her did not give up hope. They still only wanted to save her from the grave, who was a patient from their reports of all their efforts. Finally they held a consultation and agreed to propose an operation to the sick nun. This was, in their opinion, the only way to save her. Their proposal was not received by the patient as they expected. She was already prepared for death, and did not care to run the risk of a painful operation, the idea of which was repugnant to her. She therefore refused. The physicians spoke to the Superior, but she was unable to obtain the patient's consent. They went still further and tried to secure the intervention of the ecclesiastical authorities. But Monseigneur Gabriels replied that he could only advise, not order, in such a case.

All seemed lost. On her side Sister Bernadette retained in her heart a secret hope that she would be cured. But her confidence laid in heavenly power, and not in human resources. She sent for the Superior and said to her: "Reverend Mother, if you really wish another attempt to be made for me, let me go on a pilgrimage to St. Anne de Beaupre. I am sure that the great Saint will cure me." Her request was granted by the good Superior, and she was allowed to go to St. Anne.

It was under these circumstances that Sister Bernadette started from Watertown. She had to be taken from her bed, and carried to the cars with very many precautions. As may be imagined, the journey was but one long suffering; the slightest jar causing intolerable pain. When landed at St. Anne, after such a journey, she

looked more like a corpse than a living person. She had then to be lifted into a carriage, with her head surrounded by cushions to convey her from the boat to the Shrine.

On arrival she was placed in an arm chair at the foot of St. Anne's statue where she remained throughout the pilgrimage. What passed during that time between St. Anne and her? How many acts of confidence and at the same time of resignation were expressed by her heart? No one knows. What we do know, is that one of our Fathers, Reverend Father Lemire, went from time to time to visit Sister Bernadette and make her venerate the Holy Relic.

Meanwhile the pilgrimage drew near to its end. The last exercise took place at 11:30, when it was over, all returned to the steamer. Several of the patient's sister nuns and already left the church, without thinking of a miracle, and yet it was the moment chosen by St. Anne. This is how it was observed.

While the crowd was rapidly dispersing and only about a hundred persons remained in the Basilica, Rev. Father Lemire, passed by the sick nun's chair, to make her venerate the Holy Relic once more. He what was her astonishment at seeing her come herself as quickly as a person in good health to kneel and venerate the Relic. The Father could not believe his eyes. "What is it, sister?" he asked. "Yes," she replied, "I feel it, I am cured!"

"I shall not attempt to depart," she said, "until the persons present on seeing the nun who is in a dying condition, and unable to stand when she entered, walk without the ordinary difficulty."

All went with joy. At that moment, the Brother Sacristan took up the cushions, that were no longer needed, and headed a procession singing the Magnificat. All followed him, including her who had been miraculously cured.

The Reverend Father Superior, who was immediately called, was able to see the marvellous change that had taken place in Sister Bernadette's condition. He was all the more struck by it because he himself had helped her to enter the church. To make still more sure that she was cured, he told her to kneel for his blessing. She did so at once without the slightest difficulty, a thing that she was entirely unable to do an hour before.

Thus she was cured! She went to the steamer on foot without support, walking with agility a distance of nearly a mile. She came into the midst of her sister nuns and of the other persons who knew her, exciting the same admiration everywhere. The return was effected without the least suffering. She went back to her convent, and we are told that she is quite well. The two cushions remained at the Shrine.

This fact, which is thoroughly attested is one of the most marvellous that ever occurred at the Shrine of St. Anne. For that reason we have given all the details. It is a proof of the extraordinary power that St. Anne has received from God, and of her goodness in manifesting that power in favor of the unfortunate. Let us thank St. Anne; let us love her and pray to her; and she will always pour her blessings upon us.—From Annals of St. Anne.

PUBLIC CHARITY IN ENGLAND.

Charity, as by law established in England, is no new cause of scandal. We are constantly hearing of cases similar to the one which we hope, the Poplar Guardians will be able to compain away. A septuagenarian named Chas. Elliott has died in Holloway Prison. His son, a laborer, stated at the inquest that

His father was turned out of the Poplar Workhouse on the Thursday before Christmas Day, because he disliked the idea of having his hair cut—"he hadn't much hair, and objected to have it taken off." The son took him in over Christmas, but the father refused to be a burden on him, and was found by a policeman on London Bridge trying to get over the parapet into the water. He was remanded for a week, and died in prison from privation and senile decay.

The idea of a poor man 70 years being turned out of a workhouse on the eve of Christmas merely because he did not like the idea of being deprived of the few remaining grey hairs that nature had left him is really too much of an outrage on charity to be quietly borne.—London Universe.

THE GREAT IRISH ACTOR.

Some weeks ago it was announced that Joseph Mirphy, of "Kerry Gow" fame, was worth two millions dollars, but an abundance of wealth does not seem to dampen Joe's acting ardor. On Monday he opened a week's engagement at the Lyceum Theatre, Buffalo.—Canadian Freeman, Kingston.

Prince Max of Saxony, who was about to take up his duties of parish priest at Nuremberg, is dangerously sick in Dresden.