

Branch No. 4, London, meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month, at 8 o'clock at their hall, Albion Block, Richmond street, Mar. O'Meara, President; Wm. Corcoran, Sec.

C. M. B. A. THE SUPREME VS. THE CANADA GRAND COUNCIL.

LETTER FROM A CANADIAN DEPUTY—THE FEELING IN CANADIAN BRANCHES. Editor Buffalo Union and Times: The last number of the C. M. B. A. Monthly devotes considerable space to the difficulty with the Canada Grand Council, stating very fully the contention of the Supreme Council in the dispute, and giving in detail the interview of the editor with Supreme President Mulholland, and Legal Adviser T. J. Keena of Detroit. As an official organ of the association at large Bro. Deare should have interviewed the officers of the Grand Council of Canada and presented their side of the question in the same issue of the Monthly. Such a course would be but simple justice to the Canadian branch, and in the best interests of the association. The importance of the subject and the delay involved in waiting to reply in the next issue of the Monthly induced me to do so through the Union and Times, which has so large a circulation among the brotherhood. As I have noticed no allusion hitherto to the controversy in your columns it may be desirable to briefly state the cause of the difficulty.

In the last revised edition of the Constitution and By-Laws appears a new clause requiring the medical certificates and applications of candidates to be forwarded to the Supreme Recorder's office. The Canada Grand Council refused compliance with this provision on the ground that the said clause was not passed or even discussed at the Supreme Council Convention proceeding to the revision of the constitution, and was consequently illegally introduced into the constitution. This clause does not appear in the official minutes of the Council, published shortly thereafter, owing, it is said, to an error of the proof reader—while the Canadian representatives were willing to make affidavit that it was never passed or discussed at the convention. Until lately the Grand Recorder was the recognized custodian of these important documents in each Grand Council; and the Canadian members have been very solicitous concerning their safe-keeping. In accordance with this general feeling our Grand Recorder, Mr. Brown, has lately built a fire-proof office adjoining his residence, and the association procured for it a first-class safe. Hence the Grand Council officers would simply betray the confidence reposed in them by the members of the association in the council were they to deposit the certificates without consulting the branches. Had such a clause been introduced at the Supreme Convention it would have met the most strenuous opposition from our representatives. They declare now and then, and their words and affidavits ought certainly bear as much weight as those of their opponents in this dispute. It is also very singular that no many officers of the Supreme Council have no recollection of the clause having been discussed at all. I can understand how members having no special interest in such a clause might take but little notice of it when introduced, or soon forget all about it, but it is incomprehensible how delegates, specially watchful and opposed to it would fail in noticing it if introduced. Article xvii, Sec. 1, page 38, of the constitution reads: "No new law or amendment shall be passed by said Council except by unanimous vote, unless the same has been duly considered by Grand Councils and branches under the jurisdiction of the same." Objection to the adoption of said law or amendment refers the same back to Grand Councils and branches for their consideration.

With our delegates opposed determinedly to such a claim it will be readily perceived, that under the above provisions of the constitution, any one of them could have effectually blocked its passage. That they would have done so had it been introduced there cannot be a shadow of doubt. Bro. Deare gives a very high certificate of character to the members of the Supreme Board of Trustees, all of whom, he states, are personally known to him. I have no desire to question the correctness of his opinion; and can assure him from my own personal knowledge that the trustees of our Grand Council, its President and other officers, are equally deserving of a similar compliment, and this I feel assured would be heartily endorsed by Bro. Deare were he acquainted with the facts from what I can learn about the difficulty—or, in diplomatic language, the "strained relations" existing between the two councils—I fail to see where the Canada Council is to blame. They refuse to comply with a clause which they firmly believe did not reach the constitution in a legitimate manner. Besides, the Canadian branches will not consent to a surrender on this point. In plain words their motto is NO SURRENDER.

The past history of our association displays no necessity in the interests of the association that it should be done. Perhaps under the previous constitutions the Supreme Council possessed the inherent right to be custodian of these documents; but so far at least as the Canada Council is concerned its interests were decidedly promoted by not attempting to exercise such a right. The fact should be always borne in mind that our Council is in a different country and operating under different laws while all other Councils are under the same general government. Our Supreme officers would do well to bear this fact in mind in dealing with this question, and on all future occasions when altering or amending the constitution, Canada's voice must necessarily be weak at Supreme Conventions, and it would never be wise policy for the majority to force dissenting legislation upon her. I am deeply sensible of the gravity of the present situation, and think, considering the universal feeling in our branches against surrendering the certificates

and especially concerning the manner in which the clause got into the constitution, that it would be the part of true wisdom for our Supreme President to defer all action in the case until the next Supreme Convention takes place. Matters could then be amicably adjusted. For my own part, I have always been in favor of unity; and, since the organization of our local branch in 1882, the most cordial feelings have existed between the members of our branch and those of Nos. 1 and 2 on the American side. At reunions, processions and funerals, on either side of the line, we are generally together. Yet, notwithstanding this warm fraternal feeling Branch 18 unanimously passed a resolution in favor of holding the medical certificates in our own custody. A few—but very few—branches have by small majorities favored compliance; but even in some of the latter a majority of the members are in harmony with all the other branches. Our friends in the states must not be misled by the few "Muldooons" who represent chiefly themselves, certainly not more than five per cent. of the members in Canada, and who might be profitably laid by as a reserve force in the best interest of the association. We might afford to surrender our reserves but not our Reserve Fund or medical certificates.

JAS. QUILLINAN, District Deputy, Niagara Falls, Ont., Aug. 17, 1889.

Letter from the Grand President. Stratford, Ont., Aug. 24th, 1889.

To the Members of the C. M. B. A. in Canada: BROTHERS—It was not my desire or intention to discuss the difficulty which has arisen between our Council and the Supreme Council in relation to the custodianship of the medical certificates through the press, rather trusting that it could be settled in an amicable and private manner, without trusting our family affairs upon the public; but, owing to the statements in one of our official organs, the C. M. B. A. Monthly, in its last issue, taking such a partial view of the case (an action I consider most ungenerous, as the Canada Grand Council was the first council in the association to recognize and appoint said paper as an official organ of the C. M. B. A.), in his own comments and interviews with Supreme Council officers, which I consider are misleading. The editor, being a member of one of our Canadian Branches, and his paper an official organ, if he wished to be impartial and promote the interest of the association, should certainly have consulted the officers of our council as to their views on the matter before publishing one side of the question.

A brief history of the affair is as follows: The Canada Grand Council was organized February 10th, 1880, at which time our medical certificates were in the possession of the Supreme Recorder. In March or April following said date, the present Supreme Recorder, C. J. Hickey, Esq., assumed office, and returned all the medical certificates of our Canadian members to our Grand Secretary, telling him "that hereafter said medical certificates are not to be sent to him, but must be kept in his (the Grand Secretary's) office, and sent him only as a depository." Shortly after this the following heading appeared on the new medical certificates: "These blanks to be filed with the Grand and Supreme Recorders only." After the Supreme Convention of 1886 the above heading was left off the certificates. In 1886, shortly after we returned for a separate beneficiary jurisdiction, the Supreme Recorder requested Grand Secretary Brown to send him our medical certificates, stating "that the constitution required that all medical certificates must be filed in his office."

At a trustee meeting held in London, Dec. 29th, 1886, the trustees and myself, Grand Secretary, after a long and full discussion, found no such law. After the Supreme Convention of 1888, in Section 4 of Beneficiary Fund Article, for the first time an amendment was made as to the custodianship of medical certificates. It was claimed that for several years the other councils adopted a different system from that of the C. M. B. A. and that they did not send application for beneficiary certificates, but forwarded medical certificates. The constitution demanded an application for a beneficiary certificate. See section 14 of the beneficiary fund article page 15 of the revised Constitution of 1886. We were therefore right, and the other Grand Councils were wrong.

Early in January last, upon receipt of the Revised Constitution of 1888 after comparing it with the printed minutes of the Cleveland Convention, which were ratified by said Convention, and supposed to be a true copy of the proceedings, I found a discrepancy in section 4 of the Beneficiary Fund Article—the Constitution stating that our medical certificates must be forwarded to the Supreme Recorder before a beneficiary certificate would be issued. The printed minutes above referred to not showing this, I immediately communicated with the Canadian representatives to said Convention, asking an explanation. They informed me that the action as it appears in the constitution was never even mentioned or discussed at the convention, and the section as it is in the minutes was what was ratified by the words "together with the medical certificates."

Mr. O'Meara, one of the representatives, states "there was certainly no discussion as to the custodianship of medical certificates at the Supreme Council Convention, of this I am positive, as I never was out of the convention a single minute while sitting, and was always there before it opened. I am satisfied you are not legally bound to pay any attention to Section 4, page 9, constitution of 1888, or so much of it as differs from Section 4, page 86, of the minutes. Section 4, page 86 of minutes, with the exception of the words 'together with the medical certificates' is what was ratified in convention, and is what is binding, and is to be our guide, if it conflicts with the printed constitution." The other representatives were equally as positive. I called the attention of the trustees to the question, who again advised abiding by our former action,

and retaining our medical certificates. This is not the only discrepancy between the minutes and the constitution. Compare the amended Beneficiary Fund Article as it appears in the printed minutes of the Cleveland Convention with said article in the constitution. The minutes state page 85, the convention resumed the consideration of the report of the committee on laws and supervision. On the Beneficiary Fund Article, Supreme Chancellor Keena, offered an amendment to section 16 of said article compelling members to designate some members of their family as beneficiaries. The amendment was lost. On motion of Grand Chancellor Hynes the Beneficiary Fund Article as amended was unanimously adopted as a whole, and is as follows: "Section 16 above referred to appears in the minutes, page 89, as follows: Each member when admitted shall apply to the Supreme Recorder for a beneficiary certificate by making application through the Recording Secretary of his Branch or Grand Council, and designate in said application to whom the beneficiary shall be paid." This section has been entirely left out of the Revised Constitution, although it is quite evident it was discussed and adopted, from the amendment offered by Supreme Chancellor Keena. Why is this? If this section, as is clearly shown, has been omitted, what guarantee have we that Section 4 has not been changed in the same manner (perhaps by the proof reader). The above section is in the Revised Constitution of 1886 word for word as it appears in the minutes of the Cleveland Convention.

Resolved, That the members of this Branch do hereby tender to his father and mother their sincere sorrow for the loss they have sustained by being deprived of the love and affection of a dutiful and honored son. Resolved, That the President, D. D. E. O'Brien, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and M. J. Doran be a committee to wait upon and present an engrossed copy of this resolution to the aged father and mother of our Brother, James B. Moloney. Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be spread on the minutes, and copy sent to the CATHOLIC RECORD and C. M. B. A. Monthly. JAMES K. WEEKES, Recording Secretary.

At last regular meeting of Branch 31, C. M. B. A., held on 12th inst, the following resolutions were adopted: Moved by Brother P. Hartnett, seconded by Brother James K. Kough, that whereas the members of Branch 31, C. M. B. A., having heard with sincere sorrow of the loss which our Brother, Matthew Cheevers, has sustained by the death of his mother. Resolved, that we do hereby express our sympathy and condolence to our Brother, Matthew Cheevers, and the sorrow which we feel for him in this sad affliction, and trust that Almighty God will give him strength to bear this second great loss which he has sustained in so short a time.

Resolved, that a copy of this resolution be presented to Brother Cheevers, spread on the minutes, and a copy sent to CATHOLIC RECORD and C. M. B. A. Monthly. JAMES K. WEEKES, Recording Secretary. Formosa, August 19th, 1889. At the special meeting of the C. M. B. A. held on the above date the following resolutions of condolence were adopted: Whereas it has pleased Almighty God by His divine and infinite wisdom to remove from our midst so suddenly and unexpectedly our esteemed and beloved Brother, George Weber, and whereas by his death this Branch has been deprived of a warm and earnest member, his wife of a kind and devoted husband and his children of a good and Christian father; therefore be it

Resolved, That the members of this Branch extend to his wife and family their profoundest expressions of sympathy and condolence in this hour of their sad bereavement and irreparable loss, and hope that divine Providence will assist and guide the deeply-affected wife and family through their earthly pilgrimage; and be it further Resolved, That these resolutions be spread on the records of the Branch and published in the CATHOLIC RECORD, C. M. B. A. Monthly and Standard, and a copy of the resolutions be presented to the bereaved family. Committee on Resolutions—Matthew Goetz, Bernard Beingsener, Andrew Schwartz.

New Branch at Cobourg. The following officers of the new Branch at Cobourg were installed on August 19th by District Deputy T. D. Kinisels: Spiritual Adviser—Ben. E. J. Murray; President—James J. Swift; First Vice-President—D. McCarthy; Second Vice-President—M. Queen; Recording Secretary—Jas. Buiger; Financial Secretary—Dr. McNicoll; Treasurer—Andrew McGeevan; Marshal—John Kewser; Guard—Michael Maher; Board of Trustees—Peter Kough, Wm. O'Rourke, for two years; John Conolly, W. J. Maher, L. Burns, for one year. The meetings are held on the first and third Thursday evenings. E. B. A.

EXTRACTS FROM THE REVISED CONSTITUTION. BENEFITS—ASSISTANCE. It shall be the duty of members to assist each other to obtain employment when necessary. If it be known to the Branch that a member or the widow or children of a deceased member are in a destitute condition, the President shall appoint a Committee whose duty it shall be to investigate the case and report at the next regular meeting. Should the report be favorable, a reasonable sum may be appropriated to meet the case.

SICK BENEFITS. No member shall be entitled to any benefit until he has been a member six months, except medical aid, and medicine, and every member shall be entitled to these as soon as he is initiated a member, providing the Branch has a Surgeon. A Brother who is six months a member of a Branch and in good standing, shall be entitled to \$4.00 per week for twelve weeks in any one year (the year to date from the date of the first application for benefits in said year), but no longer. Any member claiming sick benefits shall notify the Financial Secretary (in default if possible) of his sickness or disability, and shall procure a surgeon's certificate stating the nature of his sickness or disability, said certificate to be delivered to the Steward before the first week's benefits can be paid. The surgeon's certificate to be renewed as often as required. No member shall be entitled to any benefits who has not complied with his duty, or whose disability is caused by drunkenness, violence, or other immoral conduct.

The Visiting Steward's duty shall be to visit every sick member (of whose sickness they have been officially informed) within twenty-four hours after such notice, and at least once a week during such illness, and pay the said member his weekly allowance as soon as due. In case assistance for a sick member may be required during the night, two members shall be chosen from the roll beginning with the first on roll, and continue until the roll is exhausted, and then begin the roll again, but in case of assistance being required in a second case, the roll shall commence with the member next on the roll after the first serving, and any member refusing or neglecting to perform said duty shall pay a fine of fifty cents. He shall, however, be allowed to provide a substitute, provided, however, that in all contagious diseases no member shall be required to attend as above stated. W. Lutz, Grand Secretary, 38 Bartlett Ave, Toronto.

Resolutions of Condolence. Guelph, Ont., 19th August, 1889. At last regular meeting of Branch 31, C. M. B. A., the following resolution was unanimously adopted: Moved by Brother M. J. Duignan, seconded by Brother M. J. Doran, that whereas the members of Branch 31, C. M. B. A., have learned with unfeigned grief of the sudden and unexpected death of our dear Brother, James B. Moloney, at San Bernardino, California, a young man of irreproachable character and much esteemed by every one who had the pleasure of knowing him, be it therefore

Resolved, That the members of this Branch do hereby tender to his father and mother their sincere sorrow for the loss they have sustained by being deprived of the love and affection of a dutiful and honored son. Resolved, That the President, D. D. E. O'Brien, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and M. J. Doran be a committee to wait upon and present an engrossed copy of this resolution to the aged father and mother of our Brother, James B. Moloney. Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be spread on the minutes, and copy sent to the CATHOLIC RECORD and C. M. B. A. Monthly. JAMES K. WEEKES, Recording Secretary.

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TELEGRAPHIC NEWS. AMERICAN. The population of the city of New York, by latest and most accurate calculation, is 1,763,510 souls. The valuation of real and personal estate is \$1,533,442,435.66, as follows: Real estate, \$1,302,818,579; personal estate, \$230,623,556.66. The bonded debt in 1888 was \$132,445,095, and the Sinking Fund Commission holds in bonds and stocks \$14,324,690, leaving a net debt of \$85,120,405, the interest on the whole being \$7,140,254 at the rate of from seven to two per cent.

The monument of Miles Standish, at Duxbury, Mass., is nearly completed. It is to be 116 feet high and stands on an eminence 300 feet above the level of the sea. The South Dakota Convention consisted of seventy-five members, of whom seventy-two were present at the last session, all of whom signed their signatures to the new constitution. BRITISH. The Shah has avowed that he will henceforth seek the closest relations with England and will not be deterred by any foreign intrigues. This is the result of his visit to the Emperor of Russia. The leading Russian newspapers violently attack him.

Russia exported to England in 1887 the large number of 1,085,000 eggs, which sold for 29,265,000 roubles. It is stated that though England has not joined the triple alliance, she had made arrangements with Italy for the preservation of the balance of power on the Mediterranean. FOREIGN. Eight thousand mayors attended President Carnot's banquet on the 19th inst. It is stated that several reactionary mayors have rallied to the cause of the Republic as a result of the gathering held at the 20 Aug. King Humbert placed a bronze wreath on the grave of Garibaldi as a token, he said, of the everlasting gratitude his country and home owed to the Revolutionist leader.

Advices from A report the return to Samoa of ex King Milletoa and other exiles. The exiling was warmly welcomed by the natives, and his own flag was hoisted. King Milletoa also greeted Milletoa with cordiality. The German consul informed Milletoa he was at liberty to do as he pleased. Rome, Aug. 20.—Last evening a spheroidal bomb, ten centimetres in diameter, was thrown from the rear of the Chamber of Deputies into the Piazza Colonna during the progress of a concert. The bomb exploded, wounding seriously six children and a child. A panic ensued, which was, however, soon quelled and the injured persons removed to hospitals. At a meeting of the Ministerial Council Minister of War De Freyding stated that out of twenty-six thousand officers of the active army fifty-nine had been found guilty of participating in political agitation, and had been dismissed with according to the gravity of their offences. He said also that twenty-one non-coms had been cashiered.

La Lanterne, of Paris, is indignant at the Pro-German utterances of Col. Russell in Berlin. It refers in an article inspired by M. Yves Guyot, Minister of Public Works, to Col. Russell's speech at the recent Mars la Tour banquet in Berlin, and says: "It matters not to us whether Lord Salisbury makes England Bismarck's vassal or not, but it is intolerable that he should allow those representing his policy to insult a friendly nation." A despatch from Crete says a Moham medan memorial has been sent to the Sultan protesting against the concessions demanded by the Christians and recommending that the privileges of the Christians be reduced, and that they be disarmed.

Since 1800 the population of Europe has just doubled itself. Tassan the population was 175,000,000; in 1830, 210,000,000; in 1850, 259,000,000; in 1880, 331,000,000; and in 1888, 370,000,000. Official returns of the emigration of members of the French Councils General show that nine hundred and forty-nine Republicans and four hundred and eighty-nine Conservatives were elected.

The C. M. B. A. has a number of Drawing prizes, under the auspices of Branch 75, Penetangshene, in aid of the Martyrs' Memorial Church, will be held during the first week in September, and promises to be very successful. The object is a handsome one, and should have the hearty support of all C. M. B. A. Branches and the faithful generally throughout Canada and the United States. The price of a book of tickets has been placed at \$5.

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