

In the hands of such men lies the progress of all associations.

But the true value of the individual influence of the member can only be measured by his own character. Therefore, let him remember that his own action in the field of his profession must be the action of a man of honor.

He must remember these three cardinal points:

First—Principle is a hair line and can not be split in two

Second—There is such a thing as Right, and it will not down.

Third—When Honor walks arm in arm with a man, it lifts him up into public view.

Remembering these things and acting upon them, his influence will become a factor for unlimited good for the association he represents.

Nothing succeeds like success. Therefore, let him bend every energy for success in the field, and his influence in his association is sure to be enhanced thereby. The man who writes a big legitimate business becomes a factor. His counsel is sought; his advice considered. He may become a target for a few shafts of jealousy, but, thanks to the broad spirit of justice that permeates our ranks, he will receive for every arrow of jealousy, a quiver full of congratulations.

There is a strong reflection from the field upon the association itself. Every member of our association has a "field record." Be it great or small, its character marks the man. It therefore behooves him to have it stand the test of legal and social scrutiny. How proud he deserves to be whose business has no ear-marks of fraud or shicanery, but bears along the royal stamp of persistent energy and honest competition.

The member should be an up to date man. He who catches the spirit of the times, scatters on every side the firebrands of progress. Therefore, the individual member should carefully read the insurance press. Posted on all live issues, he can but carry into his association ideas, and no local association will die if it has an occasional hypodermic of live issues.

At the Parting of the Ways

There must be a time when the vista of the future, with all its possibilities of glory and of shame, first opens upon the vision of youth. Then is he summoned to make his choice between truth and treachery, between honor and dishonor, between purity and profligacy, between moral life and moral death. And as he doubts and balances between the heavenward and hellward course, as he struggles to rise, or consents to fall, is there, in all the universe of God, a spectacle of higher exultation or of deeper pathos? Within him are the appetites of a brute and the attributes of an angel; and when these meet in council to make up the roll of his destiny and seal his fate, shall the beast bound out the scraps? Shall the young man, now conscious of the largeness of his sphere and of the sovereignty of his choice, wed the low ambitions of the world, and seek with their captivities to fill his immortal desires? Because he has a few animal wants that must be supplied, shall he become all animal—an epicure and an inebriate—and blasphemously make it the first doctrine of his catechism—"the chief end of man" to glorify his stomach and enjoy it.—Catholic Union and Times.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Seaforth, Ont., Nov. 7, 1896.

To the Editor of The Canadian:

Dear Sir and Bro.—As the time is fast approaching—I may say at hand—for the re-election of officers in our grand and noble organization, a word of advice, I trust, will not be considered out of order. The stability of the C. M. B. A. as a whole, depends entirely on the men chosen to fill the different offices in the Grand Council—men who, in their respective branches, filled offices from time to time, who sacrificed the pleasures and comforts of home company (if it can be termed a sacrifice), to spend one hour twice each month with their fellows, to exchange their views on different sections of the laws which govern us and to transact the legitimate business of the evening; men who, having proven themselves worthy to dictate, to govern minor matters, have been chosen to direct and govern in far greater and more important matters; for in their branches their decisions were confined almost exclusively to their branches, and only affected their respective branches but now it injures or serves every branch in the Dominion.

My opinion is that no member should be elected who does not attend the meetings in his branch, for now can he give advice on any part of the governing laws of his branch, when he never attends a meeting from January until the election of officers at the end of the year? He pays his assessments and dues, he inquires in his workshop, or wherever employed, about the proceedings of the last meeting, oftentimes in the presence of non-members and non-Catholics, and when he is told of the business transacted, if it is not in accordance with his ideas, he fumes and cracks like a frog before a rain storm; but, properly speaking, he cannot form an idea of what a meeting is, or how it should be conducted. He faults every one is wrong, and the business illegal. He says to himself, "If I were there that motion would not carry." He thinks that he should be Grand President or Grand Secretary, or on the Committee on Laws, and still he will not attend meetings. He is a whole Grand Council in his own mind. He is a croaker. Brothers, if you wish the future to be more prosperous and bright than the past—and I am fully convinced that every active member is desirous of a larger membership next year—elect only those who attend meetings regularly; then, and not till then, will you have healthy, prosperous and vigorous branches. Your officers, when asked questions by some intending applicant, can give a clear explanation of the requirements of the Constitution, the amount on each assessment he will have to pay, according to age, the amount of assessments required by the laws which govern us, and when the time comes for death to call away some member of the Grand Council, you can rest assured that the vacant seat will be well filled, for he will have received his tuition in his branch by having some office from time to time, attending meetings and taking an active part in the working of the Association, which every member knows is the cheapest, the most economical and the best managed. Yours fraternally, JAMES MUNRO.

Death of Bro. Barry, of Morrisburg.

We regret to announce the sad and unexpected death of Brother Richard H. Barry, secretary of St. James Branch, No. 33, Morrisburg, since his initiation. Deceased was the younger son of Mr. John Barry, sr., merchant and councillor of this village. He died Wednesday, Nov. 18, 1896, in the thirtieth year of his age, of peritonitis, after an illness of only twenty-four hours. He was a young man of exceptional character, a popular favorite, beloved of young and old. His death was a shock to the entire community. The funeral was conducted by the local Branch of the C. M. B. A., and was one of the largest concourses of people, of every creed, ever assembled in this place to show their respect for the honored dead and

their sympathy with his respected parents and friends in their sad bereavement. There were three priests in attendance at the funeral. Father Twomey and Masters in headed the procession to the Catholic church, where a solemn Requiem Mass was celebrated by Father M. D. O'Leary, of Keokuk, Ont. The church was profusely draped in black and his seat in the church was draped in mourning, and a large wreath of flowers donated by his friends supplied his accustomed place. The impressive services of the Catholic Church on funeral occasions, with its solemn chants, its mourning emblems and the vacant seat all combined to enliven the sympathy of every heart. But this was more sensibly felt when Father Twomey, in his accustomed eloquence, preached a very impressive sermon, carefully reviewing the exemplary life of the young man. His great moral and social worth as a member of the Church, as a citizen of the community, as a loving child in the household and as a devout worshipper at the shrine of God's altar in the faith of his fathers. He dwelt forcibly on the Christian fortitude of the young man in his last moments, and his readiness to obey the unexpected summons to appear before his Eternal Judge, and contrasted the hope of the devout Catholic on his death bed, with those who fail to see beyond the tomb. His words were whole-souled, kind and sympathetic and caused the tears to flow from many an eye. After the service the procession returned and his remains were conveyed to their last resting place in the church yard to await the judgment day; and our only last and fervent tribute to his memory shall ever be "Requiescat in pace."

PRESENTATION OF AN ADDRESS

TO BROTHER W. LEONE, PRESIDENT BRANCH No. 253.

At the meeting of Branch No. 253, Maniwaki, Que., held on Oct. 8, the members, according to previous arrangement, marched to the residence of their President, William Lague, Esq., who with his bride had arrived in Maniwaki, on the completion of their wedding tour, and presented him with the following engrossed address, which was read by Bro. Jas. Martin, Indian Agent:

W. Leone, Esq., President of Branch 253, C. M. B. A.

Dear Sir and Brother:—We, the members of Branch 253 desire to offer you our best wishes and our sincere congratulations on the occasion of your marriage.

The rate of contributions which should be made every member of our Association is prescribed by the fidelity of a brother, and this feeling is intensified when the brother is the representative of his branch.

Your bride, who has hitherto been a stranger to us, we welcome heartily to Maniwaki. We are glad to be able to do so, for the formation of the marriage has been a very happy one, and by all who have had the pleasure of her acquaintance.

With the benediction of Holy Church, and the good wishes of hosts of friends, you may commence your journey through life as auspiciously as the most sanguine could desire.

We heartily wish you and Mrs. Leone prosperity, contentment, long life and a full blessing that God bestows on His most favored children; and that peace and joy unbroken will be ever yours, in the firm hope and belief of the members of Branch 253.

Signed on behalf of the branch:—F. Lacourcie, 1st Vice-President; R. J. Flynn, 2nd Vice-President; Ed. Joannis, Rec. Sec.; James Martin, Fin. Sec.

Brother Lague made a suitable reply, and after spending a pleasant hour the members returned to their hall.

Pakenham Dec 4, 1896.

To the Editor of The Canadian.

Dear Sir—Bro. Kelly has resigned the office of Recording Secretary of Branch 241. The branch, learning of his departure from our midst, could not let the opportunity pass without showing their appreciation of the services he has rendered. He held an important position of book-keeper in the store of B. W. Danner for the past twelve years, and has entered the service of H. Deau, Renfrew, where he will have a more lucrative position. On the evening of the 25th November, he was invited by the branch to the hotel of Bro. P. J. Grace, where an excellent supper awaited him as well as invited guests and representatives

of Branch 11, Arnprior, and St. Almonte.

After justice had been done to the excellent supper laid before them, the usual toasts were proposed and heartily responded to. The following address was read by Bro. Smith, and Bro. Kelly, although taken by surprise, made a neat reply, thanking the branch for their kindness, and wishing them success and prosperity.

Yours fraternally, J. H. BURKE, Rec. Sec.

Mr. James Robert Kelly.

Dear Sir and Brother:—The members of Branch 211, Pakenham, Ont., have learned that you are about to return from Pakenham, and we take this opportunity of expressing our high appreciation of the great interest you have taken in the welfare of this branch and that belief that much of its success is due to your untiring efforts in its behalf.

While the Society must deeply regret the severance of the ties which have so long given us the benefit of your zeal, the members have the consolation of hoping that what is their loss may be your gain, and while the parting of old friends is always painful, we who are left behind will look forward with pleasure to hearing of you or continuing a conversation and prosperity in the best sense of those words.

In expressing these good wishes to you, we do only voice the sentiments of Branch 211 of the whole congregation of St. Peter's as the past year's diligent work around the hall has every thing connected therewith have won for you a success which you may always be happy to look back upon.

We have watched your steady growth in life. You came here and first served as a clerk, and by your truthfulness and integrity have advanced step by step until now you are at the top rung on the ladder of success. With the lapse of time we have grown to appreciate your simplicity of manner, your strict integrity, your high moral character, your disposition to make yourself agreeable on every occasion, and above all, that you have been able to be the source of all our actions.

But great as our admiration and regard for you has been, not until you had severed the ties which had bound you to us, do we fully realize the loss we had sustained.

Receiving the assurances of the earnest wishes of the members of this branch for your future happiness and prosperity, we humbly pray,

(Signed) J. A. McDONALD, Pres. D. SMITH, Sec. 211.

Third Anniversary Concert of Branch 215.

The third anniversary concert of Branch 215, C. M. B. A., took place in the Branch Hall on Tuesday evening last, and was a complete success. The hall was crowded to its utmost capacity by an appreciative audience, who enjoyed the entertainment very much. The accompanists were Miss Sarah Strong, Prof. J. T. Gallant, and Miss Gaudet, and they did their part in good style. The programme was as follows:

The opening number was a piano solo, by Miss Strong, who played splendidly.

Bro. L. J. Reddin followed with a reading, with choral accompaniment, which was rendered in fine style.

Misses Gertrude Macmillan and Katie Noonan gave a very pleasing piano duet, and won much applause.

The humorous recitation, "A Snack in School," was finely rendered by Miss Regina Gaffney, evoking hearty laughter and winning much applause.

Mr. Joseph Gillis followed with a vocal solo, "My Wee Wife Waiting at the Door," which was pleasingly sung and generously applauded.

Miss Aggie Wickham always sings well, and on this occasion she appeared to special advantage in the beautiful song, "When the Dew Drops Kiss the Daisies." In response to an enthusiastic encore she sang "Annie Laurie."

An instrumental trio, "The Dove's Return Waltz," by Miss Strong on the piano, and Masters Joseph and Cosmo Delaney on the violin, was very pretty, and rendered in their usual good style.

In the second part of the programme they gave another selection, "Over

On the 29th Oct., 1896, the wife of Bro. John E. W. Berner, Doonville, Ont., was a member.