

C. M. B. A.

FROM KINGSTON. Mr. M. Brennan waited on Senator Sullivan on last Thursday evening and handed over to him a check on the First National Bank of New York for \$3000 in payment of Beneficiary due on the death of the late Dr. Thomas Sullivan, of Branch 10, St. Catharines, the Senator being appointed guardian of his children. This is the first beneficiary paid by the Catholic Benefit Association in Kingston.

BRANCH NO. 4, LONDON.

At a largely attended meeting of Branch No. 4, of the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association, held last Thursday evening, the following officers were installed by Senior Chamberlain S. R. Brown. Sec. G. G. O., assisted by Junior Chamberlain B. C. McCann: President, Martin O'Meara; 2nd vice president, Frank Frenchie; 2nd vice, R. J. McGuire; financial secretary, F. O'Dwyer; recording secretary, W. Corbett; treasurer, P. Cook; marshals, T. Mackin; guard, M. Donohue. The branch is now in a flourishing condition with 130 members, and expects to be the leading branch in Canada by the end of the year.

DUNDEAS BRANCH. President—John Sourbeir. First Vice President—Thos. Byrne. Sec. Vice Pres.—Lawrence Sherratt. Recording Secretary—David Griffin. Assistant Secretary—Matt Sheppard. Financial Sec.—Thos. A. Wardell. Treasurer—Peter Campbell. Marshals—Joseph Brown. Guard—Thos. Mahoney. Trustees—Thos. Hickey and Timothy Coniff. Spiritual Adviser—Rev. John Keough. Grand Council of Canada. Financial statement since Nov. 1st, 1886. GENERAL FUND. Balance on hand at above date, \$115.29. Am't received since said date, 465.84. Total, \$581.13.

MEMBERS. Kilroy and Bourke, Fin. Sec., 51.00. Dr. Hanavan, Supervising Medical Examiner, 70.00. Postage, express, Customs duty and exchange on drafts, 69.44. Grand President, postage, stationery and R. B. expense, 8.00. Supreme Council—supplies to 1st Jan., 1887, 257.05. Total disbursements, \$536.49. Balance in Grand Treas.'s hands, 45.64. Total, \$582.13.

BENEFICIARY FUND. Balance on hand at last report, \$ 620.00. Am't received since last report, 6,672.80. Total, \$7,292.80. Amount transferred to Supreme Recorder, \$6,872.80. Am't on hand not yet transferred, 420.00. \$7,292.80.

NUMBER OF BRANCHES IN CANADA AT THIS DATE, 51. Membership in good standing, 2,110. Members under suspension, 30. About \$2,100.00 is now paid on each account by the Branches in Canada. New Branches will be organized in Winnipeg and Montreal in a few days. In 1886 there were, so far as heard from, 115 deaths in our C. M. B. A. ranks; of these, 104 were in the United States and 11 in Canada. There are about six times as many C. M. B. A. members in United States as in Canada.

SAMUEL R. BROWN, Grand Recorder. London, January 12th, 1887.

FROM PEMBROKE. The ceremonies of Christmas at St. Columba's church were of more than ordinary interest. The church was beautifully decorated, the work of the Sisters from the Convent of Mary Immaculate. Midnight mass was celebrated by His Lordship Bishop Lorrain in full pontificals, attended by Fathers Doucet and Clermont as deacon and subdeacon. Mrs. Howe presided at the organ, assisted by a full orchestra, with Mr. Dowsley as leader. The singing of the choir was exceptionally good. At Vespers in the afternoon a full choir gave voice to the beautiful inspiration of the psalms, the singing of the Tenthym, Egge by Mr. Blonadin and the Adagio Fiddler by Mr. O'Hagan being much admired. The sermon of the day was preached by Father Clermont from the text "Et in terra pax hominibus."

There will be some new men at the school board this year. In the Brant Ward Mr. A. Savage declined re-nomination and W. Schuler was elected in his stead. Angus McIntyre succeeds P. Hatfield in the East. Owen Hargazon takes A. Nelson's seat in the Kings'. In the Queens' ward, W. D. Cantillon has resigned and a member must be elected to serve out his term. The vital statistics of the city for 1886 are as follows: births 310; marriages 120; deaths 193. Among the congregation of St. Basil's the figures are: births 69; marriages 16; deaths 34.

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On Monday of last week Miss Maggie McQuillan received a telegram from Buffalo, informing her of the accidental death of her brother, James McQuillan, who has been residing in that city for several years past, and left for that place on Tuesday.

Immaculate presented Thomas O'Hagan, M. A., late Modern Language Master in the Pembroke High School, with an address and a valuable writing desk, portions in his departure from town. During the past three months Mr. O'Hagan has delivered a series of lectures on elocution before the classes of the Convent, and it is needless to say that his kind efforts to promote their advancement in this accomplished art have been much appreciated.

THE CATHOLIC TRUTH SOCIETY.

To the Editor of the Catholic Record. SIR,—We beg to offer you our cordial thanks for your encouraging article in the CATHOLIC RECORD of Nov. 30th on the Catholic Truth Society, and also for the publication in your issue of Dec. 11 of Mr. Murphy's letter on the same subject. Mr. Murphy draws attention to the work which has been done by the Society in the old country and to the advantages which the Catholics of Canada might derive by having branches of the society in their own land. The formation of branches on lines similar to the method adopted in many parts of England would be very easy. A meeting of the parish or congregation could be called, the work of the Catholic Truth Society explained, and membership with a subscription of one shilling yearly invited, and officers elected. The branch could then be affiliated to the parent society by a yearly subscription of 10s. This would give the members of the branch a right to the indulgences granted to the Catholic Truth Society by the Holy Father, and would entitle the branch as a body to a discount of twenty-five per cent on the publications purchased. The chief difficulty is the question of carriage, but as so many persons in Canada have commercial relations with England a parcel of books might be shipped at little cost.

As you have yourself remarked in the article, "Not alone to individual Catholics in Canada, many of whom could easily afford to join the society, but especially to Catholic Associations" is the platform of the Catholic Truth Society to be commended. In England such associations, viz, several conferences of St. Vincent de Paul, the Catholic Hospital Society, the Birmingham Literary Society, have taken up the work with very gratifying results, and a similar success might be looked for in Canada, where, as Mr. Murphy has stated, the St. Vincent de Paul Society has already distributed many of our books.

We may say that our publications are rapidly increasing in number and variety; several of them, which have been issued separately in penny numbers, are now obtainable also in 64 and 120 copies, samples of which we have the pleasure of sending you by this mail. The penny prayerbook, to which Mr. Murphy has referred, is now in its 40th thousand. The scheme for assisting Libraries, of which Mr. Murphy speaks, is not confined to the Catholic Association, but will be glad to send a pamphlet giving some details of the undertaking to any who may apply for it.

As has already been stated the society is not a commercial undertaking and does not look for profit, its sole aim being to diffuse good and cheap Catholic literature. All the citizens give their labor gratuitously. We remain, sir, your obedient servant, W. H. COLOGAN, JAMES BRITTON, Hon. Secs. C. T. S., 18 West Square, London, S. E., Dec. 27, 1886.

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE CATHOLIC RECORD. BRANTFORD LETTER.

Our Christmas Tree has been rooted up and laid away in the cellar for another year. It was a good tree, at least it bore good fruit, so it was not chopped down and burned, but laid by to gather more buds. It might be described as a hardy annual. During the eight nights the entertainment was in progress a very large number of people attended and much social pleasure was the result. Excellent music was furnished each evening, and the young ladies were cheerful and industrious in their labors. Among the winners of articles were: Ed. Savage, sewing machine; Peter Sullivan, silver watch; Harry Williams, silver watch; Hon. A. S. Hardy, bridle doll and photo of Father Catherin; Ed. Quinlan, cruet; Rev. Father Murphy, cushion; Miss Maloney, arm chair; Geo. Long, framed picture of Brant Monument; Mrs. Cutmore, four story cake; Thomas Brown, hanging lamp. Many other valuable presents were disposed of, the winners of which would make a long list. A number of the gifts were presented by people of the city not members of the congregation. Somewhere in the neighborhood of \$700 was the amount realized.

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Press despatches announce that he was driving across the tracks of the Buffalo Creek Railway with a load of lumber on a slight which he was struck by an engine and killed instantly. He was very well known in Brantford, having been raised here, and for a long time worked with farmers in the vicinity of the city. He was a son of Patrick McQuillan and would be about 35 years of age. He leaves a wife and one child.

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The editor of the *Full Mail Gazette* referring to Mr. William O'Brien, says:—"The wrongs of his country have entered his soul, and roused it. No man writes in a more masterly style in all Ireland than this ex-reporter. He is a kind of Irish Cobbett, with all the savage strength of his English prototype. He is earnest, in black, bloody earnest."

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FATHER RUELLE.

A ROCKY MOUNTAIN MISSIONARY.

As a proof of his sincerity we are told that, when on religious brethren in the Jesuit room full of Frenchmen, he induced to speak a word of his native tongue, he spoke only English. A student at Chicago, he had just then to fall ill, and he immediately volunteered to vicinal to supply his place. His first mission in America, he attended to the spiritual work in the neighborhood of—Paradise and New Oxford, starting on Saturday, in August, according to the state of his parish, and on Monday he prepared himself for the next day's journeying in English, in which he had to be very successful.

It was a wholly new experience but God's blessing was on his labors. He could testify to the practical success of his mission. He delighted in the privilege of calling for self-sacrifice. On evening at 7 o'clock he had Paradise, his most distant station, the Blessed Sacrament to Oxford might communicate a sick person tomorrow for Mass. He has his journey.

From 8 to 9 in the evening my companion in the luggy was a little God. The stars above brightened, at this hour, absolute and noiseless. My thoughts were of the words of Jesus Christ to the women: "Of those who did not give God." What graces Ours! Those who ask Him to give the life of the living water. I needed consolation that night, for I was thirteen miles to carry the Blessed Sacrament to a sick woman, and Catholic families at Berlin, a few three miles more to dine immediately after dinner I had to hunt up some of my foot at Abbotstown, a mile from when I returned I heard my supper, and then set out for nearly twelve miles, alone. I was in the Blessed Sacrament next morning, at 5, I again had a companion on a visit to one of the women, who was unable to walk. As I returned I saw the sun rise, beautiful scenery of the Dip, and my lips sang the praises that solitude.

Thus did the beauties of the world rise in his thoughts, to the Creator. The life he was given novel one to him, accustomed been for years to life in a corner, consequently, that the activity of the ministry might religious spirit. And so he was of his brethren in France: "me deep humility, yet devoted and true for God and for his humanity he always drew instead of saving soul, he might by his incapacity.

A "SMOOTH" LIFE! This feat was not shared by whom he ministered, and I revered him as a saint. noticed little acts of self-denial draw the own conclusions, remarked that in the biting cold he wore no gloves, and that never went himself at the first always declared that he was But these were small things in that his parishioners set their proofs of his sanctity. His relations were most cordial, and he was touched by their evident affection. "Truly, I love them, and it hard to leave them. Yet delighted to go! The Providence which I know, are equally kind. All this makes life too smooth. What I hope for is a country where we are savages or quasi savages, a feelings and privations of a life." There, if I can advance of God, all my earthly desires realized."

The order for his departure afterwards, and he started for Mountains, March 24, 1884, regret of those among whom he laboring.

In a week he had reached Falls, W. T. the headquarter of the Jesuit Mission. It was experience of a half civilization this little city of several thousand, with a possibly great fruit, the Society of Jesus had, a residence and a church—highly primitive wooden building the foundations of a college already laid, and plans for a were under consideration.

Six miles from the town Michael's Mission for the Sr. Michaels, who live in lodges round the chapel. Thither Father R. went to meet his superior, Rev. Father it was Holy Week, and the student a profound impression. The devotion and piety of the

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