

ual elevation, to all that makes them better men and better citizens, this grand organization, under your guiding hand, is erecting a fortress that guards alike our homes and the destinies of our beloved country.

To you, our Grand President, our brothers here today render fealty and affection.

We thank you for the honor you have conferred upon us by your presence here today, and we offer you our warm allegiance and undivided support in all your efforts for the greater glory of the Association we love so well.

Signed on behalf of Branch No. 9, C. M. B. A., James Coyle, President.

The Grand President, on rising to respond, was met with the warmest greeting. His speech was a magnificent effort throughout, and created a great impression on the minds of the vast audience. His tributes to Catholicity, to the fraternal ideal as embodied in the C. M. B. A., to the sanctity of the home and family, preserved through its efforts, were gems that well merited the applause they received. He rejoiced, he said, that this meeting, the first of its kind to take place in Kingston, was being held on such an occasion as the present, a day long to be remembered by the Roman Catholics of Kingston; and he felt, moreover, flattered and proud that it was his pleasure and privilege to address them on such an auspicious occasion. He referred to the services of the morning, to the able and inspiring sermon of Archbishop O'Brien, of Halifax. The heart of every Roman Catholic in Kingston warmed to the talented, able and virtuous man whom they were now proud to call their Archbishop. He then entered on a lengthy consideration of the organization, the objects and the needs of the C. M. B. A. Among other things he said that it was a Canadian institution, and the aims of its members should be Canada first, last, and always, particularly in matters of finance. Every dollar paid by a Canadian in the order should be deposited in a Canadian bank, and every dollar of our money is so deposited. "What is the C. M. B. A.?" It was, he said, a society having for its object the education and elevation of all the Roman Catholics in the Dominion. "We are a band of Catholics, brothers, with no opposition to anyone, and only asking that all our members kneel at the same altar, and there is no group of Catholics in America that does not feel the influence of the order. Our mission also is to protect, by means of the order, the widow and orphan. Our mission, therefore, is great, noble, and generous. There is no creed but can say, 'Go on in your noble work.' We have no rivalry except in doing good. This age is an age of combination, an age of crystallization of effort in order to get the best results." The speaker called on members of the order to be an example of right living and well doing. Canada had produced not a few Roman Catholics who had done much for the public weal. In their dealings one with another, he urged his hearers to endeavor to show that the brotherhood of man was more than a name and fraternity more than an empty sound. It was time that the Roman Catholics should know their strength from one end of the land to the other, and in order to the better accomplishment of this he called on all members of the Church, no matter what age, to join the ranks of the C. M. B. A. He thought that there should be more sincerity in carrying out the objects of the society. Too often they met the poor man, the man with the tattered coat, in quite a friendly way under cover and in the atmosphere of the society, but on the street and under various other circumstances they passed him by or shunned

his company. This must not be. He thought their Protestant brothers were an example to them in that respect. Further, he asked his hearers to give all their support to Canadian institutions. It was time that loyalty to Canada in financial matters should be practised as well as loyalty to her in other things. He called on them to foster a deep rooted love for Canada. The sacred association of the old land might be very dear to them, but those very sentiments of love for the Old Country and dear ones should make them better Canadians, and better husbands and fathers.

As a member of the association in Quebec, he brought greeting to his brothers in Ontario—the cradle of the Association and its mainstay in its hours of trial. In the name of Catholicity, in the name of fraternity, in the name of charity, he called on his hearers to join the Association. He urged upon the well to do and the wealthy to join, because of their influence and their example, and those upon whom fortune had not smiled so favorably, to become members, that their families might be protected from hardship and want. In the C. M. B. A. we find the ideal association, the true Catholic association, the true fraternal spirit, the secure financial institution, all combining in unity, charity and fraternity. Mr. Hackett was given a regular ovation on taking his seat.

Dr. Ryan then stepped forward and said: We rejoice in having with us to-day our brother, Most Rev. C. H. Gauthier, who has generously been pleased, on this important day of his life, to attend our demonstration and to mark his approval of us as an organization. It is a mark of great consideration, one that must give joy to the heart of every C. M. B. A. member, and one that will encourage us beyond measure in the prosecution of our noble work.

He then called upon Hon. M. F. Hackett, as Grand President, to read the address of welcome to His Grace Archbishop Gauthier.

Most Rev. C. H. Gauthier, Archbishop of Kingston:
May it please Your Grace—

Upon this day, so momentous to you and to us, your faithful people have assembled to rejoice in the glory that has come upon you and to give expression to their heartfelt pleasure upon your selection to the See of Kingston. We must first congratulate you as a member of the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association, and express to you our unfeigned pleasure that one who has honored us as a member has been raised in your distinguished position. But it is as members of that one great community, the Church, that we rejoice in the work that has been today consummated. Many in this hall have already known the wisdom of your gifted administration in the fields you have already tilled. Sitting on this platform are those who, in the days gone by, sought knowledge from the fountain of your learning in the famous College of Regiopolis. And down the landmarks by which you have advanced to the exalted position you occupy to-day. Through all these years you have labored where the thorns were many and the roses few, where faced you on all sides every difficulty that confronts the pioneer missionary; yet no labor was too great to be undertaken, nor any difficulty that could not be overcome. With far-seeing intelligence and untiring energy you have devoted yourself to the many-sided duties of the onerous and important offices you have already filled. You have guarded the educational welfare of our children, erected churches to the glory of God, and founded hospitals where His poor and afflicted might find comfort, tender sympathy and unremitting attention. And in all your relations with your people your charm of manner, your urbanity, your fatherly and kindly interest in all to whom you have ministered, have made you the beloved pastor and endearing friend; so your children of the C. M. B. A., assembled here from every corner of your diocese, bring you encouragement, loyalty and obedience; they pledge you undying assistance and unwavering de-

otion, and their united prayers will ever ascend to the throne of the Eternal Father that your days may be happy and the works of your hand crowned with success.

Signed on behalf of the Grand Council Catholic Mutual Benefit Association of Canada.

M. F. HACKETT,
Grand President.

When His Grace came forward to address the meeting every member of the vast audience arose and cheered again and again.

His Grace said it gave him great pleasure to be the recipient of such an address from his brother members of the C. M. B. A. He had been associated with a branch of the order for years, and in leaving his parish one of the chords hardest to sever was that which bound him to the C. M. B. A. I admire the Association: I love the Association: I bless the Association. Its methods have the sanction of the Church and therefore must be right and good. Distress had found relief through the C. M. B. A., and charity had been distributed by it. By the payment of little rates the father, brother or son became a member, and when the bread earner was called away and the widowed wife and orphaned children were left to themselves the society stepped in and cared for them and protected them. What a truly noble mission this is! Furthermore, I look upon the C. M. B. A. as an auxiliary of the Church. Every branch formed in a parish is a great help to the clergy. The ultimate object of the society is the salvation of souls, and it thus becomes an instrument in the hands of the Church. He urged his hearers to become members and he encouraged the society to go on in its good work, ever increasing, ever prospering. "I will look back upon this occasion with great pleasure when recalling the most momentous day of my life."

The chairman then introduced His Grace Most Rev. C. O'Brien, D. D., Archbishop of Halifax, Grand Spiritual Adviser. He stated we have also with us to-day a distinguished ecclesiastic from Halifax, who has already shown his warm and kindly interest in our society and to whose efforts in a large measure has been due our great success in that beautiful country down by the sea. He has further honored us by deigning to become our Grand Spiritual Adviser, and thus to mark the Association with the approval of his eminent personality. We are proud beyond expression to be so honored to-day, and in the name of the Grand Council I thank him for his kindness to us, for his deep consideration and the manifest interest he has always taken in the welfare of the Association.

When the great applause which followed his introduction had subsided, His Grace Archbishop O'Brien came forward, removing his overcoat and jokingly remarking that after the reception His Grace Archbishop Gauthier and himself received, he felt quite warm. He had no idea of such a reception when he left Halifax. He was proud to take part in the consecration ceremonies to-day, more particularly because Archbishop Gauthier was a member of the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association. He himself had a great interest in the C. M. B. A. He had been a member for a great many years, and had watched it very closely. He had wanted to see the working of the Association before he joined it, and, after observing its development and worth, had become a member. He advised all who could possibly do so to join the C. M. B. A. at once. One became more thoroughly imbued with the Catholic spirit by becoming a member.

"We are influenced by our surroundings, and moral advice and assistance is obtained in the C. M. B. A. I wish the C. M. B. A. of the diocese of Kingston unbounded success, I wish the whole Association unbounded success. I wish the city of Kingston increased prosperity, and that it will soon become one of the great centres of learning and legitimate industry in Canada. I hope that good works will abound here more and more, and that the new Archbishop will receive the love, veneration and respect not only of the C. M. B. A., but of the whole people."

It is needless to remark that the entire audience was profoundly stirred by these eloquent words.

At the conclusion of the address their Graces were presented to those on the platform and to many in the audience who came forward to receive introduction. The meeting was one of the most successful ever held in Kingston, and made a deep and lasting impression on all who had the good fortune to be present.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Windsor, Ont., Oct. 10th, 1908.

Samuel R. Brown, Esq., Grand Sec.
C. M. B. A., London, Ont.

Dear Sir and Bro—I am instructed by the branch to send you an extract from report submitted on the evening of 25th Sept. last re representation to Grand Council Conventions, as follows:—"Having heard the report of our representative, Bro Bellepurché, to the eleventh Convention of the Grand Council of the C. M. B. A., held at the City of Quebec on the 23rd ult., at which Sections 2^o and 3^o of the Constitution were amended by refusing to branches, having already members an elective officer of the said council, the right to send a representative to future conventions, this branch most respectfully protests against the said amendment on the following, among other, grounds: The Grand Treasurer of the said council is a member of this branch, but not therefore its representative at such convention, having other duties to perform.

Branches placed in the same position as this branch are therefore practically debarred from any voice or part in the proceedings of the said convention.

Further, we question the validity of such amendment and would recommend that other branches similarly situated take action in this matter.

Fraternally yours,
P. M. KZOH, Rec. Sec.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

Grand Falls, N. B., Oct. 25th, 1908.
To the officers and members of Branch No. 210 of C. M. B. A.

Gentlemen—I gratefully acknowledge the receipt, through your Recording Secretary, Rev. M. A. O'Keefe, of a cheque for two thousand dollars, being the amount of insurance on the life of my late son, J. B. Chouinard, in the C. M. B. A. of Canada. I wish to express my deep gratitude to the Grand Council of the C. M. B. A. and to your branch for the prompt remittance of the above two thousand dollars. That God may bless the C. M. B. A. is the sincere prayer of

SOYER CHOUINARD.

Often those faults which we encounter in ourselves are most innumerable to us in others.