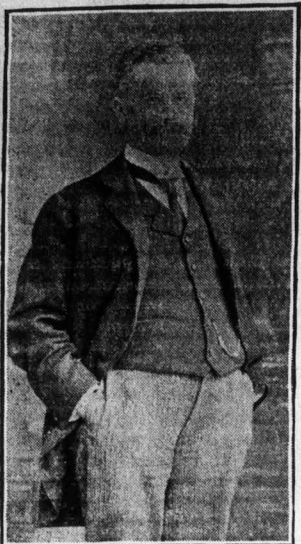


## OUR TORONTO LETTER.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)



MR. J. F. BROWN.

Most interesting, and in part like a story from some book of adventure, is the life of Mr. J. F. Brown, one of Toronto's most enterprising merchants. In these days of prosaic business habits, when a man in his early youth determines upon the career in which he wishes to engage, or which is determined for him by his parents, we have not many amongst our younger men who have not followed a certain path on which they began to walk early in life. Mr. Brown is an exception; when he first started out to see the world for himself, the idea that he would eventually land in Toronto or even in Canada, and there take his place amongst its foremost and most enterprising men of business was something that never entered with in the range of his dreams.

His boyhood days were passed in a quiet home near Saginaw, Mich. His father was an Englishman, and his mother, Margaret Height, was from Ennis, County Clare, Ireland. A simple sufficiency of the world's goods caused life for the elder members of the family to glide along without any desire to widen the circle of experience, but at the age of fifteen, the boy, now the alert business man, left his home to seek his fortune. For three years he sailed the lakes and all the ups and downs of this life so alluring to adventurous youth, were his; then for several years he followed the craft of woodsman of our American forests; from Alpha to Omega the work of the lumberman is known to him, the free and to many, fascinating life of the lumber camp was known to Mr. Brown in its every detail before settling down to business in Canada's western commercial metropolis.

He came to Canada in 1885, bringing with him a patent-right for some fancy article upon which he had staked his all—and lost. The experience, however, was worth the cost, it never required to be duplicated. When he began business on Yonge street seventeen years ago, he had just fifty dollars, or as he says himself—nothing. When he took possession of the first installment of the building where his business is now situated, the goods for the venture were carried in two wagon loads. In the years that have intervened a marvellous change has been brought about; the one apartment or shop has developed until now the entire block on Queen street from Yonge to Victoria, with the exception of about thirty feet, has been taken in by the J. F. Brown Co. Ltd. A walk through the building shows a column here, a wall there, an unevenness in the floor or an addition new in its entirety, all marking the different stages by which the business has been from time to time enlarged. In the way of house furnishing everything from a "needle to an anchor" is to be obtained here; an immense vista consisting of different departments, containing carpets of every hue and texture, lamps of every make and material, bed-room furnishings, appointments for the study, bric-a-brac of all and every description, kitchen utensils, drawing-room suites—in fact, the useful and ornamental for any and all homes may be found in their completeness at this large cosmopolitan establishment. In connection with the business a body of clerks, salesmen, stenographers and book-keepers, are ac-

tively engaged; politeness and alertness are the talismen which here tend to ever increasing custom and success. Experience too has led to the development in the mind of the head of the establishment of a system of book-keeping unique in its accuracy and simplicity; the system has become known and is worked on even in the great city of New York; at the end of each week, Mr. Brown declares, I know how I stand better than does the Bank of Montreal.

All this however, is nothing to what the near future has in store. An immense building is being erected, and is near completion on Yonge street opposite the T. Eaton block. This new building is to be occupied by the J. F. Brown Co. in February next; it is eight storeys high and in respect to altitude exceeds all other commercial buildings in Canada; with the exception of the Temple Building belonging to the extensive Order of Foresters, the new Brown building will surpass in height, all others in the Dominion. It presents a fine front, the white brick being beautifully ornamented at intervals by stucco work; the lower facade will consist of an entire sweep of plate glass without interruption, the supports being from within; engines for heating, the plant for lighting and all similar appliances are altogether on the outside and are being vigorously pressed to a near completion; everything is of the best and latest, and the construction from start to finish originated with Mr. Brown, whose ideas are being cleverly carried out by the architect. When finished and ready for business the great establishment will be a grand monument to the phenomenal success gained by one of our young business men in the space of a few years, and the key-note to this success was, energy, enterprise and attention to business and to the many and varied wants of his customers.



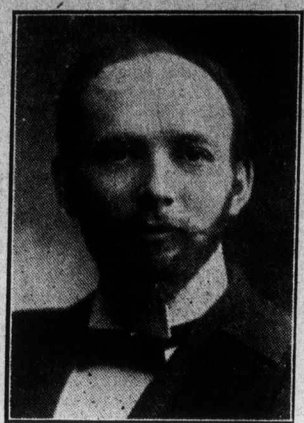
THE NEW BUILDING.

Four years ago Mr. Brown made a three months' tour of Europe, and while there visited Ireland, his mother's home, but found little there to associate him with the past; he also visited the home of the McGillicuddy's—this being the name of his wife, who is closely of kin to the present owner of McGillicuddy's Reeks. Mr. Brown has a family of three, a little girl and two sons. He was chairman of the committee for the late building of the Holy Family Church and everything tending to the advancement of this parish has his support. The place Mr. Brown holds in the estimation of his neighbors and of citizens generally proves that he is a man well worthy of respect; one, too whom prosperity has neither spoiled nor injured.

**PASTORAL LETTER.**—On last Sunday a letter from His Grace Archbishop O'Connor was read in the churches. It related to the coming year of preparation for the fitting celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the declaration of the dogma of the Immaculate Conception. The letter included others from Leo XIII. and our Holy Father Pius X., on the same subject, and also gave directions as to how the year would be observed in this diocese. Later instructions may be given with particular reference to the city. A Triduum in honor of the approaching Feast of the Immaculate Conception begins on Saturday next.

**ANNUAL ENTERTAINMENT.**—The annual entertainment of the St. Mary's Athletic and Literary Society was held on Friday last. It took the shape of a ball at the King Edward, and came off with the éclat which signals the efforts of the association. The magnificent hotel with its gorgeous environment made a fitting frame-work for the bright faces and active feet of those who participated. About three hundred were in attendance, and the general

success added one more to the many already won by this busy and progressive association.



DR. ANDREW J. McDONAGH, L.D.S.

A well known Irish Canadian of Toronto, to whom your correspondent made reference last week.

**THE CELTIC LANGUAGE.**—At a meeting of the Canadian Catholic Club, held a few days ago, an earnest appeal was made by Mr. Alexander Fraser, M.A., for a greater effort on the part of the Irish Celts of Ontario to revive and nourish the Celtic tongue. This Mr. Fraser said, could be done to some extent at least, by seeking out the origin and history of the names we find attached to parishes and other places throughout the province, and also for exerting all influence possible for the founding and maintaining of a chair for Gaelic at the Toronto University. While all Celts, Welsh, Scotch or Irish should be interested in the movement, it was to the Irish portion that Mr. Fraser particularly appealed on this occasion. The address was listened to with the closest attention, and at the end a vote of thanks was cordially given by Rev. Father Minnehan. Mr. Fraser's appeal will likely meet with an early answer as historic research is the particular work of a portion of the Club.

**MORE MEN WANTED.**—When announcing the quarterly Communion for the men's branch of the Sacred Heart League at St. Helen's on Sunday last, the Rev. pastor made a special appeal to the men of the parish to join in larger numbers. Nothing, said the Rev. speaker, tends more to the edification of a parish than the spectacle of a large body of men approaching Holy Communion and while the branch as at present constituted is doing good work, it would be much benefited by being increased in numbers. The men were then invited to come forward that evening, and sign their names as candidates for admission to the "League."



LATE FATHER CHU.

**A PRIEST MARTYRED.**—From far distant China comes to us the account of the recent martyrdom of a young Chinese priest. The event took place on the double Feast of the Most Holy Rosary and of St. Francis of Assisi, Oct. 4th, 1903. The news comes to us direct through Rev. Father Fraser, who belonged to Toronto, and whose letters to his parents contain the pathetic story. The photo reproduced in the "True Witness" is the only one the young martyr had, and was taken just after his ordination, which took place two years ago; it was given to his friend, Father Fraser, to send his mother in Canada. In this way the "True Witness" is probably the only

paper outside of China, and perhaps in the world privileged to publish this likeness.

Father Andrew Chu was of a family who for generations had given priests to the Catholic Church; he was curate at the Church at Ning-po where our young Canadian is doing missionary work, and occupied the room next to his; a festival was being held in honor of the fiftieth anniversary of the Bishop, Mgr. Rey-maud; the celebration lasted four days, and Father Chu had worked to make it a success; scarcely had it ended when word came that the outlaws had fallen upon the Christians at some little distance and that six of them had been slaughtered. On hearing this Father Chu begged permission of his Bishop to go to the mandarin of the district to speak to him on behalf of his Catholic people. The Bishop consented, and the priest set out; next day he arrived at the home of the Chinese potentate only to find him a traitor, who permitted the outlaws to fall upon the trusting but doomed priest. He attempted to escape and took refuge in a neighboring house, where, however, they soon followed him; here he made a gallant defence firing upon his pursuers, but was overcome and fell mortally wounded. The poor mutilated body was then taken to the pagan temple near, and after being cut to pieces was offered in sacrifice to the gods. Such is the story in brief—a story not of the days of the Roman amphitheatre or of the early martyrs among the Indians, but a story of to-day, and told by one whom we ourselves knew; it thus comes home to us and the martyred priest, though so far distant, and an alien in race, is yet one with us in the membership of the Holy Catholic Church, and in the grand doctrine of the Communion of Saints, and on this continent we can join with the Christians of the East in honoring the priest martyr, signalized as being the first of that district to die for the Faith.

## LOCAL NOTES.

**ST. PATRICK'S PARISH.**—The three Irish Catholic Temperance Societies, St. Patrick's, St. Ann's and St. Gabriel's, represented by their presidents, Ald. Daniel Gallery, M. P., Mr. William P. Doyle and James Kane, and members turned out in force at St. Patrick's Church on Sunday last, and were privileged to listen to an able and spirited appeal by Rev. James Killoran to increase their efforts to carry the banner of total abstinence into every Irish Catholic district of Montreal.

Solemn Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament followed the sermon at which Mr. Lamoureux, the new tenor, sang an "Ave Maria" with great depth of feeling. Prof. J. A. Fowler presided at the organ. The attendance was large.

**NINE O'CLOCK MASS.**—The girls of St. Patrick's Orphan Asylum, occupied the choir gallery on a recent Sunday at this Mass, and under the direction of one of the Sisters in charge of that institution, rendered a programme of hymns in a manner which was inspiring. The voices of the dear little orphans are well trained.

**ST. MARY'S PARISH.**—The parishioners have, as their pastor put it, returned from an exile of about a year, to temporary quarters in the basement of their parish church, which is now rapidly approaching completion.

The occasion was made one of special rejoicing, at which Mgr. Racicot, V.G., was present, Rev. Dr. Gerald McShane, S.S., preached the sermon.

**OYSTER SUPPER RETURNS.**—One of the ladies informed a "True Witness" representative the other day that the recent Social and Oyster Supper, held by St. Patrick's, was a great success. The net returns made by the ladies were more than \$1,000.

## BIBLICAL STUDIES.

Recently Rev. Father Van Becelaere, O.P., read a paper at the monthly entertainment of the St. Patrick's Literary and Scientific Association, Ottawa. The subject was "The bearing of the recent Babylonian discoveries on the Catholic interpretation of the Old Testament." This learned Dominican is certainly one of the greatest Biblical and oriental scholars on our continent, and his classes and lectures are instructive beyond imagination.

## AS SUPPLIED TO HIS MAJESTY THE KING

There is no more popular delicacy—certainly no breakfast delicacy—or one more widely appreciated than Wiltshire bacon; but to use an old-time, but still sensible, phrase, "When you ask for it see that you get it."

We have just received a fresh shipment per Allan line steamer to Halifax and Intercolonial Railway to Montreal of the

### Very Finest Wiltshire Bacon,

direct from the curers, Colne, Wilts, Eng., Middles of the famous "Har-ris" Brand, as supplied to His Majesty the King.

The Middles run 25 to 30 pounds each. We can, however, fill orders for any quantity and cut in pieces as desired.

### Another British Delicacy Genuine English Stilton Cheese

(The original Melton Mowbrays)

100 prime "English Stiltons" now in store, direct from the best dairies in Leicester, England.

### APPLE CIDER! APPLE CIDER! (Pure Juice)

The very finest Extra Quality Sweet Apple Cider. The best made in Canada. Only 50 cents per gallon. (Jars extra but returnable.)

FRASER, VIGER & CO.

### FLORIDA ORANGES AND FLORIDA GRAPE FRUIT.

(The Golden Eagle Brand.)

The very finest Indian River Oranges and Indian River Shaddocks, extra heavy, Sweet and juicy fruit.

INDIAN RIVER FLORIDA ORANGES—129 to the box—60 cents per dozen, \$5.50 per box.

INDIAN RIVER FLORIDA ORANGES—150 to the box—50 cents per dozen, \$5.50 per box.

INDIAN RIVER FLORIDA SHADDOCKS—"Mammoths," "Superlatives" and "Queens." (The Golden Eagle Brand.)

FLORIDA SHADDOCKS "MAMMOTHS"—25 cents each, \$2.50 per dozen.

FLORIDA SHADDOCKS "SUPERLATIVES"—20 cents each, \$2.50 per dozen.

FLORIDA SHADDOCKS "QUEENS"—15 cents each, \$1.50 per doz.

FRASER, VIGER & CO.

### APPLES! APPLES! APPLES!

FINEST QUALITY SELECTED "GRAVENSTEIN" APPLES. Only 60 cents per large basket; only \$4.75 per barrel.

FINEST QUALITY SELECTED "KING APPLES." Only 60 cents per large basket; only \$4.75 per barrel.

FINEST QUALITY SELECTED "RIBSTON PIPPINS" APPLES. Only 60 cents per large basket; only \$4.75 per barrel.

All from the famous Annapolis (apple) Valley in Nova Scotia, and all carefully selected and packed for our trade.

FRASER, VIGER & CO.

### 'CORN,' 'LIMA BEANS' AND 'SUCCOTASH'

(Corn and Beans)

FINEST MAINE PACK, 1903.

It is well known and acknowledged that the State of Maine grows the finest Corn and Beans on the Continent of America.

We have the very finest Maine pack, the "Lawson Pink" and "Webb's Cream" brands.

THE "LAWSON PINK" MAINE SUCCOTASH, 2-lb. Cans, 15 cents per can; \$1.65 per dozen; \$3.20 per case of 2 dozen cans.

THE "LAWSON PINK" MAINE LIMA BEANS, 2-lb. Cans, 15 cents per can; \$1.65 per dozen; \$3.20 per case of 2 dozen cans.

THE "LAWSON PINK" MAINE CORN, 2-lb. Cans, 15 cents per can; \$1.65 per dozen; \$3.20 per case of 2 dozen cans.

"WEBB'S CREAM SUGAR CORN (MAINE PACK), 2-lb. Cans, 15 cents per can; \$1.50 per dozen; \$2.85 per case of 2 dozen.

WEBB'S CREAM LIMA BEANS (MAINE PACK), 2-lb. Cans, 15 cents per can; \$1.50 per dozen; \$2.85 per case of 2 dozen cans.

WEBB'S CREAM SUCCOTASH, (CORN AND BEANS), 15 cents per can; \$1.50 per dozen; \$2.85 per case of 2 dozen cans.

Lay in your Christmas and Winter Stock of Canned Vegetables now

Special price lists will appear from day to day.

The finest packs in the world at reduced price.

FRASER, VIGER & CO.

## Our Christmas Sale Is Now On.

During the present month we will deliver, free by freight train, charges prepaid, to any station in Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, or New Brunswick, any of our Scotch, Irish or American Whiskies in lots of one or more cases, at the following prices:—

Remit in cash or by Express or Post Office Money Order or Bank Draft.

### Our Scotch Whiskies.

(IN WOOD.)

	Per Gallon,
Bullock Lade's Fine Old Blend	\$5.00
Sherriff's Old Islay Blend	4.25
Sherriff's V. O. Islay	5.25
The Diamond Blend	4.00
The Aberdeen Blend	6.00
The Private Stock	6.00
Usher's "Grand Old Highland"	5.75

Delivered free by freight, in lots of 5 gallons or more, to any point in Ontario, Quebec or the Maritime Provinces.

### Our Blendid Scotch Whiskies.

(In Glass)

	Per Bottle.	Per Case.
Morel's Curious Old Whiskey (25 years in wood)	\$2.50	\$27.50
The Aberdeen Blend, Special Reserve	1.25	13.50
The Private Stock	1.25	13.00
The Diamond Blend	0.80	9.00
The Sovereign Blend	1.50	15.00
Usher's The Very Finest	2.00	20.00
Usher's Grand Old Highland	1.10	12.50
Usher's Special Reserve	0.90	10.00
Usher's Old Vatted Glenlivet	0.80	9.25
Dewar's Extra Special Liqueur	1.75	19.00
Dewar's Special Liqueur (White Label)	1.25	13.25
Dewar's Extra Special (Blue Label)	0.90	10.00
Bullock Lade's (Gold Label) Extra Special Blend	1.00	11.50
Bullock Lade's (White Label) Special Blend	0.90	10.00
Bullock Lade's Loch Katrine	0.70	8.00
Bullock Lade's Loch Katrine, Imperial Quart Flasies	1.00	11.50
Sherriff's Old Islay	0.90	10.00
Sherriff's V. O. Islay (Very Old)	1.00	11.00
Sherriff's X.X.O. (Specially Selected)	1.25	13.50
Sherriff's "Ye Fine Old" 20 years Old	1.65	18.00
Walker's Kilmarnock	0.90	9.75
Greer's O. V. H.	0.90	9.75
King William IV., V. O. P.	1.75	19.00

We desire to draw particular attention to the "Sovereign Blend" one of the very best Scotch Whiskies on our list.

FRASER, VIGER & CO.,  
ITALIAN WAREHOUSE,  
ESTABLISHED 1896.

THE NORDHEIMER Building,  
207, 209 & 211 St. James St.  
MONTREAL.

## Grand of C. M. B. Visit Local Br

Branch No. 50, C. M. B., held a public reception to the Grand Michael F. Hackett, Grand Secretary, M. on Friday last in Anthony's parish.

The attendance was representative one.

Mr. Patrick Doyle, an enthusiast of the organization and Branch, occupied the platform were:—The Rev. Father Salmon, Donnelly, P.P., of Rev. Father Salmon, Harrison; Mr. George Grand Deputy; Mr. C.L. Chancellor; Mr. C.L. Chancellor; Mr. President of Branch others.



MR. PATRICK DOYLE.

President Doyle, in a welcomed the distinguished referred to the fact that over which he had the side had completed its existence, and was in condition. He then intimated young organization master of St. Michael's contributed a piano solo artistic skill. The Grand Branch No. 74, Messrs. J. John Deegan, M. M. H. Cox, William Hen- J. Shea followed in which were greeted with appla-

The Grand President, Hackett, was then introduced, and met with which showed his popular members of the as-

After expressing the si- ure it afforded him to n- the members of Branch Grand President proceed the great movements of ies when the idea of mu- sway in many lands and forms.

Dwelling upon the wor- M.B.A. in the past, the the Association had ach- for Catholics since its in- is certain to do much m- Catholics should study l- and join its ranks. It a- elevation of Catholics of- try and uniting them fr- ocean. It aims to prom- terests of Catholics gene- spiritually and material- Hon. Mr. Hackett then the fact that the Associ- distinguished members of- chy and hundreds of the- ranks. Referring to the- the Grand President stat- January 1st, 1903, it w- Since that date it had b- ed to 17,962. By provin- bership on the 26th Nov- was as follows:—

Ontario .....  
Quebe .....  
New Brunswick .....  
Nova Scotia .....  
Prince Edward Island .....  
Manitoba .....  
North-West Territories .....  
British Columbia .....  
Total .....