

St. Andrew, especially designed for the Clergy and laity of the Diocese of Quebec.

Turning to the Annual Report of the Brotherhood, presented at the last Convention, held at Montreal, October 7th to 11th, 1896, I find that out of the 203 Charters granted to Chapters up to that time, only five of these Chapters were to Chapters in Quebec Diocese, so that it is quite evident at the outset that the Brotherhood movement has not as yet appealed to the Church at large in your Diocese. To us outside it would appear that during the episcopate of Bishop Dunn, the clerical strength of the Brotherhood has been marshalled in a stronger and more aggressive force than ever before. Is it not possible then that the laity in large numbers, though possibly somewhat scattered, are ready to be banded together also for more aggressive and distinctive Christian work for the extension of Christ's Kingdom.

Away to the East of you we have the Brotherhood Chapters strongly organized and actively developed in the Dioceses of Fredericton and Nova Scotia, where there are at present in active operation some 32 Chapters, and immediately to the West of you the Diocese of Montreal has shown great increased activity in Brotherhood work since the Convention, and has at present something like 11 or 15 Chapters at active work, and nearly the same number exist in the Diocese of Ottawa. You will see then, that from a geographical standpoint there is somewhat of a hiatus in the continuity of the Brotherhood movement in regard to the area occupied by your Diocese. We must not of course be understood as overlooking such aggressive work as is done by the Chapter of Christ Church, Stanstead Plain, whose reports show a zeal and an amount of work far beyond the average.

The Brotherhood in Canada is looking forward with some pride to the first International Convention of the Brotherhood throughout the world, arising almost entirely out of Canadian suggestions, and to be held in the border City of Buffalo, on October 13th to 17th next. We are naturally anxious that at the time of this Convention our Brotherhood should show by its energy and its work that it justifies its being. If anyone, Clergyman or layman, needs to be convinced of the power and the stability of the Brotherhood for the doing

of a mighty work within the Church, he could not do better than now lay his plans to be present at this great Convention. It bids fair to prove the greatest gathering of laymen that the Church has ever seen.

The Brotherhood is so unique in its object and in its methods, that there seems to be a difficulty to get people thoroughly to appreciate it without some personal knowledge of it.

The Brotherhood was formed in recognition of the fact that every Christian man is pledged to devote his life to the extension of the Kingdom of Christ on earth. It is composed of men who are understood to have acknowledged this responsibility as resting upon themselves, and who are ready to strive, like St. Andrew, to bring their brothers to the knowledge of Jesus Christ. Personal allegiance to Him, loyalty to His Kingdom, belief that there is work to be done for the spread of the Kingdom among young men, a conviction of individual responsibility for entire consecration to that work, and the spirit of Christian fraternity—these are the fundamental principles on which the Brotherhood has been established and developed.

The Brotherhood has voluntarily placed itself under the veto power of the Clergy of the various Parishes within which Chapters are formed, for by its Constitution no Chapter can be organized except with the written approval of the Rector or Minister in charge, and no Chapter can continue to exist after such approval has been withdrawn.

The Chapters of the Brotherhood being organized solely for aggressive work and without any social surroundings naturally consist of comparatively small numbers, varying in size from a minimum of two or three members to a maximum of about twenty.

Too often men have felt it necessary to go outside the Church in order to identify themselves with organizations in which men were expected to do definite personal work for Christ. This has undoubtedly been causing a considerable leakage to the Church in the past. The Brotherhood naturally appeals to such men and is calculated to draw out all that is best in them, whilst retaining them and using them strictly within the Church itself. The value of little acts, of little thoughtfulness, of little self-denials in reference to our duties, our intercourse with our fel-