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HISTORICAL SKETCHES.

No 83—THE BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW.

It is now eleven years since a dozen young men, met together as a Bible Class in connection with St. James Church, Chicago, brought themselves face to face with the question, "Why is it that so few young men attend the services of the Church?"

The answer seemed hard to find—but these young men resolved that, with God's help, they would find a remedy for such a state of affairs—they would do their utmost to spread Christ's kingdom amongst their fellows.

They set to work modestly and quietly in their parish. Gradually their methods became known—the movement grew. One parish after another took up work for young men on the same lines, and so the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, with its two rules, was formed and spread.

The Brotherhood is, then, a society of young men whose sole object is the spread of Christ's kingdom amongst their fellows.

The two rules referred to are the rule of Prayer and the rule of Service—each member

promises to pray daily for the spread of Christ's kingdom amongst young men and for God's blessing on the work of the Brotherhood, and to make an earnest effort each week to bring at least one young man within hearing of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, as set forth in the services of the Church and in young men's Bible Classes.

In order to carry out these rules, chapters are formed in different parishes. These chapters are under the absolute control of the Rector of the parish. Wherever three or four young men—active, persevering and consecrated—can be got together, a chapter can be formed, and if the young men who form it stick faithfully to their two-fold rule, the clergy will find that they can have no agency so powerful for good as the Brotherhood of St. Andrew.

The work already accomplished is remarkable. St. James' Church, Chicago, for example, the birth place of the order, has been changed from being a fashionable Church—to the "Church of the young men"—and we are told that 400 young men attend its services on Sunday evenings.

There are now in the United States 950 chapters with a membership of 10,000 men, and in Canada there are 110 chapters and about 1,000 members.

Each year the order holds a convention. The last American one was held in Boston, in the end of September and the beginning of October, 1892. There were 922 delegates present and the addresses, sermons and speeches, as gathered together in the convention number of "St. Andrew's Cross,"

are remarkable for their deep spirituality—scarcely less so for manliness and common sense.

In Canada the last convention was held in Kingston in the early part of February of this year, and was a great help, as all these conventions are, in stimulating the brothers to a greater effort in carrying out their rules and in furthering their noble and holy object.



MR. JAMES L. HOUGHTELING.

(Through the kindness of the Editor of St. Andrew's Cross.)