

M. B. A. and their friends. Upon the platform were His Lordship Bishop O'Connor, Ven. Archdeacon Casey, Rev. Father Scanlan, Rev. Father Phelan, Mr. M. H. Quinlan, President C. M. B. A.; Mr. T. Cahill, Mr. J. Coughlin, Dr. Moher and T. J. Dorris, Chancellors; James Bogue, Chief Ranger, C. O. F., and J. Daly, President of the E. B. A.

The branch was opened in due form by the President, Mr. Quinlan, propounding the usual question:

"It is well. First Vice-President, what is the object of this Association?"

To which Mr. Alex. Vinette, First Vice-President, from his place in the hall made answer:

"To encourage, by all possible means, Christian union and mutual protection for our members and those dependent on them and also by means of Christian books and literature, approved of by our Spiritual Adviser, to educate members and their families in piety, integrity and frugality."

Mr. M. H. Quinlan, President of Branch 30, in the name of the C. M. B. A., in a few graceful words, welcomed His Lordship to their hall. He then called on the first number of the programme, a brilliant pianoforte duet by Messrs. Katie and Lillie Hurley. This was followed by a spirited rendering of that sterling old sea song, "The Minute Gun at Sea," by Messrs. Geo. Ball and D. Gordon.

Mr. D. Gordon sang in a sympathetic manner, a baritone solo.

Mr. T. Cahill gave a brief address on the subject of "The Good of the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association." He pointed out the beneficiary features of the society, pronounced by Dr. Bourinot, to have the best constitution of any organization in Canada. He emphasized the importance of every head of a family carrying some insurance—be it more or less—and the C. M. B. A. offered the best and cheapest extant. A young man of 18 can insure his life for the price of a cigar per day. One of the good features of the C. M. B. A. was, that in case of sickness or misfortune of a member, the branch would carry on his policy, and in the case of death his widow or orphans would get the benefit. The rates were low and within the reach of all. In the name of the C. M. B. A., Mr. Cahill welcomed the bishop back home.

Mr. John Coughlin read the following address:

Right Rev. Dr. R. A. O'Connor, Bishop of Peterborough:

May it Please Your Lordship.—We take this opportunity of welcoming you home from your official visit to His Illness Leo XIII. in apparently the best of health after an absence of nearly four months.

After the splendid demonstration you received from the clergy and congregation of St. Peter's, and the able addresses presented to you on their behalf, as well as the reception tendered you by the children of South Ward and Central schools, the magnificent welcome given you by the Sisters and pupils of Notre Dame, should be a fitting ending to the heartfelt welcome extended to you on all sides, but as your Lordship is a member of our noble Association, we feel that a few plain remarks of welcome on behalf of the branch may not be out of place.

We have listened with great pleasure to your interesting discourse on the Eternal City and other historic places visited by Your Lordship, and were particularly interested in your description of the appearance of the Holy Father, who has done so much in promoting the interests of our Holy Mother and Church and mankind in general, and we're greatly pleased to hear of the interest shown by him in yourself and this young Canadian diocese.

Your eloquent description of St. Peter's and other churches containing the relics of the saints and martyrs and the marble steps stained with the precious blood of our Divine Saviour, have all made a deep and lasting impression on us, and we thank God that it is our privilege to belong to that church which has withstood the trials and persecutions of nearly nineteen centuries, and with which our Divine Master promised to remain "even to the consummation of the world."

Once more we welcome you home, and hope you will be spared to make several visits to the Head of the Church in Rome, and while we extend to you a cheerful welcome and offer our thanksgiving for your

safe return, we heartily sympathize with you in the loss of your priests, in the person of the late Rev. Father Bloom, whose death was such a shock to yourself and clergy. Although he was called away suddenly in the prime of life, it is a consolation to you to know he was a good, zealous priest and well prepared to give an account of his stewardship.

We feel honored with your presence at our meeting this evening, and with the knowledge that the Association in which we are so deeply interested, meets with Your Lordship's approval.

Assuring you that you shall be at all times welcome at our meetings, that you have our best good wishes for your health and happiness, and our prayers for the success of the good work in which you are engaged.

Signed on behalf of Branch 30, Catholic Mutual Benefit Association

M. H. QUINLAN,  
T. J. DORRIS,  
W. J. DEVLIN,  
GEORGE BALL,  
JOHN KELLY,  
JOHN COUGHLIN.

Peterborough, March 12, 1896.

His Lordship thanked the Society for their well-appreciated welcome. He was glad to be here to give his countenance and encouragement to the excellent Society, the C. M. B. A. He referred to the religious and social aspects of the Society, which were prime factors in its usefulness. Such a Society had the approval of the Church, which could not be extended to oath-bound secret societies. The Society in Peterborough had 80 members in good standing. One of the requirements of the constitution is that every member must be a practical Catholic, and this, among other reasons, was why the church and clergy encouraged the Society independently of the financial benefits, which were very cheap. He, himself, was a charter member of Branch 51, Barrie, which he joined to encourage so good an Order. His Lordship endorsed Mr. Cahill's remarks, and his advice that no young lady should engage herself to any young man who was not a member of the local Catholic benefit societies. His Lordship concluded by thanking the Society for the cordial reception tendered him.

Ven. Archdeacon Casey congratulated His Lordship on the hearty reception he had received this evening. He pointed out that the Order in Canada was financially separate from the United States. He did not know as low and safe a benefit Society as the C. M. B. A., whose Canadian reserve was \$50,000. He concluded by quotations from the Dominion Blue Book to show the excellent standing of the Society.

Mr. Jas. Bogue, Chief Ranger of the Catholic Order of Foresters, spoke briefly of the benefit of membership in such a Society, in proof of which he was a member in the C. M. B. A. and the Catholic Order of Foresters.

Mr. J. Daly, President of the E. B. A., thought so well of benefit societies, that he felt inclined to join the C. M. B. A. also.

Mr. T. J. Dorris, Chancellor of the C. M. B. A., explained the rates of insurance, and urged all possible to become members.

Dr. Moher submitted figures to show the rapid growth of the membership of the Order—from 270 in 1870, to 12,000 at present. He believed that the Association had the cream of the Catholic population in Canada in its membership.

Miss Kate Hurley performed a dashing pianoforte solo in a very spirited and brilliant manner. Messrs G. Ball and D. Gordon gave the "Larboard Watch" in splendid style, and Mr. Gordon followed with "If the Waters Could Speak as they Flow," and "God Save the Queen" brought a most pleasant and successful evening to a close.—Peterborough Examiner, March 13.

Toronto, March 14, 1896.

S. R. Brown, Editor.

Dear Sir and Brother—I have made a calculation on how much we have gained financially by our separation from the Supreme Council of the C. M. B. A. of the United States in three years ending December, 1895. I think we have good reason to congratulate ourselves on the result the change has produced.

Since our separation, or for the three years mentioned, Canada has called for 15 assessments, and the United States in the same time has called for 60. Our 15 assessments amounted (exclusive of the Reserve Fund) to \$372,000. In proportion, the 60 assessments would amount to \$1,960,000. Canada therefore was the gainer of the difference, viz., \$1,240,000 a sum equal to nearly 2½ times our present Reserve Fund, which has been accumulating for the past nine years.

As there were 15 assessments less in Canada, our members gained as follows:

In the \$1 00 class	815 00
" " 1 10 "	16 50
" " 1 20 "	18 00
" " 1 30 "	19 50
" " 1 45 "	21 75
" " 1 65 "	21 75

Hoping our good Association will continue to prosper, and wishing you every success in your laudable work I remain, yours fraternally,

WILLIAM MORAN,

Branch 15, C. M. B. A.

AN APPEAL.

To the members of the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association of Canada.

Nicolet, P. Q., Jan. 16th, 1896  
Brothers,—Branch 161, of the C. M. B. A., located at Nicolet, P. Q., deems it an urgent duty to appeal to the branches of the Association on behalf of Brother Mathias Tousignant, who for the past year has been suffering from general debility and confined in his room, and his large and helpless family has thus been deprived of its only support. Brother Tousignant is one of the chartered members of our branch, and has always been a true and faithful member of the C. M. B. A.

Brother Tousignant, beside his serious illness, has made heavy losses to the amount of about \$4,000, being all and everything he had. He has also lost his wife and his eldest son during the past year. We were in hopes all along that Bro. Tousignant would recover and be able to resume his work, but God in His all wise providence permits him to be deprived of that inestimable blessing of good health. After many months of sickness he is obliged to ask the brothers of the C. M. B. A. to help him. The object of our Association being mutual help, we hope that the brothers of the C. M. B. A. will profit by this occasion to help a brother in distress and thus draw down the blessing of God on themselves and our Association.

A small offering from each branch will help Bro. Tousignant to provide for his little ones.

Hoping, then, brothers, that you will charitably lend brother Tousignant a helping hand.

We remain, yours fraternally,  
W. CAMIRAND, President.  
J. E. BELAOURT, Rec. Secretary.  
Dr. A. O. CLOUTIER, Fin. Secy.  
All contributions to be sent to W. Camirand, President of C. M. B. A. Branch 161, Nicolet, P. Q.

I, the undersigned Spiritual Adviser

of Branch 161, of the C. M. B. A., certify that Bro. Mathias Tousignant is a member of our branch in good standing and worthy in every respect of the sympathy and help of the Association. P. A. GOTIN, Priest,

Spiritual Adviser.

London, Ont., March 5, 1896

Wilfrid Camirand, Pres. Br. 161, C. M. B. A., Nicolet, Que.

Dear Sir and Brother,—The Grand President and Board of Trustees have decided to allow the appeal from your branch on behalf of Brother Mathias Tousignant

Yours fraternally,  
SAM R. BROWN Grand Secy.

Initiations in February, 1896.

Initiations du Mois de Fev., 1896.

Br.	Initiated
62...Canard River, Ont....	8 members.
26...Somerset, Man.....	6 "
50...Hamilton, Ont.....	5 "
43...Brookville, Ont.....	3 "
162...Moncton, N. B.....	3 "
178...Memramouc (to date)	5 "
238...Quebec, Que.....	3 "
24...Thorold, Ont.....	2 "
28...Ottawa, Ont.....	2 "
60...Mattawa, Ont (to date)	2 "
91...Levis, Que.....	2 "
101...Three Rivers, Que....	2 "
108...Quebec, Que.....	2 "
134...St. John, N. B.....	2 "
161...Victoriaville, Que....	2 "
209...Louiseville, Que....	2 "
246...Cap St. Ignace, Que...	2 "
3...Amherstburg, Ont.....	1 "
19...St. Catharines, Ont....	1 "
13...Stratford, Ont.....	1 "
25...Cayuga, Ont. (January)	1 "
37...Hamilton, Ont.....	1 "
49...Toronto, Ont.....	1 "
51...Barrie, Ont.....	1 "
54...Montreal, Que.....	1 "
55...St. Agatha, Ont.....	1 "
69...Leicester, Ont.....	1 "
75...Ponchartraine, Ont.....	1 "
76...Belleville, Ont.....	1 "
83...Montreal, Que.....	1 "
94...Ottawa, Ont.....	1 "
99...Westport, Ont.....	1 "
101...Waterloo, Ont.....	1 "
122...Sandwich, Ont.....	1 "
124...Biddulph, Ont.....	1 "
129...Granby, Que.....	1 "
130...Bathurst, N. B.....	1 "
131...North Sydney, N.S....	1 "
132...Halifax, N. S.....	1 "
154...Fganville, Ont.....	1 "
158...St. V. de Paul, Que....	1 "
159...Ottawa, Ont.....	1 "
160...Halifax, N. S.....	1 "
163...Winnipeg, Man.....	1 "
167...Dorchester, N. B.....	1 "
168...Amherst, N. S.....	1 "
183...Snyder, Ont. (Jan.)...	1 "
184...Fairville, N. B. (Jan.)	1 "
187...Sturgeon Falls, Ont....	1 "
188...Carleton Place, Ont....	1 "
189...Sydney, N. S.....	1 "
202...Chatham, N. B.....	1 "
212...Queenston, Ont.....	1 "
215...Simonsville, P. E. I....	1 "
223...Springhill, N. S.....	1 "
229...Dallouse, N. B.....	1 "
247...Fraserville, Que.....	1 "
248...Joggins Mines, N. S....	1 "
253...Maniwaki, Que.....	1 "
254...Kensington, P. E. I....	1 "
260...St. E. Pubnico, N. S....	12 "
261...Souris East, P. E. I....	13 "
262...Leithbridge, N. W. T....	18 "
263...St. Ferdinand, Que....	8 "
264...Barachois, N. B.....	12 "
265...Huntington, Que.....	9 "

Total.....168

N. B.—The initiations in the last five branches are charter members.

Les initiations des cinq dernières succursales sont des membres fondateurs.