

The independent character of the Congregational body determined his church connection, and he attached himself to "Old Zion," following all its vicissitudes of riot, fire and secession, from small beginnings in St. Maurice Street, under the Rev. Henry Wilkes, to final dismemberment on Beaver Hall Hill at the close of the Rev. Mr. Bray's meteoric pastorate, when he formed congenial and lasting connection with the American Presbyterian Church.

The Temperance Cause first had his support at a time when attachment thereto was often maintained at the cost of the sympathy of those near and dear, and his last public act was to join the national deputation of the Dominion Alliance—of which he was one time and for long the Treasurer—which waited on the Government at Ottawa, in the fall of 1898, respecting action on the result of the Prohibition Plebiscite.

Among other public movements, Mr. Baylis was closely associated with the late Joseph Doutre, Q.C., and the other defenders of the celebrated Guibord case, and was treasurer of the fund. He was one of the promoters of the recent agitation resulting in the formation of a Citizens' Committee for the abolition of the Quebec Commercial Tax, and joint-treasurer of the fund; and, a long-time member of the Board of Trade, he some years ago consented to be nominated to a seat on the Council as representative of the retail trade, but failed of the support necessary to elect. He did not seek municipal honors, knowing well the sacrifice of time and means this involved for one attempting to do his whole duty. He regarded public office as a public trust, and had intense hatred of every form of "boodling" in public and private business. In politics, while on principle a Liberal, he was no blind partizan, proving his independence on more than one occasion by voting against his party when their stand on broad public questions would not square with his views of right and justice. He was on one occasion tendered the nomination for the County of Argenteuil in the combined interest of the Liberal party and the Temperance cause, but, notwithstanding influential urging, did not see that his business engagements would permit his following his taste and bent into a field for which his gifts of careful