

The True Witness

AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

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EPISCOPAL APPROBATION.

If the English speaking Catholics of Montreal and of this Province consulted their best interests, they would soon make of the "True Witness" one of the most prosperous and powerful Catholic papers in this country. I heartily bless those who encourage this excellent work.

† PAUL, Archbishop of Montreal.

SATURDAY.....MAY 7, 1893.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

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THE SHAMROCK A. A.

The leading part which the Shamrock Amateur Athletic Association has taken in popularizing Canada's national game is recorded in the annals of our nation, and is a source of legitimate pride to the English-speaking Catholics of Montreal. Few people, however, have any idea of the self-sacrificing efforts which have been rendered necessary in order to keep the organization in the forefront position which it has always been held in the athletic world, or of the insufficient financial support which it receives from those who rejoice so ostentatiously in its prowess and its victorious achievements.

A glance at the past annual report of the Montreal Amateur Athletic Association and at the annual report of the Shamrock Amateur Athletic Association suggests a comparison the reverse of creditable to our people, who both in respect to numbers and wealth are at least equal to our English-speaking Protestant fellow-citizens. The fees received by the M.A.A.A. the last year, for which a report has been issued, amounted to \$10,551, while the annual fees received by the S.A.A.A. amounted to the paltry sum of \$174.

No more forcible comment than these figures furnish in themselves could be offered upon the heartiness and generosity of the support accorded to the M. A. A. A. and the paucity of that given to the S.A.A.A. The directors of the latter organization, under the presidency of such earnest men as J. P. Clarke, W. J. McKenna and Tobias Butler, have made many efforts to induce their fellow-countrymen, young and old, to join the ranks of the Association; the former by becoming active members for the small consideration of four dollars per annum, and the latter to associate themselves with the institution by securing a life membership for the reasonable sum of \$50.

In the annual printed report of 1893, the first year in which the S.A.A.A. did any practical work in athletics, Mr. J. P. Clarke, the then president, stated: "The Association is in need of the earnest co-operation of not alone all its present members, but of all its supporters, who should regard it as their duty to have their names inscribed upon its membership roll. Its foundations have been laid broad and solid by the hands of the energetic, zealous and successful promoters of that physical culture which is the mainstay of a nation; it remains for the men of the present, who are walking so valiantly in the footsteps of their predecessors, to carve out and erect a superstructure that will stand perfect in its form, attractive in its proportions, lofty in its stature, as a beacon light of encouragement to the young men of the next generation, and a model whereby they may learn to cultivate that fraternal and magnanimous spirit which will crown their victories on the grand field of lacrosse, and firmly establish in its home and in its equipment an institution which will become an effective auxiliary in the future progress and development of our great Dominion."

The question of a city clubhouse has always been a matter of much concern

to the directors and members of the S.A.A.A. The ways and means to secure the financial assistance were considered at nearly every meeting, and during the occupancy of the presidential chair by W. J. McKenna, in 1895, that enthusiastic Shamrock worker referred to this subject in the following terms:

"At the last semi annual meeting," said Mr. McKenna, in the printed report of 1895, "there was an expression of opinion, put in the form of a resolution, suggesting the advisability of securing a site for a city club house and gymnasium, and your Directors, in order to give the advocates of such an undertaking an opportunity to put their project into some practical form, secured the option of a centrally located property for a period of three months at a price which in their estimation was very reasonable. The question of a city club house for the organization is of very great importance; but, it must be remembered that our Association is peculiarly situated in regard to the matter, as the sources from whence the membership is to be extended, in the endeavor to make it a financial success, are somewhat limited in consequence of the number of benefit and literary societies in the various parishes of this city, each of which are equipped with a hall and in many instances with the paraphernalia of a gymnasium. There is also the serious feature of expenditure to be considered, because it would mean a large outlay in order to carry out successfully such an undertaking, as the club house should have all the modern equipment and improvements which characterize similar institutions in this city. The solution of the question may be, perhaps, found in a federation of the various young men's organizations and your Association, whose aims and sympathies are in common."

Again, in 1896 under the administration of the famous lacrosse player, Mr. Tobias Butler, the matter came up, and it can be safely said that no more zealous officer ever occupied the chair, yet Mr. Butler closed his term without having succeeded in carrying out the project which he so persistently advocated. In the annual printed report of that year he made the following statement:—

"The project of the city clubhouse was considered at different intervals during the term, but your directors after having carefully examined several proposals in regard to sites, and actually entering as a bidder in one instance, deemed it advisable in the present financial state of affairs to defer the matter. They are, however, of opinion that a city establishment should be organized even at the risk of incurring a large additional debt, because it would be the means of largely increasing the membership and also of creating several other sources of revenue more than sufficient to provide for the liabilities which it would entail."

Mr. Butler was re-elected for the term of 1897, and it can be said without fear of contradiction that for the whole of that year he strove earnestly to carry out the undertaking of a city habitation, as well as to extend the membership list in order to secure a permanent source of revenue. When Mr. Butler submitted his report in behalf of the directors a few weeks ago, and which has since been issued in printed form, he referred to the question of membership in the following manner:—

"The Association should embrace within its ranks every young Irish Canadian in Montreal. While your Directors have, in some measure, endeavored to take preliminary action in the matter, it is their opinion that a monster gathering of young Irishmen should be held at the grounds during the coming summer, as well as a convention of young men's societies, in order to awaken a just measure of enthusiasm to extend the scope of the Association."

It may be said that the reason the fees aggregate more in the M.A.A.A. than in any other city athletic association is that greater privileges are offered for the money. The argument just here is a false one, because the nucleus of the M.A.A.A. was really the snowshoe and lacrosse clubs. The receipts from fees were not large; but the men who were at the head of the organization recognized great possibilities, and the members justifying their motto, "Junior ut implear," gathered around them, and through unity and enthusiasm have built up a good Association which is a credit to the men who fought its battles at the beginning.

The Shamrocks are as long in the field as the Montrealers, but at times they have failed to learn the lesson of unity and of sinking petty jealousies. When a few years ago the new grounds were purchased a wave of enthusiasm swept over the Irish population. It is just that same wave which needs to be kept moving. With the support of the members and young Irish Catholics of Montreal in anything like a generous way, there is no reason why a city club house, with all the appurtenances that would be attractive to young men, should not form part of the assets of the S.A.A.A.

The present assets of the Shamrock Association are of a nature to leave nothing to be desired in as far as the

outdoor athletic department is concerned. The grounds have an area of nearly 300,000 feet and are situated in a locality which is rapidly gaining in public favor as a residential quarter. The grand stand is unequalled in strength and capacity and commodiousness on this continent; and grounds, grand stand and club house are very good value for their cost, affording as they do univalled facilities for athletic work.

Considering the rapidity and solidity of the growth of Montreal, especially in the direction in which the Shamrock grounds are situated, it is not taking too optimistic a view of the future possibilities to express an opinion that before the close of another decade the grounds alone will be worth \$100,000.

Let the young Irishmen—and for that matter every Irishman of Montreal—take an interest in the Shamrock Association and share in the honor of extending its usefulness and relieving it of debt; of placing it financially—where it is athletically—in the front rank of the most prosperous athletic institutions in Canada.

ALDERMAN KINSELLA AND THE "HERALD."

The Ontario people who now control the editorial department of the Montreal Herald evince, as is quite natural, a fondness for attacking prominent Catholics and Irishmen in our midst. Recently it has singled out for insult and attack Alderman Kinsella, in connection with the illegal accounts incurred by the Police Committee, of which he is a member. These accounts amount to \$44,000. Alderman Kinsella is charged by the Herald with having ordered goods for the city to the amount of \$334. It does not state, however, that he was authorized by the Police Committee to do so, and that the expenditure was justified by absolute necessity. It takes care, too, not to say one word about the Aldermen who incurred the remaining debt aggregating \$43,666. English-speaking Protestant Aldermen and French Canadian Aldermen are responsible for the incurring of this very large sum, but the Herald has not the courage to name them. It confines itself to making a futile effort to throw discredit upon the only Irish Catholic Alderman on the Committee, Alderman Kinsella.

Alderman Kinsella was quite right in bringing the Herald's bigoted attacks to the notice of the Police Committee, although it was unnecessary for him to resent those attacks, since he is too well known to the citizens of Montreal as a successful, upright and irreproachable public man to fear that any credence will be placed in that newspaper's prejudiced criticisms.

CATHOLIC CUBA.

The population of the island of Cuba has long been noted for its staunch loyalty to the Catholic Church. It was Cuba which gave New Orleans its first Catholic Bishop, the Right Rev. Dr. Cardenas. When, in 1763, Florida passed from Spanish to British control, the archives of the cathedral parish of St. Augustine, Fla., which was organized in 1565, were transferred to the library of the Cathedral of Havana, where they still remain. The archdiocese of Havana is one of the largest in the world. It comprises, 1,300,000 Catholics and 147 parishes. The Cathedral, which was begun in 1656 and finished in 1724, is a beautiful structure, and boasts the possession of the ashes of Columbus in its vaults, although the Cathedral of San Domingo also makes a claim to their possession. The diocese of Santiago de Cuba comprises a Catholic population of 300,000, divided into 55 parishes. In one of the churches in the city of Havana—that of Santa Catalina, situated on O'Rielly street—are authentic relics of two of the early Roman martyrs, which are contained in a gorgeous shrine. The whole island is filled with beautiful churches, monasteries, convents, schools and charitable institutions, all of which attest the sterling and practical piety of the people.

YOUNG IRISHMEN'S L. & B. ASSOCIATION.

Annual Meeting and Election of Officers—Satisfactory Reports from the Board of Management.

The Young Irishmen's Literary and Benefit Association held a most successful annual meeting on Wednesday last, and, judging by the large number of members present, there is a bright prospect before the organization, which will soon celebrate the silver jubilee of its organization and incorporation. The reports of the Secretary and Treasurer were most satisfactory.

The following officers were elected for the year:—Mr. A. Burke, president; J. Lyons, first vice-president; H. O'Connor, second vice-president; J. McMahon, treasurer; M. J. Power, rec. secretary; M. Hushion, cor. secretary; J. E. Slattery, collecting treasurer; F. Ward, assistant collecting treasurer; F. Giles, librarian; J. Byrne, assistant librarian; O. Milloy, marshal.

CITY AND DISTRICT SAVINGS BANK.

The Fifty-first Annual Meeting of the Shareholders.

The Report of the Operations During the Past Year—Hon. Sir William Hingston Re-elected President.

Among the many banking institutions of Montreal none occupy a higher place in the confidence of citizens of all classes than the grand old establishment of the City and District Savings Bank, which has just completed its fifty-first year of successful existence.

A mere glance at the statement given below will suffice to convince one that the affairs of the Bank are not alone admirably administered, but that it is practically speaking one, if not the safest, of such institutions in the Province of Quebec.

The Board of Directors, presided over by the Hon. Sir William H. Hingston, M.D., is composed of citizens of high reputation in the financial, commercial and social circles of Montreal, men with successful careers in their particular sphere, while the General Manager, Mr. Henry Barbeau, upon whom the burden of the work falls, holds a foremost rank as an authority on financial matters and banking affairs. Much of the success achieved by the bank is due to the zeal and devotion of Mr. Barbeau to its interests, and directors and depositors alike hold him in the highest esteem.

The fifty first annual meeting of the shareholders was held at the head office, St. James street, on Tuesday afternoon, the President, Hon. Sir Wm. Hingston, M.D., presiding. There were also present:—Hon. James O'Brien, Messrs. R. Wilson-Smith, R. Bellemare, Nolan Delele, W. R. Miller, Richard Boulton, W. S. Murphy, Robert McKay, H. Markland Molson, Michael Burke, F. T. Judah, and H. Barbeau, general manager.

The report of the President, Sir Wm. Hingston, was as follows:—The directors have pleasure in presenting to the shareholders the fifty-first annual report of the affairs of the Bank and of the result of its business for the year ending 31st December, 1892.

The net profits of the past year were \$81,486.46, which, added to the balance at the credit of the profit and loss account of last year (\$191,702.65), brings the latter to \$273,189.11. From this two dividends have been paid, and the amount at credit of profit and loss is now \$193,189.11, the reserve fund continuing at \$100,000.00.

The interest obtained on loans was moderate, and the amount of money limited, and as a result it has not always been found easy to find employment for a portion of the funds of the Bank.

Your directors have to report a sharp but causeless run by a small section of the depositors of the bank on the 8th and 9th October last. The bank was thoroughly prepared, and met the large call made upon it with ease, and without calling upon its customers to repay any portion of their loans.

The volume of business transacted during the year amounted to eighty-four million dollars.

The amount due depositors is \$9,547,603.13. The average amount due each depositor is \$188.44, as against \$188.16 for last year.

The number of open accounts on 31st December last was 49,888.

Your directors have to record their sense of the loss they have sustained in the death of their late colleague, Mr. John H. R. Molson, whose integrity and business qualities were of the highest value. The vacancy on the board has been filled by the election of Mr. H. Markland Molson.

As usual, frequent and thorough inspections of the books were made during the year.

The report of the auditors and the balance sheet accompany this report.

You are invited to elect directors and auditors for the current year.

Statement of the affairs of the Montreal City and District Savings Bank on the 31st December, 1892:

Table with columns LIABILITIES and ASSETS. LIABILITIES: Amount due depositors \$9,547,603.13; Amount due Receiver-General 93,341.56; Amount due Charities 180,000.00; Amount due open accounts 65,592.61; Amount due profit and loss account 193,189.11; Amount due reserve fund 400,000.00; Amount due stock 660,000.00. Total \$11,079,816.71. ASSETS: Canada Dominion Government stock and accrued interest \$1,526,250.00; City of Montreal and other municipal and Prov. Gov't debentures 2,868,108.11; Loans secured by collateral 5,016,346.12; Bank premises, head office and its four branches 400,000.00; Charity donations fund, invested in municipal securities approved by the Dominion Government 180,000.00; Other assets 311,323.09; Cash on hand and in chartered banks 747,789.79. Total \$11,079,816.71.

Number of accounts open 49,888

Average amount due to each depositor 31st December, 1892: \$188.44

H. BARBAU, Manager.

The report was unanimously adopted and a vote of thanks were tendered to the Directors and officers.

The retiring board was unanimously re-elected as follows:—Hon. Sir W. H. Hingston, M.D., Mr. B. Bellemare, Hon. James O'Brien, Hon. Judge J. A. Ouimet, Messrs. E. J. Barbeau, F. T. Judah, Q.C.,

Hon. Sir J. A. Chapleau, Messrs. Michael Burke, Robert Mackay and H. Markland Molson.

On motion of Mr. W. R. Miller, a vote of thanks was tendered Sir William Hingston, the President, for his services.

This concluded the meeting. At a subsequent meeting of the directors the President and General Manager were unanimously re-elected.

WAR NOTES.

With all the multiplied agonies that must naturally attend a great naval battle, but little thought is given by those not actually engaged in the fearful carnage, which is a necessary concomitant. The element of selfishness enters largely into the way one hears about or speaks of the progress of war.

The word is as easily and as cold-bloodedly uttered as if two great masters were manipulating pawns and rooks on a chess board. The present struggle, however, has developed a new species of iniquity. It has attempted to make heroes out of men whose only effort at heroism was to capture defenceless merchant ships or go ashore when there was nobody to prevent them. There was heroism in the fight at Manila, but Dewey will never gather in the amount of stupid laudation that was showered on Capt. Sigsbee who was not where he should have been when a melancholy catastrophe occurred. The second iniquity is the opportunity it gives the Spaniard to lie with greater facility than was his wont. When St. Paul said that the Cretians were all liars he had not become acquainted with the people who inhabited the Iberian peninsula in the latter part of the nineteenth century. The Boston Herald is one of the few newspapers which has not prostituted its influence after the manner of the yellow tribe. It discusses the question calmly and deliberately. In an editorial it says:—

Having won the first victory of the present war, we can afford to be more discriminating in the praise that we have been lavishly awarding to those who have done little to deserve it. A day or two ago the steamer Paris arrived in New York from Southampton, and much to the astonishment of her sensible and modest captain, he was overwhelmed with laudation at a popular gathering at the custom house, as if the fact that he had brought his steamer safely across the Atlantic, when there was not a Spanish cruiser within a thousand miles of her, was an exploit which warranted crowning him with laurels or procuring for him a vote of thanks from Congress. We say the modest captain of the Paris protested against this, but the crowd would have it that he was a hero in spite of his protests. The purchased warship Topaka has also arrived from England, and her captain has received an ovation, because it is said that he "dodged" the Spanish on his way over, although the dodging must have been an easy operation, seeing that in his case the Spanish vessels were not within three days' sail of him. All this is stupid laudation, and is all the more unworthy because it tends to reduce the value and quality of the praise which the American people should accord to those who perform deeds of great skill, valor and patriotism—for, if those who do nothing are accounted heroes, how are we to truly welcome the real heroes?

Commodore Dewey and the officers and men serving under him have performed an exploit, than which it would be difficult in the annals of naval warfare to find a greater. The fleet under Commodore Dewey's command, with no base of supply within 7,000 miles, made the attack upon Manila, its commander realizing that he must gain an almost immediate victory or sustain an overwhelming defeat. His coal supply could only last for a given number of days—and without coal he was helpless—his vessels, if damaged, could not be repaired, and in a naval engagement disasters of this kind are difficult things to avoid. Without coal, or if in a disabled condition, there was hardly any alternative but to surrender. Under the conditions of modern warfare there were serious risks to assume, and yet they were taken with a courage and confidence which will cause the name of Commodore Dewey to rank with those of Farragut, Decatur, Perry, Stewart, Porter, Paul Jones and others in the annals of the American navy. Let us not waste our applause upon those who may be brave enough, but who have done nothing to deserve applause; but, rather, let us concentrate it upon those heroes of the gender, who have again illustrated by their valor the indomitable skill and courage of the American sailor.

A Pilgrimage Stopped.

One of the results of the war, which is decidedly disappointing to Irish Americans, is that the monster pilgrimage which was to have taken place in July next has been cancelled. Months ago the plan was conceived to charter several steamers and take over Irishmen and their families as a tribute to the memory of the heroes who fell in the great struggle for freedom of one hundred years ago. Such men as Recorder Goff, W. Bourke Cockran, Judge James A. O'Gorman, Gen. O'Boisne and Edward O'Flaherty took hold of the arrangements.

The steamship Berlin, of the American Line, was chartered as one of the fleet. Negotiations were entered into with the authorities of cities in Ireland and with societies there, which resulted in the assurance that the visitors would be royally welcomed and entertained while abroad.

More than 1,000 persons announced their intention to take the pilgrimage,

and backed up their announcement with a cash deposit. Men and women who have not seen their native land since they were children, and children who had never seen the land of their fathers, were looking forward to the trip with delightful anticipations.

But it is all off now. There has not been a meeting of the '98 Centennial Association yet to pass upon it, but the Executive Committee has so agreed, Mr. O'Flaherty, President of the Association, has decided that there was no chance of carrying out the pilgrimage, and that a meeting of the association would be called soon to declare the plan off. Money that has been paid in will all be refunded, and it is possible that the association will take up the plan for a pilgrimage a year from July.

The South and the War.

The question of Southern sympathy with Spain has caused much discussion in the American press. A couple of extracts from Virginia papers give a line on what the Richmond papers think:

We have with some care searched the editorial columns of the Southern newspapers to ascertain the sentiment throughout those States, and we find practically but one view. They do not believe that war was necessary, but now that it has come they propose to stand loyally by the Government. The South has had quite enough of war, and this war is not of the South's making, but when the soldiers of the various sections are lined up the old rebel yell will be heard again, and the voice will come from the front.

And then the following yawp comes from the Richmond Dispatch:

The New York Times, in an article criticizing "the opponents of war," says New York was full of Tory loyalists during the war of the Revolution, and the Blue Light Federalists gave aid and comfort to the enemy in the war of 1812. The New England Abolitionists carried their opposition to the Mexican war to the verge of disloyalty, it adds, while among the Democrats of the North there was a class of sympathizers with secession who bore the unpleasant name of Copperheads.

Well, down in this section the woods were full of people who were opposed to the civil war. Especially was that the case in Virginia. These people were called "submissicnists" by the extreme fire-eating element. But the sequel proved that never was there a more flagrant misapplication of a term. When Mr. Lincoln's seventy-five thousand proclamation came out these so-called "submissicnists" got mad through and through, and continued mad to the end—in fact, some of them haven't gotten into an amiable state of mind yet.

We don't know how it is going to be with the opponents of war up North, but judging by the past it wouldn't be wise for Spain to calculate very extensively on sympathy from the same class down South. There is a good deal of sound sense in the homely advice "Beware of the man who is slow to get on his hind legs." The South may be a little slow in getting on its hind legs in this war, but when it does get on them it will stay on them.

Chicago Irishmen Want to Fight for Cuba.

The Clan-na-Gael Guards, of Chicago, with a muster roll of 600 men, have tendered their services to Governor Tanner, and have received the assurance that their enlistment will be considered favorably at the first opportunity. The tender to the Governor is noteworthy, aside from the fighting qualities of the men, because of the recent unpleasantness over a parade on St. Patrick's Day. Lieutenant-Colonel James J. Reilly, of the Guards, accompanied by John T. Keating and others, called on the Governor Sunday and notified him of the desire to enlist. In response to an inquiry if the guards could have a voice in the selection of their colonel they were assured their wishes would be given consideration. They then endorsed Captain William Quinton of the Seventh United States Infantry to be their colonel. It is understood that John F. Finerty will be elected lieutenant colonel. He and Captain Quinton have campaigned together. Captain Quinton distinguished himself in the Modoc war when Mr. Finerty was a correspondent.

BANK VILLE MARIE

Opens a Western Branch on Chaboillez Square.

The Canadian Bank of Commerce closed its Western Branch, which was located on Chaboillez Square, a few days ago, and the Bank Ville Marie, which has already established in different quarters of the city a number of branches, immediately afterwards secured the premises and opened for business.

The management of the Branch is entrusted to Mr. Aug. Comte, a grandson of the contractor who erected St. Patrick's Church and many other religious establishments in Montreal and surrounding districts.

The new manager has been associated with the Ville Marie Bank in different capacities for a period covering ten years, and is not only a most capable officer, but also a young man of talent in other directions. It will be of interest to the readers of the True Witness to learn that the next post of importance, that of paying teller and accountant, has been entrusted to Mr. Patrick Kenehan, for many years engaged in the Point St. Charles Branch. Mr. Kenehan is a son of Mr. James Kenehan, the well known waggon manufacturer of St. Ann's Ward. He is a promising young man and possesses all the qualifications to make his mark in banking circles.

In this connection it may be noticed with pleasure that the directors of the Bank Ville Marie, of which Mr. William Weir is the chief, have given many evidences of the fact that religion and nationality are no impediments to advancement in their service. The new Branch in such hands should do a good business.