

## NOTRE DAME COLLEGE.

AN ELEMENTARY INSTITUTION AT  
COTE DES NEIGES.

A Visit to the Establishment—A Beautiful Situation—An Alty, Lightsome, and Healthy House—A Home Wherein Small Boys Are Trained for the Higher Courses of the Superior College.

There are colleges larger and of more pretentious architecture, and colleges with a larger number of pupils, but for beauty of scenery, and for all the more material advantages accruing to a thoroughly rural life the College of Notre Dame at Cote des Neiges, the Mother house of the Religious of the Holy Cross, stands unrivalled in Canada or America. In front of the college, with but a field or two and the college park-like garden plots between, there rises a deeply sloping mountain, covered thickly with trees of every shade of green and early autumn brown, and away off to the south, as far as the horizon, there gently undulates squarely defined patches of land, bearing the many beautiful tints of green and gold that mark cultivated farms.

At the back of the college, on the crest of a hill, can be distinctly seen the stately towers of the College of St. Laurent.

The college of Cote des Neiges stands on its own model grounds of 60 acres, about 10 of which, in the vicinity of the college building, are laid out in grass plots and fancy flower beds beautifully tended. In front of the college a row of tall trees add greatly to the natural beauty of the place. On the farm all the vegetables for consumption in the college and much more that is disposed of in the city are produced. There are quite a number of acres of apple trees of many different kinds which thrive wonderfully on this land. Beneath the trees the ground is utilized for the growth of cabbages and potatoes, among the other vegetables and fruits cultivated on the farm are pumpkins, melons, Brussel sprouts (considered a special dainty by English residents in Montreal), egg fruit, beans, peas, artichokes, tobacco, and many vegetables grown in smaller quantities for consumption in the college alone. The 60 acres of cultivated land is beautifully kept by the lay brothers, and at the last horticultural show the college won 52 prizes, 22 first prizes and the rest second and third.

The recreation grounds for the boys comprise several fields as well as the gravelled winter play ground. A pond four feet deep has been dug out, which is used by the boys as a bathing place. The water is supplied by a spring and is always pure.

The Rev. Father Kelly, when conducting us over the farm, said the boys' great delight in winter is tobogganing. A gentle declivity of the ground makes at the south of the college in winter a splendid natural toboggan nearly a mile and a half long; but, says Father Kelly, it is just as long for the lads to walk back, so a small artificial slide has been constructed, which, when covered with snow, makes an excellent and safe toboggan. Skating, in the winter time, is the chief out-door pastime of the boys, and there is plenty of opportunity to exercise their skill at this amusement.

Passing the recreation ground, we notice that nearly all the boys speak English and French indiscriminately; about half the pupils are French and the other half English speaking, and the little fellows pick up the French or English language, as the case may be, with surprising facility.

The college is about five miles west of Montreal, and arriving there on a Sunday, we were surprised to see a long avenue of buggies, carriages and other conveyances waiting along the drive; it seems that Sunday is one of the special visiting days, and those of the boys' parents or relatives who live in the city take the opportunity of the drive to visit their boys. In the parlor the 60 or 70 chairs lined closely round the room had on a former week day visit caused us some speculation as to their use, but to-day they were nearly all occupied by small bright boys, their parents, packages of confectionery and other dainty edibles, testimonies of the affection of those at home.

On the first flat in the north-west wing is situated the refectory of the boys, a

bright room with a prospect of green trees and garden plots. Leading from this are the refectories of the professors and the brothers. The chapel of the college is a separate building and is beautifully decorated with mural paintings. Being much larger than absolutely required for the accommodation of the inmates of the college the villagers are admitted to some of the services.

The winter play room of the boys is a grand, large room, with nearly as much space for recreation as an outside play ground; at one end of the room is a stage, where, at special seasons, dramas and comedies are performed by the pupils. Off the play room is a small room, known as the bon-bon room, which, for the boys at least, is the treasure house of the college; here a brother attends at certain hours of the day and distributes to the boys the cake and candy brought for them by their parents; by this means the candy not only lasts longer, but there are fewer small boys suffering from biliousness than there would be otherwise.

The class rooms for the smaller boys are on the second floor. English and French is taught alternately, and when the boys get sufficiently advanced they join the classes of the elder boys, who study on the third floor; each class being in a special class room. There are nearly 200 boys in the college, but the classes are composed of only about 25 boys each, among the older boys. In the drawing class room, are many specimens of excellent work done by the pupils; the pretty wall decorations being also executed by the boys.

Among the other rooms of note on the third flat are the council room where the superiors of the Order meet to decide questions of administration, for Father Geoffron, the Director of the college, is also assistant superior of the Order of the Religious of the Holy Cross. The Bishop's room, or room for the entertainment of special guests, is plainly, neatly, but very attractively furnished, and would seem to be a very comfortable room even for a Bishop.

On the fourth floor are the dormitories scrupulously clean as to the floors, and with every bed-quilt, sheet and curtain dazzling white and speckless to a degree that would satisfy even a Dutch housewife. The dormitories run the whole length of the building, 260 feet, and there are three staircases, one in the body of the building and one in each of the wings.

The boys at Cote des Neiges College range from about seven years to twelve or thirteen, and after passing the various classes are sent, if their parents wish it, to St. Laurent College, where they may finish their course.

Father Kelly and his assistants take a great interest in the little fellows, as well during recreation as in school hours.

Small boys are notoriously more difficult to manage than older boys, and every credit is due to the professors who manage the 200 cheerful little gentlemen who constitute the family at the College of Notre Dame at Cote des Neiges.

## ST. GABRIEL'S T. A. &amp; B. SOCIETY.

The following resolutions were passed by the Society at its regular August meeting:—

WHEREAS, it has pleased Almighty God to take to Himself the wife of our worthy and esteemed member, Mrs. Jas. Phelan; whilst bowing to the will of Divine Providence, be it therefore

Resolved,—That we, the members of St. Gabriel's T. A. & B. Society, do tender Mr. Phelan and family our individual and united sympathy, in this their trying and sorrowful affliction, and trust that our Divine Master will enable them to bear their cross with fortitude.

Resolved,—That a copy of these resolutions be transmitted to Mr. Phelan and family.

J. KANE, Sec.

## A NEW PARISH.

In the last number of the Quebec Official Gazette there appears a notice, in accordance with the formalities provided by law and over the signature of Archbishop Fabre, decreeing the civil recognition of St. Elizabeth of Portugal, canonically erected by a decree of the 6th August, 1894. The new parish is made up of a part of Saint Henri des Tanneries, of Notre Dame de Graces and of Cote St. Paul. It is bounded on the north-east by a part of La Petite Riviere

St. Pierre, which crosses the Lachine canal; on the north-west by the north-west portion of Western avenue and on the south-west by the Lachine road, etc.

## C. M. B. A. CONVENTION.

Four Hundred Members of the C. M. B. A. at St. John, N.B.

In an interview with a TRUE WITNESS reporter, one of the most prominent Montreal delegates to the C.M.B.A. Convention at St. John's N.B., said:—"Yes, we were treated royally at St. John, and though we had but little time outside that spent in session, we contrived to enjoy ourselves thoroughly. We were all particularly pleased with the speech of Mayor Robertson, of St. John. Mr. Robertson, though not a Catholic, spoke most liberally and eloquently on the value of our Association, and extended to us a most hearty welcome.

TUESDAY.

The convention opened in St. John, N.B., Tuesday morning, September 5. About four hundred members, exclusive of bands, marched to High Mass. A magnificent sermon was preached by Archbishop O'Brien.

On returning to the institute the meeting was called to order by Grand President Fraser, of Brockville, Ontario, whereupon Mayor Robertson heartily welcomed the delegates to this city. After a round of speeches the convention entered upon its duties. Prayer was said by Rev. M. J. Tiernan, of London, Ontario. Messrs. J. J. Behan, of Kingston; C. D. Hebert, of Three Rivers, and J. Ronan, of Hamilton, were appointed a committee on credentials, and the roll of delegates called. There are about 375 delegates in attendance. The financial statement of the Grand Council was presented this afternoon signed by S. R. Brown, secretary, and W. J. McKee, treasurer. It contained membership report, trustees' report, supervising medical examiner's report, etc., from July 1st, 1892, to July 1st, 1894. The total number of members in good standing in the Grand Council of Canada is 8,824; under suspension 370. The total amount of money received from 1st July, 1892, to 1st July, 1894, was \$245,871.48. Of this sum \$155,321.29 was paid out to families of deceased members, \$78,020.44 went to the Supreme Council and \$12,288.74 was added to the reserve fund. The ordinary expenses for the two years, officials' salaries, supplies, cost of organizing, etc., were \$15,753.62. Since the formation of the Grand Council in Canada, fourteen years ago, 394 members have died and the total amount paid in beneficiaries was \$723,000.

Rev. Dr. Flannery, of St. Thomas, having been delegated for the purpose, reported that he had sent the following cable message to His Holiness the Pope:

ST. JOHN, N.B., Sept. 4.

To His Holiness Pope Leo, Rome, Italy.

The Catholic Mutual Benevolent Association of Canada, now in session in this city of St. John, N.B., bowing humbly before your Holiness, ask your Holiness's benediction.

The cablegram was read to the members in English, French and Latin.

WEDNESDAY.

About 11 o'clock in the morning His Grace Archbishop O'Brien, His Lordship Bishop Sweeny and Rev. Dr. Murphy, of Halifax, visited the convention and received a great ovation. Archbishop O'Brien and Bishop Sweeny delivered congratulatory addresses, which were loudly applauded.

THURSDAY.

The following cable from the Pope was read:—

Rome, Italy, Sept. 6, 1894.

To Mgr. John Sweeny, Bishop of St. John, N.B., Canada:

The Most Holy Father grants his apostolic benediction most lovingly to the Grand Council of the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association of Canada.

M. CARDINAL RAMPOLLA.

The C. M. B. A. spent the morning session discussing amendments to the constitution. No material changes were made. Ottawa was chosen as the next place of meeting, and the date the fourth Tuesday in August, 1896. In the afternoon it was voted that no proposed amendment to the constitution shall be henceforth entertained unless sent to the grand secretary at least fifteen days before the meeting of the Grand Council. Branches and members were forbidden to send out circulars on association work without being approved by the grand secretary.

At the final session of the C. M. B. A.

to-night, Mr. O. K. Fraser, of Brockville, was re-elected grand president by 12 majority over Mr. M. F. Hackett, M.L.A., Quebec, on a total vote of 217. Mr. Hackett was then elected first vice-president; Dr. Bourque, of Moncton, N. B., second vice-president; R. Brown, London, Ont., grand secretary; W. J. McKee, of Windsor, Ont., grand treasurer.

FRIDAY.

It was 3 o'clock this morning before the Grand Council of the C.M.B.A. finished installing its newly elected officers and closed its session. The grand board of directors was constituted as follows:—Rev. M. J. Tiernan, London, Ont.; W. J. Killacky, Chatham, Ont.; J. J. Behan, Kingston, Ont.; P. J. Rooney, Toronto; grand committee on laws and their supervision, P. Coffey, Guelph, Ont.; Judge Rouleau, Calgary, N.W.T.; John L. Carleton, St. John. This afternoon the Grand Council delegates and lady friends were given a sail up the river in the steamer David Weston by the local branches. Mayor Robertson and President Hatheway, of the Board of Trade, were the only guests outside of the Order. The sail was delightful and the party a merry one. Most of the delegates left for home to-night.

The meeting of the C.M.B.A. Relief Association was held this morning. Fifty-one branches were represented. The secretary's report showed that the order had grown from 14 branches on April 24, 1893, to 51 branches on Aug. 20, 1894. The total number of qualified members is 988. Of these 808 were enrolled since April 24, 1893, while 2 resigned, 8 died, 31 were expelled, and 46 are under suspension. The total receipts since April, 1893, were \$3,563, and the receipts and interest since had brought this up to \$6,628.82. The disbursements were \$1,714.75 for general expenses, \$200 in beneficiaries upon the death of four members' wives, \$400 on accident claims and \$2,485.90 on death claims, making a total of \$4,800.65, and leaving a balance on hand of \$1,828.17. The election of officers resulted as follows:—J. E. H. Howison, Montreal, chancellor; T. J. Finn, Montreal, president; J. Power, Halifax, first vice-president; G. B. Lamarche, St. Vincent de Paul, Quebec, second vice-president; T. P. Tansey, Montreal, secretary; A. H. Spedding, Montreal, treasurer; K. Kenny, Montreal, marshal; O. E. Oliver, guard; M. Murphy, P. Doyle, Montreal, C. D. Hebert, Three Rivers, finance committee; C. Daudelin, J. Coffey, Montreal, P. J. Montreuil, Levis, and P. McCool, North Bay, Ont., executive committee; Dr. J. F. C. Phelan, Waterloo, Que., supervising medical officer.

## PERSONAL.

The Rev. Father St. Jean has been appointed assistant teacher of English in Montreal College.

Dr. Finlow Alexander, the well-known convert, is staying in the city a few days with his wife, prior to their departure for Winnipeg.

Brother Ame has been appointed prefect of discipline and master of French at Cote des Neiges college; the Rev. Father Kelly will continue in charge of the English classes.

The Abbe Jos. Dupuis, who has just finished his theological course at the Grand Seminary of Montreal, entered the Jesuit order yesterday, and will pass his novitiate at Sault au Recollet.

It is rumored that owing to ill-health His Eminence Cardinal Taschereau has officially abandoned the administration of the archdiocese of Quebec into the hands of His Grace Archbishop Begin, his co-adjutor.

The Rev. Father Catulle, accompanied by the four Redemptorist Fathers for St. Ann's parish and the two for Ste. Anne de Beaupre, leaves Liverpool to-morrow. Mrs. Curran, wife of the Solicitor-General, and Master Curran, who have been on a pilgrimage to Lourdes, will also come by the same ship.

Rev. Abbe F. A. B. Laforest, P.P., of Corenero, New Orleans, has arrived in Montreal for a month's holidays. He is the guest of Mr. J. O. A. Laforest, Deputy Superintendent of the Water Works; Mr. Laforest left Canada many years ago to exercise his ministry in the United States. Abbe Laforest says that Montreal has been considerably improved during his absence.