

C. M. B. A.

Branches are requested to pay Nos. 7 and 8 assessments, also amount of account due for supplies, initiation tax, supervising medical examiner's fees, and per capita tax, before the 1st of July, if at all possible, in order to have all appear in the Grand Council Financial Report to be made out on said date.

All Branches in the jurisdiction of the Grand Council of Canada must forward to the chairman of the finance committee, on or before the 10th day of July, a full statement of all financial transactions had with the Grand Secretary from the 1st July, 1887, to 1st July, 1888. Forms for statement will be sent to each Branch, text book, by Grand Secretary, and officers of Branches will please see that said forms are properly filled out and returned in due time.

We have now eighty Branches in Canada and are more nearly ready to be organized. Our present membership in Canada is 3,015 in good standing.

The next Convention of the Grand Council of Canada will be held in Toronto on August 14th, 1888.

SAMUEL R. BROWN, Grand Secretary.

Letter from Brother G. Meara.

To the Editor of the Catholic Record: Peterboro, Ont., June 8th, 1888. DEAR SIR AND BRO.—At the last session of the Grand Council, held nearly two years ago, at Stratford, I was appointed chairman of the committee on laws to replace J. J. Blake, Esq., unexpectedly absent, and in the report said committee presented to the Grand Council the following remarks appear:—

"The only Branches which have proposed amendments or alterations in the constitution are Branches Nos. 29, 20 and 23."

"The members of the committee regret that Branches which desire the constitution to be amended in some particular way should delay until the council is actually in session before presenting their wishes for the consideration of the committee, and it is highly desirable that Branches having alterations or amendments to propose, should transmit by mail or cause the same to be delivered to each member of said committee at least two weeks before the meeting of the council, so that said committee may give the suggestions of each Branch more ample consideration than they can afford under the present system, owing to the limited time now at their disposal. The committee would like to see this made obligatory on Branches, as much of the time now spent in open council in debating such questions would be thereby saved."

"A great number of proposed amendments and alterations are, they think, already covered by the constitution, and they would ask Branches before bringing forward amendments to carefully read the present constitution, so that matters already provided for may not be unnecessarily brought before the committee."

"The greatest difficulty experienced by the committee in determining on the advisability of reporting favorably or otherwise on proposed amendments was the absence of all explanation as to the desirability of such amendments."

"The necessity for a change is not always apparent, and branches bringing forward amendments should accompany them with their reasons, so that the committee can see whether they should be specially referred to the report. That report ought to be ready when the convention opens and not delayed till the council has been in session over a day, as has heretofore been the case. In fact I think the report of that committee ought to be presented and handed to representatives at the opening of the convention in the same way as the report of the finance committee now is. If this were done representatives of branches whose suggestions have not been favorably reported on could immediately move to refer back the report for amendment, and the matter thus being brought up at an early stage of the convention would receive proper consideration and a great deal of dissatisfaction be obviated thereby. A great deal of time has been wasted in discussing matters that might easily have been disposed of in another way, and as the G. C. adopted the report of the committee it is to be hoped that branches will follow the course thereby suggested. As the session of the Grand Council is yet distant, but inasmuch as some proposed amendments cause considerable discussion at Branch meetings and as most Branches meet but twice a month, no time ought to be lost by Branches having amendments to propose. I am sure the present committee on laws, composed of Brothers Doyle, St. Thomas, C. J. Doherty, Montreal; and E. Campion, Goderich; will only be too glad to have their report ready at the opening of the Convention, if Branches will place them in a position to do so. Many interesting questions will come up for discussion at next Grand Council meeting, and as the session will likely be a long one, everything that can be done to facilitate the transaction of the most important business of the convention, viz: the improvements of its laws, ought to be promptly taken in hand.

Yours fraternally, J. O'MEARA.

the members of Branch 9 for me in my sad bereavement. Permit me to tender through you my sincere thanks to the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association for their promptitude and readiness in liquidating my claim, which I assure you I most fully appreciate. ELLER DOYLE, Gardenvale, June 14th, 1888.

SPECIAL TO THE CATHOLIC RECORD. DIOCESE OF LONDON.

We are this week enabled to lay before our readers a more complete account of the opening and solemn dedication of the new Catholic church in Courtwright, June 10th:

The glorious event so long and so lovingly, although somewhat anxiously expected by the Catholics of Courtwright, is at length an accomplished fact. The new church, erected in this village, through the indefatigable efforts of our worthy pastor, Rev. Chas. E. McGee, with the hearty co-operation and material assistance of his parishioners and considerable sympathy and aid from the Catholics of London, and the Protestant friends, was dedicated to the service of Almighty God (under the patronage of St. Charles Borromeo, who is the patron saint of our parish priest) by the Rev. E. B. Kilroy, D. D., assisted by Rev. Father Walsh, of London, and Rev. Father Dixon, of Port Lambton, in presence of a large concourse of people, many of whom came from a distance to witness the imposing ceremony. The blessing of the sacred edifice was commenced at 10:30 a. m., after which High Mass was celebrated by Rev. Father Walsh. The musical portion of the morning service, a very distinct one too, consisted of Peter's cantata in D, which was rendered by a quartette from Stratford ably assisted by Mr. and Mrs. D. Laforge, Sarnia, Miss Annie Hagan and Mr. Jos. Laforge, Corunna, with organ accompaniment. The bass solos in the Kyrie were sung by Mr. Taos, Douglas, of Stratford, in a finished style. He evidently felt the fullest spirit of the music. The Gloria, Credo, Sanctus and Agnus Dei were true interpretations of the composer's conception, the solos as well as the chorus being admirably sung. "O Jesu Dei Fili," by Verdi, the offertory piece, was sung by Miss Gallagher, Messrs. Traisor and Douglas, with exquisite tenderness. The alto part during the mass, was taken by Mrs. D. Laforge and executed feelingly as well as correctly. After the gospel had been read Rev. Father McGee announced that Dr. Kilroy would preach the sermon of the day. The Rev. Father also said that his Lordship the Bishop regretted that he could not be with his faithful people on this auspicious occasion, but that he highly approved of the work done and as a mark of approval had sent them \$100 to help to free their church from debt. Father McGee spoke in very high terms of his Lordship and concluded his remarks by asking all present to join with him in praying that His Lordship might be spared for many a year to direct his beloved priests and faithful laity of the diocese of London. Our pastor also availed himself of the opportunity to thank all those present for their aid and encouragement they had given him in bringing to a successful completion the heroic Christian task which he had undertaken, not alone for their spiritual welfare, but also for their material assistance.

"The drawing for the Texas pony created considerable excitement. The lucky number was picked from a box by Dr. Kincaid, and the owner found to be the grounds and was inspected by the crowd. Miss McCann and the other ladies who sold tickets did nobly, something over 800 being disposed of at twenty five cents each.

Owing to the unfitness of the ground for athletic sports, the event down on the program was not dispensed with, but the disappointment of both the management and the picnickers. After the drawing, Mr. J. R. Stratton, M. P., made a few remarks about the auspicious occasion, and referred to the unity there existed between Roman Catholics and Protestants in helping along the good cause by this means. He hoped that if their pastor would be pleased to enjoy many such pleasant occasions.

Dr. Kincaid, being called on, spoke in a similar strain, and observed that the people of Ennismore had made great progress in the last twenty years. He believed all religious and political differences should be laid aside on these occasions and all join heartily together. Referring to the popularity of the pastor, Rev. Father Kelly, he expressed the hope that ere long his zeal and capability would be rewarded by his being created a bishop of one of the dioceses.

Rev. Father Kelly briefly expressed his thanks and concurred in Dr. Kincaid's remarks regarding the union of Protestants and Catholics, hoping that the time would come when all would be united under one government. Harmony had always existed between the two denominations in this locality, and by coming together in this fashion at picnics they would be brought into still closer connection. He was pleased to see so many of his Protestant friends present, and hoped they would enjoy themselves, and concluded by moving three cheers for the Protestant friends present.

This was done, and after cheers for Dr. Kincaid, Rev. Father Kelly and Mr. Stratton, the festivities were resumed as usual.

After a day's enjoyment the picnickers left for their homes, delighted with the hospitality of the Ennismore ladies, the pleasures of the grove, the fine weather—in fact, everything gave satisfaction.

considered that the Catholics of this place are by no means wealthy and only fifty seven families in number, who had in fact got into a state of disintegration, some going to church, others not going to Mass at all, but with energy and earnestness he first homogenized them and then housed them in a temple of the Lord. May he be long spared to dispense spiritual food and nourishment to their souls. The church is frame and was built by A. M. Bentley, who fulfilled his contract in a most satisfactory manner. The subscriptions to the building fund have been cheerfully and promptly paid and the church is practically out of debt. The thanks of the congregation is due to Protestant residents in the vicinity of the church for the liberal manner in which they loaned chairs for the accommodation of those not in time to get seated in the pews, and to Protestant ladies of the village who most generously loaned a profusion of house plants for the decoration of the altar.

Father McGee and the Catholics of Courtwright are to be congratulated on their successful success and I am sure that God will bless them for contributing to build a house of prayer, a temple where Jesus Christ will be adored and praised, His doctrines taught and His sacraments administered.

SPECIAL TO THE CATHOLIC RECORD. DIOCESE OF PETERBOROUGH.

CONFIRMATION AT COBURG.

On the 3rd inst. the Most Rev. Bishop Dowling of Peterborough confirmed 113 persons in St. Michael's Church, Cobourg. The canonical visitation of the parish was made by His Lordship on that morning. The day previous, all the candidates for confirmation were examined by His Lordship, who, having found them well instructed in their catechism, expressed his satisfaction on the good work done in the parochial school, by the Sisters of St. Joseph, who have been a great blessing to this parish since their coming here in the autumn of 1886. His Lordship addressed the candidates for confirmation in the church, on the day of the administration of the sacrament, and in a kind manner exhorted them to the duties of the children of this parish. A pleasant incident of the day was a sumptuous breakfast provided for all who had been confirmed, by the Sisters, at their convent.

THE ENNISMORE PICNIC.

On Thursday the annual picnic of the congregation of St. Martin's Church, Ennismore, of which Rev. Father Kelly is the indefatigable and popular pastor, was held in Denne's Grove, Brimington. The Grove is beautifully situated on the shore of Chemung Lake, and especially well adapted for picnic parties. All day long the people of the township and neighborhood kept up the merriment, and in the afternoon their number were swelled by an influx of visitors from the vicinity of these renowned annual outings. The attendance during the day must have been fully five hundred, mostly young people, and the proceeds were proportionately satisfactory. Inside the grounds there was plenty of amusement in the form of vocal and instrumental music rendered from a small stage erected for the purpose. Chief of all were the good ladies of Ennismore are famous for producing. Their reputation in this line was enhanced by the excellent menu prepared at the last picnic. Hundreds of hungry people were fed and satisfied. The ladies presided over the spread, which was prepared in the lodge, which was lent for the purpose by Mr. Denne.

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the Convent of the Congregation de Notre Dame took place on Friday evening. There were present His Lordship Bishop Dowling, the local clergy and a few invited guests. Those taking part in the review were the more advanced pupils, and the excellent manner in which they acquitted themselves spoke volumes not only for the superiority of the musical instruction imparted, but also for the musical tastes and industry of the students.

The first number on the programme was an instrumental piece, the "Bugle Call," three pianos and two violins, the latter played by Prof. Duncat and Miss Stewart, of Haliburton. The "Welcome Song," described in its title, solo and chorus, the solo taken by Miss Minnie Egley, succeeded. This was followed by an instrumental duet, Miss M. McCabe and Miss E. Timbers. A trio, the "Charge of the Hussars," was given by Misses M. Kelly, M. Doherty and L. Dianceon. "Moses' Prayer," was rendered by Miss M. Faubert. The vocal duet, "The Echo," given by Misses A. Stewart and J. McCabe, was exceedingly effective, especially the echo. Miss J. McCabe followed with "Cachouca Caprice," by Raff, and Miss M. Stratton with "Across the Ocean," Mazurka. The song, the "Lily and the Rose," was given by Misses M. Butler, A. Simons, E. Lyndon, K. Griffin, L. Hurley, E. T. Lewis and N. Muncey. A piano forte trio, "Obéron," by Leybach, was rendered by Misses M. Morrow, J. Howden and E. Crumney. Miss J. McCabe followed with a selection, Rossini's "Semiramide," and Miss Stratton with Gotschalk's "Miserere." A finale duet between the pianos and violins brought a delightful programme to a close. In the rendering of the young performers acquitted themselves in a manner to thoroughly satisfy parents that the time spent in musical instruction at the Convent was utilized to the best advantage. Previous to the closing number an address, a good night salutation, thanked His Lordship for the interest taken in the schools, and those who had assisted by contributing medals, etc. A short address in reply was also given by His Lordship, highly complimenting both teachers and pupils upon the satisfactory evidence of proficiency, afforded by the evening's entertainment. Other visitors also added their full quota of praise.

THE IRISH PRIESTHOOD.

The Christian Register, a Protestant journal of Boston, says: A correspondent of the Nation gives a very interesting and what seems to be a very fair description of Catholicism in Ireland. It is not such a report as Rev. J. D. Fulton would be likely to make if he had visited Ireland, for it is possible for him to see Ireland and five million people. Concerning the clergy and the working of Catholic institutions, the correspondent says: "The priesthood here could not maintain their influence if their characters were not in the main high. There is scarcely any form of human selfishness that is not minimized by the charities connected with Catholicism. The religious communities, the length and breadth of the land. They educate the young, raise the fallen, minister to the sick, poor and insane, tend those afflicted with incurable maladies. The working of these institutions always impresses me with the single minded and practical devotion with which they are conducted. This applies also to private life. What I see of 'spiritual advisers' and parochial clergy convinces me how entirely merited, especially in the cases of unprotected girls in town situations, is the confidence placed in them. In our Protestantism we have nothing to correspond to the help afforded, particularly to the isolated, by constant access to religious comfort, to whom every thought may be confided, and whose counsel on any juncture may be sought with the absolute certainty of secrecy."

ANTI-TREAT CLUB IN NEW YORK.

A number of popular club members and good fellows generally, in New York, who have looked upon the wine when it was red and suffered indigestion in the interest of the American treat system have formed an organization, to be known as the Anti-Treat Club. This club, with a headquarters in a locality of wealth and fashion, has started a course of healthy improvement may be so termed—which promises to spread in every direction. Its object is obvious. No member is allowed to pay for another man's drink or cigar any more than he would be allowed to settle the laundry bill against a friend. The object, as the name implies, is to abolish absolutely, or to at least arrest, the evils of the great American treat trade. Recently a dozen of these gentlemen walked into a fashionable place uptown. Four of the twelve drank, and the bartender laid down a check for the four drinks. "Give us four checks," said one of the anti-treat men, and each man settled for his drink. "That shows," said the customer, "the good that's being done by our association. If we were allowed to treat, I doubt not that every mother's son of us would have to take twelve drinks or at least have to pour in drink after drink until each man had met it would be a dozen drinks for every man in the crowd."

The wholesome effect of the new organization is widespread. It has the sanction of the all powerful goddess of fashion and an army of men, by nature sober, and by habit enforced tipplers, are looking forward confidently to the day when the pernicious American system of treating shall be abolished, and every man will "Dutch it," or not drink at all.

Nuptial Ceremony at St. Augustine.

On the 6th inst. Mr. Wallace Grenache, of Lucknow, and Miss Maggie Ann McCabe, of this place, were united in the holy bonds of matrimony. The bride, who was given away by her uncle, had as bridesmaid Miss B. McArthur, of Goderich, and the groom was attended by Mr. Alex. McCabe. The High Mass was sung and the ceremony performed by Father Aylward, assisted by Father West. Miss Duffy presided at the organ and sang several very appropriate hymns. A large number of friends had assembled at the church to witness the ceremony and wish a God-speed to the happy couple. The esteem in which they were held was shown by the large number of valuable presents they received. We join with their numerous friends in wishing them a long and happy life in their new state. Their future home will be Lucknow.

If religion is to be poetic, a very little thing will destroy its harmony; some careless scribbler chatting with a crosby in the corner of the church, or a couple of thoughtless children wrangling over a half penny by the door, or any such little thing, would destroy instantly the fair illusion that lay as a balm upon an untroubled soul. Religion must be real to every man, if it is to stand the test of reality.—F. Marion Crawford.

It is stated that His Grace, Mgr. Fabre, Archbishop of Montreal, will be in Rome in August. In Paris he will be the guest of the cure of the Madeleine. A new Catholic church is to be built for the Irish in Lower Town, Hall, P. Q., at a cost of \$100,000.

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