

THE CANADIAN

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Members are invited to send us items of news of their own country, or of interest to the Association, or of interest to the members of the Association. All communications should be addressed to the Editor, and should be accompanied by a return address. The Association does not assume any responsibility for the return of letters or for the loss of any articles. The Association will not be held responsible for the loss of any articles.

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Address all communications to

S. R. BROWN,

Editor and Manager,

Cote Block, London, Ont.

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM.

LONDON, DECEMBER, 1899.

ADVERTISEMENTS

We are now prepared to accept advertisements for THE CANADIAN. The terms are \$30 per annum per column or \$5 per inch per annum, payable strictly in advance. There is no charge for advertising. THE CANADIAN has a circulation of 14,000, extending all over Canada.

For further particulars address

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THE WORD WAS MADE FLESH.

Christmas is once more come to bless us with most joyous recollections; to sadden us, it may be, with reminiscences of sorrow; but, above all, to recall to our minds with redoubled force that which can never wholly be forgotten—that at this period the work of our salvation was begun, by Him who is above all praise. "While all things were in deep silence and the night was in the midst of her course, the Almighty Word came down from Heaven from His Royal throne."

No festival affords the Christian more abundant matter for reflection or is better calculated to awaken within him deeper and nobler feelings than does the anniversary of the birth of our Redeemer. "The Word was made flesh"—God became Man! God became a little Child, laid in a manger in a cold, damp cave and at an inclement season of the year. And this, in order that, by His humility, by His annihilation of Himself for our sake, and His unreserved devotion of Himself, soul and body, to our welfare, He might awaken our love, without arousing our pride, that we might be content to receive from the humility and simplicity of a little child the lessons and the help that we need.

It is said that at the Nativity of Our Lord all nature put on new strength; that the sun rose more joyously than it had done since the fall of our first parents; that the moon and stars put on new glory; that the trees of the field and the vine of the vintage thrust forth the bud and the bud expanded into flower; that the Court of Heaven seemed half deserted, so eagerly did its blessed inhabitants surround the

city of Bethlehem. But to angels alone, with the exception of a few favored shepherds, and to inanimate nature was left chiefly the greeting of the new-born Saviour. No one in Bethlehem could afford the Holy Family a lodging, so busy were its inhabitants with their commerce and their money. Little did they think who spurned the humble couple from their doors, that they were exposing to the chill blast of that bleak December night the Mystic Rose, the most delicate and the most perfect flower of God's spiritual creation. Little did they think that within so short a time and in their very midst would be consummated an event that would give a Saviour to the world and to that humble Virgin a dignity which had been throughout the ages the cherished dream of many a Jewish maiden,

Happy indeed for us will be this Christmas season if we imitate their example. If Catholics, who are blessed with the riches of this world in more or less abundance, think they would not have refused a lodging to the Lord of Glory and His Blessed Mother on that first Christmas eve, let them remember that Christ still comes to us in the person of the poor and afflicted, and as often as they "do it unto the least of these His brethren they do it unto Him." And the poor, though they can give nothing, will not be sad on that account. They can offer at least the love of grateful hearts to the Infant, and this will be a gift more acceptable to Him if they are cleansed with the care wherewith Mary and Joseph made clean the stable that stood without the walls of Bethlehem.

uated with honors in 1881, he, in the same year, opened an office in Shediac, N. B., where he has since practiced his profession and where he has enjoyed a very large and successful practice. Dr. Bellivau was chiefly instrumental in organizing St. Joseph's Branch 169 of Shediac, and was the first President, a position he continued to occupy for several years. He has given a great deal of his time to C. M. B. A. matters, having organized branches in Barachois, Cape Bald, Grand-Dugas, St. Joseph's and St. Louis. He was delegated to the Grand Councils held at Hamilton, St. John and Quebec, elected first Vice-President at the Ottawa convention, and re-elected to the same position at Quebec. He has always taken an active interest in all matters that tend to promote the social, moral and intellectual condition of his fellow-citizens and co-religionists, being one of the principal promoters of the Lefebvre Memorial Hall, a monument erected in connection with the University of St. Joseph's, Memramcook, his native parish, in memory of the late President and founder of that Acadian institution of learning, the late Very Rev. Father Lefebvre, a man revered and idolized by the French Acadian people. The doctor has also always taken a very active part in the political issues of the day, and shown himself on more than one occasion a great platform speaker.

THE C. M. B. A. SUCCESSFUL.

The limited number of assessments this year must be a source of extreme gratification to every member of the C. M. B. A. It is safe to predict that fifteen assessments will do the work of the organization for the year 1899. This is a source of congratulation to our large membership, a credit to the management, and an impetus to all who wish to engage in the good work of promoting the welfare of the Association. For, realizing the sublime character of the C. M. B. A., its fraternal bond, and its high moral influence, it must not be forgotten that for all of us it is, too, a business organization, and in its financial strength to a great measure rests its security. What a degree of hope and confidence this year's work should inspire in us all! How it should unite us together as one man in a spirit of union, progress, determination, and increasing diligence! What a text this year's work has given us all to preach to those not yet of our fraternity! Let us not lose the golden opportunity. Let us spread the light, propagate the faith, for now is the acceptable time.

Dr. J. A. Guy, of Edmunston, has been appointed Grand Deputy for the County of Madawaska, New Brunswick. We hope to hear of Dr. Guy's success in increasing the C. M. B. A. membership in his jurisdiction very soon.



L. J. BELLIVAU, M.A., M.D., GRAND FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT.

the august dignity of the Mother of God

The anniversary of that first Christmas day is now at hand, and can we hope that in the world it will be celebrated more worthily in the commemoration than it was in the event! These thoughts should occupy us for this coming Christmas. Our forefathers always remembered that this was a joyous as well as a religious festival, and kept it not only with devotion but also with rational cheerfulness. Enemies became friends, injuries were forgiven, realizing in their deeds the words of the Angelic Host, "Glory to God on High, and on earth peace to men of good will."

L. J. BELLIVAU, M. A., M. D.

Grand First Vice President of the C. M. B. A. of Canada.

Lucien J. Bellivau, Grand First Vice President of the C. M. B. A. of Canada, is the descendant of an old French Acadian family. He was born at Memramcook, in the County of Westmoreland, N. B., in 1861. Here he received a classical education at the University of St. Joseph's, Memramcook, where he evinced a fondness for literature and gave promise of more than ordinary ability in elocution. He took a medical course at Victoria University, Montreal, and was elected First Vice-President of the Medical Student's Association. Having grad