

C. M. B. A.

Conycntion of the Grand Council of Quebec.

The Convention was opened on Wednesday, 29th August, by a Grand Mass at St. Roch Church, at which His Grace Archbishop Begin officiated. Immediately after Mass the officers and delegates, with the members of the C.M.B.A. branches, proceeded in a body to the St. Joseph Hall, where the Convention was called to order by the Grand President, P. O'Reilly, of Montreal, who appointed a committee on credentials. The Grand Spiritual Adviser, Archbishop Begin, then entered, and was escorted to the seat of honor on the platform.

Lieut.-Col. Evanturel, chairman of the reception committee, then read an address of welcome which was replied to by the Grand President, when the Grand Spiritual Adviser made a very stirring address to the delegates and members present, explaining the principles and objects of the Association and recommending all Catholics to immediately seek admission. He then opened the Convention by prayer and gave the delegates his blessing. The different amendments were then referred to the committee on laws and the Convention adjourned at 2 p.m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Meeting called to order by the Grand President at 2 p.m. sharp.

The committee on credentials reported, and the roll having been called, all the delegates were reported present except Grand Treasurer, J. A. U. Beaudry, of Montreal, who sent a letter explaining his unavoidable absence.

The committee on laws and finance not being prepared to report, the convention adjourned to 8 p.m., and the visiting brethren were escorted to carriages furnished by the reception committee, and driven to Montmorenci Falls, visiting the new church at Beauport in going, and on returning were driven around to see the principal sights of the Ancient Capital.

EVENING SESSION.

Meeting called to order by the Grand President, at 8 p.m. sharp; all delegates present. The committee on laws reported progress, and considerable business was transacted. The meeting adjourned at 9.30 p.m., and were again taken hold of by the reception committee and escorted to Dufferin Terrace, where they were treated to an excellent concert by the splendid band of H.M.S. Blake.

On Thursday, the Convention was called to order at 9.15 a.m., when the committee on laws handed in a complete report, which was adopted by the meeting.

The finance committee then made their report, showing that the business of the Grand Council was conducted in a highly satisfactory manner.

The Convention then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing term, and the following were unanimously elected:

- President, P. O'Reilly, Montreal.
- 1st Vice-President, C. E. Leclerc, N. P., Montreal.
- 2nd Vice-President E. Morin, M. D., Quebec.
- Secretary, J. B. Drouyn, Quebec.
- Treasurer, A. R. Archambault, Montreal.
- Marshal, Geo. T. Dorion, Montreal.
- Guard, James Meek, Montreal.
- Trustees, J. D. Quinn, Montreal; L. P. Dupie, B.C.L., Montreal; P. E. Belanger, Quebec; A. A. Beriau, N.P., Farnham.
- Sup. Med. Examiner, P. A. D'Artois, Farnham.
- Committee on Laws—Charles Curran, P. Flannery, L. P. Dupie, Montreal.
- Committee on Finance—George T. Dorion, E. Kavanagh, Montreal; A. H. Beriau, Farnham.

Montreal was chosen as the next place of meeting.

The principal amendments suggested were:

- 1st—To confer the honor of Chancellor on all Branch recording-secretaries, financial secretaries and treasurers who fill the said offices for three consecutive years.
- 2nd—To establish an official journal which will be mailed from the office of publication to every member.
- 3rd—To provide for a disability benefit. The representatives to the Supreme Council Convention to be held in Philadelphia, Pa., are: P. O'Reilly and J. P. Nugent, of Montreal, and J. B. Drouin,

Quebec, and the alternates: Jas. Meek and J. O'Farrell, of Montreal, and J. B. Martineau, Quebec.

C. M. B. A. DELEGATES IN MONTREAL.

SERVICE AND SPECIAL SERMONS AT THE CATHEDRAL.

The special service in St. James Cathedral, on Sunday afternoon, for the members of the C. M. B. A., was attended by about 1000 persons. The members of the C.M.B.A. of the city and about 235 visiting delegates from Ontario and other parts of the West, marched from Notre Dame parish hall at about two o'clock, accompanied by a splendid band. Arriving at the cathedral the members drew up in to single file lines and then, headed by Marshal Milloy and visiting delegates, they defiled into the church. There were nearly 700 in all.

The services in the Cathedral was opened by sermons in English and French, which were preached by the Rev. Father Cherrier, of St. Boniface, who took for his text: He that heareth you heareth me and he that despiseth you despiseth me.

The rev. preacher dwelt on the beauty of the city of Montreal and of the great temple in which, in the presence of the Archbishop, he had the honor to speak. Referring to Montreal he said, we are in a great Catholic city; all around us we see the influence of religion—the growth of morality—but we see also an equal growth of industry, which testifies that religion is not opposed to material progress. St. Augustine tells us of two cities on a plain, one good and the other wicked. And from this parable we can draw a splendid lesson, for in our own day there are two cities,—two camps facing each other; one is the camp of heresy, of infidelity, of wickedness, and the other, to which I am proud to say we belong, is the camp of Catholicity, of Christian charity and righteousness. The Rev. Father then spoke of the brotherhood of the C. M. B. A., which he was proud to be a member of; as a member of the C.M.B.A., he spoke not only for the delegates and members of the order who were present, but for the 9,000 members of the society who were distributed over the Dominion. After speaking highly of the C.M.B.A., its obedience to the Church, its loyalty and charity, he said: "We members of the C.M.B.A. shall continue faithfully to listen to the word of God through his priests until that glorious day when we shall listen to the praises of His angels in heaven."

The service was brought to a close by blessing and solemn benediction by Archbishop Fabre.

In the evening a large proportion of the delegates left for St. John, N.B. Among the delegates were Grand Deputy T. J. Finn, Grand Deputy Herbert, Grand Trustee Tansey, J. E. Howison, Assistant Secretary Grand Council; G. R. O'Neill, Finance Committee; and others.

Two train loads of delegates from Montreal arrived in St. John, N.B., Monday afternoon and an informal reception was held in the evening at the rooms of Branch 134 of the brotherhood. The regular work of the convention began yesterday morning, September 4th.

THE FRANCISCANS

THE WILL OF THE LATE MR. RICARD.

By the will of the late Mr. Ricard \$10,000 was left to the Franciscan missionaries all over the world; as there are over 2000 Franciscan missionaries at present laboring in the Heathen and Protestant countries of the world the sum will not when divided leave much for each mission. By some error the newspapers announced that Mr. Ricard had left \$10,000 to the Franciscan Fathers on Dorchester street, this is quite a mistake, as Mr. Ricard's will was made several years before the Franciscan Fathers came to this country. Besides, the Franciscan Fathers in this city do not consider themselves as being in a mission; therefore, they receive no portion of the money.

CANADIANS AND THE POPE.

ROME, September 3.—The Canadian pilgrims attended Mass, which was celebrated by the Pope on Sunday in the hall of the Consistory of the Vatican. After the service the pilgrims kissed the foot of His Holiness, who addressed a few remarks to each of the visitors.

A BOON TO YOUNG MEN.

PROF. J. A. FOWLER'S SINGING CLASS.

During the past month, Prof. J. A. Fowler, of St. Patrick's, has been perfecting arrangements for the opening of a singing class, which will be free to all the young men of the parish who have any inclination or aptitude for vocal music. The class will open next Monday evening, at 8 o'clock, in the choir practice room, which is located in the old Presbytery, entrance on Alexander street. The lessons, which will be given by the talented Professor himself, will be thorough and calculated to enable the pupils to acquire a proficiency in sight reading and a full knowledge of sacred music. With his characteristic devotion to the interests of the choir, Prof. Fowler has assumed this very important work, in addition to his other numerous duties, without any hope of remuneration, the only condition requisite on the part of young men desirous of improving themselves in the noble art being that they shall become associated with the regular work of the choir and assist at the services and practices. It is an honor to have one's name inscribed on the membership roll of the choir, and it is to be hoped that the special privilege now offered to the rising generation of the parish will be appreciated and that a large number of young men will attend the opening session of the class.

A CONCERT IN THE C.Y.M. HALL.

The concert in the C. Y. M.'s hall, St. Alexander Street, on Friday night, was very successful; there was a fair attendance and the various items on the programme were gone through in the most creditable manner. The orchestra particularly is deserving of every praise, their splendid performances were quite a concert in themselves. Mr. R. E. Callahan acquitted himself splendidly as musical director and general manager of the entertainment. Miss M. Milloy gave a charming and intellectual rendition of the dramatic recitation Laza. The comic sketch by Mr. J. Milloy and Mr. Reid were very amusingly portrayed. Mr. F. Butler's fine voice sounded splendidly and his singing was much appreciated. There were many other interesting items on the programme, which was brought to an end with a laughable rough and tumble farce in which the following gentlemen sustained the various characters: J. Milloy, J. Ward, A. Reid, W. Reaume, J. Williams, J. Brennan, J. Callahan, J. Ditson and E. Callahan.

COTE ST. PAUL BAZAAR.

The bazaar out at Cote St. Paul is a great success, a regular car service from Point St. Charles and St. Henry runs to the hall and many persons are taking this opportunity of paying a visit to the bazaar, and among the costly presents donated are a beautiful piano given by Branch 226, C.M.B.A. Mr. C.W. Lindsay, of St. Catherine Street, has, with his usual generosity, donated a valuable organ.

The Rev. Fathers Brault and McGinnie are laboring hard to make the bazaar an enjoyable place to spend an evening and they cordially invite their city friends.

THE FRANCISCANS.

The Rev. Father Desire, of the Franciscans, is engaged writing, in English, a full historical account of the indulgence of the Portiuncula. The full history of this splendid indulgence is extremely interesting, and dates back to very early times in the history of Christendom. The English version will be sent to Rome, after it is completed, for the sanction of the Pope, after which it will be published in Canada in pamphlet form. This will be the first English version to be published in Canada.

COTE DES NEIGES COLLEGE.

The College of Our Lady at Cote des Neiges reopened its classes yesterday. A large number of the boys from the States were met at the depot yesterday morning by Father Kelly and escorted to the College. It is expected that all the boys will be in attendance before the end of the week.

NOTRE DAME DE BONSECOURS.

The Notre Dame de Bonsecours monument will be inaugurated on Sunday, September 9, which is also Holy Name

of Mary day. The inauguration will be most imposing and will take place in the open air facing the monument. The proceedings will be presided over by Archbishop Fabre, commencing at 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

AT THE FRANCISCAN CHURCH.

Next Friday, at 8 o'clock a.m., a postulante will receive the habit of the Franciscan Order. The ceremony will take place at the Franciscan church, and the faithful will be admitted. Also, next Wednesday, 12th inst., two young novices will pronounce their perpetual vows in the Franciscan Order. This ceremony will take place at the same time and in the same church.

ST. ANN'S ACADEMY.

The parochial schools of St. Ann's parish opened yesterday, and everything seems to foretell that the number of children who will attend will be larger than usual. Under the care of Mother Alphonsus St. Ann's academy has taken rank among the very best of the parochial schools of the city.

BELLS FOR ST. HENRI.

A chime of bells will shortly be placed in the tower of the church of St. Henri. The big bell will be the largest in Montreal, with the exception of the famous "Bourdon" of Notre Dame.

IN OUR NEXT ISSUE we will give our readers a sketch of the life and work of that wonderful lady, whose name is identified with American literature and the cultivation of art during almost the last half century—Miss Eliza Allen Starr. In referring to her recent celebration, the Catholic Standard of Philadelphia says:—

"The closing week of August will be marked for Catholic literature and its lovers by the seventieth birthday of Miss Eliza Allen Starr. The years are closing in around her glorious with the light of such an evening as is promised to the faithful. Wise, steadfast, powerful, and beautifully womanly, she stands among us, and we show her reverence. For the homes she has brightened, for the lessons she has taught, for the examples she has set before us so gracefully and so clearly, we do her honor, and we utter blessings as Catholic readers and Catholic thinkers. May her crown grow bright with many more of those jeweled years she counts as passed! She was born August 29, 1824."

We desire to heartily join our humble voice in the grand chorus of tribute that arises on all sides and to express the fervent hope that Divine Providence may grant Miss Starr many long years to come, that she may be enabled to carry on her glorious work and shed the light of refinement and true education upon the numbers who have the privilege of her immediate acquaintance as well as upon the Catholic world at large.

MR. J. F. HOGAN, M.P. for Mid-Tipperrary, who recently passed through Montreal on his way to Australia, spoke in very flattering terms of the Hon. Edward Blake, and of his services to the Irish party. Mr. Hogan said:

He (Mr. Blake) has the respect of our party and the public as a sound constitutional lawyer. His speeches are able. Coming to the scene late in life, having devoted most of his attention to Canadian questions, he is probably at some disadvantage with us, not quite understanding our local feelings, but in spite of this he is an undoubted power."

Referring to Mr. Blake's position in the House, Mr. Hogan said:

"Mr. Blake made an almost instantaneous mark as a debater in the Commons. His speeches on the Home Rule bill were luminous and masterly expositions of the constitution and law of the subject. On the platform, both in London and the principal towns, he has been a tower of strength to the Home Rule propaganda. One recent election, that at Hackney, when a vacancy was caused by the elevation of Sir Charles Russell to the peerage, the Liberal victory was practically won by Mr. Blake's eloquent speeches on behalf of the Liberal candidate."

These are words that go a long way to counteract the false impressions sought to be made by Prof. Goldwin Smith's prejudiced and apparently jealous criticisms.