



REV. ROBERT D. BAMBRICK, M.A.
Rural Dean of Cape Breton.

At the base of the tower an iron cross is fastened, with the inscription :—

*In loving memory
Augustino Belloni.
1848—1887.*

On the window is :—

*In loving memory
Augustino Belloni.
Gave him, Lord, eternal rest.
May 18th, 1887.*

The church in this parish owes much to the toilers on the sea and farm, and in the coal mines; men whose names would be too many to mention.

They are members of God's nobility, and in that list will appear the honoured names of Spencer, Peach, Howie, Boutilier, Archbold and Belloni.

The last two, E. P. Archbold, of Halifax, and Robert Belloni, of New York, are transient parishioners, blessed by God with more than an ordinary amount of wealth, and thrice blessed with the willing mind to give of that wealth to His cause.

Our gratitude to God for such men can never be fully expressed.

Three years ago the Church people at Reserve Mines, numbering about thirteen men, having become dissatisfied with their surrounding for

public worship, asked permission to erect a church, and one year from that time witnessed the erection, completion and freedom from debt, of one of the prettiest little Gothic buildings in the Island of Cape Breton.

It cost about \$1,300 and was consecrated on September 30th, 1890, by Bishop Courtney, in memory of St. John the Divine.

About the same time a parish hall was begun in Cōw Bay on the rectory grounds, and although not quite finished to date, is still sufficiently so to be of great use in parish work.

Thus to-day the parish is the actual owner of five churches, a rectory, a parish hall, each in good condition and all out of debt.

The amounts raised within the parish last year were as follows :—

Clerical Stipend.....	\$500
Improvement of property.....	250
Church offertories.....	150
Home Missions.....	70
North-West, Indian Missions.....	30
Bishop's stipend.....	16
Foreign Missions.....	10
Domestic Missions.....	9
Bishop Blyth—Jews.....	5

\$1,040

The Church population has not changed very much during the past eight years, although the tendency is to decrease, owing to our young people emigrating to the United States.

The immigration to our colliery districts is Highland Scotch. Ninety-five per cent. of these are about equally divided between Romanists and Presbyterians.

Our average is ninety families, 500 souls. About 200 persons were presented for Confirmation during the past eight years. The communicants, however, have not increased in proportion.

There is a special reason for this, no doubt, in every parish, but doubtless there is a very special one in this parish, such as can only be fully understood by those who have lived in a coal mining district.

It is surrounded by a divided and a warring Christianity. Presbyterians, Romanists, Baptists, Methodists and Salvation Army, take their respective stand on some fragment of Catholic truth, almost to the exclusion of all others, and to realize that the Church is gaining a hold on her own people is a cause sufficient for rejoicing and encouragement.

There is a parish paper, *The Church*, issued monthly by the rector, and in its department must be credited with a fair share of good results.

The rector and his wife are natives of Trinity, Newfoundland, and received their early religious training at the feet of the Saintly Bishop Feild.

The Rural Dean of Cape Breton is Rev. Robert D. Bambrick, M.A., whose praise is in all the Churches. He is the rector of North Sydney.