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## Truth is Catholic; proclaim it ever, and God will effect the rest "-BALMEZ

### TORONTO, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1905

### TOPICS OF AN OLD-TIMER

More Hamilton "Recollections" Come Trooping to my Thoughts-Some Other "Giants" of Those Days-"Jack" Dunn from Skenneatlis-"Jim" Mullin-Some Mahoneys-One a Great Artist Afterwards-The Flahertys, O'Rourkes and Maguires -- "Pat" McClosky, "Tim' Shine - Henry McSherry - Peter O'Meara, a Youthful Oracle-John and Jerry Sullivan-Three Egans. Men of Note-"Davy" White and John Kennedy-Three Ralstons-"Allek" Mitchell and His Brother Daniel.

Since writing my last Hamilton The occasion was spectacular "Recollections" a number of new Dunn was swelled with the pride names have occurred to my mind. In my interview with Mr. Butler of "Spectator" in the American the Consul's office, the name of "Big Franks' came to be mentioned. Mr. Butler in his "Saturday Musings" set him down as one of the "giants of those days." Physically, he was the only giant that was mentioned. He was a "Corktown" boy, but not a Corkonian. Nor would that be any disgrace, for about that time was persons of Robert Baldwin, Robert it anywhere else, while it was intend-Sullivan, Francis Hincks and others. ed for immediate use and not for 'Big Franks' " father was an Englishman and his mother an Irish woman, while he was himself Canadian born. He had a yellow complexion citizens of a free republic that would and a deal to say for a large man. He had no literary taste, but was lacking in enterprise. He learnnot ed the printer's trade with Solomon Brega, an Irish publisher who espoused the Reform cause. I think Francis Franks established the first newspaper in the village of Elora, which nothing demagogues who needed to be "Elora Backwoodshe dubbed the Hon. Col. Clarke, the preman.' sent clerk of the Ontario Legislature, who had been an editor of the 'Journal and Express," Mr. Brega's paper, had established himself in the Wellington village as a mersame chant, and I think edited the "Back- costs, but he had the matter for a woodsman" for Franks, and I believe sensational article for the first issue eventually became the owner of the of his paper. Two columns with a have a kind recollection of "Pat" who was an object. Brongeest was a

though the pictorial initial letters The sheet was spectacular perdid. haps because it was original in its type, following no newspaper rules. Durn was his own editor, reporter, proof-reader, compositor and press-man. He reminds me of "Long John" proof-reader, compositor and Wentworth of the Chicago Democrat, the first newspaper in Chicago, when

that paper was first brought out, with this difference-"Long John' was also his own carrier; but he was afterwards Mayor of Chicago and member of Congress. Well! It was getting to be cold weather and Dunn bought a load of cord-wood to make a fire and keep the office warm. The wood was dumped on the street in front of the office to await the arrival of some one with a buck and saw to make stove wood of it. It was contrary to the town by-laws to defirewood on the street, and posit 'Jack'' had a visit from Cheevers, town constable, and the sensathe tional gentleman late of Skenneatles was summoned to appear before the police board at the "Engine House" on King William street next day

for of a loco foco democrat and the injured inhocence of an enterprising and spirited citizen who had come back to his old home to teach his benighted fellow citizens some of the things he had gleaned abroad that would be for their benefit. The president of the board officiated and asked Mr. Dunn what he had to say why a fine should not be imposed upon him for a flagrant violation of a town bylaw

He made a regular stump speech. He dwelt on the harmlessness of the Canada ruled by Corkonians, in the wood, the inconveniences of putting cago. storage. No such absurd law as of those who uphold the artistic pride town. that prevailed in Skenneatlis, where of that city. I think he died in Chiwere all free and independent they countenance no such tyranny as interfering with one's rights like this. He was a free and enlightened Democrat, advocating equal rights for all and no tom foolery. They might call him a locofoco if they wished. but anyhow they were a lot of knowtaught the lesson of liberty, free speech and equal rights and to look out for the first issue of the "Herald" when it appeared on Saturday Then they would hear the eagle scream and the whangdoodle holler Mr. Dunn was fined \$2.00 and out!

scare heading

legend ran.

tesy.

he was able. He had a habit of

using snuff and carried a picturesque

snuffbox, and if he could do you no

other kindness he would offer you a

'pinch." He did not work regularly

at the trade, but as occasion requir-

I believe, in the vicinity somewhere.

There were a good many Mullins in

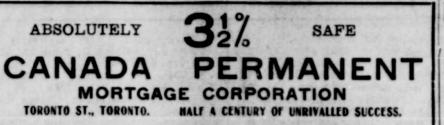
those days. James Mullin had an un-

cle, a Dr. Mullin, near Copetown, sev-

Irish-Catholic, as I knew from some

of the papers he subscribed for, but

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I never knew "Jim" Mullin to trou- | ton's early Irish days. I think he ble any church, poor fellow.

tor of St. there was a Mahoney who lived but a cottage. Though but twelve or fourdavs. sentiments with regard to the Brit- lially with his descriptions of ish Government. ernment. other iniquities, taxed every pane of seen the name of O'Meara in prrint pital. glass in Irish windows, and any gov- that I did a t think of Peter. ernment that would tax the light of claimed that Napoleon's surgeon, Dr. heaven on the poor is not fit to ex- O'Meara, was a relative of his fam-This Mahony painted por- ily. ist. traits, but I do not know any one whose portrait he painted in Hamil-

ton, but he became famous as a roving wards made his headquarters in Chicago more than twenty years ago.

John had a reputation for sawing James was well known as a steam- lived in the same locality. boat waiter.

'O'Rourke, Maguire, those souls of

fire, Whose names are shrined in story, brothers kept a considerable grocery Think how their high achievements Once made Erin's greatest glory.

in Hamilton in the forties, but I am of them was for some time associat-

The following account from the New York Freeman's Journal is interesting from any point, but in view of the branch of the Holy Name Society lately organized in St. Basil's parish of this city, it is particularly opportune:

More than 35,000 persons knelt upon the asphalted streets and upon the lawns of Hamilton Park, Jersey City, in the rain last Sunday to receive the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at the hands of Bishop John J. O'Connor, of Newark.

Nearly 20,000 of this vast congregation consisted of members of the Holy Name societies of the diocese. A more impressive sight was never witnessed. It was the closing of an eventful day, given over by the Holy Name societies to the registering of a gigantic protest against profanity, Mary's Cathedral; and of the sidewalk near the Manning and especially blasphemous swearing, As the last word of the Benediction short time in the city, because he led teen years of age, Peter O'Meara had was pronounced the sweet tones of the life of a roving artist. This Ma- a lot of knowledge stored away in his the Angelus rang out from the belhoney was quite a young man when little head and he read a lot of fry of St. Francis' Hospital, a silent I knew him and that was in repeal books for one so young, and used to prayer was said by each of the assembled thousands and then the crowd dispersed for home.

The benediction was pronounced " said he, "has among her us spell bound. I have never since from the steps of St. Francis' Hes-A magnificent altar had been erected upon the steps. It had just come dusk when the candles upon the altar were lighted, and the contrast between the sacred spot. resplendent with gold and fine linen, and the dark and muddy streets, in which the multitude knelt, made an impressive scene doubly impressive. Bishop O'Connor was assisted in the solemn service by Monsignor John A. Sheppard, vicar-general of the diocese and president of the Union of Holy Name Societies, and Rev. Isaac N. Whelan, rector of St

Patrick's Cathedral, Newark, The largest parade in the history of Jersey City preceded the services at the park. It is estimated that there were 20,000 men in line. The route of the parade was over one and one-half miles in length, and the first companies had reached Hamilton Park before the last ones had passed the starting point, Van Vorst Park, at Jersey avenue and York street

ade started, and the men, marching ed to death. While blasphemy is rare in files of twelve, took two hours to cursing that couples with it the Holy pass a given point. The side streets for many blocks in the vicinity of burst of anger, like the snarl of Van Vorst Park were filled long be- dog, is, alas! too common. Whersure there were Maguires. Yes, I ed with a man named Brongeest, fore 3 o'clock with regiment upon ever one goes vulgar words, twisted

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ALIVE BOLLARD

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MAGNIFICENT SPECTACLE streets along the entire line black with people, and before paraders reached Hamilton H Hamilton Park thousands of spectators had gathered in the vicinity of the bandstand. As the paraders reached Hamilton Park they spread in a semi-circle the bandstand. The ciraround cle kept widening from the centre of the park until it reached its outer edge. Upon the bandstand were Bishop O'Connor, Archbishop Seton, Monsignor Sheppard, Father Isaac Whelan, Robert Davis, Mayor Brady, of Bayonne, and numerous clergymen. An honored guest was Monsignor Robert Seton, titular Archbishop of Heliopolis, who recently arrived from Rome, where he occu-

pies the position of Papal historian. The burden of all the utterances of the speakers was the alarming prevalency of swearing and loose and obscene talk in this age. All present were urged not only to live up to their vows as members of the Holy Name Society, to abjure swearing and lead sober lives, but to also, in the name of the society and as individuals, prevent loose talking by thers and never hesitate to evidence their displeasure at blasphemous utterances made in their presence.

Monsignor Sheppard, as president of the Holy name Society Unica, expressed his gratification at the magnificient showing made in the parade, an object lesson, which, he dewould set all men thinking clared. and would work great good for the object sought by the society, and then introduced Bishop O'Connor. He dwelt at length upon the prevalence of swearing among men of all classes, the rich and educated, who swear at their workmen, their servants and even their wives and children," as well as the uneducated denizens of the tenement districts.

'You cannot walk the streets and stand among men," said the Bishop, without becoming disgusted and contaminated by their conversation. Even children of tender years use words we would fain believe they do not understand. We have come together to register ourselves as opposed to all irreverence of the Holy Name of God. It is true, thank God, that what is strictly termed blasphemy is rare. Blasphemy is language intended to insult God purposely. Under There were no pauses once the par- the old law blasphemers were ston-Name in conversation or as an outa regiment of Holy Name Society mem- into a curse, are hurled as some this missile. To say that

lived on Main street east; and so did the genteel and refined McKenna fam-There were several Mahoneys that ily. There was an O'Meara family 'Old-Timer'' knew in Hamilton in living in Corktown, of which Peter, the forties. One of those Mahoneys the eldest son, was the rising pride. was an attache of one of the banks, Peter was the boys' oracle, as they perhaps the father of the present rec- used to sit of evenings on the edge

I once heard him utter his fascinate us with his recitals, espec-Na-"The British Gov- polcon's battles, with which he held He

A man named Buckley owned a tenament house far up in Corktown, but artist, who many years after- I forget the name of the street. remember it because a scolding wo-I believe he painted the por- man lived in it who used to make an traits of Popes and Kings as well as exhibition of herself occasionally, but other men of dictinction, and is one I believe Mr. Buckley lived in Galt

\* \* \*

John and Jerry Sullivan, shoemakers, lived in McCann's tenement house There were two brothers, both real on Tyburn street. John played the giants, in Hamilton in those days, fiddle and used to give occasional named Flaherty-John and James. dance parties to the neighbors, and Jerry used to get on the "jamboree." four cords of firewood in a day, and Peter Connors, of kindest memory,

There were three Egans, quite respectable men, that were in business in Hamilton in the late forties. Two and liquor store on James street, little south of McNab street, on the east side of the streat, and went I don't remember about O'Rourkes, into the pork-packing business. One

paper

I make mention of this man Franks off well; but Hamilton was not-When I was hving in the Il- nalism" and the dence. linois town of Peoria there was a family of printers living there named to Skenneatlis or not no one seemed the Father of whom was to know, but years afterwards it Franks. named Francis Franks, and was a large man, greatly resembling my old Hamilton friend, and until I in- was killed in a duel At least so the terviewed him, thought him to be the same man; but he denied that he had ever resided in Canada. Our "Big Franks" I understood, removed to some town in Michigan.

There was another Hamilton printer in the early forties that I do not think any Hamilton printer of this day has any recollection of. With whom he learned the trade I do not know, but his name was "Jack' Dunn is an Irish name, but Dunn. this man was not Irish, which know because I knew his father, and was one of the few Englishmen then residing in Hamilton. He was a builder and carpenter by occupation, with a shop on the east side of James street, near Rebecca street. 'Jack" Dunn was both adventurous demonstrative. When yet and youth he sought his fortune in York ed. He was an Irish-Canadian, born, State and pitched his tent in a town with the classic name of Skenneatlis, and worked on the Skenneatlis "Democrat," making himself generally useful. About the year 1844 he eral miles from Dundas, who was an returned to Hamilton full of vim and bombast, and determined to show the people of the Heights how a live newspaper of the sensational type should be run. He had neither type \* nor press of his own, but utilized the printing office of John Robertson, then located at the south-east corner of King and Hughson streets. The paper was named the Hamilton 'Herald." so that my friends, the Harris Brothers, cannot boast that the name originated with them, al-

GEATEMPERAN



were given to the Maguire, and hundreds of others have short man with a stomach so large wood matter and the first issue went had occasion also, for he was a kind- that It was difficult for him to walk diocese. vet ed to exist. Whether Dunn went back 1849 was said he found his way to the gold fields of California, where he occupied the route. He pointed out cess in that city. everything to me that was of any interest, especially after we came in view of Toronto: The old fort, the dry goods trade, who was nothing to the garrison, Privat's house on the is-"Jim" Mullin was another Hamilton printer who is not reckoned land, etc. I asked him if there was among "the giants of those days. He was not "voluble" like John Harany family among his Toronto acris, nor profane like "Mick" Sweetquaintances with whom I might secure board, and he told me of the man, nor sycophantic like Teddy Powers, nor democratic like "Jack" Lee family, then residing on Frederick street, and with three generations of Dunn, but was good-natured beyond any Hamilton printer I ever knew. whom I have since kept up acquaint-"Pat" Maguire and his bro-I never knew him to utter an angry ance. or discourteous word. His voice was ther Frank, years afterwards kept places of entertainment in Hamilton ever for kindness, his action for courand were very popular, but I believe He would make fun wherever he could and do a kindness wherever both are long since dead.

> Who now in Hamilton remembers 'Pat'' McClosky of the red head, who kept the "Rising Sun" Hotel opposite the old market-house on south John street, in those days of gloomy forebodings, but ardent expectations. Perhaps no one, or Tim Shine, schoolmaster, who turned to tavern-keeping, but afterwards removed to Guelph?

. . .

Henry McSherry was an Irishman of some consequence during Hamil-

BETTER THAN EVER

are the splendid advantages offered

ly man. He was an officer of some, and one of the children's fads was to sent from Newark, and Paterson again, because of a singular coinci-again, because of a singular coinci-dence When I was fiving in the II-nalism" and the "Herald" soon ceas-the source of the children's take was to sort on the steamer that plied be similate him. Some 25 years ago is were 1,000 or more Delegations. tween Hamilton and Toronto in met one of those Egan brothers in were present from all of the Hud-I know that he was kind to Chicago, where he was in business on son Country cities and towns, Engle-Old-Timer when he made the trip 12th street, near the Jesuit church, wood, Tenafly, Paccaic, that landed him in Toronto in the and we had a long talk about Ham- Belleville, the Oranges, Elizabeth and fall of that year on the "Admiral" ilton. He was the first man to tell Plainfield. or whatever boat it was that then me about Charles Brega's great suc-There was a James Egan, in the

as a vocalist and used to sing in St. Marv's choir. I understand he is vet on the quarter deck of life, hale and hearty, and binds the past to the present in Hamilton's local history Long may he live to tell the tale of her progress and greatness.

David White was a court crier, an imposing-looking gentleman of the Irish persuasion, who lived in Hamilton many years.

John Kennedy kept a grocery store in the old county building, at the south-west corner of Main street and Hughson, before Mr. Smiley bought it for the "Spectator." There was a public hall in the upper story of that building that no doubt Mr Pearson will remember. I was present in that hall once when a man named McNab gave an entertainment of legerdemain. One of the feats performed was by Mrs. McNab, who lifted a blacksmith's anvil from the floor by the hair of her head.

Ralston, the inspector of Mr weights and measures, who has already been alluded to, had several sons that I remember. One of them wasl I think, for a time foreman in the "Spectator" office; another was salesman in Kennedy's wholesale dry goods store. They were both men of character and above the common lot. There was a third son whom we called "Bob.

Alex. Mitchell was prominent among Hamilton tailors, when cloaks were worn by gentlemen and white pants fastened by straps were fashionable. Mitchell was a "crony" of John Robertson, the printer, and was a member of the Amateur Theatrical Company, headed by John Harrison, the artist. He had a brother named Daniel, a printer, whom I often met.

The Hamilton Times, I md, is not kindly disposed towards Old Timer. In its issue of Friday, Oct. 6th, I am viciously assailed with regard to some of my statements, they being condemned as "shockingly astray" yet I am at a loss to learn who in

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bers from all parts of the Newark language is the outburst of passion There were over 1,500 pre-Summit, There were in line more than three

times as many men as in the entire National Guard of New Jersey, or the equivalent of twenty regiments upon a war footing. Each man carried a cane with pennant attached with American flags, bearing upon a blue field the initials of the society "H.N.S."

All lower Jersey City was decorated in honor of the occasion, and the bless the Priests' Total Abstinence line of march was respleadent with flags. Davis Association club house on Mercer street, where the Domocratic The Pope renewed all the privileges candidate for Mayor, Archibald M. Henry, stood upon the steps and Pontifi Leo XIII, and in addition ex-bowed to the files of men. The tended a special blessing to the orbowed to the files of men.

that office is fit to be my critic. What I have written about the late John Christian not being "much of a printer," is produced as evidence of my inaccuracy. Dear me; I had no. malice in store for poor John Chris- fore of the Priests' Total Abstinence tian. All could not be "giant" print- League, but said that it was calcuers; I was not one myself. I was lated to do a great amount of satisfied to be equal to the average. good, and he commended the former. I do not think Mr Christian was But whence this animus, any more. old friend Times? Perhaps it comes from the fact that the "Herald" has got ahead of you in republishing my reminiscences, as the editor of the "Times" confessed to me during my

late visit. Well, no matter. WILLIAM HALLEY.

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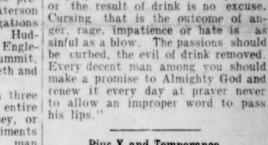
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#### **Pius X and Temperance**

Among the interesting episodes of Archbishop Ryan's audiences with Pope Pius X. was that connected with the request that His Holiness League (of which His Grace is hon-The parade passed the Robert orary president) and the Catholic To-Abstinence Union of America. tal and indulgences granted by the late ganizations named.

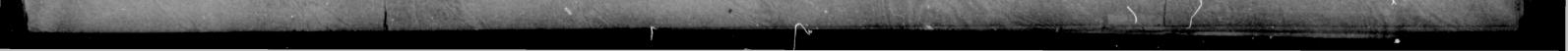
The custom of drinking light wines is so universal in Italy that His Holiness was astonished to learn that there was in the United States such a large body pledged to drink nothing at all. He had not heard bewhen they joined these societies for the sake of good example, even though they did not need their protection. The special blessings accorded will be formulated in the near future.





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