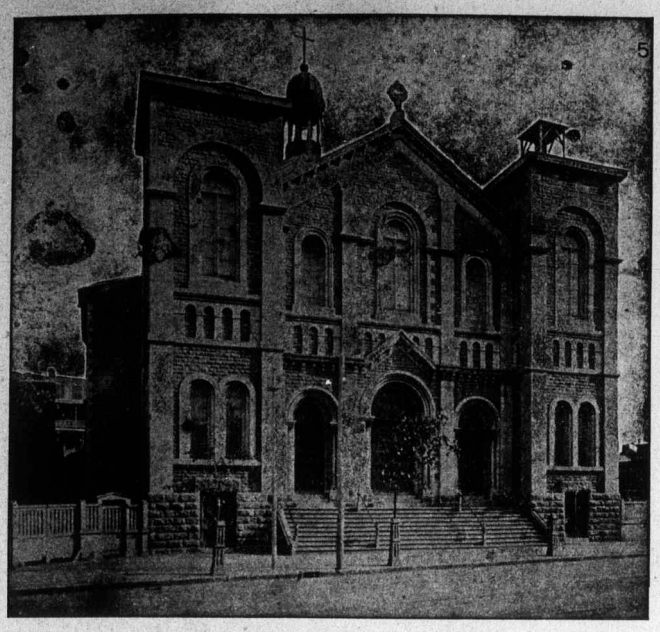


ST. MARY'S CHURCH.



THE CHURCH BEFORE THE FIRE.

The Church of Our Lady of Good Counsel, more popularly known as St. Mary's, corner of Craig and Janet streets, was destroyed by fire at an early hour on Monday morning last. This is the first time in the history of the Irish parishes of Montreal that such a disaster has occurred. A representative of the "True Witness" visited the scene of the fire while the firemen were at work, and beheld smoking ruins where once stood the sacred edifice that had cost so many sacrifices to a number of devoted of pastors, and to thousands of zealous and loyal Irish Catholics who had given up much of their earnings in its construction. Many theories are advanced as to the cause of the fire. The sexton states that he left the Church at about nine o'clock. The furnaces were attended to as usual, and were in good condition. He did not believe the fire started from them.

The strong stone walls stood the test well, and do not appear to be injured to any appreciable extent. The heavy slate roof fell in during the progress of the fire. There is nothing left of the interior that can be used for reconstruction, and the rebuilding will mean an entirely new structure, with the exception of the outer walls.

WHEN ERECTED.—On the 12th of June, 1879, the corner-stone of the Church was laid by the late lamented Archbishop Fabre, assisted by His Lordship, Bishop McInerney of Albany; and under the indefatigable exertions of Rev. Father Lonergan the edifice was soon completed, and was blessed by the Bishop on November 6th, 1881, under the invocation of Our Lady of Good Counsel, this being the name by which the new Church was to be known. It may be remarked here in passing that St. Mary's was the first Church in Canada to be named after the famous miraculous shrine at Genazzano in Italy.

The cost of the building was about \$50,000.

ABOUT A year ago, under the supervision of Mr. W. E. Doran, the well known Irish Catholic architect of this city, the interior of the

Church was very beautifully and expensively decorated. The altar is said to have cost \$8,000; the organ \$4,000, and the electric fixtures \$2,500.

THE INSURANCE.—We are indebted to Mr. Walter Kavanagh, chief agent Scottish Union & National Insurance Company, for a statement of the insurance on St. Mary's Church.

On building	\$44,000
Main altar	2,500
Two side altars	1,900
Furniture and fixtures	1,500
Statues	100
Organ	1,800
Total	\$51,800

Mr. Kavanagh states that the insurance was formerly only \$37,800, but that later he succeeded in persuading the late Father O'Donnell to increase it to \$47,800, and this was afterwards increased by \$4,000. No estimate of the loss has yet been made. But no time will be lost, and a prompt and satisfactory settlement may be looked for. Mr. Kavanagh is looking after the matter, and the parish of St. Mary's may rest satisfied it is in good hands.

SUCH CALAMITIES are not appreciable in words. The estimation of the financial loss and of the compensation in insurance is merely the material aspect of the sad event. There are, however, other considerations that tend to render the loss far beyond the mere evaluation by the standard of money. There are associations and memories that clustered around the sacred edifice and that still cling to its very ruins the contemplation of which cannot but deeply affect the parishioners. Within its walls and beneath its dome, the proportions of which shall never again greet their eyes, how many of their children have been baptized, how many of the young people have made their First Communion, how many of our fellow-countrymen of that fine parish have gone to the altar to be united in the sacred bonds of matrimony, how many have performed year after

year their Easter duty, how many have listened to the words of devoted pastors—both past and present—how many have wept tears of sorrow as their relatives or friends were carried up the main aisle to repose during the Requiem hour, in presence of the High Altar, before being taken to the last home.

Several attempts were made to remove the Blessed Sacrament during the first half hour of the fire. The priests led by Chief Benoit and sturdy Captain Doolan were, however, forced to retire, owing to the dense volume of smoke. After the roof had fallen in another effort was made, which was successful. The High Altar was surrounded with a mass of debris, but Captain Doolan and a few of his assistants succeeded in making a passage, for one of the priests, to the tabernacle where the Blessed Sacrament was found preserved from the flames.

The spot where repose the ashes of the late lamented Father O'Donnell, the late parish priest, was also untouched.

It would be no easy matter to enter into the feelings of Father Brady, the present pastor, when he learned that not only was his Church gone, but that many precious paintings and blessed objects had been destroyed. We will not attempt any appreciation of those sentiments, nor will we go beyond the sincere expression of our sympathy with both the pastor and the congregation.

It is to be hoped that from those ruins, the Church of Our Lady of Good Counsel will arise, grander, more beautiful than ever. The faith that constructed the old temple, under the guidance of the venerable Father James Lonergan, survives in the hearts of the people and under the zealous direction of Father Brady will assert itself in this hour of trial and cease not in its endeavors until another Church shall be erected.

To-morrow the services for the congregation will be held in the basement of St. Bridget's Church.

explosion, promptly opened a valve and the lower end of the balloon began to empty, partly righting the vessel, but the guide rope had caught in the screw, while the rudder was apparently also entangled. The airship was thus rendered helpless and it slowly drifted slantingly toward the land.

Meanwhile, Santos-Dumont seemed to be the only person who was unmoved by the accident. There were cries of alarm and excited chattering on all sides. The aeronaut sat still, manipulating the mechanism as far as possible, until it touched the water. Launches from the Prince of Monaco's yacht and others had meanwhile followed close and as soon as the airship was low enough, one of them seized the guide rope and began towing.

Santos-Dumont, immersed to his arm-pits, refused to leave the car. He shouted directions to those in the launches. The balloon rose a

little and then sank again. Then it repeatedly rose and sank until it was half deflated. Presently one end of the cigar-shaped envelope buckled, causing tremendous friction on the low-rope. Five minutes later the balloon burst into ragged pieces of silk that flapped in the wind.

This was the crowning disaster. The crowd shouted frantically "Save him," but the aeronaut appeared from the shore to be so enveloped in the wreckage that his rescue looked doubtful. The launch of the Prince of Monaco was, however, close to the car, and Santos-Dumont, extricating himself from the tangle, climbed with his customary agility over the gunwale. He was no sooner aboard than he stood up in the bows and directed the salvage operations. Several boats took the floating wreckage in tow. This was saved, although it was greatly damaged. The motor sank, but a diver can recover it.

Santos-Dumont did not leave the launch until everything that could be saved was taken ashore. Then wet, but smiling and unconcerned, he landed amid frenzied cheers from the crowd. He assured his sympathizers that he had been in no danger, and said it was only one more accident. He added that as soon as the misfortune was repaired he would try again.

It seems that the original cause of the accident was imperfect inflation of the balloon, from which pitching resulted, causing the guide rope to catch in the rudder. It is understood that Santos-Dumont's seventh airship, which was built in Paris, is being brought here.

THE According to the official reports on file in the BIC of the Catholic Office of the high secretary of Foresters on Feb. 1, the total membership of the Order aggregated 95,307, a net gain of 455 since the previous report. membership by states and provinces is as follows:—

	Courts	Mem.
Illinois	302	27,881
Indiana	27	1,364
Iowa	94	4,203
Maine	14	1,631
Massachusetts	15	1,698
Michigan	37	2,796
Minnesota	167	10,132
Montana	7	324
New Hampshire	27	2,455
North Dakota	21	981
Ohio	65	4,342
Oregon	6	365
Ontario	82	6,289
Province Quebec	211	15,505
Rhode Island	5	576
South Dakota	17	488
Vermont	40	2,926
Washington	9	393
Wisconsin	134	10,958

Feb. 1, 1902

1,280 95,307

Our Educational Institutions.

ST. LAURENT COLLEGE.—The celebration of Washington's birthday has been transferred to Monday, Feb. 24th. St. Patrick's Society intends to outdo all former attempts in celebrating the great day. A special feature of the evening's entertainment will be a minstrel show, under the direction of Mr. Jos. L. Kennedy.

The McGarry Debating Society held a very interesting debate last Thursday. The subject was: Resolved that immigration should be more restricted. The gentlemen who participated in it were: Mr. Joseph H. Loughran and Francis Martin, for the affirmative; Mr. Patrick Scullion and Joseph McCarthy, for negative. It was contested in a spirited manner, and drew forth well-merited applause. Mr. Lawrence Clarke, of Pittsfield, Mass., addressed the members on the subject. He disagreed on many points with the affirmative speaker's views.

Our Subscribers.

Maple Island, Feb. 10.

To the Editor of "True Witness."

Dear Sir,—I do myself the pleasure of sending you my subscription for the "True Witness" of this year, and my best wishes with it.

As money is the main thing to run a business (brains included) we know that the printing business is no exception from the rule. Therefore, we do not expect to get good sensible reading matter without paying for it. I send you two dollars under the impression that your paper will be enlarged in the near future.

I do not wish as Wm. Cobbett says to set myself up as a judge for

others." Nor have I any motive outside of an honest desire for the benefit of Catholics who are residing in remote parts of the country, almost excluded from Catholic libraries or Catholic literature of any kind. Such, my dear sir, are some of the reasons why I make myself conspicuous in this matter. I am sure no sensible man will find fault with the attitude I have assumed in the matter. I love my country (Ireland) and its people. You will hear from me again in a few days.

Your most respectfully
MICHAEL O'CONNOR.

I am a friend to subordination as most conducive to the happiness of society. There is a reciprocal pleasure in governing and being governed.—Dr. Johnson.

CHICKERING
BABY
GRAND

Piano cost \$850.00, can now be had for \$450.00 on easy terms. This is a musical plane. Splendid tone and touch. A high class bargain.

LINDSAY-NORDHEIMER CO.
2366 St. Catherine St.

LENTEN FARE AND TABLE DELICACIES

A FULL AND COMPLETE ASSORTMENT OF FISH IN TINS AND GLASS

BREAKFAST AND DINNER RELISHES.

Sardines.	Sardines.	Sardines.	Per Tin.	Per Doz.
Billet's Sardines in Oil, Extra Quality, small ½ tins			20c	\$2.25
Billet's Sardines in Oil, Extra Quality, large ½ tins			25c	2.50
Billet's Sardines in Oil, Extra Quality, large ½ tins			40c	4.25
Billet's Sardines in Oil, Extra Quality, ½ tins			15c	1.50
Billet's Sardines in Tomato Sauce, ½ tins			45c	4.85
Billet's Sardines in Tomato Sauce, ½ tins			25c	2.50
Billet's Sardines, Sans Arêtes (Boneless) ½ tins			45c	4.85
Billet's Sardines, Sans Arêtes (Boneless) ½ tins			30c	3.10
Billet's Sardines, Royans, Aux Truffes et Aux Achards			25c	2.75
Small tins			40c	4.25
Billet's Sardines in Glass			45c	4.85
Phillippe & Caud's Sardines in Oil ½ tins			25c	2.50
Phillippe & Caud's Sardines in Oil ½ tins			25c	2.50
Phillippe & Caud's Sardines, a la Tomate, ½ tins			60c	6.00
Teyssonneau's Sardines, Sans Arêtes (Boneless) ½ tins			30c	3.10
Teyssonneau's Sardines, Sans Arêtes (Boneless) ½ tins			30c	3.10
Teyssonneau's Sardines, aux Truffes ½ tins			25c	2.50
Rodel's Sardines, Les Francaises, Extra Choice Quality, ½ tins			35c	3.70
Rodel's Sardines, in Oil, extra (Boneless) ½ tins			45c	4.85
Rodel's Sardines, a la Tomate ½ tins			25c	2.50
Lemoine's Sardines, ½ tins			25c	2.50
Morel's Sardines with Tomatoes in Glass			60c	6.00
Morel's Sardines with Truffles in Glass			60c	6.00
Norwegian Sardines in Tomato Sauce, ½ tins			15c	1.50
Pinard's Sardine Paste, ½ tins			20c	2.25
Lazenby's Sardine Paste, in Small tins			15c	1.50

Lobsters.

Lobsters.	Lobsters.	Lobsters.	Each.	Per Doz.
Lobster Meat, in Glass Jars			50c	\$5.75
Portland Packing Co.'s "Star" Lobsters, 1 lb. tall tins			30c	3.10
Portland Packing Co.'s "Star" Lobsters, ½ lb. flat tins			20c	2.25
Portland Packing Co.'s "Picnic Lunch" Lobsters, tall tins			25c	2.50

Salmon.

Salmon.	Salmon.	Salmon.	Each.	Per Doz.
British Columbia Salmon, "Clover Leaf Brand" flat tins			20c	\$2.25
British Columbia Salmon, "Clover Leaf Brand" tall tins			17c	1.75
Salmon and Shrimp Paste, Cunningham & DeFourrier's, in Glass Vases			25c	2.50

Herrings.

Herrings.	Herrings.	Herrings.	Each.	Per Doz.
Scotch Kipped Herrings, Crosse & Blackwell's, in tins			25c	\$2.50
Kipped Herrings, Crosse & Blackwell's, in tins			20c	2.00
Smith's Kipped Herrings in Anchovy Sauce, in tins			20c	2.00
Smith's Kipped Herrings, in Shrimp Sauce, in tins			20c	2.00
Smith's Kipped Herrings, in Tomato Sauce, in tins			20c	2.00
Smith's Kipped Herrings, Plain, in tins			20c	2.00
Beardsley's Boneless Herrings, in 1 lb. tins			25c	2.50
Beardsley's Boneless Herrings, in ½ lb. tins			15c	1.50
Morel's Herring Roes, in tins			40c	4.25
Marshall's Fresh Herrings, in tins			10c	1.00
Scotch Herrings (East Coast) in kegs			\$1.25	13.80
Scotch Herrings, Lochfyne (West Coast)			1.50	16.20

BLOATERS.

Yarmouth Bloaters, Crosse & Blackwell's, in tins	25c	2.50
Fresh Smoked Bloaters	40c	per doz.

HADDIES.

McEwan's (Portland) Finnan Haddies received fresh three times per week.

Clams and Clam Chowder.

Underwood's Clam Chowder, in 3 lb. tins	25c	\$2.50
"Seabrook Beach" Clam Chowder, in small tins	15c	1.50
Underwood's "Little Neck" Clams, in small tins	15c	1.50

Clam Bouillon, Clam Broth, Etc.

Doxsee's Clam Juice, in pint bottles	30c	3.10
Burnham's Clam Bouillon, in pint bottles	45c	4.85
Burnham's Clam Bouillon, in quart bottles	75c	8.00
Burnham's Clam Bouillon, in ½ pint bottles	25c	2.50
Burnham's Banquet Clam Broth, in quart bottles	70c	7.50
Burnham's Banquet Clam Broth, in pint bottles	40c	4.25

Oysters.

Oysters.	Oysters.	Oysters.	15c	1.50
Booth's Town Talk Lunch Oysters, in small tins			15c	1.50
Martin Wagner's "Cherry Stone" Lunch Oysters, in small tins			15c	1.50
Martin Wagner's "Lynnhaven Bay" Spiced Oysters, in small tins			15c	1.50

MACKEREL.

Norwegian Mackerel in Oil, in ½ tins	20c	2.25
Extra Selected Mess Mackerel, in 10 lb. kits	\$2.00	each
Extra Selected Mess Mackerel, in 20 lb. kits	\$3.50	each

FOR THE CONVALESCENT.

"SPECIAL" ALICANTE WINE.
Absolutely Pure.
An Invigorating Tonic.

SPECIAL ALICANTE WINE	75 cents per bottle
	\$3.00 per gallon
	\$7.50 per case of 1 dozen
100 dozen Choice Sauternes	\$3.50 per dozen quarts
100 dozen Choice Sauternes	\$2.25 per dozen pints.

FRASER, VIGER & CO.,
ITALIAN WAREHOUSE, 207, 209 and 211 St. James Street.

WEDDING BELLS.

The Church of St. Louis de France, on Tuesday, Jan. 11, was the scene of a pretty wedding, when the contracting parties were Mr. Patrick J. Lynch, of Plattsburgh, N.Y., and Miss Mary A. McCabe, of this city. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Father Loppailler, P.P. The bride wore a travelling suit of silver gray, trimmed with silk, and carried an exquisite bouquet of white carnations. Miss Martha E. McCabe was bridesmaid, and Mr. J. J. McCabe acted as groomsmen. After the ceremony breakfast was served at the home of the bride. The happy couple have gone to Plattsburgh, N.Y., where they will take up their residence permanently. The wedding presents were handsome and numerous.

Airship Did Not Sail Well.

According to reports from Monte Carlo, M. Santos-Dumont made another trial of his airship on Saturday last under great difficulties. The report says:—

It was soon noticed that his airship did not sail with its usual steadiness. It pitched considerably, eliciting frightened exclamations from the spectators, but the aeronaut kept his course, rising until the guide rope was twenty feet out of the water.

The weather was windless and sunny, but suddenly a great gust from the well-known rock Tete du Chien, which towers above Monaco, struck the aeronaut sharply, causing it to rear until it seemed to be standing on its head. Oil began to pour out of the motor, and Santos-Dumont, fearing an