

# The Catholic Weekly Review.

A JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN CANADA

*Reddite que sunt Cesaris, Cesaris; et que sunt Dei, Deo.*—Matt 22: 21.

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## ST. MICHAEL'S COLLEGE AND ST. BASIL'S CHURCH.

ST. MICHAEL'S COLLEGE was established in 1852 by the Basilian Fathers from Annonay, France, at the request, and under the patronage of the Most Rev. Dr. De Charbonnel, then bishop of Toronto. For four years the College occupied the wing of St. Michael's Palace on Church street. In 1856 a more suitable edifice was erected on land, part of which was the gift of the late Hon. John Elmsley. Since that time the building has been more than doubled, and the chapel enlarged and improved. The site is one of the most beautiful and healthy in the City of Toronto.

The object of the Institution is to impart a thorough Catholic training, moral and intellectual, so as to fit young men for any position in life which they may wish to occupy. The studies advancing steadily with the educational progress of the country, it was deemed advantageous for those studying for the liberal

of London. The head of the little band was the late Father Soulevin, who remained as superior of St. Michael's College until 1865 when he was elected superior-general of the Basilian Community.

This necessitated his return to Annonay, where, in the mother house of this small, yet devoted society of educationalists, Father Soulevin rendered his soul to God in October, 1879. He was a man of great sanctity and virtue. The old students who were under his charge still remember and speak in most affectionate terms of his kind, firm, fatherly manner towards them as superior and professor. He was remarkable for the varied knowledge which he possessed and which he communicated to others with art and method.

Father Soulevin was succeeded as superior of the College by the Very Rev. Charles Vincent, who for twenty-one years was the head and heart of St. Michael's College. He was born at Valon, France, June 30, 1828. He entered college at an early



professions to have the College affiliated with the Provincial University. In 1881 this affiliation was effected upon a basis similar to that of several of the Catholic Colleges of England and Ireland with the London University. A later Act was passed in 1887 by the Local Legislature, according to which the same relations were maintained with the University, and provision for the teaching of certain departments in the curriculum was made by the Government.

The following list is a proof of the efficiency of the professorial staff:

Very Rev. V. Marijon, C.S.B., Rev. J. R. Teefy, B.A., C.S.B., Rev. R. McBrady, C.S.B., Rev. P. Chalandard, C.S.B., Mr. W. D. Heenan, Mr. M. L. Fortier, Mr. F. Vaschalde, C.S.B., Mr. J. Tracy, Rev. J. J. Guinane, C.S.B., Mr. F. P. Duffy, Mr. W. J. Healy, Mr. J. O'Toole, Rev. E. F. Murray, C.S.B., Herr Mortz, Mr. P. Leonard, Mr. T. Hayes, C.S.B., R. Lewis, Esq.

Of those who came out from France the only surviving member is the venerable pastor of St. Thomas, Father Flannery, now associate editor of our esteemed contemporary the *Catholic Record*

and made his classical course at Aubinas, which was in charge of the Basilians. At Annonay, after completing his mental philosophy, he decided to join the Community of St. Basil, and thus devote himself to the education of youth, a life which he was eminently fitted for, both by his kind hearted and sympathetic nature, his acute observance, practical judgment and his clear and decided insight into character. After teaching for two years his order was invited by Bishop De Charbonnel of Toronto to start a college seminary in his diocese. Father Vincent, who was then in minor orders, volunteered with three others to accompany the venerable Father Soulevin as superior to Canada, and was ordained priest by Bishop De Charbonnel on May 22nd 1853. Under him the growth of the college was marked by the extension of the buildings and the affiliation with the University of Toronto which took place later on. On May 22nd, 1878, his silver jubilee was celebrated, when Archbishop Lynch made him Vicar-General, which honour was also conferred on him by the present Archbishop of Toronto.