## THE TRUE WITNESS AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLES



## The Iroquois at Caughnawaga

Rev. P. J. Cormican, S. J., Baston College, Writes Most Interestingly of Visit to Reservation.

There is an Indian reservation mean There is an Indian reservation mear Montreal which is about as interest-ing for American tourists as any-thing I have met since I left the United States. It is called Caugh-nawaga, and it is situated on the southern bank of the St. Lawrence, opposite the village of Lachine, and not far above the Lachine Rapids. The village of Caughnawaga was founded by the Jesuits in 1667. The first missionaries who came to work

first missionaries who came to work first missionaries who came to work among the Iroquois, observing the difficulties, which beset the new converts among their pagan kins-men and tribesmen, saw at once that the best way to fortify them sgainst persecution and to insure their per-severance would be to isolate them completely. In the spring of 1667, Father Raffeix, S.J., met a party of Indians near Montreal and invit-ed them to settle on land beloaging of Indians near Montreal and invit-ed them to settle on land belanging to the Jesuits at Laprairie, opposite Montreal on the southern banks of the St. Lawrence. The Indians.con-sented, and they were so pleased with the result that they invited their relations and friends to come and him with them. As a watter and live with them. As a matter of fact, several did come. They were mainly converts, or people who of fact, several did come. They ware mainly converts, or people who wished to be converted. An extra-ordinary piety and servor marked these new Christians, and the rarest virtues flourished in that new church under the action of divine grace. Contemporary historians never tire of praising the sincer piety, the fr-is this: When it was on its way vor and mortification of these neo-phytes. The most striking and about the Reductions of Paraguay could with equal truth be applied ito Caughnawaga. Everything in the If was captured by the English, who were then at war with the French. The bell was first taken to Boston and afterwards transferred to Deer-field, Mass., where it was used for Protestant services. The minister, knowing that the inscription on the bell might, sooner or later, lead to its identification, and compromise its wrongful owners took care to have

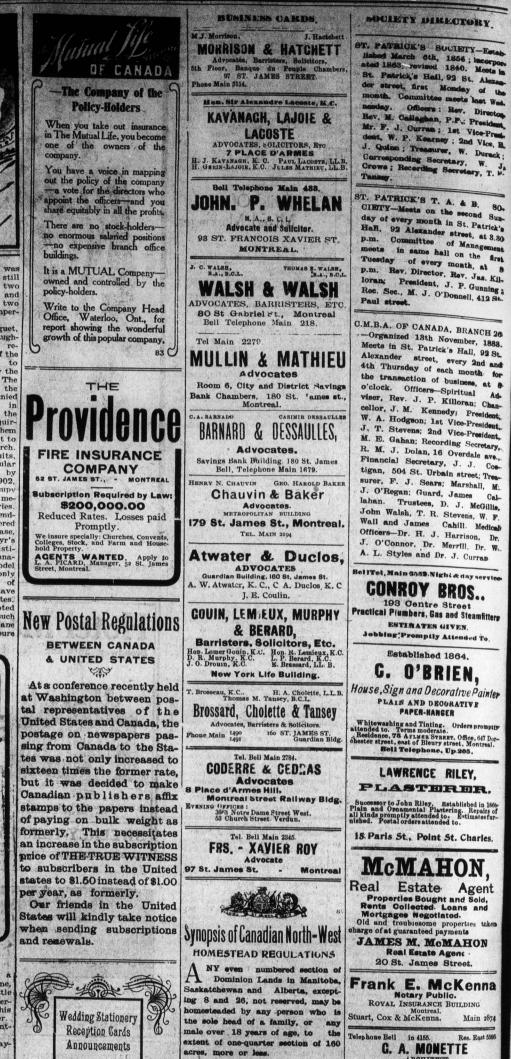
could with equal truth be applied ito Caughnawaga. Everything in the village was regulated by the sound of the bell as in a monastery. At early morning, even in winter, the Indians made their way to church, Sunday and weekday, and often ar-rived befare the doors were open. They usually attended several masses and returned frequently during the day to pray before the Blessed Sa-crament. After some years had massed at Laprairie, the missionaries day to pray before the Blessed Sa-crament. After some years had passed at Laprairie, the missionaries saw that contact with the white people in the vicinity would be pre-judicial to their flock, and according-ly they decided to transfer the set-tlement a few miles farther up the river near the rapids of Lachine. It was at this new site that Ca-therine Tekawitha. the saintly mai-

therine Tekawitha, the saintly mai-den who is styled "The Lily of the Mohawks" lived and died. Her Inden who is styled "The Lily of the Mohawks" lived and died. Her In-dian name denotes one who removes the obstacles from our path, and it has reference to her intercessory power as patroness of her people. Though born a pagan in the country of the Mohawks, in the present State of New York, she was preserved in a marvellous way from all the dangers which would naturally have tarnish-ed her pure soul. Even before hear-ing of Christianity and the value which it sets upon virginity, she de-clined every proposal of marriage marvellous way from all the dangers which would naturally have tarnish-ed her pure soul. Even before hear-ing of Christianity and the value which it sets upon virginity, she de-clined every proposal of marriage and led a life truly angelic. Her privileged soul was therefore well instead as soon as she had heard the gospel explained by the first missionary to the Mohawks, she ask-ed to be baptized. The ordinary trials of new converts were not ne-

dors when the Iroquois church e wrote part of his immortal hisdestroyed by a hurricane, and it still recalls to the savage breast two lessons: "Build your church and cleave to the Cross; avoid the two serpents, impurity and intemper-ared" he wrote part of his immortal his-tory. The church and residence con-tain several other precious souvenirs of the past, many of which were given by the ladies of the Court of Louis XIV., who seemed to rival one another in equipping churches for the converted Indians.

one another in equipping churches for the converted Indians. The most conspicuous object of S their bounty is the main altar. It in is a beautiful piece of work, made of carved wood, about fifteen feet high of the donors and the date of the silver wrought by hand. An in-scription at the base gives the name of the donors and the date of the donation as follows: "Claude Pre-vost, formerly alderman of Paris, and Elizabeth Legendre have given me to the Rev. Jesuit Fathers to honor God in their first church of the Iroquois-1668." This estenso-rium has been in use since the com-mencement of the mission and it is the only one which has been em-ployed to bless the Iroquois at Be-nediction. The engravings are spe-cimens of delicate workmanship. There are also other pious articles which were donated in the same way such as the sanctuary lamp and chalices. One of the chalices, which is of gold, was given by the Em-press Eugenie, wife of Napoleon III. There are is on than donn the church are the gift of Charles X., King of France. But there is one thing in particu-After the death of Father Huguet S.J., in 1783, the Indians of Caugh After the death of Father Huguet, S.J. in 1783, the Indians of Caugh-mawaga were deprived of their re-gular missionary. The priests of the icinity came from time to time to administer baptism, or to marry the Hose of their missionaries and the political troubles which accompanied the downfall of French power in Canada had a baleful effect on the character of the Indians. It requir-ed long years of toil to tame them anew, and to make them obedient to a mid docile-children of the Church. After the departure of the Jesuits. the mission was attended by secular priests at first and afterwards by the Oblates, and finally, in 1902, the Jesuits were recalled to occupy a post which was replete with me-nories of their ancient missionaries. The people themselves are descend-ants of the Mohawks, who murdered Father Jogues. But in this case, as in so many others, there are only a few of them who can boast of huga at the present day are model Christians. However, there are only a few of them anew are of undoubted French origin, but many others, such But there is one thing in particu-lar which deserves more than pass-ing mention. There are two large bells in the church tower, one of which was given by George III., King of England, and the other by a king of France. The latter has a a king of France. The latter has a





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A Marria St. Laurence," "Tal. Longworthy," "Song:

CHAPTER IX.-The

THURSDAY, OOTOBER 10, 1907.

Hrs. Sherwood was for the almost a happy woor instant-by this sudden tune's wheel, as it were she had most hoped for to pass. But, like all put their whole trust in things as wealth and fi began to find the apple longed for dust and each not to her that the atter Preivals and their train rected; it was to her hus the simple and inexperior girl. What did it mean world going mad ? Witl val, the husband of the clusive woman in town, Katharine and acting as found a long-lost dat Wirt Percival and Ferdi hanging on her words, each found a long-lost; data Wirt Percival and Ferdi hanging on her words, st Alicia St. John flutterin iheed, seem to Mrs. She understand why so muc should be shown to a ma ed young woman out of and she felt a certai over it which was akin She remembered, too, th had expressed at the man Singen," and was furiou thought of it. Why had permitted her to remain ro? She could not Katharine's simplicity; sh allence on that occasion a deliberate intention to b ent. There was no dou the completeness of Katt cial success, however. I people go in droves, and around her was soon sin other groups, all desirous a person to whom all the paying so much attention Now, if Mother Ursula, sea, would have been the Now, if Mother Ursula sent, would have been the she would have been most for her pupil. She believ Katharine's devotion wou mented by adversity; but greatest danger to her w from prosperity or that lu produces artificial views of destroys all natural feelin real fervor. real fervor. To tell the truth, Kath

eased with the evident i rerybody to be kind to everybody to be kind to was not by any means ov by it, because she had no Mrs. Sherwood's point of Mrs. Percival's estimate of of social position. Lady John was simply her rela-dy Singen," whom she ha met in the flesh. The si kept her simple and home free from all snobbishness d Mr. and Mrs. Percival. free from all snobbishness ed Mr. and Mrs. Percival, been kind to her during h journey on the train, and glad to show it. She v specially interested in the but as they appeared to h of the Percivals and of h "Biddy." she was pleased iddy,' she was pleased

Biog, she was pleased them. Mrs. Percival was both and displeased. Katharine a certain place in her in ever since the scene of the in the train. Besides, her thad troubled her scomewhat of her callousness and t state of feeling which an point of view had induced, sired, above all things, th husband should become a She loved him very truly. sired, above all things, it husband should become a She loved him very truly, standing a habit of quarre him over all sorts of triff huse that he was restless happ about religious man knew too, that her dome would be more serene if he were united in religion, an au uneasy feeling that hey ass had something to do ing him out of the Church was only an uneasy feeling conviction. She had de placed beyond his reach th Catholic of their acquaintas whom he had shown a likit had been much struck by a preached at the Cathedral Sunday after she had met K He had said very strongly e words a deeper meaning th could possibly have in pr cample was more forcible t ener words, and Mrs. Perc

The goal as soon and she has their distribution of the formation of the fo

initions are still shown the room the church of the Can

inhabitants, took their bell and car-ried it back to Caughnawaga in tri-umph. Since that time it has serv-ed to call the Indians to prayer. The bell may be seen and examined by any enterprising tourist who is willing to climb several steep lad-ders, to break his hat or his head, and to bring back to earth a load of cobwebs as a souvenir of his dar-ing.

ing. The residence at Caughnawaga con

"That's the one I like," he said with decision, putting his finger on Mr. Ade's mournful countenance. "Oh, yes: nearly every one likes Geprge Ade," agreed the young man. "His humorous writings are \_\_\_\_\_" man.

"'Don't know nothin' 'bout his. writin', but I like his face." "Why so?"-curiously. "'Cause he's the only feller thet looks like he was sorry for what he'd done."-Lippincott's Magazine.

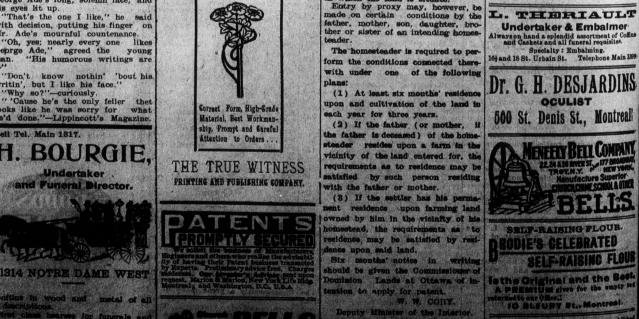
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Was Weak and Run Dr. G. H. DESJARDINS WOULD VERY OFT OCULIST FAINT AWAY 600 St. Denis St., Montreal Mrs. J. H. Armstrong, Port Ont., tells of her experience wit MILBURN'S DA MENEERY BELL COMPANY HEART AND NERVE 22.284.520 EVER ST., 077 BROADING, TROTENY, 200 NEW YORK, Manufacture Suportor CONTRECTION SCHOOL & UTILE PILLS. She writes : "It is with gra-bal how your Heart and Ner "I was all now your Heart and New benefitted me. "I was very weak and run do is a state of the state of the best of the state of the state of the dotor said that a constitute if the many state is the state of the name fills and after taking the is made do relate it has been in glad to relate it has been ware fills and after taking the is made const part bar set is burn's Heart and New Fills of the state of the state is the item and the state of the state item is the state of the state of the state item is the state of the state of the state item is the state of the state of the state of the state item is the state of the state of the state of the state item is the state of the state o BELLS LF-RAISING FLOUR. RODIE'S GELEBRATED SELF-RAISING FLOUR the Original and the Best A PREMIUM dive for the unit an tariate on officer at, Montreel.

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