

EGANVILLE'S NEW CHURCH.

ST. JAMES' PARISH; PAST AND PRESENT.

LAYING OF CORNER STONE OF THE NEW CHURCH—FATHER DEVLIN—A SUCCESSFUL DAY.

The following account, which we take from the Eganville Star, will certainly be of deep interest to a number of our readers, particularly those who reside in the valley of the Ottawa:—

The early history of the parish of Eganville is closely linked with that of the surrounding villages. It is replete with the struggles and trials of holy men, who have long since laid aside earthly care, and quietly passed away. Some of them were called ere their bright youthful years were clouded by the cares of age; while others grew old amid the churches and schools that their zealous endeavors had raised, and then, departing, went to join the silent dead, comforted in their last hours by the prayers and tears of sorrowing friends. But few remain to-day of the zealous priests who made the County of Renfrew the scene of their labors in the early fifties. Among the earliest resident priests we recall the name of

REV. JOHN McNULTY, who was the first parish priest of Mount St. Patrick. About the year 1843 he took up his residence there and proceeded to advance the interests of the parish, not forgetting the numerous outlying missions. In the two years following he built temporary churches at Renfrew, Douglas, Brudenell, Osceola and Eganville. The remains of the church he erected here can still be seen on the Brudenell road, about two miles out of town. It was not used after 1853, when the present church was erected by Father Strain. Father McNulty was called away from Mount St. Patrick in 1852, which parish became an outlying mission, attended to by successive priests who resided in Renfrew, till about the year 1866, when Rev. John McCormack took up his permanent residence there and proceeded to erect the present beautiful stone structure. The house of divine worship erected at Osceola by Father McNulty, was replaced in 1868 by a really beautiful little wooden structure; but in later years, this not being sufficiently large for the ever increasing population,

REV. FATHER DEVINE, the present pastor, determined to build a new one. His own earnest endeavors, assisted by a host of generous friends, were finally successful, and to-day a beautiful stone church is the result of his zeal and untiring efforts in the interest of religion. Douglas, too, has been the scene of many happy changes since the days of Father McNulty. After his departure, Rev. J. Strain attended to the spiritual welfare of the people till 1859, when he was replaced by Rev. M. Byrne, a man whose face is ever present in the memory of all. Father Byrne resided in Eganville, but he continued to hold service at Douglas occasionally, till the arrival of Rev. E. J. Stenson in 1878. This worthy priest was called away in 1880, and was replaced in the following year by the present pastor, Rev. H. S. Marion. Father Marion has been eminently successful in his many undertakings, probably the greatest of which was the erection of a beautiful stone church, an honor to the parish and a monument to his own unquenchable zeal. Brudenell, too, has made wonderful progress, particularly since the arrival of Father McCormack, who erected a handsome house of divine worship there in 1868.

HIS GENIAL DISPOSITION and engaging manner soon won him a host of friends, and now no one is more highly esteemed or better beloved than Father James. Of the first church built at Eganville, only the walls remain, old, grey and ruined; monuments of departed years, for time changes all things; joys, sorrows, calms and storms, are ever here; the little flower that blossoms so fresh to-day may have withered and vanished to-morrow. In the year 1853 Rev. Father Strain, then parish priest at Douglas, built a graceful wooden structure, on a beautiful site overlooking the banks of the Bonnechere. In 1859, Rev. M. Byrne became resident pastor here, remaining till his death in 1891, a period extending over thirty-two years. In those days the condition of the parish was a poor representation of the prosperity in which it now is, and the trials and hardships which he had to endure were known only to himself. About 1860 a presbytery was erected, but in 1869 it was transformed into an extension of the church. Again in 1874 the ever increasing numbers rendered another addition necessary, which was accordingly built by the pastor, in the form of a wing thirty feet square. In those days the resident Eganville pastor had numerous attached missions, including Brudenell, Douglas, Sebastopol, Golden Lake, the upper Bonnechere, and later on Osceola. Many of these have since grown into flourishing parishes, leaving at present Golden Lake and the upper Bonnechere attached to Eganville. As years passed away the necessity of a new church at Eganville became an established fact, but the numerous preparations, and the time required for such a project, led Father Byrne to further enlarge the old church, which he did in 1891 by erecting another wing to the original building. Father Byrne lived a quiet, retired life during the years of his residence here, his hours of gladness were shared by all, but his troubles and trials he confided to few.

MEEK, MILD AND HOLY, he had many friends and no enemies. In May, 1891, while in the discharge of his duties, he was seized with a severe illness from which he never recovered. On the last day of July in 1891, he quietly passed out of this life into the arms of his Heavenly Father. He was buried at Douglas, where a beautiful memorial marks his resting place, but greater than this, his memory lives in the hearts of those that loved him; for monuments will crumble into dust, but the fame of a name will last for ever. Father Byrne's successor was the Rev. P. S. Dowdall, our

present pastor. Father Dowdall is a man of unalterable determination, pleasing presence, and possessed of a wonderful ability to overcome almost insurmountable obstacles. His convincing arguments have won him hosts of generous supporters, while the paternal interest he takes in his parishioners has endeared him to all:

"He tries each art, improves each dull delay," "Allures to brighter worlds and leads the way."

Father Dowdall's instructions from the Bishop were to build a new church and a new presbytery and to procure land which could be made into a suitable burying ground. He is not here quite four years, but he is directing all energies towards the completion of the greatest of these projects, the building of a new temple wherein to worship God. In 1892 he erected a beautiful and much needed presbytery, the old one having long since outlived its day. In 1893, a piece of land known as Turner's Grove was secured for a graveyard, and none could be had more suitable in every way out of which to form a beautiful cemetery. These things were not accomplished, however, without severe financial struggles on the part of the untiring pastor; but, having been successful, he turned his attention to the greatest work of all, the erection of the church. Several times he was about to commence operations when hosts of financial difficulties loomed up to oppose him. Picnics, bazaars, concerts and the liberal contributions of generous friends were the means used to advance the good work, and at length the rev. pastor was pleased to be able to state this summer that he was about to commence. The old church has long since failed to be able to contain the ever increasing congregation, and no amount of repairing could make it sufficiently large for the present population. The new building which is being erected will be a handsome structure. It will be completed at an estimated cost of \$40,000. The contractor is Mr. L. Joseph Fauteux, of St. Benoit, Que., a gentleman who thoroughly understands his business, having in his day erected 24 churches ranging in cost from twenty-five to one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars each. The plans were designed and drawn by Messrs. Roy & Gauthier, the distinguished architects of the city of Montreal. The building itself was commenced under favorable auspices this summer, and daily progresses under the supervision of Mr. P. Foisy. The site is both favorable and beautiful, occupying a prominent position on an eminence overlooking the

BANKS OF THE BONNECHERE, at the outskirts of the village. The structure being erected is 148 feet from the facade to the rear of the apse. Its width across the nave is 63 ft. 4 in., extending out to an extreme width of 78 ft. 4 in. in the transept. Surmounting the entrances, and enclosing the grand front window is the main tower 27 ft. wide, rising up to a height of 70 ft., and crowned by a spire whose cross is 175 ft. from the ground. The turrets of the facade, of the central projection, and of the main tower are built with cut stone from the Hull quarries. The base course, sills, uprights and arches of all the windows and doors of the church and sacristy are built of cut stone from the same quarries. The moldings, reliefs and bands of the facade, as well as the masonry around the principal entrances, are taken from the Bonfield quarries at Ottawa. The stone for the foundation was taken from the Bonfield quarry, and that for the main portion of the building was obtained from the Reeves quarry at Eganville. The front of the building will be done in coursed work, while the rest of the walls will be in imitation Scotch masonry. The edifice will be finished after the Roman style of architecture. There will be one hundred and twelve pews in the main portion of the building, and these will be made of ash and birch. The floor will be laid in black birch, while the altars will be artistically constructed of imitation marble.

The windows will be of stained glass with appropriate emblems. All the woodwork will be first-class, the material being supplied by Messrs. Douglas & Rathwell from their Silver Lake mills. From early morning crowds of worshippers wended their way to the old church, so dear to them by its venerable associations, there to beseech in prayer God's blessing on their great work. Bishop Lorrain and the several visiting priests offered up the Holy Sacrifice in succession during the early hours and many of the congregation approached Holy Table.

At 10 o'clock, High Mass was celebrated by Father Tremblay. The choir rendered Dumont's Mass of 2nd tone, Mr. Rooney taking the solos. At the Offertory, Miss McGee, soprano, and the Misses Casey and McHugh, alto, sang very touchingly the "Ave Maria." Miss Tallion drew from the organ its sweetest tones. The altar, resplendent with lights and flowers, looked very pleasing; its tasteful decoration was the work of Miss Dowdall and Miss McKiernan. After Mass, the bishop and clergy, followed by the vast congregation, went in procession from the old church and entered within the rising walls of the new edifice. The latter were gaily decked with Union Jacks, and in the chancel a temporary dais surmounted by a canopy and encompassed with bunting was arranged. Here the impressive ceremony of blessing the corner stone was begun, the Right Reverend Bishop officiating. The water used in the sprinkling of the foundation and corner stone was blessed by the bishop. He afterwards sprinkled therewith the place where the altar will stand, marked out from yesterday by the erection of a cross of wood. He then proceeded to the blessing, proper of the corner stone, chanting with the clergy the Litany of the Saints, the 128th, 86th and 50th psalms, and invoking heaven's aid for the prosecution of the great work of building for God's honor and glory a house of prayer and sacrifice. At this juncture the Reverend Father Devlin, S.J., came to the front of the platform and taking for his text,—

"There is no other but the House of God and the Gate of Heaven.—Genesis XVIII. Chap. V. 17.—" The Reverend preacher began by congratulating the parishioners of St. James' on offering to God such a magnificent temple as the one they are now building. It was fitting since the entrance of sin

BEST FOR WASH DAY USE SURPRISE SOAP BEST FOR EVERY DAY.

into the world that certain places should be set apart for the worship of God. The Patriarchs built altars, the Israelites had their tabernacle by divine appointment; into the heart of David God inspired the thought of erecting a temple; Solomon executed the great work. The sacred writings tell with what enthusiasm the Jewish people undertook the accomplishment of the heaven-given work, what magnificence of ceremony characterized the dedication of the great temple—all that incense might be burned before the altar, that prayer might be offered and the sacrifice of animals duly effected. Greater should be our zeal in the building of God's House, more gorgeous the ceremonies of consecrating our temples, for no longer is there question of mere figurative sacrifice therein, but the renewal of the great sacrifice of Calvary. Truly the Christian Church is none other but the House of God. It is for us too the gate of heaven. Within its sacred precinct, in the regenerating waters of baptism, we are born anew children of God, with the rights of inheritance to the heavenly kingdom. Here is realized, to the great consolation of the repentant erring one, the words which Christ spoke to His apostles, and through them, to their successors in all sinning ages: "Whose sins you shall forgive, they are forgiven." Within these walls is spread the banquet table laden with

HEAVENLY BREAD, given for the life of the world, to the due partaking whereof is promised immortality. "for he that eateth My flesh and drinketh My blood, hath everlasting life, and I will raise him up at the last day." How intimately does it not come home to the youthful soul suffused with the seven-fold gifts of the Holy Spirit poured out in confirmation, to the young levite prostrate in the Sanctuary on the day of his ordination, that the temple is for him the gate of heaven. And when life is ebbing away, whether turn the swimming eyes for the holy helps of religion if not to the Sanctuary, the treasury-house of the Sacraments of the dying?

The eloquent preacher continued to picture the church as the sacred place of inter-communion between God and man. He insisted on the fact that it is divinely set apart for prayer and sacrifice, for the exposition of eternal truth and the outpouring of grace, and in burning words bespoke for God's house reverence and love and boundless generosity.

The sermon of the celebrated Jesuit Father was listened to with rapt attention throughout; and its strong, fervent appeal to the faith and piety of the congregation cannot but excite them to still greater sacrifices in the building of their magnificent temple. After the sermon the bishop proceeded to place in position the corner stone, and to bless the foundations of the new edifice. Deftly he applied the cement; and into the wall of the church entered, part and parcel thereof, the symbolic rock telling of strength and duration perennial.

In a hermetically sealed jar under the corner stone were placed several current coins, copies of the Eganville Star and Enterprise and city papers and a memorial document in Latin. This latter, which is intended for the benefit of future antiquarians, reads as follows:—

XIII KALENDAS OCTOBRES. Anno Reparatae Salutis, MDCCCXCV; Leonis Pape XIII, Summi Pontificatus Anno XVIII; Victoriae Re. Britanice Regime, et Indiarum Imperatricis. Anno LIX; Cujus in Hac Regione Canadensi vices gerit III. Comes Aberdenensis. Joannes Campbell Hamilton Gordon; Gubernii Canadensis D. Mackenzie Bowell, Ontariane antem Provincie D. Oliverio Mowat Primarius Ministri; Almae hujus Eganopolitane Civitatis Joanne D. McLaue, Municipii autem Grattanensis Jacobo McKennirey; Wilberfori vero Ralpho Lett; Hujusce Ecclesie In Majorem Dei et Domini Nostri Jesu Christi Gloria; In honorem Sti Apostoli Jacobi Minoris, Ad Fidem Catholicam in finibus confutandam; Ab hujus Fidei Christianidelibus, Instante ac Promovente Reverendo Patre Silvestro Dowdall Ex descriptionibus D Doran Roy et Gauthier, Architectarum, Edificante D. L. Josepho Fauteux, Inchoante, Lapis hic Angularis Ab Ill. et RR. Narcisso Zephyrino Lorrain Episcopo Cytherensi, et Vicario Apostolico Pontificensi, jam XIVum esse annum Episcopatus mox Ingressuro. Sollemnitur Benedictus fuit atque Collocatus Concione ad populum habente Rev. O. B. Devlin, ex. Soc. Jesu.

A very pleasing incident in connection with the laying of the corner stone was the presentation of an exquisitely engraved silver trowel to His Lordship by Contractor Fauteux. On the face of the memento was inscribed within a scroll work of vignettes: "A Souvenir of Blessing of Corner Stone St. James' Church, Eganville, Sept. 19, 1895." The reverse contains the mottoes in Latin of His Lordship and the contractor. It so happens that one compliments the other. Bishop Lorrain, put into English, expresses His Lordship's resolve to shrink not from work—while the contractor's professes his conviction that labor conquers all obstacles. Bishop Lorrain was evidently pleased with the thoughtfulness that made him the recipient of such a valuable souvenir of the day's ceremonies, and very graciously thanked the donor.

The ceremonies finished, the great audience hastened one by one to give a yeoman stroke to the stone, at the same time depositing in the hands of the pastor lots of hard cash to continue the work, coupled with many a cheering word and hearty God speed. The Eganville Brass Band struck up an enlivening tune, and to Turner's grove, adjoining the church, the assemblage bent their way, to partake of refreshments and to pass the afternoon looking at the sports, drinking in sweet music, and enjoying life's sunshine shimmering through their heart-leaves. The clergymen present were Rev. Fathers Devlin, S.J., Montreal; Lathuille, Pembroke; Lavin, Pakenham; Ryan, Renfrew; Barrette, Maynooth; Marion, Douglas; McEachen, Mount St. Patrick; French, Mount St. Patrick; Chaine Amprior; Tremblay, Eganville; Dowdall, Eganville.

WIT AND HUMOUR.

A marvellous collector—The lady who caught everybody's eye.

When is a ship like a book? When it is outward bound.

A poor woman, on being shown the sea for the first time, exclaimed: "Ay, how pleasant at last to see something of which there is enough for every one."

An actor who was extremely ugly was playing a part in which a lady had to say to him, "Ah! sire, you change countenance." A wag in the pit cried out, "Let him do so, pray—don't stop him."

Henry: Yes, Carrie; I love you with all my heart. Carrie: It seems strange, Henry, that you should think so much of me. Henry: I don't know about that. There's no accounting for tastes, you know.

Mrs. Billus: Don't you believe it's true, John, that a person partakes to a considerable extent of the nature of the creatures he eats? Mr. Billus: No. I've been eating fish all my life, and I can't swim a stroke.

"Wise men hesitate, only fools are certain," he observed in the course of a conversation with his tender spouse. "I don't know about that," she said testily. "Well, I am certain of it," he exclaimed. And for a long time he was puzzled why she burst out laughing at him. And then he felt wild with himself.

ONE THING IS CERTAIN, PAIN KILLER KILLS PAIN. A Midnight Walk with a colicky baby or a colicky stomach isn't pleasant. Either can be avoided by keeping a bottle of Perry Davis' PAIN KILLER on the medicine shelf. It is invaluable in sudden attacks of Cramps, Cholera Morbus, Dysentery and Diarrhoea. Just as valuable for all external pains. Dose:—One teaspoonful in a half glass of water or milk (warm if convenient).

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DOCTORS SAY And you will know what you should use to cure yourself. "I certify that I have prescribed the PECTORAL BALSAMIC ELIXIR for affections of the throat and lungs and that I am perfectly satisfied with its use. I recommend it therefore cordially to Physicians for diseases of the respiratory organs." V. J. E. BROUILLET, M. D., V.C.M. Kamouraska, June 10th 1885. "I can recommend PECTORAL BALSAMIC ELIXIR, the composition of which has been made known to me, as an excellent remedy for Pulmonary Catarrh, Bronchitis or Colds with no fever." L. J. V. CLAROUX, M. D. Montreal, March 27th 1889. "excellent remedy for LUNGS AFFECTIONS in general." N. FAFARD, M. D. Prof. of chemistry of Laval University Montreal, March 27th 1889. "I have used your ELIXIR and find it excellent for BRONCHITIS, DISEASES. I intend employing it in my practice in preference to all other preparations, because it always gives perfect satisfaction." DR. J. ETHER. L'Epiphanie, February 8th 1889. "I have used with success the PECTORAL BALSAMIC ELIXIR in the different cases for which it is recommended and it is with pleasure that I recommend it to the public." Z. LABOCHÉ, M. D. Montreal, March 27th 1889. "Having been made acquainted with the composition of PECTORAL BALSAMIC ELIXIR, I think it my duty to recommend it as an excellent remedy for LUNGS AFFECTIONS in general." N. FAFARD, M. D. Prof. of chemistry of Laval University Montreal, March 27th 1889. Lack of space obliges us to omit several other flattering testimonies from well known physicians. For sale everywhere in 25 and 50 cts. bottles.

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