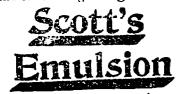
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## PATRIOT AND CATHOLIC.

The Religious Life of W. J. O'Neill Daunt's Life Pictured by His Daughter.

The daughter of W. J. O'Neill Daunt, the famous Irish patriot and agitator, contributes this interesting sketch to the Ave Maria :

In a recent number of the Ave Maria appeared a kind mention of my father, Mr. O'Neill Daunt; and his daughter thinks it possible that a few lines about the religious side of his life might poesess some interest for the readers of our lady's magazine.

When a child of 5 or 6, living in and amid the most Protestant surroundings, my father yearned for the happiness of being a Catholic. He has left it on record that at that early age he lay awake at night praying for the conversion of his family and friends to the one true montier; trustees for the term of two faith. In his researches among the books in his grandmother's library, at the age of 10, he found a Dousy catechism. He read it over and over, comparing its teachings with the text of his Bible. He was delighted to find that the Catholic doctrine was thoroughly scriptural. The sentiments of Irish nationality in which he had been reared also made him look on the Catholic church as the church of the Irish people; and for that reason, too, he longed to enter her fold. In the Douay catechism he found the "Hail Mary," which he committed to memory, and thenceforward recited daily in secret

When he was a growing lad the coun-try became convulsed with the struggle for Catholic emancipation. His father's family professed Tory principles, as did the majority of "county" families in those days-and, for the matter of that, all those who had claim to any degree of gentility. In the hot discussions that were held on this topic at his father's table, O'Neill Daunt, and Feargus and Arthur O'Connor of Fortrobert, were the only advocates of the Catholic claims. My father's heart throbbed with indignation at the wrongs so long endured by the people, and he longed for some opportunity of redressing their grievances.

In 1826 his father died-killed in a duel and his son was free at last to fol-low the inspirations of grace. He made his abjuration to Father Mathew, and was by him baptized conditionally. A few days subsequently he was confirmed by Dr. Murphy, bishop of Cork, in the Blackrock Convent Chapel. From that hour he ever showed himself a determined and efficient champion of Catholic truth. His numerous letters | And and pamphlets in defence of the church show the fervor of his faith and the vigor of his mind. His well-known contro-versial work, "Saints and Sinners," made a stir at the time of the publication, and, under God, brought many strayed sheep into the fold. Only those who lived with my father and knew him infimately can form any adequate conception of the beauty of his character. His faith ruled all his ac tions. His simplicity and humility were those of a child. Willingly, he would believe evil of no one; and if the evil were really proved he was as reticent as possible. His patience, under the diverse crosses with which his life was burdened, CORNER OF METCALF was extreme. He was naturally of a hot, TELEPHONE No. 3883.

impetuous temper; but he had schooled himself to the utmost meekness and gentleness. His humility made him grateful for the most trifling services. His charity was bounded only by inability to give more. In the dreadful tamine days he gave his last shilling to a poor starving woman, when he himself was suffering keenly the pange of hunger.

Latterly his infirmities prevented his leaving the house, and the parish priest came from time to time to give him the ascraments. One could perceive their influence on him by his increased gentle-ness and sweetness. If he deemed that he had offended any one he would wait an opportunity of apologizing, which he did with the utmost frankness and simplicity.

The end came quickly, but not unprovided. Every day for many years he had repeated prayers for a good death. He kept the thought of it constantly in mind, and often spoke of it.

No one thought that his last hours had come, when, on June 29, he felt slightly ill in the morning; but he quickly grew worse, and realized that he was near his end. He had received the sacraments three or four days previously, and said simply: "I have tried to be good since then, and I don't feel anything troubling my conscience." About 3 o'clock in the afternoon he grew unconscious, and passed away almost without a struggle ; surrounded by his family, to whom he has left the memory of his virtues and unselfish life as a precious heritage.

> C. M. B A. BRANCH 226.

The officers of Branch 226, Grand Council of Canada, for the ensuing year are :- Spiritual director, Rev. A. Brault ; president, A. T. Martin; first vice-presi-dent, F. X. Payette; second vice-presi-dent, Edward Kennedy; recording secretary, J. H. Boyer; assistant secre-tary, T. J. Evers; financial secretary, J. montier; trustees for the term of two years, James Drew, A. Lecour and Elz. Fortin.

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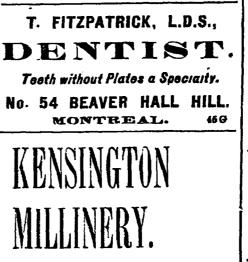


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Said a jolly turkey gobbler to another, "Our dinners are most plentiful and good, And it grieves me to the heart, my dearest brother, To see you don't enjoy them as you should, You pine away, I fear you'll die 1 . Oh, tell to me the reason why !" "You're a stupid headed fellow !" cried the other, "That you don't perceive the farmer's little plan is feeding us against Thanksgiving He brother ! Oh, bear the trial bravely, if you can. The dreadful time is drawing nigh, The day on which we're doomed to die !" Thankegiving morn the farmer's And on And on Thankegiving morn the farmer's mother Had both the turkeys butchered, so I heard ; The skinny one went to the farmer's brother, With "Best Compliments"-to make up for the bird The fat one, flanked with sauce and tart, Warmed the cockles of the farmer's heart. Little Boy: Tommy Wing's mother is awful good and kind to him. Mamma What has she done that is thoughtful? Little Boy : Let him have measles just the day school began.