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DEATH OF BISHOP O'BRIEN.

We take most of the following extracts from "G" in the Harp for November, 1878—

The right reverend Bishop O'Brien, whose portrait we present to the readers of the Post, was born at Loughborough township, twelve miles from Kingston, a little over fifty years ago, and was found dead in his bed at Quebec this morning, thus closing a life that was highly useful, and yet full of promise.

His contemporaries of thirty-five years ago speak to-day of his assiduity, his high moral qualities, and that intellectual force which put him in the first place in the village schools. When the young scholar had exhausted the modest curriculum of the country academy, his good parents—people of industry, irreproachable character and sterling worth—wisely determined to give him every opportunity for distinguishing himself in the career of learning for which he had already manifested so great a taste.

Bishop O'Brien made his theological course at the grand seminary of Quebec, and showed remarkable versatility and love of classic literature. His knowledge of the fathers of the church was very great. He was director of Regiopolis college for many years. As a preacher, Bishop O'Brien was logical, profound, well-ordered, not over imaginative, nor passionate, but very telling and forcible. His statement of a dogmatic question was admirable. He never indulged in flights of fancy, but used occasionally as much metaphor as illustrated without highly coloring his discourse.

As an administrator, Dr. O'Brien is unexcelled. The fine church of Brockville, commenced by Father Burns, we believe was finished and paid for by Bishop O'Brien. His proverbial amiability, his kindness, his boundless charity, his devotion to duty are known to all. No man living ever heard from his lips an uncharitable word against his neighbor.

He is now no more, but his name will be carefully and lovingly preserved in the hearts of those who knew him, and we may add that many an eye is moist to-day in Canada, and many a heart is sore because of the premature death of the illustrious prelate who lies wrapped in the slumber of death in the old fortress of Quebec. May his soul rest in peace.

Referring to the death of Bishop O'Brien, the Kingston News says: With feelings of the deepest regret we are to-day called upon to record the very sudden and unexpected death of the Right Rev. John O'Brien, D.D., bishop of the Roman Catholic diocese of Kingston, which sad event took place this morning at the St. Louis hotel, in the city of Quebec, where his lordship could only have arrived a day or two before, as he was registered at the Windsor hotel, Montreal, on Monday night.

Consecrated Bishop of Kingston on the 18th of April, 1875, the appointment of Dr. O'Brien, then of Brockville, to the position rendered vacant by the death of Bishop Horan was received with the greatest satisfaction by the whole diocese.

At the time of his elevation to the episcopate he had been for ten years priest of Brockville, where he gained the warm esteem of his flock. His lordship, who was about 46 years of age, was born in the township of Loughborough, where his mother still lives, and was educated at Regiopolis college, this fact making him well known to many of those over whom he was afterwards placed as ecclesiastical superior. At college his career was brilliant and there were developed those qualities of heart and mind which so eminently qualified him for the discharge of his onerous duties as bishop. After leaving Regiopolis he studied at Laval. Having passed the minor orders, he was ordained to the priesthood in 1856, and so great was

the confidence reposed in him that he was appointed rector of Regiopolis, in which position he performed his duties with the utmost impartiality, and in a manner which won for him the admiration and affection of all with whom he came in contact. In 1864 he was appointed to the pastoral care of the Roman Catholic church at Brockville, where, by indomitable perseverance, he succeeded in wiping off a cumbersome debt in connection with the church, which weighed heavily on the people. In the cause of education he was particularly prominent, as the separate schools of Brockville and Kingston amply testify. After the resignation from infancy of the late Bishop Horan, he was looked upon as the most likely successor, and by a remarkable coincidence the Bull appointing him Bishop of Kingston was issued on the very day that Bishop Horan died—the 15th February, 1875.

When it was known that Dr. O'Brien had been appointed, it was resolved to give him a warm reception. On the 17th of April he was met by a great number of people at the station, and conducted to the cathedral, where addresses of welcome were presented to him. On the following day the consecration took place with imposing ceremonies. The archbishops of Toronto and Quebec were present, and there were no fewer than six bishops, several vicars-general and about 60 priests of the diocese. Archbishop Lynch was the consecrator, and the ceremony will be long remembered by those who witnessed it. Immediately on entering upon his duties he went to work to pay off the enormous debt of \$38,000 which hung over the Cathedral, leading the subscription himself by \$3,000, which had been presented to him by his priests. During his episcopate he visited nearly every part of the diocese, preaching, lecturing, consecrating churches, confirming children and collecting money; and we believe he was so successful in the latter object that the heavy debt was almost, if not altogether, paid off. It is only recently that he determined on beautifying the interior of St. Mary's Cathedral, and fortunately he lived to see the conclusion of part of the work. He died, however, before the stained glass windows were put in, which would have had the effect of making the church one of the most beautiful in the Dominion.

Dr. O'Brien was a man of very liberal sentiments. He was particularly interested, as above stated, in the cause of education, and his appearance on the platform of convocation at the closing exercises of 1878 was a pleasing feature of the proceedings. He did a great deal to improve the separate schools of the city, which now stand higher than ever they did before. Dr. O'Brien's charity to the poor was well known, and it is said that he gave away large sums of money in so private a manner that it will never be found out. This we do know, that he has lectured for charitable purposes in the cathedral when the state of his health would have justified his declining to do so. He was much beloved by the Roman Catholics of the city, and held in a very high degree the respect of the citizens of all denominations. Up to the time of writing nothing is known of the funeral arrangements, but all the priests in the diocese have been telegraphed for. The telegram received at the palace this morning stated that the body of the deceased prelate would leave Quebec at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon, so that it will be here about 4 o'clock to-morrow morning. It will probably lie in state for a day or so afterwards. His lordship left Kingston accompanied by Father Brown, of Port Hope, and Father Lynch, of Peterborough, on the 16th July, visiting Caledonia Springs, Ottawa, Montreal and Quebec. He intended returning by the way of Portland, arriving in Kingston next week. We believe that a vigorous effort was being made by his lordship to re-open Regiopolis college next spring, with a very fair prospect of success. This would have been a great boon to Roman Catholics in this diocese, who are compelled to send their sons to Quebec to be educated in the higher branches.

The feeling of regret in the city is very strong, and found expression in many ways. The flags on the city buildings and on several private buildings were hoisted at half-mast as soon as the news of his lordship's death was confirmed.

The funeral arrangements. [From the Kingston Daily News Saturday, August 2nd.]

It was at first expected that the remains of the late lamented Bishop O'Brien would reach Kingston by train at an early hour this morning, and many citizens were prepared to go down to meet the body. But after the issue of the papers last evening a change had been made in the arrangements. A telegram from Rev. Father McCarthy, of Brockville, stated that the deceased's old parishioners would like to detain the body if it could possibly be done, so as to testify their respect to His Lordship's memory. The telegram was at once put in motion along the line of the North Shore Railway telling Fathers Brown and Lynch, the Bishop's travelling companions, to comply with the request of Father McCarthy. Fortunately the telegram reached the travellers, and the connection between Quebec and Montreal being made, the body arrived at Brockville about two o'clock this morning. During the night the Very Rev. Vicar-General Farrelly, and several of the priests went down to Brockville to take part in the service which was to be held there this morning. The funeral party will leave Brockville about two o'clock this afternoon, arriving here at four o'clock. It is expected that there will be a very large number of people down at the depot to accompany the body to the Cathedral, where a short service will be held. The body will be taken into the sanctuary, where it will lie in state until Wednesday morning, when the funeral proper will take place. This is likely to be attended by all the Bishops of Ontario who are at home, and probably representative Bishops from Quebec, and a very large number of the priests of the diocese and elsewhere. The Cathedral

is heavily draped in black and presents a very sombre appearance, suitable to the solemnity of the occasion. No special services will be observed to-morrow, everything being left till Wednesday next.

THE BISHOP'S WORK.

We were unable to give anything like a complete statement of His Lordship's work during the period of his episcopate. The number confirmed during the four years which he presided over the diocese must be counted in thousands. On his last trip west he confirmed some 1,200 young people, besides preaching and lecturing.

The following gentlemen have been ordained by His Lordship: Revs. Fathers Larkin, Grafton; Father Hogan, late of Lindsay, now of the Cathedral; Father Walsh, Kitley, who was ordained at Loughborough on which occasion the late Father Leonard preached the sermon which opened the controversy between himself and Dr. Snodgrass; Father Fitzpatrick, Curate, Father Cicchiarri, curate, Peterboro; Father Kelly, Gananoque; Father Macdonald, curate at Perth, and Father D. Farrelly, curate at his uncle at Belleville.

The Bishop dedicated about a dozen churches during his episcopate including, two in the mission of Hangerford, one each at Fenelon Falls, Carden, Trenton and other

places. All these edifices were, we believe, the direct result of His Lordship's administration.

Just previous to his leaving for the east, His Lordship appointed Father Twomey as his commissary in the diocese, Vicar-General Farrelly being at the same time appointed administrator. Father Farrelly, therefore, assumes all the charge until a new appointment is made.

PREVIOUS BISHOPS.

Bishop O'Brien was the fifth Bishop of Kingston and the second consecrated in St. Mary's Cathedral—the first being the late Bishop Farrelly, of Hamilton. The previous Bishops were the celebrated Bishop John Macdonald, soldier, senator, patriot and priest. Bishop Golin, Bishop Phalen and Bishop Horan. These prelates are all interred in the vault underneath the Cathedral, and here will be placed on Wednesday next the mortal remains of one whose fame will be less than theirs.

CONDOLENCES.

At a meeting of the St. Patrick's Society, Y.I.C.B.U., V.M.S.B.A., and St. Vincent de Paul's Society, last evening at St. Patrick's hall, the following resolution was unanimously passed: Resolved, that we, the members of the

follow-citizen, J. J. Curran, Q.C., all former students of St. Joseph's, were such as to make the occasion a memorable one indeed. We shall give in next week's True Witness, a portrait of the Very Rev. Doctor Tabaret, a biographical sketch of whom, as well as a report of the speeches referred to, may be found in the Harp. We congratulate the reverend Oblate fathers on the success of their institution, which we hope to see progressing and prospering, not only as a reward of their sacrifices and devotion, but in the interest of the cause of sound and solid education amongst the Catholic youth of our young Dominion.

ADDRESS TO FATHER FOX.

The parishioners of the Rev. Father Fox presented him with the following address on a late occasion:—

Rev. FATHER—We, the undersigned, in behalf of the congregation of St. Andrew's parish, wish to express our deep regret at your departure after having sojourned nearly four years in our midst, and gained the esteem and respect of all amongst whom you have so assiduously labored, and beg of you to accept this small purse in token of our regard towards you.

Rev. Father, it grieves us to be obliged to say farewell, but, knowing you must leave us, we say farewell, yet not forever, as we will meet one day in Heaven, enjoying the glory of God and the reward you have merited for your care and attention of rich and poor, old and young.

We hope and humbly ask you to often remember us in your prayers at the altar of God, and in return we will not forget you, and pray God to protect and prosper our good priest, whom we loved so dearly.

(Signed) F. McEneaney, D. R. Macdonell, D. A. Macdonald, John B. McDonald, John McIntosh, Donald McDonald, Joseph A. McDonald, Angus McPhail and many others.

REPLY.

I accept your expressions in my regard with many thanks; also the valuable accompaniment. I accept them from you, gentlemen, as men possessing the soul of Catholics, yielding to the voice of your church and the voice of your priest. While you have this blessing—I may say obedience; yes, concord and charity—even my successor will not regret that he came amongst you. What I have performed as to my duty during the time you have mentioned was done with pleasure, even in the hour of midnight, to attend any of you, my good people, and not on one but many occasions, and I may say not you alone, but your neighboring parish. I leave you to testify that no priestly duty was neglected by me, even though I expected every day to be ordered elsewhere. I leave you in peace and concord, not as you were when I undertook to take charge of the parish at the death of your old worthy pastor. You have mentioned my labors, esteem and respect; well, gentlemen, it is the duty of a priest to labor; my endeavors were to gather old and young, blind and lame, to the fold. I leave this parish with the assurance that I have not always been idle, but that little I have done I could have done much more. With regard to esteem and respect, these qualities were not gained by me, but only kindness returned for so much you have invariably shown towards me. Farewell my dear people; I will ever remember the affectionate friends and neighbors I have made in St. Andrew's parish. My constant prayers during Divine service at the altar of God will be that His choicest favors may continue to fall upon you in this life and in the next.

Such will be the prayer of your devoted priest, Wm. Fox. St. Andrew's, Ont., July 24, 1879.

FATHER STAFFORD ON TEMPERANCE AND HOME RULE.

We copy, with much pleasure, the following communication on the above subject from the Wexford People of June 28th ultimo:—

CANADA, Sunday, June 5th, '79.

Sir,—It was not my intention to decry home rule in my short letter to you of the 12th April. I said total abstinence would bring home rule to itself, and more than home rule. I think so, and have thought so for years. Statistics published in the report of the board of health for the state of Massachusetts for 1872, say you are spending \$41,000,000 yearly for liquor. I say if you stop spending money in this way, and use it for sanitary, social, educational and religious purposes, you will get up faster than by anything I have seen in the home rule movement. This is my opinion. With money you can do anything you like in these times. England cannot interfere in this temperance reform. You can do as you like here. You can stop spending your money in liquor, and invest it in something more solid and permanent. You can by means of money become masters of the situation, and wrest home rule from England with ease. You say rightly I discover no evils in home rule in Canada. We make all our own laws out here, and because we make them we like them. They are our laws made by us for ourselves. Men like what they make—they do not like what is thrust on them. What right have one section of men to make laws for another? It is enough for men to make laws for themselves by themselves or by their representatives.

England is very great and her statesmen are very wise, no doubt. Still we would not allow her to make laws for us any more, I suppose, then she would allow us to impose our laws on her. It would not suit. We would not understand how to do it, no more than she would understand how to do it for us, and no more than she understands how to do it for you. If she attempted to force laws on us, be they ever so wise, we would resist and fight her with even you at her back. We are democrats. I am sorry you have not the making of your own laws,



THE DECEASED PRELATE, His Lordship Bishop O'Brien.

several Catholic societies of the city, having heard with deep regret of the sudden demise of our beloved Bishop, do hereby express our profound sorrow at the sad bereavement which we, in common with the whole diocese, have sustained in the loss of so revered and distinguished a prelate. We will long remember his earnest and energetic labours as a priest and as a prince of the church, and bear in memory his untiring zeal for the spiritual and temporal welfare of the diocese.

Brockville, Aug. 2.—The remains of the late Bishop O'Brien arrived here at 3:12 this morning by the Grand Trunk train, and was met at the station by about fifty of the most prominent citizens of the town, as well as a number of clergymen and laymen from Kingston, who arrived by the morning express. The remains were conveyed to the Roman Catholic Church, where they lie in state until the arrival of the train this afternoon. A solemn Requiem Mass was held at eight this morning. The Church, which was heavily draped with mourning, was filled to its utmost capacity, and large numbers were going and coming all forenoon.

At 12:45 a solemn Libera was sung by the choir and clergy, after which the remains were conveyed to the station. The Roman Catholic Literary Society, of which the deceased was the founder, marched in procession as well as an immense number of citizens of all denominations. The sorrow of the people of Brockville, irrespective of creed, was universal, as his Lordship was very much beloved here by all classes.

Progress of Catholic Education.

We have just received the August number of the Harp, which, as usual, arrives laden with good things for the instruction and delectation of its readers. The main feature of the present number and that which gives evidence of the indefatigable energy of its publisher and proprietor, that veteran, and we almost say, pioneer in Catholic journalism in this city, Mr. John Gillies, is the detailed account given of the proceedings at reunion of past and present students at the St. Joseph's college, Ottawa, which has now grown to the proportions of a regularly chartered university. To those who would wish to know all about the past and present, as well as anticipate the future of this flourishing institution, as well as the career of its venerable, learned and zealous president, the Very Rev. Doctor Tabaret, we most cordially say, read the Harp for the month of August; but we should feel ourselves wanting in our duty to our readers as Catholic journalists were we to

refrain from giving a brief notice of an event which will, to some extent at least, mark an era in the progress of Catholic education in our Dominion. St. Joseph's college was founded in 1848 by the late Rt. Rev. Dr. Giguere, bishop of the diocese of Ottawa, who confided it to the care and supervision of that noble order of self-sacrificing priests, the Oblates of Mary Immaculate. Soon the largely increasing number of students necessitated a change of locale, and a new building was erected on Sussex street, which was placed under the direction of that distinguished scholar, Doctor Tabaret, whose reputation for learning is a household word in the Dominion, and whose name must ever be identified with the institution, which, under his fostering care, has grown to its present magnificent proportions and acknowledged prominence. In 1850 the present vast buildings were erected on the site formerly known as Sandy Hill, and the college transferred thereto. The curriculum of studies in this institution is certainly calculated to inspire confidence to the parents of the rising generation. Based on the solid foundation of religious training, it is thoroughly practical as well as classical, and at the cost of enormous sacrifices on the part of its president and his fellow laborers, has been adapted in the highest degree to the requirements of the times and circumstances in which we now placed. A perusal of the prospectus will amply repay the reader. And now a few words as to the grand reunion of the 17th and 18th of June last. Truly it was a "feast of reason and a flow of soul." There the old and the young met. The beloved bishop of Ottawa, Rt. Rev. Thomas Duhamel, an old pupil of the college, and a host of learned and pious priests, skilled physicians, eloquent lawyers, civil engineers who had explored our new territories in the west, and successful merchants, all proclaiming allegiance to the college and their debt of gratitude to its founders, and renewing once more the friendships of by-gone days.

The grand ceremony of conferring the degree of Doctor of Divinity by special favor of his holiness Pope Leo XIII by his lordship of Ottawa on his former professor, the Very Rev. Doctor Tabaret, was a sight not soon to be forgotten. The banquet, where over eight hundred pupils, past and present, sat down to toast the memory of the late Pope Pius the IX., the health of his present holiness, of her majesty the queen, the president of the United States, the prosperity of the university, was really a grand sight, and the closing exercises, which called forth speeches from the graduating class, from Mr. T. P. Folan, a well known Montreal barrister, Dr. Dalmeida, M.P.P., Mr. Joseph Tasse, M.P., and our own eloquent

because then you would love them and be happier than you are, and more attached to your own institutions, or rather to the institutions of your country. If you had home rule, you would have a university. We are only a few Catholics in Ontario, say about 250,000, and we have two university charters, one for Ottawa and one for Kingston, not in operation, but ready to be used when we are able to use them. In Quebec, there is Laval university, doing good work.

Scotland had 5,008 university students last year, and the Catholics of Ireland only 334, and then people say "Oh! those Scotch are so greedy and clammy they swallow up everything." No wonder. It is a shame for England to use you as she is doing in this matter. She prevents your equality with your Protestant fellow-countrymen, and then she reproaches you for your inferiority. I wonder will she ever do with you as she has done with us—let you manage your own local Irish affairs, and all of you manage your imperial affairs together, letting us out here also have a say.

I hope this will come round yet. Yours faithfully, M. STAFFORD, Priest.

A BIG FIRE IN HAMILTON.

Banking Institutions Burnt Down—Aid Asked From Toronto.

HAMILTON, Ont., August 1.—The worst fire that ever occurred here is now in progress. McInnes' block is totally destroyed. The Bank of Hamilton, Farmer, Livingstone & Co., D. McInnes & Co., and the Hamilton Provident Loan association are all burnt out. The fire has crossed the street, and the Merchants' bank is now in flames. It is feared the whole block east will go. Aid is asked from Toronto. The heat is so intense that one is scorched a block away.

Later—The fire originated in Farmer, Livingstone & Co.'s, in a room in rear of the board room of the bank of Hamilton. The cashier gave the alarm, and all hands speedily proceeded to secure the funds and books. The flames spread upwards through the opening in the buildings. Farmer's, McInnes', and the Provident Loan office speedily took fire, and the fire intense was the heat, that the stone facings flew off and the firemen were scorched. At six o'clock the Merchants' bank across John street, took fire, and Sandford's warehouse above took fire; the inside of the building is now burning, and spreading up John street and along King street. The Sandford and McInnes' warehouse can hardly be saved. The Western Female college is next, and, after a few more stores, Warner's sewing machine factory is the next prominent building. The wind is from the southwest, and apparently dying down, though at one time it appeared to be increasing. At 7 o'clock the McInnes building was gutted, and the flames not so intense from the smaller buildings, yet the fire is spreading through the cinders, which are flying in vast quantities. The cupola of Sandford's building fell, and it is feared some one was hurt. Assistance is asked from Toronto and St. Catharines brigades. At 7:30 fires are taking northeast of the fire from sparks. Gurney's foundry is considered in danger.

LATEST.—The fire which occurred here to-day was the most disastrous that ever took place in Hamilton, and it will be a long time before there will be a full recovery from its effect. The fire broke out in the premises occupied by Farmer, Livingstone & Co., wholesale and retail dry goods, and in a short time the whole of the McInnes block, the finest in the city, was one mass of flames. It, with its contents, was entirely destroyed.

In the same structure were the Hamilton bank head office and the Hamilton Provident and Loan company's offices. These were also destroyed, of course. The fire crossed John street to Sandford, Vail and Brickley's large wholesale clothing house, a portion of which is occupied by the Merchants' bank and by Dixon Brothers, fruit and fire works store, was consumed. Immense volumes of smoke and lighted cinders were blown around the city, and these set fire to the new Larkin block, which, however, only suffered some considerable damage in the roof and upper flat. The B. M. E. church, on Rebecca street, also took fire, and was entirely consumed. The total loss by the fire is estimated at \$750,000. McInnes Brothers have an insurance of \$250,000; Sandford, Vail and Brickley, \$267,000; B. M. E. church, \$2,000; others not reported.

THE CONJUROR BOZ AND MR. TERRY.—The following is one of the many stories told of the conjuror Boz, who is rather fond of practical jokes in connection with his art. One day last summer Mr. Edward Terry, the celebrated comedian, spent a guinea for a pine apple at a noted fruiterer's in London. On leaving the shop a heavy shower of rain came on and the actor had to scuttle away for the nearest shelter like a humble man. The cafe into which he was driven contained the conjuror, and, being well acquainted with each other, a conversation naturally ensued, during which the freemason easily performed observed, "I shall not be considered impertinent in inquiring what you are hiding under your coat?" "Not at all," was the reply; "it's a fine pine from the Antilles." "Dear me! Now, from the glimpse I had of it I really took it to be a splendid specimen of red cabbage." Smilingly the actor drew it forth to satisfy his friend, when lo! to his astonishment he found, in the place of the cherished pine apple, a large red cabbage. Excitable like most of his profession, Terry started with amazement and anger. How came it to pass that, after buying a superb pine apple at a respectable tradesman's common-place vegetable should have been carried away by him in his own hands? It was enough to make him doubt this sanity. However, after ten or fifteen minutes more spent by the victim in anxiety and bewilderment Boz solemnly drew the pine apple out of a coffee pot carried past by a waiter, and took back the cabbage, which he had "annexed" from the counter.