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# The Catholic Register

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VOL. XIII., No. 37

TORONTO, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1905

PRICE FIVE CENT

## ST. PATRICK'S CORNER ST. LAID

### AN IMPRESSIVE SCENE AND SERMON

Ceremony Performed by His Grace Archbishop O'Connor  
 —Very Rev. Father Henning, C.S.S.R., the Speaker  
 of the Day—Large Number Present.

Sunday, September 10th, 1905, the day of the solemnization of the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin, was marked in St. Patrick's parish by beautiful and impressive ceremonies in connection with the laying of the corner stone of the magnificent new church now in course of erection, and which when completed will be one of the finest monuments which the zeal and piety of man have raised to the honor and glory of God on the soil of our fair Dominion. Four o'clock, the hour appointed for the ceremony, saw assembled a large representative gathering of the parish, augmented by many from all the parishes of the city and from outside sources. The arrangements for the accommodation of the gathering and for the decorous and worthy carrying out of the ritual in connection with the event of the day, were excellent, and no single detail marred the harmony of the afternoon. A large and safe platform covering the entire surface of the church had been erected and hundreds of chairs were in waiting for the spectators. To accommodate all, however, was impossible and hundreds of others stood and stretching out to the road, flanked McCaul St. on either side, while the roofs and available coins of vantage of the houses near had their many interested onlookers. A wooden cross, surrounded with flowers and palms marked the spot where the new altar will stand and the "stone" stood in readiness at the north-west corner of the foundations. A temporary pulpit draped with scarlet was placed on the fore part of the platform, and on a large rug was the table on which the water, salt and other materials to be used in the ceremony, were placed. Punctually at the hour appointed the procession of ecclesiastics and acolytes left the Monastery by way of McCaul street, headed by the cross-bearer and boys of the Sanctuary, in red cassock and lace surplice. After them came the local and visiting priests, then the Archbishop and train, accompanied by Very Rev. J. J. McCann, Vicar-General of the Archdiocese, and Very Rev. Father Barrett, C.S.S.R., rector of St. Patrick's, as deacon and sub-deacon respectively. The sun shone brightly upon the procession, bringing out the glint of the golden vestments and heightening the scarlet and purple hues of the flowing soutanes. The men of the choir, headed by Mr. Cosgrave, supplemented the procession of ecclesiastics and afterwards took part in the musical programme. The scene altogether was an attractive one. The expectant faces of the assemblage, the procession in which were seen crozier and mitre of gold, rochet of snowy lace, and dalmatic of costly fabric, the green trees shading the spot on one side, the Monastery adjoining, and the old church with its steeple crowned by the Cross of Christianity, all combined to make a pleasing and fitting setting for the ceremonies of the day. The blessing of the water took place first, then the procession moved on to where the cross marked the place of the future altar; next the stone was blessed according to the prescribed ritual, amongst the prayers used being "O God, bless this Thy creature and grant that those who contribute to the execution of this Thy house may obtain health of body and a remedy for their souls." The "Veni Creator," "The Miserere" and other psalms, sung by alternate choirs, Rev. Father Urbin leading and singing the solo parts, together with a procession three times round the foundation in honor of the Blessed Trinity, during which the walls both within and without were blessed, were all part of the ceremony. After the blessing the Archbishop said

a few words, expressing his pleasure at being present to preside at the laying of the corner-stone of St. Patrick's beautiful new church. He also complimented the people on their generosity and congratulated them on having so noble a band of priests in their midst. Referring to Rev. Father Henning, the speaker of the day, His Grace said he knew the people would be glad to hear him as of old. Rev. Father Henning then ascended the pulpit and as the once familiar form of the old-time rector of St. Patrick's rose before the people, a sigh of pleasure went forth to welcome him, and as the words of the sermon fell from his lips, it was conceded that the old time vigor and eloquence were in no degree abated. Father Henning gave an historical sketch of the beginning and development of the erection of churches and the reason for their necessity and

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**THE NEW CHURCH.**  
 The new church will be 188 feet in length by 106 feet in width. It will have two towers, one at the north 200 feet in height, and one at the south 100 feet high. It will be of Romanesque architecture and will be entirely of stone. A basement 12 feet in height will extend under the whole church and will be suitable for the meetings of the different societies of the parish. The church will accommodate a thousand people and will have spacious passages, the centre one eight feet wide and the side aisles 5 feet 8 inches in width. In addition to the High Altar there will be four minor altars, two adjoining the chancel and two in the transepts. The church will have three confessionals on each side built into

## TOPICS OF AN OLD-TIMER

### Review of the Late Mr. Durand's Reminiscences, and My Own Recollection of Hamilton Continued—Its Primitive Municipal System—Some of the Men Who Were Prominent in the Late Thirties and Early Forties—Paola Brown, the Bellringer and Crier—Some Good Irishmen Among Hamilton's Early Residents—Teaming in Hamilton Before the Railroads—Irish Editors, Publishers and Printers Prominent.

Hamilton, in early days was governed by a Board of Police Commissioners. The town was divided into four wards, St. Andrew's St. Patrick's, St. George's and St. Mary's. I remember some of the members, some of the presidents and some of the clerks. Mr. Charles Durand, in his "Reminiscences," says he was clerk of the Police Board in the years 1834-5, and did many things towards the town's progress. He took the census of the town in 1835, when it had a little over two thousand inhabitants. It must have grown very fast, for it claimed to have double that in 1842. I remember mentioning to John Winer, the wholesale druggist, once, on the way to Buffalo, that I lived in Hamilton when it was only 1,000 inhabitants, when he said he lived in it when it did not have 2,000, and that he knew Buffalo when it did not have more than 1,000 population.

town constable, and he had a son, a tall fellow named John, who used to assist him in taking prisoners to the "Engine House." The town clerk that "Old Timer" remembers best was named Jackson, an Englishman and a scholarly man, who lost his job from being too much addicted to the "ardent." He was succeeded by Mr. Beasley, but whether the present Beasley or not I do not know. It is possible that the present one of that name is the third in office. I remember in the early forties a spirited contest between a gentleman of this name and another Hamiltonian for some office, when the election lasted a whole week.

A Hamilton curiosity in those days was Paola Brown, a large, fat, West India negro, who was the town crier and auction bell-ringer. He used to begin every announcement with an "Oh yes!" like the court crier. He was short-breathed and used to talk or cry in puffs. When Lord Metcalfe held a levee in Burley's Hotel, in 1841, Paola presided himself for an interview amid the laughter of a large crowd of urdians and others, of which the writer was one. The governor was good-natured and wore a smile on his suffering face while the interview lasted. He asked Paola where he was born, how old he was, and how long he had been in Canada and in Hamilton. The crowd in the meantime was in an explosive condition. Paola once announced himself as a candidate for parliament for Halton County, in opposition to John Applegath, a miller and baker. "The way I shall ring the courage out of this contemptible opponent of mine will be a caution to colored folks" was the concluding sentence of his humorous address. Applegath withdrew after that. Caleb Hopkins was the man elected.



Photo by the Toronto Star.

LAYING THE CORNER STONE

use. At first a room in different houses was used, Rome at that time being divided into seven districts a room in each was provided. Then came the days of the catacombs, due to the persecution under Diocletian and then the triumph of the Church under Constantine and his mother, Saint Helena. Then Christianity flourished and the churches of the Vatican, St. Paul's and St. Laurence outside the walls, the Church of the Holy Cross and that of St. Agnes were all erected. The reasons for the necessity for church edifices were then given. A church was necessary that the Word of God might be preached therein, in the streets of the market-place, but not so efficaciously as when the pastor has his

president of St. Michael's College, Murray, C.S.B., Wm. Kessel, C.S.S.R., Rochester, and the Redemptorist Fathers Keltz, Mulligan, and Callen of Saratoga, Rev. Brothers Odio, Patrick, Michael, Maxentius, and Simon also were present.

Among others present were Mayor Urquhart, Hon. J. J. Foy, Peter Costello, Wm. Ray, J. J. O'Hearn, Frank Walsh, Wm. Burns, T. Guay, E. F. Hearn, Thomas Foley, Ed. Sullivan, H. Cayley, A. Cottam, Wm. Gormally, C. Loarden, John Hurst, Frank Lee, L. J. Cosgrave, Dr. McKeown, L. V. McBrady, K.C.

The priests and the people of St. Patrick's are to be congratulated on the present progress and the assured ultimate success of their grand undertaking.

the walls. The ground floor of the main tower will form the Baptistery and will be connected with the monastery by a cloister passage. Sacristies for the clergy and altar boys will extend round the chancel. Mr. A. W. Holmes is the architect in charge and the success of his work is already established. Though nothing definite is decided upon with respect to the old church, it is thought that the Italians, of whom there are many in the parish, may eventually acquire it for their special use.

### REMEMBERS THE FIRST SOD.

Stirred up by the ceremony of Sunday at St. Patrick's, Mr. George Cloutier, who resides at the home of his son-in-law, Mr. D. J. O'Donoghue of D'Arcy street, recalls the turning of the first sod, when the ground was being cleared for the purpose of building a church in what is now St. Patrick's parish. The sod was turned some time between 1858 and 1860, though Mr. Cloutier does not remember the exact date. The first edifice erected was burnt two or three years after it was built, and was then replaced by the present structure. Bishop Charbonnel was then head of the diocese, and William street, which was then known as Dummer street, extended only to the present Cayer Powell street. Mr. Cloutier recalls many names of those who were then the leading spirits of the district; amongst them are Patrick Pevle, Hector Lemaitre, Dennis McNameara, the brothers Martin, Thomas and Patrick Smith, and Messrs. Curtis, Moohan, Lynch, O'Leary, McKenna, Cummings and Gorman. The parishioners of that day gave every one his day's pay towards the fund for the church. Mr. Cloutier, who is now eighty years of age, was many years absent from Toronto, but it was his fortune to be present at the begin-

The first public building in Hamilton, belonging to the town was a small, brick edifice, situated on the north side of King William street, between John and Hughson streets, where the Police Board used to meet. Mr. Durand says it was near the wood market. The wood market's location must have been changed afterwards, for the writer remembers when it was on the south side of King street, west of John. After Mr. Durand's days there that building was known as the "Engine House" and the "Engine House" was the town lock-up. The Police Board, which regulated town affairs, used to hold their meetings in it; and the Board having purchased an old hand engine, it was located in the same quarters. The marshal or head constable, when I first knew the town, was named Cheevers, I think an American. Of course the Police Board made rules for the government of the town, one of which was that the snow should be cleared from the sidewalks immediately after falling or ceased falling. I remember the "Lilliputian Argus" having a rhyme on this matter one winter, written to the tune of the "Canadian Boat Song," then so popular, of which the following is a couplet:

"Scrape boys, scrape, the snow falls fast,  
 Old Cheevers is near and the hour is past."

I cannot now confidently call to mind who some of the Presidents were, but I remember a Mr. Distin, who kept a tin shop, as one; a Mr. Nehemiah Ford, a boss painter, who was conspicuous in town affairs; a Mr. Beasley, a Mr. Miller, known as "Yankee Miller"; a Mr. Gilbert, a hotelkeeper, and an English Catholic; Andrew McLroy, an Irishman; Mr. John Law, a provincial official. Peter H. Hamilton was the first police president. There was a wagon-maker named English, whose shop was on the north side of the Court House Square, who was a member of the Police Board. "Sam Patch" Ryckman, who always carried a big stick, succeeded Cheevers as Marshal or

## PENNOLINE

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There were a good many good Irishmen in Hamilton in the later thirties and the early forties. The O'Reillys, doctors and lawyers; the Duggans, doctors and lawyers; the Stinsons, large real estate owners and storekeepers; the Magills, storekeepers, one of whom, Charles, was afterwards Mayor of the city and member of Parliament. Matthew, who sold clothing and was a local Methodist preacher. The Irwins were storekeepers and real estate men. There were the Mullins, consisting of several families; one a hotel-keeper, another a doctor, and a third a printer; and still another who owned the "Ship Inn" on James street, near the bay. There were a number of Branigans. "Terry" Branigan, a North of Ireland Catholic, was one of the characters of the town. He took an interest in things. He was a "boss" baker and drove his own bread-wagon. "Terry" was rather "loud-mouthed" in his broad, Monaghan accent, but he was a good fellow. He did many things for the Church and got up the repeal association that used to meet in John Curran's tavern, in the Court House Square, in 1841. John Quinlan, a carpenter, was the orator of this association and when Mr. Bull of the "Gazette" made an attack upon its loyalty in his paper, Mr. Quinlan came to its defence in a speech in which he remarked "it was not in the pork of Bull's horn to do them an injury." There was another Quinlan in the town, an aged dry goods clerk, who was well esteemed and was something of a society man. Andrew McLroy was a contractor, and at one time a member of the Police Board. Captain Armstrong was a retired military man and a convert to the Catholic faith, who became police magistrate. There was Captain Faucett, too, a military man in active service, for there were soldiers in Hamilton in those days, black as well as white. There were the Bricks, four of them, respectable mechanics, one of whom Timothy, who had a seat on the police board, and his brother John was assessor for St. Patrick's Ward. There was a family of Hogans, quite respectable, a young woman of whom married a Capt. Leonard, who sailed a vessel on the lake. There was a Dr. McCarty, who was prominent among the physicians. The wife of Mr. Tiffany, lawyer and reform leader, was an Irish lady. There were four of the McCoys hotelkeepers and team owners. Before the railroads were built teaming was a great business in Hamilton, and in this connection I remember Peter Connors. The McCanns were a respectable family in which there were several fascinating young ladies. There was Denis

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