

year he began the erection of a fine, commodious, convenient and substantial school-house, which is now an ornament in that section of the city, to say nothing of the good it is accomplishing. It is under the control of the Separate School Board, with two hundred scholars and four teachers in attendance. The first Roman Catholic school in Brockton was established thirty years ago, and the school was held in the basement of the church before this building was erected. Father McCann was born in Ontario and at first attended the common schools, after which he spent five years studying classics and philosophy in St. Michael's College. In 1864 he entered the Grand Seminary at Montreal, where he spent three years in the study of theology, Scripture and kindred subjects. He was ordained a priest by Archbishop Lynch in St. Mary's church of this city in July, 1867. His first field was missionary labour in St. Catharines, then he was connected with St. Mary's in this city. In 1867 he was pastor of the Gore parish, and was subsequently transferred to the cathedral of Toronto, where he spent one year. Two years followed at St. Paul's, and then mission work at Oshawa. In his next station, Whitby, he erected two Separate school houses and a commodious presbytery. In 1877 he was named rector of the cathedral in this city, and was Chancellor of the Archdiocese. At this time he travelled very extensively in Europe and had an audience with Pope Leo XIII. Upon his return he lectured in the cathedral and paid a visit to the North-west, lecturing in Winnipeg for the benefit of his church.

When he took charge of St. Helen's there was a parish debt of \$3,000; that was all paid. The membership of the church is now 1,000, not only a remarkable increase, but one that speaks volumes for the energy and popularity of the pastors. One hundred and sixty were confirmed, 280 baptized and 51 couples married during the ministry of Father McCann.

Connected with the latter is the Weston church, where mass is said every Sunday morning. Forty-five families are connected with this church and more than a hundred communicants. The building, erected thirty-four years ago, has recently been repaired, and the interest is a flourishing one. St. Helen's also in-

cludes Parkdale, so that the parish territorially is extensive, and needs the constant work of two priests. The assistant was in 1896 the Rev. Father McGovern. The growth of the city Brockton-wards is in keeping with its general development in every other direction, and with that growth the opportunities of St. Helen's for advancing Christianity are becoming constantly enlarged.

Father McCann, now Vicar-General of the diocese, left St. Helen's in 1891, and was succeeded by Very Rev. Dean Cassidy, who in turn was followed by Father Cruise, the rector in 1896.

At the present (1901) the rector is Rev. Father James Walsh, formerly of Our Lady of Lourdes, late secretary to his Grace Archbishop Walsh. The curate is the Rev. Father Richardson.

CHAPTER LXXX.

ST. PATRICK'S, ROMAN CATHOLIC.

Flourishing West End Congregation in Charge of Redemptorist Fathers.

On William street, between Caer-Howell and St. Patrick streets, is a white brick Catholic church, surmounted with a graceful spire. There are two small porches, one on the north and one in the south, affording ingress into the church from those sides. There is but one entrance on William street, and that is directly through the tower in the centre into a small narthex. Within these entrances are several curtained confessionals and convenient boxes for alms. The church has a nave, two aisles and an apsidal sanctuary. At the entrance of the aisles is a notice which reads "Positively no women allowed on this side," an indication of separation of the sexes, probably for the better devoutness of each. Above is a semi-circular gallery containing the pipe organ and accommodation for the choir. Ten columns running off into open timber-work support the roof. Seven double lancet windows abundantly light the room, and two triple lancets and a triple trefoil light the chancel. The altar is a rather plain but neat white structure, ornamented with gilt mouldings. A finely executed painting of the crucifixion forms the central reredos, the remaining portion having a dark green background. The altars of the Virgin and of St. Joseph are located outside of the chancel, as