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# The Catholic Register.

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TORONTO, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1903

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#### Chronicles of An Old-Timer

VOL. XI. No. 46

ventions in Canada — The Toronto Convention of 1857 — The Buffalo

A friend in Toronto sent me some me ago a copy of a circular to which my own name is attached as a reform government. one of the signatures, and which is of Dominion politics, when the day of the Dominion had not yet fully ar- strengthen them. rived. Strange to say, although one the promoters of the movement, he circumstance had escaped my own memory until my good friend sent me

Toronto, 21st June, 1867. wo Canadas with the Lower Provines of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick being now virtually accomplish-, and, as, in a few days the then on the part of the entire Roman Bernard Devlin, of Montreal,

Catholic body of Upper Canada. of the province, held in the Queen's had abandoned him, and he was sim-Provisional Committee was formed, having for its immediate object the porters here at our convention, the calling together from every constituency of Ontario such of our most pro- Rev. Father Northgraves, now of minent men as would fully and freeand respectability of the Catholic body at large, and through whose de-

of the clock in the afternoon. Your earnest attention is requestself and all others interested, and incalculable good to the Catholic community will result therefrom.

FRANK SMITH,

W. HALLEY, Toronto,

C. V. VARMOLL, Toronto, Sec. JAMES STOCK, Toronto, Tr. that alleged in this circular for call- virtuous Edmund Burke was one of with the most modern Optical Apaltered attitude of our old leader, There are other examples in Canada, High-Grade Spectacleware. Reform party of Upper Canada, and for instance; and in England we have of The Canadian Opthalmic College, whose leadership we desired to dis- D'Israeli and Gladstone, not to men- and a member of the Board of Ex-One of the desires of the promoters of the convention, too, was Even my old friends and associates in mology." field McDonald in the leadership of afterwards Senator John O'Donohue. College, and has also perfected himthe Reform party of Ontario. late Senator O'Donohue among oth- ample when it suited their purposes to fitting. ers, was very prominent in this move-

ment, and if my memory ceive me, he it was who wro the In fact it was the former old friends and supporters of McGee who had become dissatisfied with Recollections of Some Irish-Catholic Con- that gentleman's political change of front and wanted to show they were not to be hauled into the tory ranks Convention of 1867 — The Aylmer by him, and to repudiate his action The good friend who sent me the Convention of 1856—The Immigration of the European Races in Illinois

763 West Madison St.,
Chicaga, Nov. 14, 1903.

Copy of the circular, sent me also a copy of a letter written by Mr. Frank Smith, the chaffman of the Convention Committee, to the Hon. John Sandfield McDonald, accompanying a copy of the printed circular which is as follows:

London, July 12th, 1867. Hon, J. S. McDonald

Yours in haste, FRANK SMITH. The writer of this, as Secretary of the Committee, had the naming written copy of the document, which the delegates, as he made out the list of those to whom the invitations were sent, and although a partisan of the movement, was as impartial Dear Sir,-The confederation of the as an uninterested person could be. The convention came off on the day announced and was considered by its promoters a great success. I now call to mind that Mr. McGee Province of Ontario shall have become wrote to a number of his old friends entitled to its local legislature, it has to oppose the movement, but they suggested itself to a few of your had lost their old feeling for him préligionists that the time and cir-cumstances afford an opportunity general movement along the whole for securing united political action Catholic line against McGee, Fr. was the staff he most leaned upon, With this view, at a preliminary when he went to that city and when meeting of a number of Roman Ca-tholic gentlemen from various parts Dorion for member of parliament, in this city to-day, a quasi ply kept affoat by the Confederation ional Committee was formed, movement. He had no strong suponly one offering any resistence was London, but then of Toronto. A serly represent the intelligence, numbers ies of resolutions was passed declaries of resolutions was passed declar-ing the attitude of the Catholics of into it. He is now interested in the pper Canada on the questions of the races that are attling in Illinois and lay, and in favor of the liberal policy has obtained to following figures readopted as would best tend to give of John Sandfield McDonald and Hon. garding the same. The total popuus in the future, our just and proper Oliver Mowat. Several subsequent lation of Illinois now if not actually positions in the Legislative Councils Catholic politicians of Ontario were five millions is very close onto it. the country and place us fully and first brought into prominence at this fairly and equally along side of our convention, including the Hon. Christians to the population by immi-fellow citizens of other creeds, in all topher Fraser, Thos. McCrossin, John gration have been 185,645. Of these fellow citizens of other creeds, in all topher Fraser, Thos. McCrossin, John their political rights and privileges. Carroll and a young man from Dun- day of their political rights and privileges. Carroll and a young man from Dun- day of their paper, whereas they give tre- nations of Europe, Bohemia, Poland, ble and oftentimes six times the

requested to attend a convention of the dead. I did not fail to invite any nations—Germany, England, Holland, and belittles, that which is most saman of talent whom I had a knowlrence Hall, in the city, on Tuesday, edge of, no matter what his views. the ninth day of July next, at two Mr James J. Foy was then too young and too unknown to be a participant, as well as nearly all the ed to this most earnest work; and Catholic politicians of the present gese, Spanish, etc. This shows how with the hearty co-operation of your- day who have since become promin- the Irish ammigration has fallen off the ent. Should there be any one now here in the last few years and how Committee feel assured that great living who has a copy of any news- berians (nearly all Catholics) topaper containing the resolutions and gether, have been 57 per cent. of the proceedings of that convention I total. But in some of the Eastern On behalf of the Provisional Com-mittee, we remain, Dear Sir, yours, sent to me and should consider it a being 70 per cent of the whole.

It is wonderful how McGee with-Mayor of London, Chair'm stood the blast of the great storm that then assailed him. Only a man of great genius could commit such inconsistencies as his and survive the consequences. Yet there have been has opened an office at 255 There was another motive, besides many such men; even the great and street, corner Shuter, fully equipped this convention, and that was the them, and he was McGee's model. pliances, and a full stock of strictly homas D'Arcy McGee, towards the too, "Wandering Willie" McDougall, Mr. Trimble is an Honor Graduate tion Chamberlain the Chameleon, aminers of the "Institute de Opthalplace the Hon. John Sand- this matter, Sir Francis Smith, and course of study at Trinity Medical

to some extent, followed McGee's ex- self in the art of expert spectacle he wooed and won by the wiles of He only prescribes glasses when abthat political charmer, Sir John solutely necessary, and positively treight or express, or any other way, I just recollect this was not the

first Canadian Catholic convention in which I was a participant. There was a previous one. It was held in LAMB-On November 6th, at the re-the village of Aylmer, in Lower Can-sidence of her son-in-law, Mr. James ada, on the Ottawa River, a few miles from the present capital of the Dominion. Its object was to pro-mote Irish Catholic interests, but I was the only delegate present from the west. I was then engaged in promoting the purposes of the Buffalo convention, held in the city of Buffalo in 1855 or 1856, I am not now certain which. That convention was the work of Mr. McGee before he removed to Canada. Its object was to promote the settlement of Catholic immigrants on the waste lands of the United States and Canada. Your correspondent had then the charge of the Canadian end of the business with his office in Toronto. The Aylmer convention was held in 1857. The men that were prominent in were, Mr. Devlin, a merchant of Aylmer, a brother of Attorney "Bar-ney" Devlin of Montreal, and father of the present member of Parliament for the "City of the Tribes," and some prominent Irishmen of the Ottawa Valley, who were desirous of strengthening themselves in that important part of the country. It was held in the winter time and I remember the weather was very cold. Some of the participants were former mayor Friel of Ottawa, a Mr. Burke, who was editor of a Catholic paper in Ottawa, called the "Tribune," a Mr. Power of Arnprior and a gentleman named Murphy. The gentleman who was seated alongside of yout corres-

pondent at the banquet that follow-

My Dear Sir,-I hope you will form If so, your other old-timer, the Hon. R. W chances are good for the next five Scott, now Secretary of State for years, and if you could take in a the Dominion of Canara and Senatorcould be done by the consent of the leading Reformers and would much

some historic interest as marking the catholic who could run in, you would get the Catholic vote on the long live Mr. Scott. He was the Catholics of Ontario with regard to reform side almost unanimously. This product, if I may so call it, of that convention, because the men there assembled clung to him, supported him papers and good magazines have a and cheered him on. This old-timer, though, was a favorite in that body, ed from view, while his star is con- newspaper. Theatres, sports, and stantly in the ascendant, acquiring other amusements come first. When new lustre with every year and gaining greater glory and the conquer-or's crown as the end of his useful-early age, and go and earn their liv-pitch and not be defiled? ness approaches. I believe he has ing, it is dress and amusement are recently ding, in which I take a double inter-est, because I heard his good and for a Catholic baper and there will have no mind to." when she was a queen of song in the tell you they don't require such a days of her glorious youth, when she thing, they can get all the news in fall to the dime novel, and immoral tion of St. Mary's Parish north of was wont to receive the applause of the dailies. They forget that the literature, the special agents of the band and wife have many days of joy, yet let them ere the great conqueror

financial institutions.

ed, was no less a personage than that

In the days of which I write in the foregoing, Old-Timer was interested in the races that were settling Ontario, and was occupied in getting During the last five years the addi-Scandanavia, etc.; 10 per cent. only cred to them-their religion. from the Celtic nations-Irish, Welsh, Scotch, French, and North Italians; 15 per cent. from the Iberian nations -Southern Italians, Greeks, Portu-

WILLIAM HALLEY

#### Personal

Mr. T. Harry Trimble of St. Basil's Parish (formerly with Ryrie, Bros.)

He has completed

sidence of her son-in-law, Mr. James McLaughlin, 9 Elm Grove Ave. Sarah Marrin, in her 79th year Relict of the late George Lamb of Brampton. R.I.P.

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#### The Up-Hill Fight of Catholic Journals

(Written for The Register.) The reading of good books, good celebrated his golden wed- their chief objects in life. Visit for a Catholic paper, and they will same papers which they encourage and help to swell their circulation by of all that is born lays his icy hand upon their venerable heads.

purchasing them the year round, are the very ones to hold up to ridicule thir cherished and main support in life-their Holy Religion. tirade and bigotry preached by shame by so-called ministers, counterfeits, and the gates of Hell, are printed in full, and Where is their honor? is dead, or too cowardly to assert itself. So much from an honourable standpoint. Let us take the finan-A Catholic paper costs cial side. one dollar a year (\$1); a daily paper three dollars (\$3), two dailies six

But another curious side of the case is with people who subscribe to the paper but refuse to pay for Are they practical Catholics? Evicently they forget the obligations of the seventh commandment. Do they think it costs nothing to run a Catholic paper? No rent to pay, wages, no gas bills, no water bills, and a thousand other things to meet. It cannot prosper on debts. If every Catholic paper in the Dominion were to receive the old debts due them, the papers could be made nruch

The following contains good moral: A country editor, who evidently has troubles of his own, is having heartto-heart talks with his delinquent subscribers. The following is one of the latest:

"Good morning. Have you paid your subscription this year? Perhaps you owe for last year, or several years. Now, you understand we don't need money; we have millions-But it is really an imposition to let people go on carrying our money when we are strong and heal-thy and so abundantly able to bear the burden ourselves. For this rea-son we ask anybody who has any of money in his possession to leave ust so it gets here. Silver and gold are heavy, and it would be a matter of life-long regret if anybody should get bow-legged carrying it about for

Many persons after taking a Catholic paper for a few years, get tired of it and discontinue it with the ex-

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lic newspaper. If parents were to encourage their children to read good Catholic papers and books instead of dime novels and cursed literature would those children know something worth knowing, would our Catholic papers, have ten times the circulation which they have at present, and would be basking in the glow and sunshine of prosperity instead of trying to make both ends meet at a dreadful sacrifice, and languishing in the depths of want for encour-What a shame to see a bright Catholic paper forced to susverted the great Apostle St. Paul. others, but the youth of the Domin-

cuse, they have no time to read it.

The excuse is too weak to require

speaking of reading, says: "I find

certain books vital and spermatic not

leaving the reader what he was; he

same may be said, of a good Catho-

shuts the book a richer man."

any explanation. As R. W. Emerson

some time each day in reading a they would leave school with a love ments did not add much to its apfallen by the wayside and disappear- good book, or a Catholic weekly for literature. It's the age when pearance or to its comfort. the boy or girl leaves school at an Catholic families. Can you touch

Lands in brightest stages, Have declined. Their maidens' honor faded, Their sins became degraded In depths of vice they waded

'Tis thus in history's pages,

Through the current of the ages

And reclined. Montreal, Nov. 16, 1903.

#### Death of a Venerable Lady

On Friday of last week at the resi tence of her son-in-law, Mr. Jas. Mc Laughlin, Mrs. George Lamb, a venerable and respected Catholic lady of Toronto, passed from this life. Mrs. came to Canada when a girl from the County of Monaghan, Ireland, and settled in York township. vears later Mr. George Lamb, a native of Hawick, Roxboroughshire, Scotland, who arrived in Canada in the year preceding the rebellion, and on acount of his sympathy with the movenent he was arrested and kept in confinement for some months. and Mrs. Lamb settled in Brampton, where they became widely known and On the death of Mr respected. amb, which took place about twenty years ago, and who had the hapiness of being received into the Thurch some time previously, his wilow moved to Toronto, where she since resided with her daughter, Mrs.

Mrs. Lamb, who was much loved n account of her refined and gentle disposition, died fortified by all the rites of the Church, of which she was loving and faithful member. uneral took place on Monday free the Church of the Holy Family where High Mass of Requiem was sung by Rev. James Walsh, thence to Brampton for interment. daughters, Mrs. James McLaughlin and Mrs. McGuire, and two grand children, Mr. Walter H. McGuire and Miss Jennie McLaughlin, are left to mourn her loss. To these, many friends extend sincere sympathy. May she rest in peace.

#### Southwark Bishopric

The Rome correspondent of the London "Daily Chronicle" announces that Mgr. Fenton, Vicar-General of Westminster, is about to be appoint. ed Bishop of Southwark. Such an parishioners of St. Peter's feel that appointment would be highly popular it is high time for them to replace Mgr. Fenton has won golden opinions during his years of labor in Westminster, and since the Metropolitan See has just appropriated the Chief Pastor of its southern sister, it would be nothing more than reparatory ins- ping in the poorest church for miles tice than it should make good the

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is well constructed. It has been used by some of the world's greatest musical artists, who have been

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#### St. Peter's Parish Proposed New Church

Probably no congregation in Torono has worshipped for so long a time n a structure so inadequate for its eter's Parish, Toronto. For more han thirty years a small frame buildathurst and Bloor streets. - For

nore than twenty years this was ttached to St. Mary's Parish, servng the double purpose of school and hurch. That it was not very sub tantial at any time can be affirme. many parishioners who went to pend publication when the poisonous of chilled fingers on days sheets can go on prospering. "Take which the winter blasts proved to and read," were the words that conlence of its unsubstantial character J. M. Cruise, the Rev. G. Williams, The same warning would do well or an be found in the array of iron the Rev. P. Kiernan, the Rev. E. powerful influence for good on the ion to-day know too much about bad- keep it together. During-the quarter ods which were found necessary to Gallagher, the Rev. J. Frachon, the coming so far to meet them, and pleasing them with his talk. I do families never give this good pracnot envy five good old contemporary tice a second thought. They never his magnificent record, his glorious encourage their children to spend the schools to read and thus trained coat of paint, but these improvethe schools to read and thus trained coat of paint, but these improvethe did not add much to its anthrashy and nonsensical literature has who gathered to hear Mass there on departed religious. Sundays amidst a medley of school text Ap. xiv, 13, "Blessed are the instructive papers. And alas! in seats, blackboards, etc.; found many carvings and writings reminiscent of henceforth now saith the Spirit that their school days, but their sur-roundings were not calculated to their They give way to things which they inspire devotion. The result was Very Reverend preacher forcibly

> but it carried grave responsibili-The resources of the new Parish were very slender. The piece liveth, and in the last day I structure, which was school and flesh I shall see my God." church, was built was inconvenient- Paul: he erected. The people of St. Pet-enhanced by the multitudio ection of a new school. That was not, properly speaking, parish work. But as the Separate School Board will ever watch over His short as the Separate School Board will ever watch over His ch moment equal to the erection of such as in the case of the lamented Mother a school as the parishioners deemed now called to her reward, the more hand and built a bright, commodious and the greater the number of help our-roomed school at a cost to the less little ones to be provided for, separate School Board of four thous- the more confidence did she show

the new school the work of renovat- God and man; these are the good ing the interior of the frame struc- works that beautify the soul ture which up to this was used for Eternity. And these virtues were chool purposes, commenced. The found in her whose holy memory we result was that in a few weeks so honor to-day." reat a transformation had taken beautifully lace that those accustomed to the gracious qualities of the deceased, grimy discomfort of the preceding noting especially ears could hardly believe that the kindliness and cheerfulness that markleat, galleried, 'well-seated space ed her long years of self-dedication to which now met their eyes was en- God's service. The motherly care

St. Peter's school. of property was purchased on the before the throne from young, innonorth-east corner of Bloor and Mark-cent hearts powerfully pleading for ham streets, at an exceedingly low mercy and peace on the soul gone to gure, and during the second the new parish's existence a fine those petitions we too would ferparochial residence was , built there. West of the house the newly pur- for many, and in the words of Holy chased property extended to Mark-Church we would exclaim, han street, giving ample space and a mercy upon her, O Lord! spiendid frontage on Bloor street for mercy upon her, and let perpetual new church. The necessity of this light shine upon her." R.I.P. was evident from the beginning. The improvements made on the old frame building were carried out for the purpose of giving it a half-decent appearance for a little time. attempt anything permanent regarding it would be waste. Already it shows signs of dilapidation, while the improvement in surrounding property makes its shabbiness more

conspicuous. For these reasons the

their present church by one which will be more in harmony with the other Catholic churches of this city. They feel that they have had long enough the distinction of worship around. And as they throw themselves earnestly into any work they undertake they have set about this roject in a whole-souled manner. On \*\*\*\*\* Sunday afternoon Mr. J. P Hynes, architect, gave a large meeting of the parishioners an outline of a new church and basement hall the tone, quality and the endurance which in its general lines won warm proval. A committee consisting Messrs. Dunbar, Millin, Michael approval. Ryan, Arthur Ryan, Rodgers, Mad-Keane, Kavanagh, Halloran, Hallett, McConvey, Bradley, Norris, Heck, John Keena, J. D. Warde, J. Wood, with power to add, was emowered to collect subscriptions, consider plans and financing, and report to the Parish two weeks later. Several ladies present kindly volunteer-ed to help the committee. The parishioners of St. Peter's have every reason to hope that this energetic hand of workers and the numerous friends they and the cause they represent have on all sides, will meet with such a measure of success that another will very soon be added to the fine new Catholic churches recently erected in this city.

#### Death of Mother Philomena at Sunnyside

On Friday, the 13th inst, at 9 a.m.,

PRICE FIVE CENTS

Solemn High Mass of Requiem was celebrated in the Chapel of the Sasurpose as have the members of St. cred Heart Orphanage, Sunnyside, for Superior, Mother Mary Philomena ng has stood near the corner of Sheridan, who departed this life on Wednesday the 11th inst., in the 72nd year of her age and the 52nd of her of St. Michael's College, was the celebrant; the Rev. T. O'Donnell officiated as Deacon, and the Rev. L. Minehan as Sub-Deacon. In the Sanctuary were the Very Rev. J. J. McCann, V.G., the Rev. F. Rohleder, the the Rev. J. P. Treacy, D.D., Rev. C. Dodsworth C.S.S.R., the Rev. Those feelingly and appreciatively they may rest from their labours; for works follow them." very many in the vicinity pointed out that good works alone heard Mass in other churches and ne- accompany the soul to eternity-not ver visited St. Peter's except of a worldly fame, not riches, not pleasures; good works only, can companion the Spirit before the Eternal. "There is something sad," he said, College street was formed into an in- "in death-the sombre surroundings, dependent parish in the January of the physical anguish, the parting of Independence was welcome, the soul from body, but yet there is also consolation, for as Holy Job declared, "I know that my Redeen of property on which the old frame rise out of the earth, and in my "There is laid up for ly situated in the middle of a block. crown of justice which the word the Evidently a new site should be just Judge will render to me in that acquired before a decent church could day"-a crown whose glory shall be er's Parish were not, however, dis- of faith and hope and charity percouraged by the great amount to be formed during life-faith that sees done, and little by little they "had God in all things, making the creato work on. Their first step was ture to live in the presence of the to rent and furnish a parochial resi- Creator and to work for Him and They next set about the er- His glory; hope that trusts God for necessary, they took the matter in claims there were upon her charity in the all-provident Creator; charity The moment ground was broken for that pours itself out in love for summarized the many losed by the framework of the old she had taken of the little orphans would now receive its reward in the Soon after this a splendid piece nonfailing petitions that would arise year render the great account. vently unite, not for one day, but

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