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# TOPICS OF AN OLD-TIMER

Centinuance of Interview with Mr. Matthew Teefy-The Late James Austin, an Old-Time Printer - The "Christian Guardian," now the Oldest Paper in Toronto-The First Priests in Upper Canada-List of Catholic Priests Here in 1842-St-Paul's Church, Toronto, Built in 1826 Bishop Macdonell's Toronto Residence—Life of Bishop Macdonell

I have an idea, Mr. Teefy, that the late James Austin, president of the Dominion Bank, was a printer in the 'Patriot' office during your years

'Yes, he was, I had forgotten

"I met Mr. Austin in the early forties in Hamilton. He was about to start a paper in Guelph, I think the 'Herald,' the same that is now a daily paper, as well as a weekly, and edited by Mr. Downey, the eloquent Catholic member for South Wellington, in the Provincial Parliament. In 1852. I in connection with three other practical printers, started a daily paper in Toronto, and calling on the wholesale grocery firm of Foy & Austin to solicit business for the new venture, Mr. Austin told me he was an o'd publisher himself, and then I remembered him. He had sold out to a man named Pirie. It was started as a Conservative paper, and has been Conservative ever since.

"The oldest paper now in Toronto is the "Christian Guardian. It was started in 1829 by the Rev. Egerton Ryerson, and has been issued continually ever since.

"I have done a good deal of business with that establishment in days St. Mary's in Toronto. Rev. Mr. long gone by, Mr. Teefy, and always in a satisfactory manner. The first time I learned anything about the "Christian Guardian" was, I think, in 1843, when its foreman, a Mr. Lawrence, led a band of teetotallers from Toronto to a demonstration held in Hamilton, the summer of that year. That was one of the years of McDonagh, of Perth, remained many the Father Mathew movement in Ireland, and there was a good deal of was greatly respected. Father Mcenthusiasm for the temperance cause Donagh was superceded in Toronto by here then, too. A Mr. Bently was Father Carroll, who was made admina good deal of business when in the of Bishop Power in 1847. Judging by Vicariate. The Court of Rome erect- years of age. service of the late D. K. Feehan, who the names, nine or ten of those pasestablished the first type agency in tors were of Highland Scotch stock ; Toronto in 1849. Mr. Roddy foreman that I did business with. Rev. Anson Green was the superintendent that I have the best recollection of. I suppose you know that the 'Guardian' office is the escap ishment wherein the late Patrick Boyle learned the printing trade.

'Mr. Teefy, as I am sure you have data for everything historical relating to Canada, you can tell me when first we had stationary or parish priests in Upper Canada.

"Yes, I can; here is an old almanac that contains the names. In 1823 Right Rev. Alex. Macdonell was Bishop of Upper Canada, located in Glengarry. Rev. John McDonell was parish priest in the eastern district of Glengarry at that time ; Rev. William Fraser was located in Kingston : and Rev. M. Marchand and Rev. M. Crevier were located in Sandwich. Just one bishop and four priests. Highlanders, after the French, were the first Catholic settlers. The first band of Highlanders were not led here by Bishop Macdonell, but by an Irish priest named McKenna. The first priest in this section, however, seems to have been the Rev. Alexander Macdonell, ordained in 1768, missionary at New Johnson, in the eastern part of the province.'

"Mr. Teefy, have you a volume among your papers of 'The Catholic,' published in Hamilton and edited by the Very Rev. W. P. Macdonald. contained a list of priests who were agents for that paper in Upper Canada, and perhaps included the whole number. That list would give us the names of nearly all, if not all, the Catholic clergy of what is now Ontario at the time of its publication. My friend soon produced a bound volume of the desired publication, and turning to the list of agents, I

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found tymes sought. The volume was for the list of na type reproduced will be of interest to the at the present time. It is as follows the median of the med O'Reilly ar. Quinlan. New Market-Re Richmond-Rev. T. Smith Guelph-Rev. Mr. Gibney. Dundas-Rev. M. O'Flynn.

Niagara-Rev. Edward Gordon. St. Catherines-Rev. Mr. Lee. Penetanguishene-Rev. Mr. Charest, Rev. Mr. Proulx. Cobourg-Rev. Mr. Kernan. Belleville-Rev. Mr. Brennan.

Picton-Rev. Mr. Lalor. Peterborough-Rev. Mr. Butler. Ops-Rev. Mr. Fitzpatrick. Kingston-Rt. Rev. Bishop Goulin. -Rev. Patrick Dollard. -Rev. Angus McDonald.

Brockville-Rev. Mr. O'Reilly. Prescott-Rev. J. Clarke. Camden East-Rev. Mr. Bourke. Cornwall-Rev. J. Bennett, Rev. Alex. J. McDonell.

\*Perth-Rev. J. H. McDonagh. Bytown-Rev. J. Cannon. St. Andrews-Rev. Geo. Hay. St. Raphael-Rev. John McDonald. Alexandria-Rev. John McDonald. London-Rev. J. P. O'Dwyer. Amherstburg-Rev. Mr. Vervias. Sandwich-Rev. M. MacDonell. Chatham-Very Rev. Angus Mc-

Hamilton-Very Rev. W. P. Mac donald When I had it copied I said to Mr. "This list is of interest Teefy me, as I remember well many of the names. When Vicar General Macdonald was called to Toronto from Hamilton, Father Gordon, then of Niwas appointed to his place. Father Gibney, of Guelph, was a prominent and much tried priest. Father McDonagh was removed from Toronto to St. Catharines. Very Rev. Angus McDonell was removed from Chatham to Kingston. Father Proulx was the first parish priest of Brennan, of Belleville, had an anxious time of it on account of trouble with the Orangemen. Father Dollard, of Kingston, was a much beloved priest. Rev. Father O'Reilly, of Brockville, was removed to Dundas, while Rev. Eugene O'Reilly the Gore was known as a rather eccentric divine. Father years the priest of that parish, and

Irish A great priest of those days was Father McMahon, of Quebec, who was pastor of St. Patrick's in that city. There was a great Irish immigration throughout the forties, and some of those poor people were rather wild and hard to control, as Father Mc-

four French Canadians, and the rest

Mahon found out. I think but nine volumes of "The Catholic' was published. It was begun in Kingston in 1830. The printer Sandwich had a Catholic population of the paper in Hamilton was a Scotchman named John Robertson, but he was not a Catholic. I think he left the country for Australia in

"I think, Mr. Teefy, you can tell me all about the first Catholic church in Toronto, old St. Paul's-when it was built, and who was its first

later years.

priest ? "Yes, Mr. Halley, I can. Old St. Paul's was built in the year 1826 by a well known contractor named John Ewart, and it was a handsome viece of red brick masonry. The priest under whose direction it was constructed was a Father Crowley.

I asked Mr. Teefy if he could tell me if Bishop Macdonell, the first Pishop of Upper Canada, ever lived in Toronto

He said he did, but it was long before his time. He learned, however, from Robertson's Landmarks of Toronto, that his residence was at the corner of Jarvis and Duchess streets. But when he resided there is not stated.

Bishop Macdonell, then a priest, landed at Quebec, coming from Scotland in the year 1803, and was immediately appointed to the mission of St. Raphael's, Upper Canada. Upon arrival he presented his credentials to Lieut.-Governor Hunter, the then Lieut.-Governor of the Province. and obtained lands stipulated for his friends according to the order of the sign manual. He took up his residence in the County of Glengarry. which continued his place of residence for twenty-five years. He had to repair to York soon after his arrival to look after the land patents promised te his clients, amounting to 160,000 acres. After some further delay he received patents for his own followers. His next object was the building of churches and the establishment of

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schools, for which purpose he subse-

quently obtained grants of money

from the Home Government. On his

arrival in Upper Canada he found

whole province, and two clergymen,

tion and other military stores.

Here and there he found a few groups

being at St. Raphael's, where Mr.

75 Catholic families, of whom 55 were

Country" or Northwest, where many

Canadians were employed in the ser-

vice of the Hudson's Bay and other

Canada. He was consecrated on the

some years in Toronto when it was

yet York, in the house that stands on

the southeast corner of Nelson (now

Jarvis) and Duchess streets. His

private chapel was known as the

"Soup Kitchen," a large frame build-

ing nearly opposite, which was re-

The Bishop went to Kingston about

the year 1836, and resided there dur-

ing the remainder of his life in Can

ada. In 1836 he foresaw the coming

afterwards Vicar-General at Kingston Church.

and Hamilton. This was followed by

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ferent places.

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# FIRE FATALITY IN CONVENT

devoted to the missions of Upper the doomed building. Bucket brigades was given of this debate, the right Canada. He travelled from the pro-vince line at Coteau du Lac to Lake sible effort was made to save the tunity of absenting himself from the Superior, through a country without building, but the fire had gained such House; and all the more strange is roads or bridges, often carrying his beadway that it was soon apparent it that his absence is for the purpose vestments on his back, sometimes on that there was no chance to save it of paying a visit to Lord Londonhorseback, sometimes on foot or in from destruction.

the invasion of Canada by American feet their rescue. taken, with their artillery, ammu - from Point Claire. In addition to the dane), when he said this is not only convent and church, there are a a question of higher education, but a couple of hotels, numerous stores and question ranging over In 1816 Mr Macdonell went to Eng- butter and cheese factories in the vil- THE ENTIRE DOMAIN OF EDUCAland, and waited upon Mr. Adding- lage.

ton, then Viscount Sidmouth, who in- | The names of the dead and missing, troduced him to Earl Bathurst, the as far as known at present, are : Colonial Secretary. Part of his mis- Sister Rageterua, music mistress, view that you cannot have a proper sion was to induce the Home Govern- 32 years of age.

cese of Quebec. In July, 1817, the years of age. diocese of Quebec, and created of age.

one Upper Canada, and the other con- years of age. sisting of New Brunswick, Prince Ed- Adele Robitaille, of St. Genevieve

of age. In 1816, Bishop Plessis paid his Emma Tereault, of Montreal, aged necessity for co-ordination on account first episcopal visit to Upper Canada. 15 years.

Eglantine Proulx, of Montreal, 11

### Macdonell resided. At Kingston were years of age. THE MISSING.

Canadian and 20 Scotch and Irish. Madame Narcisse Lalonde, of St. of 1,500 souls. The old parish of St. Genevieve, aged 82 years. Peter, in the midst of the St. Claire Madame Cardinal, of St. Genevieve, contained with the settlement aged 80 years.

at Malden, about 450 souls. Beyond Madame Margaret Hoitvin, of St. those commenced the great solitude Genevieve, aged 80 years. of the West, known as the "Upper | Madame Robert, of St. Genevieve, aged 88 years.

## COULD GET NO HELP

Later details tell of frightful scenes which attended the fire. It started at 11.15 last night,

Mr. Macdonell was on the 12th of January, 1819, nominated Bishop of Resina and Vicar Apostolic of Upper Claire by telephone, so that they could get help from Montreal, 31st of December, 1820, in the church for some reason yet to be explained they could not get any answer from After Bishop Macdonell's last re-Pointe Claire. turn from Europe he resided for

Meanwhile the fire was spreading with fearful rapidity and the excitement was frightful, as it became apparent that many lives would be lost The fire started in the old ladies hospice, and the smoke was so thick that the children on the floor above were unable to get down.

The convent was called St. Anne's, and was a branch of the convent of the Sisters of St. Anne's of Lachine.

political storm that broke out in Toronto, in December, 1837. In an ad-

dress to the freeholders of Stormont

Glengarry he cautioned them against being led into trouble. The pastor of St. Paul's Church in Toquarreled. Mass was in consequence celebrated for some time in two dif-

WILLIAM HALLEY

# IRISH UNIVERSITY QUESTION

four-Sir Antony MacDonnell Repudiated

Mr. Dillon said :- For thirty years sent to govern Ireland has been a supporter of the claims of the Catholics in this matter, with the possible exception of Mr. Jackson, whose views Irish matters were never ascer-A disastrous fire broke out at an tained. I think it is not unnatural, only three Catholic churches in the early hour on Friday morning, and especially after the emphatic declarareduced to ashes the convent in the tion to which he gave atterance in one a Frenchman altogether ignorant beautiful little village of Ste. Gene- the House on Tuesday last, that we of the English language; the other vieve, Que. One nun and twelve chil- should be anxious to know what are an Irishman, who left the country soon afterwards. For more than thirty years Mr. Macdonell's life was the villagers hastened to the aid of ter fact that, although long notice derry and to address a select reprethe rough waggons then used, and sometimes in Indian bark canoes; the smoke, attempted to grope their traversing the great inland lakes and way out. of the building. Notwithnavigating the rivers Ottawa and St. standing all efforts, unfortunately, ist cheers). This is a question the Lawrence, to preach the Word of God there was a deplorable loss of life. importance of which has not been readminister the rites of the One of the nuns, in heroic effort to cognized in this country. I remember Church to the widely scattered save the lives of the children in her that more than a quarter of a cen-Catholics, many of whom were Irish charge, succumbed to the smoke and tury ago definite pledges were given immigrants who had braved the diffi- flames. The pupils who were lost from the Government Bench that this culties of settling in our Canadian were in a portion of the building question would be settled in the folwoods and swamps. On the declara- where the fire had obtained too much lowing year. In my opinion there is tion of war by the United States beadway before the alarm was given, no subject of greater importance to against Great Britain in 1812, and to enable those who responded to ef- the well-being of Ireland. I do not beliepe there is any part of your mistroops, Mr. Macdonell prevailed upon | Ste. Genevieve is a village and par- government of Ireland which has inhis countrymen to form the 2nd Glen-, ish of Jacques Cartier County, on flicted a more deadly wound than the garry Fencible Regiment. By the Riviere des Prairies, and is reached denial of all access to higher educaactivity and bravery of these men the by both Grand Trunk and the Cana- tion. I entirely endorse the view enemy's frontier posts of Ogden burg, dian Pacific railways. It is three taken by the right hon, gentleman the French Mills were miles from Beaconsfield and five miles member for Haddington (Mr. Hal-

system of primary and secondary ment to favor a division of the dio- - Garard, of St. Genevieve, 15 education unless you have a proper system of University education, and Holy See separated Nova Scotia from | - Tessier, of Ile Rigaud, 18 years | the deplorable condition of education in Ireland is due to the fact that the the next foreman, and with him I did istrator of the diocese on the death that province into an Apostolical Marceline Ville, of Montreal, 11 necessary training for teachers and organizers has been denied almost alhave had Departments started for the ose of co-ordinating education in ward Island and the Magdalen Is- 10 years of age.

Ireland, and what is the result. In lands. He returned to Canada in - Dugas, of St. Genevieve, 14 years Ireland, more than in any civilized country in the world, there exists the of the great arrears of education and are told in the report of the Royal cation are separated by an almost impassable chasm. There has been a great deal of noise made about the Ireland. We have a most costly and structors and Technical Education Committees spread all over the country, and in my deliberate opinion never was there inflicted on an unfortunate and poverty-stricken country a greater fraud than the whole of this system. (Nationalist cheers). Not that I do not approve of technical an effort was made to get Pointe education, but the thing was begun at the wrong end, and instead of reforming the ordinary system of instruction in the country, you have squandered untold sums on this system of technical education which can never work properly until you have the other system of essecation in proper working order. I say the people are in danger of having forced on them the worst form of socialism by the danger of being drawn into this

> land with SCIENCE,

the founding of Regiopolis College at just enough to give them conceit. (Hear, hear). These men will demor-There was at this time a Celtic so- alize and debauch the whole mind of ciety in Kingston, of which Bishop the country, and they are doing their Macdonell and many other Highland- best to uproot the healthy and glorrento, at this time, was a Father ers were members. This society en- lous love of true knowledge which has O'Grady, who dissented from the tertained the bishop before entering been the characteristic of the Irish loyal principles and they on his last journey to the old coun- race. (Nationalist cheers.) I have met 1st of August, 1839. He went thence and in Ireland men who could not to London. In October of the same read or write far more intelligent and One of the bishop's enterprises was year he passed over to Ireland, in- better educated than many of the inthe establishment of a college for the tending to be present at a great din-structors that are going round now education of priests. Vicar-General ner given to the Catholic prelates in teaching practical science. That is Gordon, afterwards of Hamilton, the city of Cork. In the west of Ire- the condition to which you have Father Hay, of Toronto, Father Brennan, of Belleville, and a few he caught a cold, from the evil effects sing, the country is going back in other Upper Canadian priests, were of which he died January 14th, 1840, education. The late Chief Secretary educated in this college under the direction of Very Rev. W. P. McDonald, received the last sacraments of the of the solution of this question were great, but that it was the duty of Parliament in some way to get round them. I asked the Chief Secretary

whether the Government proposed to introduce any legislation this year dealing with the question of Irish education in any branch, and Mr. Wyndham realied, "No, sir." That is the way in which it has been treated Speeches by Mr. Dillon and Mr. Bal- year after year. Irish education is, as I have said, in a state of general confusion and stagnation or retrogression. But the question with which we are concerned to-day is primarily a question of higher education. Now London, April 13 .- In the House of Commons to-day, on the Irish motion for Catholic minority rights, all of the false statement which goes the round of the press of this country every Chief Secretary whom you have and which was endorsed just now by the hon. member who represents those who rule Ireland realty.

Mr. Wolff said there were not many of his party present.

Mr. Dillon-No; that is so. They do not take any interest in the question of education in Ireland. If it was a question of Sir Antony MacDornell it would be different no doubt. Education does not concern the Orange the views of our new governor on this party, who have delivered their ultimatum. (Cheers and laughter.) But let me dispose now of that statement that what we demand is a University controlled by Bishops or priests. Now notice that the "Spectator," which for twenty years, although a strong Unionist paper, has consistently supported our demand, had an article which shows that even sympathetic Englishmen cannot understand the Irish question. What does it say Last month it said-"We believe, and always believed, that what the Irish demand as a body for themselves is a University-controlled entirely by ecclesiastics. If they demand it we think they ought to get it." But we do not demand it (Nationalist cheers) and we would not be willing to accept it if it were offered to us (renewed Irish cheers), and is it not amazing that this statement is repeated not only by our enemies, like the hon, and learned gentlemen (Mr. Gordon), by Englishmen who are prejudiced against our demand, but by a newspaper which for twenty years has supported our demand, and, no doubt, honestly believes what it says to be

WE HAVE NEVER DEMANDED

versity which is to be controlled by ecclesiastics. (Nationalist cheers.) But what is the present situation You have given us and forced upon us University Coilege miserably endowed no doubt with £6,000 a year, which is absolutely controlled by ecclesiastics (Nationalist cheers), controlled by them solely, and you who say that you cannot on principle give money for such Universities as we deed two other Apostolical Vicariates, I Irene Bertrand, of St. Genevieve, 11 together to the people of Ireland. We mand, compel us to accept one which body. Father Delaney, who appeared mission, and who is one of the ablest men in Ireland, and gave most interesting and valuable evidence, put the matter most frankly, and the Commission used his description of the Leoni Daoust, of Ile Bizard, 15 the poverty of the people, and yet we College in Stephen's Green, which is Commission that so far as the State liament, Irish money, no doubt, but endowed by money voted by this Paris concerned there is no co-ordination and the different departments of eduard the different departments of eduard the said that the College government was entirely in the hands of the Jesuit Order, that the appointments to the teaching staff of the College Department of Technical Education in were made by the Head of the Order, and that their tenure depended upon wasteful system of inspectors and in- his wish absolutely, so that Unionists voted money for a College which was absolutely controlled by the Order of Jesuits, of whose truthfulness they did not entertain too exalted an idea (Nationalist cheers.) Yet, it is said, the money could not be voted for such a University as we demand. Is it not hard for an Irishman to have patience in such circumstances Father Delaney added that the Jesuits "give up their salaries to the College, reserving nothing for themselves, thereby enabling the College to buy (Laughter.) Yes, it was very coals. creditable to this Imperial Parliament, no doubt, that five or six Jesuits should starve themselves to enable the rooms to be heated and the rent to be paid. The truth of it is that your policy in Ireland is sham science when they have no prois saturated by a mere make-believe per foundation of ordinary education. in so far as it concerns matters that I know nothing more contemptible are under the control of this Parlia than the class of men we have in Irement. We heard just now a speech from the member for South Derry A SMATTERING OF PRACTICAL about primary education. We were

told it was set up by Parliament as a non-sectarian system. The hon- member for Camberwell (Dr. Macnamara). whose intervention is always welcome, because he speaks upon these subjects with knowledge and accuracy went to Ireland to study the ovestion. Not having reached the bottom of the Government hypocrisy in relation to it, he was rather taken with try. He landed at Liverpool on the amongst my countrymen in America the published programme of the primary system, but the fact is that what he sympathized with in its programme has never been carried out. Parlia-(Continued on Page Five.)



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