

such purposes. The class-rooms were thronged with children. So deep an interest was evinced in the mission, that in the course of time it was deemed advisable that it should become a residence. Accordingly on the 19th September, 1871, the present Superior of St. Joseph's, and two Sisters, came to cast in their lot with the people at the west end of the city.

The privations and hardships endured in the first days of a mission are well known to those who have read the histories of religious orders. Such trials were not wanting at St. Joseph's. The nuns, following the Apostolic injunction, came literally without "Staff or Scrip," but God raised up friends in their need. Through these trying times our good Bishop was a generous benefactor to the infant mission. A bountiful provision of coal, so necessary in that large house, was supplied by his generosity. The first books of the library and the bookcase were given by Father Dan. Every Saturday night, for many years, a charitable Catholic, residing not far from St. Joseph's, sent a basket well stocked with substantial good things, while the four or five times, when financial troubles hung over the little community and disasters seemed imminent, one of the prominent business men of the city, by means of a princely gift, averted the temporary embarrassment, and banished anxiety from the home of peace.

The Catholics of the town remembered and will always remember, the hardships endured by the devoted Sisters in the early days of St. Joseph's mission; the cramped precincts of the little sanctuary, the close air and indescribable discomfort of the patched-up cottage, and finally the beginning with so large a number of pupils in a house that required so much to render it a comfortable habitation. The parents of the pupils, even the poorest, would share with the nuns whom they loved so well; and so opportune were their gifts and kind thoughts that the house might almost be called the "House of Providence." The St. Patrick's Total Abstinence Society, and the Irish Benevolent Society were collectively and individually, always among the warmest friends of St. Joseph's Convent, and have a place in its annals as *Benefactors of the House*.

[The above account of St. Joseph's Convent was written some years ago by Miss Amy Pope, who afterwards became Madame Berlinguet. On the 2nd of August next the centenary jubilee of the convent will be observed with appropriate ceremonies, and it was thought that the above page from the history of the venerable old chapel might prove interesting at this time.—EDITOR P. E. I. MAGAZINE.]