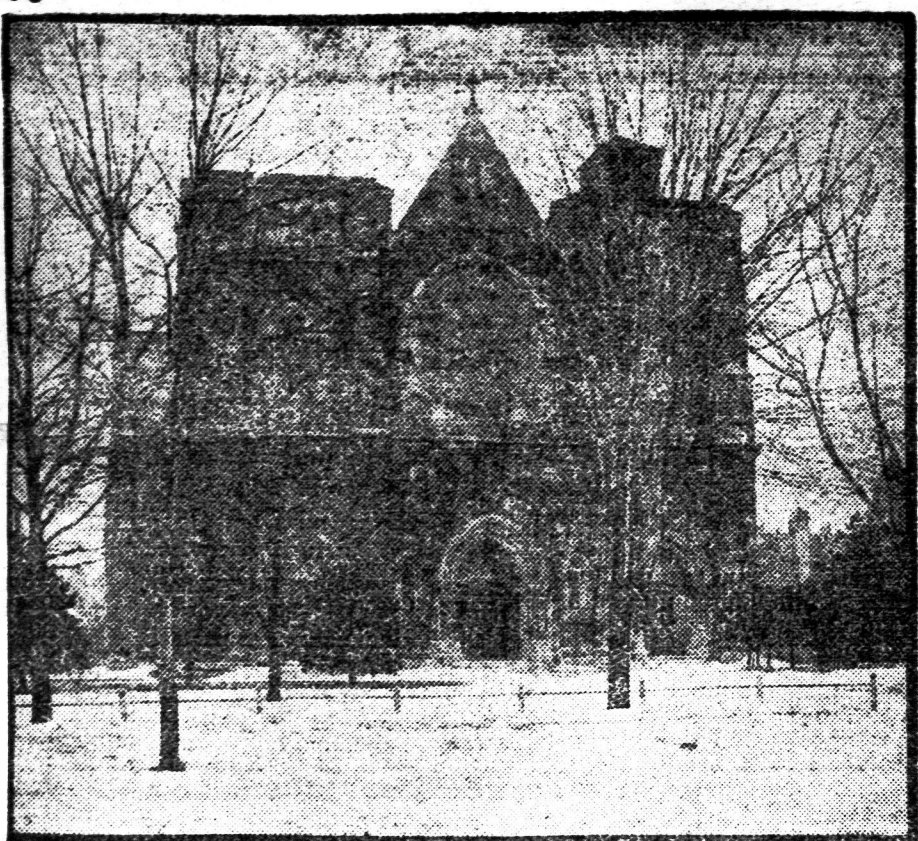


# Consecration of Bishop Fallon on Monday Next Will Be a Brilliant Ceremony



ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL.

## LONDON AND THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Some History of the Diocese and the Men Who Directed Its Affairs.

### THE DAYS OF LONG AGO

A Peep Into the Past Before the Present Splendid Cathedral Was Erected.

London and vicinity has since the time of its first settlement been a stronghold of Catholicism in Western Canada, the earliest inhabitants of this part of the country being Scotch and Irish Catholics. For many years there was no resident priest in London, but in 1834 the first church was built at the corner of Richmond and Maple streets, and was dedicated by Rev. Father Downie, missionary to St. Thomas. The church was an unpretentious structure, built of logs with an earthen floor, and around it was a cemetery.

Even after the erection of this edifice there was no regular priest in London for some years. Whenever a priest sent word he was coming, Messrs. P. Smith, Denis O'Brien, Jas. Reid, Hugh McCann and John Cruikshank, leading Catholics of the vicinity, conveyed the news to the people about London.

**The Pioneers.**  
Among the pioneers of Catholicism in this community were Garrett, Inrell, Patrick Smith, Denis O'Brien, Capt. McLoughlin, A. McCausland, the Redmonds, John Cruikshank, James Wilson, Patrick O'Brien, P. McLoughlin, John Wright, John Walsh, O'Flynn, Flood, M. Kiely, Peter McCann, John Orange, Peter Kennedy, Dr. Anderson, J. Martin, James Reid, P. Burke, E. Burke, John Clegg, Darcy, J. O'Brien, the Bruces, Andersons, Milnes, Johnstones (Westminster), Dingman, Scanlon, P. Tierney, Charles and Matthew, Coburn, E. Hillen, John M. Kearny, Wm. Dalton, John Walsh, R. Dinahan, P. Cleary, Corbett, H. O'Brien and McLean.

Mr. Dennis O'Brien opened the first store in London, and also built the first brick house in this place.

**London in 1850.**  
In 1850, exclusive of the military, there were only some 200 Catholics in London. Despite that fact the little log church was deemed too unpretentious, and in that year a new edifice was begun, which was dedicated in 1852 by Bishop De Charbonnel of Toronto, under the patronage of St. Lawrence the Martyr. On Sunday morning, Aug. 24, 1851, the old building was destroyed by fire, and mass was that day celebrated in the town hall, which then stood on the market square. After this the Universalist Church on King street, near Wellington, was leased until the completion of the new building.

**St. Peter's Cathedral.**  
After 33 years of service this building was superseded by the present structure, the first sod of which was turned in July, 1880. The corner-stone of the building was laid on May 23, 1881, with befitting ceremonies, and at last the present St. Peter's Cathedral was erected at the cost of approximately \$100,000. This building was formally opened on June 28, 1885, by Bishop Walsh.

Among the interesting items in the church register of London are found the following:

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Lower: The townships of Yarmouth, Southwold, Dunwich, Malahide and other places to the east of Malahide and its vicinity; also those parts of the diocese to which no pastor has been particularly nominated. On the 20th day of September, the bishop, when visiting the place, added to the mission the 7th, 8th and 9th concessions of the Township of Westminster.

"M. R. MILLS, Missionary.

"4th day of October, 1842."

And also the following:

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At that time London was a place of some considerable importance, having a population in the neighborhood of 10,000, and more than all was it of importance as a centre of Catholic interests in Western Ontario, as of this number some 2,000 were members of the Roman Catholic Church.

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**Late Bishop Walsh.**  
Bishop Walsh, the second incumbent of the bishopric of London, was born in Monaghan County, Kilkenny, Ireland, on May 24, 1830. He came to Canada in 1852, and finished his studies at the Seminary of St. Sulpice at Montreal, where he was consecrated by Archbishop Baillegon, and to be parish priest with charge of the parish of St. Mary's in 1857 by Bishop De Charbonnel. Bishop Walsh was consecrated at St. Michael's Cathedral, Toronto, on Nov. 10, 1867, and arrived in London (three days later, en route to the episcopal palace at Sandwich. He received a reception from the mayor and clergy

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ST. MARY'S CHURCH AND SCHOOL, EAST LONDON.

Bishop Walsh was a man of many parts. He was acknowledged by all authorities to be a sound and deeply-read theologian, well versed in scripture and the common law. He had a wide knowledge of general literature, and was a man of polished manners and amiable character. Added to this he was a man of wonderful energy, and his administration worked wonders for the diocese. A few weeks changed the condition of the diocese, which was laboring under a debt of \$40,000, to a sound financial position.

**A Fruitful Worker.**  
Bishop Walsh was indefatigable in his efforts to further the interests of the church.

He advocated the formation and consecration of a priesthood in this part of the country, caused schools and colleges to be founded, and was indefatigable in endeavoring to have churches built in different parts of the diocese, with the result that he became recognized as a decided force in the community, and was admired and loved by the Catholic people at large. His silver jubilee, which took place Nov. 10, 1878, was the occasion of great rejoicing on the part of all the people of the diocese. He visited Ireland in July, 1882, and his return was a signal for a still more enthusiastic ovation.

**Made Archbishop.**  
On July 25, 1889, Bishop Walsh was transferred to the archiepiscopal see in Toronto, which office he occupied till his death in July 19, 1889.

He was succeeded by the Right Rev. Dennis O'Connor, C.S.B., D.D., who was consecrated Bishop of London on October 19, 1890. Bishop O'Connor proved himself an able successor of Bishop Walsh, and by his energy and enthusiasm and devoted service still further built up the cause of Catholicism in this district. He was instrumental, too, to a great degree in furthering the educational interests of the church, founding schools in many

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ence, coupled with his indomitable zeal, rare business aptitude and promptitude of judgment, made him a very able and faithful servant of the church, and the diocese of London owes much to him. It was largely under his ministrations that the complete chain of schools in the diocese was arranged.

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Bishop McEvoy.

Right Rev. Fergus Patrick McEvoy, D.D., the last Bishop of London, was born in London, Dec. 8, 1852. He was educated at schools in that town, at

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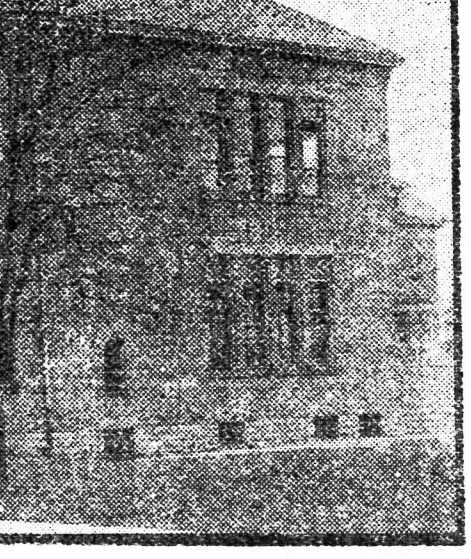
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MONSIGNOR SHAHAN.

of Washington, D. C., Who Speak at the Consecration.

## A LAUDABLE WORK DONE AT MT. HOPE

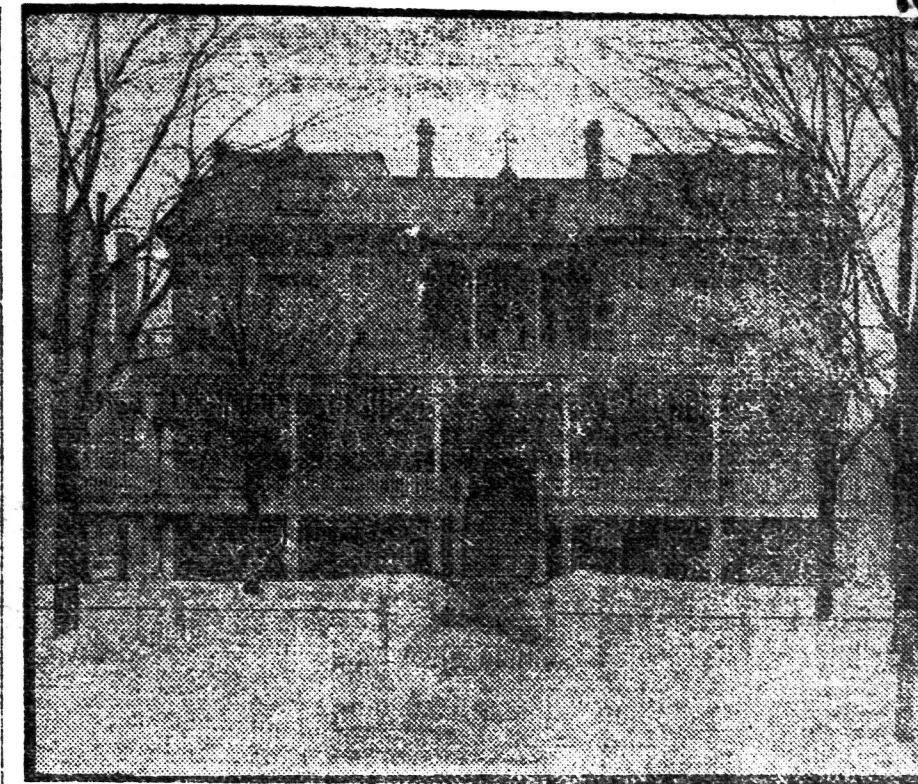
Institution Is One Which Keeps Many From Privation and Want.

A most laudable Catholic institution, where aged people are tenderly cared for in their declining years, is the House of Providence on Richmond street. Here very aged people of a destitute nature are brought to spend their last years, while orphan children of tender years, before they are old enough to be taken to the Mount Hope Orphanage, are brought here.

There are about 137 aged people living at the home. These, of course, are kept separated from the children, of whom there are 35 under 5 years of age.

It is a three-story brick building, and was erected—that is, the larger part—about 32 years ago. The smaller portion was built 60 years ago.

Fifteen sisters of St. Joseph are in



ST. PETER'S PARISH HALL.

charge of the home, and every want of the old people is looked after as far as lies in their power.

**A Beautiful Garden.**  
A couple of acres of land supply garden produce, and the old people work in the garden, and do chores around the house as far as lies in their power. Of course, many of them are too old and feeble to do much, but they are all engaged in the service of the house as far as possible.

The southern end of the building is given over to the children. The chapel is in the northern end. The men's building is separated from the main building, and is situated just across the courtyard at the rear. These are their reading and smoking rooms.

The women's quarters are right in the centre of the building. Here they have their sitting-rooms and dormitories, where they can sit and read or sew. The rooms are heated by steam, and are quite comfortable.

In the basement are the kitchen, laundry, dining-room, etc. The sitting-rooms, one infirmary, parlor, office and sisters' apartments are on the first floor. On the second floor are dormitories, chapel, small rooms and small infirmary. On the third floor there are a number of small rooms, holding only one or two.

## CATHOLIC REGISTER ON THE BISHOP OF LONDON

August Ceremony on Monday Will Be Followed by the Whole Church

The Catholic Register says: On Monday, the Feast of St. Mark the Evangelist, in the stately cathedral of London, and surrounded by a large and representative body of the Episcopate of Canada and the States, a full attendance of diocesan and many ex-

traneous clergy, and a great gathering of the laity, the Very Rev. Michael Francis Fallon, Priest of the Order of the Immaculate Mary, will be clothed with the high office and dignity of a Bishop of the Holy Roman Catholic Church. "Bishop" is a word which in the Greek language means "over-see," and it retains this significance still in the service of the church.

Through his consecration the bishop receives the complement of the priestly character and the special charge of governing a portion of the Lord's vineyard under the supervision of the supreme pontiff, the chiefest bishop, the Pope, in this particular instance the Diocese of London, vacant through the promotion of its late bishop to the Metropolitan See of Toronto, is committed to Bishop Fallon's care. He will receive the sacred ritual which consecrates him to the episcopal office and permits him to perform the higher functions of his orders. Thus will he be enabled to respond to the needs of perpetuity in the clergy and the priestly duties which in the interests of souls must flow from them.

He will be aggregated unto the college of the apostles which, under the sanction of a Christ's vicar, was placed by its divine founder to rule the church of God. He will utter the oath of his office which binds him in a sacred manner to the maintenance of the faith which Christ delivered to his apostles and the energy necessary to keep it and spread it until all know its beauties and embrace it with gratitude and joy. He will be closely examined by the conservator authorized for this purpose in everything essential to the discovery of perfect knowledge of Catholic truth and a perfect disposition of loyalty towards the Mother See. He will have the duties of holiness and tenderness which are required of the true shepherd detailed to him, and his willingness to observe them will be clearly denoted, and then he will be anointed as to his head and hands unto priestly perfection, invested with the radiant of the order he assumes, receive the official staff, the ring and the crozier.

Continued on Page Fourteen.

**A Beautiful Chapel.**  
There is a beautiful little chapel in the home, all of school age. They come from all over the Diocese of London, and receive an ordinary public school training. Mother Angela is the mother superior, while the children are taught by Sisters Hilma and St. Paul.

The children are carefully looked after. Inspector O'Connor paying periodic visits. There are about 40 or 50 sisters at the home, mainly employed in teaching the parochial schools. Sisters are sent to teach missions at Ingersoll, Walkerville, Chatham, St. Thomas, Sarnia, Godwin and Belle River.

**The Orphan's Home.**  
This Orphan's Home is doing a grand and noble work, and the citizens of London have recognized it most generously, and have accorded it most generous support. The sisters devote the many acts of kindness and success, his official staff, the ring and the crozier.

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