

The Herald

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JAMES MCISAAC,
EDITOR & PROPRIETOR

Please Send In Your Subscriptions.

We wish all our friends A Merry Christmas.

St. Dunstan's Cathedral Rebuilt.

St. Dunstan's Cathedral, ruthlessly destroyed by fire on the night of March 7th 1913, has risen from its ashes more beautiful and substantial than ever. The basement left by the fire a confused mass of brick and stone; twisted steel girders and all manner of debris, has been transformed into a thing of beauty; a church of grand proportions splendidly finished. The upper structure from a sad ruin of blackened walls and broken columns has risen in stately grandeur and has become an ecclesiastical edifice of magnificent proportions.

The work of reconstruction commenced on July 10th 1913, under the architectural supervision of Mr. J. M. Hunter of Montreal. The contractors for the exterior building operations were the John S. Metcalf Company of Montreal. The number of men employed ranged from 60 to 170, the average number being about 100. In 1913, building operations ceased on November 20th. Work was resumed on April 13th 1914. Separate contracts were awarded as follows: Copper work, including spires, James McDade, St. John's N. B.; steam-heating, Bruce Stuart & Co. Charlottetown; electrical fixtures, W. J. O'Leary, Montreal.

In the new basement church, two stone walls that formerly stood on the east side of the transept are removed, and one stone wall west of the transept has been replaced by reinforced concrete. The last mentioned wall is set back in the centre about 12 feet, to form the Sanctuary. In the basement sacristy there is a reinforced concrete vault, where the boiler room was formerly. Three feet six inches of the excavation for the old basement were filled up; thus the floor of the new basement is 3 feet 6 inches higher than that of the old. This floor is of concrete; but it is overlaid with birch flooring under the pews, leaving the aisles and passageways concrete. It is 16 feet 6 inches from the floor of the basement to the floor of the upper church; or 16 feet 2 inches from the basement floor to the ceiling. There are two side entrances to the basement, one in each transept. These are great double doors, 7 feet 6 inches high by 6 feet 9 inches wide. The front and rear entrances to the basement are the same as before. There are six exits; two stairs at the rear; two at the side entrances and two in the towers. All stairs are of concrete. All windows have new stone lintels, and concrete lintels inside where before there was wood.

All the walls of the building, from the bottom of the basement to the top of the clearstory, and the towers, are double. The stone wall all the way is reinforced with brick. The bricks used in these walls came from Pugwash and the number used was about 460,000. The stone used is the same as the original from Miramichi. There are two rows of standard steel columns 5 in each row or 10 in all. These columns extend from the bottom of the basement to the full height of the clearstory wall, and the roof trusses spring from them. In the old building there

was a niche in the wall of the sanctuary over the high altar, in which was placed a statue. This is changed in the rebuilding and in place of this niche there is a great rose window fourteen feet in diameter, when the church is completed this window will be colored glass. The clearstory walls are not as heavy as in the first building; there are but 12 inches, 8 inches stone and four inches brick.

The upper church is lengthened by the addition of a Sacristy at the rear 30 by 50 feet. It is built of stone same as the main building. The upper floor of this addition constitutes a large sacristy for the upper church, while on the lower floor there is an assembly room and a boiler room.

The roof trusses, eye beams, columns and all other frame connections are of structural steel. There are about 72 tons of this kind of steel. The lightest truss is two tons and the heaviest about three tons and a half. The highest point of the roof trusses is 71 feet above the main floor. There is a space of about thirteen feet between the exterior roof and the interior roof or ceiling. The roof proper has hard pine purlins bolted to the steel trusses. Then comes the covering of two inch hard pine roofing, tar felt and finally the slate, of best North Bangor quality. Expanded metal laths are fastened to the steel frame work constituting the ceiling, and these are plastered on both sides with cement mortar.

The vestibule, entrance doors and windows in the upper church have undergone no change as to style, dimensions or positions from what they were in the original building.

The twin spires in the front are, as formerly, surmounted by crosses. From the pavement to the top of the crosses is 185 feet. From the stone work of the tower to the base of the crosses, the spires rise 81 feet. The centre tower is different from that on the original building. That was known as a campanile; the new structure is called a "fleche" and is 60 feet in height from the ridge of the roof to the top of the cross.

The crosses on the towers are 8 feet 2 inches in height and are of solid bronze. The cross on the fleche is 7 feet high; but is of wood covered with copper. The crosses on the gables of the transepts are also of wood covered with copper. The roof ridge is surmounted by a cresting of solid bronze. The frieze on the front gable and the gables of the transepts are finished in copper. On the front gable the copper is five feet deep and on the transept gables two feet six inches. About 35 feet above the stonework, there are openings in the spires, or rather places that may be opened if necessary for any particular purpose. The upper portion of the spires are ornamented by three double rows of crockets, six in each row. The bases of the spires and the fleche are octagonal in form, and the pinnacles of all the arches thus formed are crowned with finials.

The main building, including the sacristy at the rear, is 230 feet long, and is 120 feet wide at the transepts, and 190 feet at the towers. From the pavement to the apex of the roof is 80 feet. A Latin Cross 8 feet, 6 inches high surmounts the apex of the roof between the towers. This cross with its base is about 12 feet high. The steps leading up to the front entrances constitute an elaborate piece of masonry. This structure is 41 feet long, from the side walk to the entrance and is 47 feet in width. There are four flights of stairs leading to the main platform and these are protected by parapets, terminating in piers. The front parapet is ten feet high and contains a niche in which will be placed a statue of St. Dunstan, patron saint of the church. Including the front steps and sacristy the main building is 271 feet.

line of the whole building, it is proper some further particulars of the new basement church should be supplied, as it is intended to usher in the Feast of the Nativity with solemn Pontifical Mass therein. The basement church is 136 feet long, including the Sanctuary and 80 feet wide. The Sanctuary is 31 feet from the communion rail to the rear wall, and is 65 feet wide along the communion rail. The space between the communion rail and the front pew is 10 feet. The two aisles on the sides outside of the nave are each 5 feet 6 inches wide. Between these aisles there are two other passageways between the pews each 3 feet 6 inches wide. There are three double rows of pews within the nave and two single rows against the walls outside the aisles, one on each side. The seating capacity of the church is about 1,200. The pews are of elm.

There are three rows of pillars of six each. These are steel columns, covered with concrete with ornamental capitals and mouldings of plaster paris. The walls and ceiling are finished in hard wall plaster, white as the driven snow. The steel girders supporting the main floor constitute a splendid panel frame for the basement ceiling. The mouldings and cornices placed on these combine to produce a really artistic panelled finish.

There are three beautiful altars of Italian Scagliola supplied by the Deprato Statuary Company of Chicago, and erected in their places by Alfred LeClaire of Montreal. The reredos is of oak, as are also the sanctuary railing and the confessionals. The windows and doors of the whole edifice are also of oak as well as the panelling of the sanctuary ceiling. The choir gallery is at the rear of the church.

The lighting is by electricity, of the Brascolite System. The fixtures are massive and the light is steady and subdued harmonizing admirably with the surroundings. There are forty of these fixtures installed in the basement church. On the whole the new basement church is a beautiful and commodious edifice.

Progress of the War.

London, Dec. 16.—For the first time in centuries England has been struck by a foreign foe. A squadron of swift German cruisers swept through the fog last night to the eastern coast, and turned their guns against the Britons. When day broke they began the bombardment of three important towns—Hartlepool, at the mouth of the Tees; Whitby, thirty-five miles southward, and Scarborough, noted as a pleasure resort, fifteen miles beyond. Hartlepool suffered most. There two battle cruisers and an armored cruiser were engaged and at this place the greatest loss of life occurred. The British War Office fixes the number of dead at Hartlepool at seven soldiers and twenty-two civilians, and the wounded at fourteen soldiers and fifty civilians. At Scarborough, where a battle cruiser and an armored cruiser shelled the town, thirteen casualties are reported. While at Whitby two were killed and two wounded. Men, women and children, of the civilian population, were left dead or wounded—struck without warning while at breakfast or at work. In all, the casualty list totals 110, according to the official estimates, of whom 31 are known to be dead. Three churches were damaged; the gas works and lumber yards at Hartlepool were set afire, and the Abbey at Whitby was struck. The Balmoral Hotel at Scarborough received the full effects of a shell and a number of houses and shops were shattered and partly burned in each of the towns. The hostile squadron escaped in the fog, after an encounter with coast guard vessels patrolling the neighborhood, which were reinforced as soon as the presence of the Germans was signalled.

This really amounts to a maze of trenches and obstacles. Every known form of obstacle is used. Entanglements—to select the most common form—vary from loose coils of wire to staked networks of from eighteen inches to

London, Dec. 16.—The raid of German warships on the north-east coast of England and their escape in the fog, after having

bombarded Scarborough, Hartlepool and Whitby, where a number of persons were killed and wounded, and considerable damage was done to property, completely overshadows the operations on land. The land operations, however, as on preceding days, have been of the utmost importance. The British, French and Belgian troops have continued their offensive in the west, and according to the French official reports have made further slight progress. This was not accomplished without serious opposition on the part of the Germans, who, at every point, where an advance was attempted, fought against it foot by foot.

London, Dec. 17.—The Russians are retiring along the entire front in Galicia and Poland. This statement, officially issued at Vienna, is the outstanding feature of tonight's news from the battlefronts. While there is no confirmation of this from other sources, such a move on the part of the Russians would be quite in line with the announcements in despatches from Petrograd that the Russians, threatened on both flanks, had decided to take up new positions where they would better be able to meet the onslaughts which are being launched against them by the Austro-Germans from the Carpathians to the East Prussian frontier. Should the Austro-German armies, as on previous occasions, follow the Russians in Poland another big battle will soon be in progress, which may decide whether the Germans are to get to Warsaw or whether the Russians are again to threaten an invasion of Germany.

London, Dec. 18.—Although there seems to be no doubt that the Russians are retreating and that for the present any anticipations the Allies may have held of an early invasion of Germany must be dismissed, considerable mystery surrounds the reported decisive victory by the Germans which Berlin celebrated last night. Vienna gives a few details of the fighting in the east. The claim is made that the Russians have been driven out of their positions north of the Galathians, from Krasno to Zakloyon, which would indicate that part of the southern line of railway in Galicia again is in the hands of the Austrians, and that Piotrkow and another Central Poland town have been stormed, but silence is maintained as regards North Poland, where the German victory is said to have been achieved.

London, Dec. 20.—The great difficulties under which military operations in France and Belgium are being conducted are described in a narrative of recent developments written by an official observer attached to the British Headquarters and made public today by the Official Information Bureau. The recital brings the story of the war, as reported in these eye-witness covers, up to December 17. "The opposition you being encountered resembles to some extent that met with by us at the beginning of October, when we first reached the Franco-Belgian frontier, and before the Germans brought up their full force and assumed the offensive," says the report. "It has one great difference, however, and that is that the enemy is in much greater force and his positions are much stronger and better organized than they were two months ago. At that time an advance on the Eastern end of the line implied a movement across a very difficult country, as it does still, and for us it meant an attack on skillfully but hastily fortified strong points or villages, held to a large extent by cavalry and jaegers. With the large proportion of machine guns that we have in front of us today, it is no longer a succession of isolated points. There are still such points, and some are the same, but they are stronger and form part of a practically continuous defensive zone, consisting in some places of several lines of cunningly sited and carefully constructed works.

"This really amounts to a maze of trenches and obstacles. Every known form of obstacle is used. Entanglements—to select the most common form—vary from loose coils of wire to staked networks of from eighteen inches to

nearly six feet in height and of different widths. These measures of defence are only such as are to be expected from troops which are well trained and have ample resources and time; and there are, of course, ways in which they can be overcome. But where these methods are applied, the rate of advance is necessarily slow. When it is reported in laconic terms that ground has been gained at a certain point, topographically the gain may amount to only a few yards. Tactically, on the other hand, the progress implied by even such a small step forward may be important, for a trench, a cluster of trenches, the edge of a wood, a building, a village, or a knoll may have been reached, possession of which will facilitate further operations. Siege approaches such as saps, help the attacker to advance under cover and so to minimize the losses, but they do not and cannot obviate the ability to a surprise reception of the nature indicated when once the enemy's works are gained. The only certain method of preventing this is by prolonged bombardment with high explosive shells until trenches, mines and machine guns are reduced to scrap heaps, or to mine under them and blow them into the air.

The report of the actual fighting is a repetition of what has appeared in the daily French official statements, telling of the capture of German trenches, of sapping and mining operations and heavy artillery duels. Concerning the latter, the Observer says that the British artillery on December 17, obtained several hits on what appeared to be the German headquarters. The narrative continues: "From a prisoner captured on December 14, it has been ascertained that both the Twenty-Third Regiment and the Jaegers suffered enormous losses on November 4. The same man described the fifth of November as a terrible day, saying that he had never before seen such mud as that in which the Germans were operating, and that the troops were suffering very much from the presence of water in the trenches. The shooting that he went through on the fourteenth of this month, he states, exceeded anything that he had experienced previously."

DIED.

BURKE—At Fortune Bridge, on Dec. 13th, 1914, Mr. Edward Burke, aged 87 years, leaves to mourn a wife, four sons and daughters besides a large number of friends and relatives.

McEWEN—At St. Peter's Harbour, on Dec. 14th, 1914, Robert McEwen, in his 88th year; leaving a widow four sons and two daughters to mourn his loss.

CAMERON—In this city on Dec. 17th inst, Ewen Cameron, aged 43 years.

McDONALD—In Somerville Dec. 5th, Ellen (nee Murphy), beloved wife of Douglas McDonald, formerly of Roxbury, R. I. P.

MURPHY—At Chelton on Dec. 9th, 1914, Peter Murphy aged 53 years leaving a widow four daughters and two sons to mourn their loss.

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Pope Benedict xv.

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Lest We Forget At Christ

(Written for the Xmas

When, in spirit, at the Mass We kneel on Christmas And adore the Infant Saviour In the holy Mass, new When our dear ones round us, And the Angels, ancient With the joy and peace round us Of the first glad Christmas Oh! forget not the glory Of the myriad tapers lit While the mistletoe and holly Wreath the altars, white— Forget not the dark region Far across the briny flood Where the wrath of vengeance Cloud the feast with blood—

Where the shadow of the cross O'er once-happy homes spread; And the widow and the orphan Vainly mourn their slaughtered; Where the flocks are left in And the ruined fields lie And the worthy poor unfeared; Hallowed temples, there, are Sacred robes and vessels set With the acolyte and priest, Holiest, tenderest, thus be Human skill can ne'er reach For the farewells Love spoken Death hath sealed forever Christian friends, when ye merry Round bounteous Christmas board, And, with welcome, gay cheery, Hail the birthday of the Bear in mind the starving millions Sore oppressed by grief and fears, Where the light of merry Christmas Hath been quenched in and tears.

And, the while ye freely pray, Generous, alms, and prayer glow, For the throngs that weep and suffer In the lands of want and The Christ-Child's sweetest ing To His own, true peace, and And a holy, happy Christmas He shall give to you and joy— Eleanor C. Dorr

Christmas Chimes The Golden Gate

(Written for the Christmas Herald.)

Will you not spend Christmas with me under the sunny California? Let not the journey over mountain and drier you, for I shall tell another and a carefree told ed fancy. So in fancy co beautiful California; come spend the Yuletide with the city of the dear Saint F close by the "Golden Gate." Still the stars, "the flames of the angels" stand deep blue heavens with lights. Down in the valley hoar frost gleams white countless house-tops, and the mountains still sleep in their mantle of snow. Through the cliff air, the cold before the dawn, the voice of Saint Bright's bell up to us, calling, as this called almost two thousand ago, to hasten and adore with loving hearts we respond. Oh, what a beautiful Christmas scene! Green everywhere, and the nur wreaths of green, inter with clusters of bright red, tell of many a trip to the lands. The eye travels of the hundreds of glittering until it rests and stays directly "neath the oriel" which casts many a d colored shadow over it, st lovely marble altar, adoring angel on either "Little Golden Door." To me, who have seen and over again, the surpassingly lovely. The must it be to you, w from a land of ice any Those stately crimson which are used so prof

