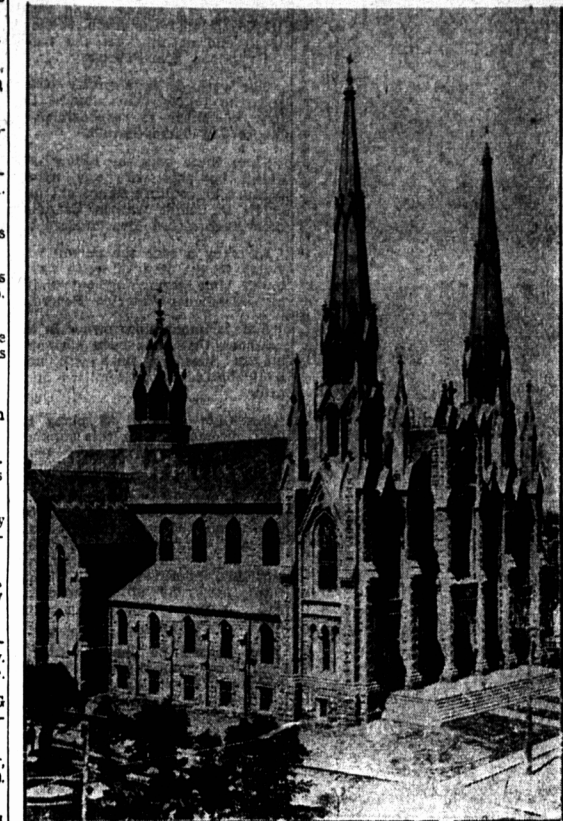


CITY & DISTRICT

The Cathedral Parish Of St. Dunstan In Charlottetown



St. Dunstan's Cathedral (first stone building) opened Christmas Eve, 1897, destroyed by fire March 8, 1913.

In the year 1812 there were only two priests in all Prince Edward Island. One of these two, the Rev. Aeneas Bernard McEachern, resided chiefly in the parish of St. Andrew, and from there started in canoe or cariole to minister to the various Scottish missions of the colony. The other priest, the Rev. Jean Louis Beaubien, made his home at Rustico and to his care were entrusted the French missions which then numbered five, namely, Rustico, Malbec, Cascumpec, Tignish and Rollo Bay. In those days the Catholic population of Charlottetown was small and unimportant; the glory of Port-la-Joie had departed and the majority of the population of the new town springing up on the northern bank of the Hillsborough was almost entirely Protestant.

In the year 1808, Mgr. Denant, Bishop of Quebec, paid a pastoral visit to his Maritime dependencies, but there is no record of his having tarried at Charlottetown. He probably made St. Andrew's his headquarters and from there visited the Acadian missions. In the last year of the eighteenth century, the Abbe de Calonne, brother of the Prime Minister of France, being for political reasons, obliged to leave his native land, came out to the then almost unknown colony of St. John's Island, and established himself upon his estate near the ruined fortress of Port-la-Joie. Having been invested with faculties from the Bishop of Quebec and acting as Vicar General of that Prelate, he assisted Father McEachern in his priestly duties, and, in obedience to his Bishop, furnished a report of the existing state of Charlottetown, not very flattering to that youthful metropolis. Having named evening as the time at which he could most conveniently call at Government House, the Bishop retired to the Hotel, which he describes as very fair, (decent) kept by a Methodist family of the name of Bagnall. There he received the visits of General Fanning, a former governor of the Island, Chief Justice Colclough, and other notables of the place, who were most cordial.



Bishop's Residence and old St. Dunstan's Cathedral, with St. Patrick's School and Provincial Building in background. Taken in 1885.

followed him even to his little schooner, which Mrs. McDonald of Glenadale had furnished with provisions for the voyage, such as mutton, butter and cheese. Mrs. McPhee had baked for him a plentiful supply of bread and pastry, Chief Justice Colclough begged his acceptance of two bottles of the best French brandy, the Commandant of the garrison proffered a boat manned by soldiers to convey the Bishop and his suite to the schooner which was anchored in the harbour, and thus amid expressions of good will on all sides, terminated the visit of Monseigneur Plessis to Charlottetown.

The chief personages of the place appear to have been delighted with the clever and sympathetic Bishop and he in turn, speaks most warmly of the kindness he received and of the beauty and promise of the budding town of which he wrote: "Its elevated position, its beautiful scenery, the breadth of its streets, of which the widest are 100 feet, the narrowest 60; the elegance of its private houses, and of the few public buildings already erected, give promise that Charlottetown will one day rank among the most beautiful towns of North America. Already it yields the palm to none in Canada, except that it has not that air of wealth which gives so striking an appearance to Montreal. There is an English Church, new and remarkably elegant Court House or Hall of Justice, and barracks for the soldiers and officers of the garrison, separated one from the other by a spacious court yard. This garrison consisting at present of a hundred men forms part of

a colonial regiment, named the Royal New Brunswick. It is commanded by Captain Shore, an officer whose merit has lately been put to the test of a court martial by which he was honourably acquitted, to the great confusion of those who had accused him. Near the barracks and on the bank of the river is a battery of six or seven pieces of cannon and a mile from there on the extreme end of a point jutting into the River is a blockhouse furnished with more pieces of artillery. These two batteries form the protection of the town in default of better."

will obtain as soon as possible the title deeds of the site that is offered you in Charlottetown and engage the faithful of the town and the surrounding country to begin at once to build a chapel according to whatever plan you may give them, so that by next spring you will be in a position to celebrate the Holy mysteries therein and to fulfil the duties of your ministry." The next reference to this church in the archives is contained in a letter from Monseigneur Plessis to Father McEachern dated from Quebec — August 3rd, 1818, in which the Bishop writes: "In putting up to auction your new church obliged to give one to Mr. Calbeck; nevertheless, it would be proper to leave one in reserve for the seigneur whoever he might be, and Mr. Calbeck could occupy it if he chose."

Bishop Plessis left one of his attendant clergy, the Rev. Jean Louis, Beaubien, to minister to the spiritual wants of the Acadians on Prince Edward Island, and it was arranged that he should receive the dues in all parts north and west of Charlottetown and Tracadie, while Father McEachern should receive those of the eastern section of the Island, it being understood that each clergyman should attend all families of his own nationality irrespective of the location of their dwelling. Father McEachern having in addition to the Scotch, the few Irish and English Catholic families who had settled in the Province.

There is no historical record to show whether Mrs. Calbeck's offer of land was accepted or not, but there is extant a pastoral letter in the handwriting of Mgr. Plessis addressed to Father McEachern and written from Bay Fortune, P. E. I. on the 18th of July 1812, in which the Bishop says: "You

These small links are all that we have to connect the existence of a Catholic Chapel in Charlottetown in the second decade of last century with the generous offer of Mrs. Calbeck made in 1812; such a chapel did exist seems pretty clear from the testimony of some of the pioneer Catholics of the Province. Mr. Murdoch McKinnon of Big Marsh, Township Fourteen, relates, how being in Charlottetown in the winter of 1819 he heard Mass in a small chapel on Sydney Street, which he says, was called "McPhee's chapel," owing to a Mr. McPhee having been principal contributor towards its erection. The Catholics of those days were for the most part poor as to this

world's goods, and those residing in or near Charlottetown must have made considerable sacrifice before even the tiny and roughly constructed sanctuary could be erected while as to the worry, anxiety and trouble which the infant church entailed upon Father McEachern, only those who have been like him, "builders in the wilderness," can appreciate what the sprouting of that grain of mustard seed cost the pioneer priest whose field was so large and whose helpers were so few.

In 1815, Bishop Plessis writes from Boston to Father McEachern concerning one Mr. Fitzpatrick, a priest who had arrived at Charlottetown from St. John's, Newfoundland, saying: "It is proved by the certificate of the Bishop of Chytre, that he has permitted Fr. Fitzpatrick to leave the Newfoundland mission, but in the first place Dr. Scallon says nothing of his qualities, good or bad, and in the second place, knowing that he comes to Prince Edward Island, he gives him no facilities whatever, although he could have done so, in virtue of his being my vicar general." It appears that Fr. Fitzpatrick did not come up to Father McEachern's standard as to what was requisite in a mission priest, as he vanishes from the scene and not until 1822 is there any mention of a priest for Charlottetown. On the 2nd of September of that year, Archbishop Plessis writes from Quebec to Bishop McEachern: "If this Fr. Fitzgerald, who comes to you from Newfoundland, is con-

Continued from page 5

COOK'S for Perfect Pictures. TOWN TAXI—Dial 5870. SALE CONTINUES at Sunter's Ladies' Wear. CRASWELL for Better Photographs. JIMMY'S TAXI — Dial 7878 1370 or 5252. GRADUATION CARDS on display at The Island Book Room. TABLE OF LADIES' HATS, regularly \$5.95, on sale at \$2.98. S. A. McDonald's, 2nd floor. SALE CONTINUES at Sunter's Ladies' Wear. NEW DRESSES—French Crepes at \$3.95 and Printed Nylons at \$6.95. S. A. McDonald's, 2nd floor. KYANIZE Non-Yellowing White Emamel. Highest quality. Toombs Music Store. KEROSENE, Electric and Propane Gas, Refrigerators, Bryenton and MacKay. "WE TREAT THE SICK WELL". Giggery's Pharmacy, open evenings till 8 o'clock. NYLON BED JACKETS, regularly \$4.95 on sale at \$3.00. S. A. McDonald's, 2nd floor. VISIT HI-STYLE MILLINERY, 103 1/2 Great George Street. Every style Hi-style. NORTHERN ELECTRIC REFRIGERATOR. — Highest quality. Special price. Toombs Music Store. CALEDONIA CLUB MEETING tonight, Friday, at 7 p. m. Agricultural Board Room. LADIES' GOWNS in seer-sucker, silk and silknet, clearing at \$2.00. S. A. McDonald's, 2nd floor. THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA. — Schedule for Sunday, May 16th. Wood Islands 11 a. m. and Caledonia 7.30 p. m. Minister: Rev. E. S. Hales. CAMPUS JACKETS just received by express. S. A. McDonald's, 3rd floor. TRYON UNITED CHURCHES. — Sunday, May 16th. Tryon 11 a. m. Trapani 3 p. m. Cape Traverse 7.30 p. m. Rev. Lloyd Archer, Minister. ALEXANDRA BAPTIST CHURCH. — Rev. J. D. Davison will preach in Alexandra Church on Sunday, May 16th, at 3 p. m. All are welcome. YORK PASTORAL CHARGE. — The United Church of Canada. Minister: Rev. J. M. Sproule, Sunday, May 16th, 1954. 9.30 a. m. Pleasant Grove, 11.00 a. m. Central, 7.30 p. m. York. BREADALBANE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH. — Service will be held at 11 a. m. All are welcome. Mr. Goodwill MacDougal, Student Minister. POWNALL UNITED PASTORAL CHARGE. — Services Sunday, May 16th, 11 a. m. at Bunbury, with Communion; 2.30 p. m. at Mt. Herbert with Communion; 7 p. m. Pownall. Rev. T. R. Goudage, Pastor. ARSENIC AND OLD LACE — Little Theatre Guild Presentation. Empire Theatre, Charlottetown, tonight. Membership tickets, to-night. Tickets for public at door, Hughes Drug and Old Spain, 75 cents. ENGAGEMENT. — Mr. and Mrs. George W. H. Beers announce the engagement of their daughter, Betty Jean, to Charles David Crawford, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Crawford, Springhill, N. S. Marriage will take place early in June. HAMPTON PASTORAL CHARGE. — The United Church of Canada. Services Sunday, May 16th. Bonshaw 11 a. m. DeSable 3 p. m. Victoria 7.30 p. m. Rev. R. H. Baxter, Minister. CORNWALL UNITED CHURCH. — Rev. A. B. Weir, D. D., Minister. Services May 16th, will be as follows: Kingston at 11.00 a. m. Sunday School at 10.00 a. m. New Dominion at 3.00 p. m. Cornwall at 7.30 p. m. Sunday School at 11.00 a. m. NORTH RIVER UNITED BAPTIST PASTORATE. — Sunday, May 16th. Long Creek 11.00 a. m. Clyde River 3.00 p. m. Kingston 7.30 p. m. Sunday Schools: North River 10.00 a. m. Fairview 11.00 a. m. Rev. H. Barber, Pastor. ST. JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, Belfast. Services Sunday, May 16th. Sunday School 10 a. m. Morning Service 11 a. m. Evening Service 7.30 p. m. Religious film service. All welcome. Rev. J. B. Heathwood, M. A., Minister.

CAVENDISH United Church of Canada. Services Sunday, May 16: Stanley Bridge 11 a.m.; North Rustico 7.30 p.m. Rev. F.W. Sawdon, Minister. SATIN CUSHIONS make an ideal gift. See our new assortment. S. A. McDonald's, 3rd floor. THE PRESBYTERIAN Church in Canada, Central Parish. Services next Lord's Day are as follows: Clyde River 11 a.m.; Church Hill 3 p.m.; Canoe Cove 7.30 p.m. Sunday School 10.30 a.m. Rev. Donald Nicholson, Minister. BREADALBANE Pastoral Charge the United Church of Canada. Services Sunday, May 16th. Pleasant Valley 11 a.m.; North Grandville 3 p.m.; Breadalbane 7.30 p.m. Rev. W. B. MacPhail, Minister. MARSHFIELD PASTORAL CHARGE. The Presbyterian Church in Canada. Sunday, May 16th. Harrington, Sunday School 10 a. m. Service 11 a. m. Mount Stewart 3 p. m. Marshfield Sunday School 10.30 a. m. Service 7.30 p. m. Rev. Lee M. MacNaughton, B. A., Minister. ORWELL — VERNON PASTORAL CHARGE. — Sunday, May 16th. Services, Orwell 11 a. m. Vernon River 2.30 p. m. Re-organization of Sunday School after service, Cherry Valley Sunday School 10 a. m. Service 7.30 p. m. Rev. Geo. W. Tilley, will conduct the Services. BROOKFIELD CHARGE Presbyterian Church in Canada. The hours of service for Sunday, May 16th, are as follows: Brookfield 11 a. m. Sunday School at 10 a. m. Glasgow Road 11 a. m. Hunter River 7.30 p. m. Sunday School at Hartsville 10.30 a. m. All are welcome. Rev. Lawrence Blaikie, Minister.

mission on planning the beautification of the Federal capital, of which he is a member. He will attend a meeting of the French Language Association at Quebec on the 19th, returning to Charlottetown at the end of next week. Mr. Randolph Nicholson of Toronto Bible College, spent a few days at his home in Darlington before taking up his duties for the summer at St. Ann's Presbyterian Church, Cape Breton.

RED POINT SCHOOL April Report Grade 9 — 1. Elora Ching. Grade 8 — 1. Weston Rose, 2. Arthur Stewart, Glen Sewart, 3. Norma Garrett, Eileen Robertson. Grade 7 — 1. Sheldon Rose, 2. Elkan Garrett. Grade 6 — 1. John Campbell. Grade 5 — 1. Ann Whalen, Rowena Garrett, 2. Theresa Whalen, Jerry Sutherland, Mary La Pierre, 3. Merton Bruce. Grade 4 — 1. Helen Whalen, 2. Angus Campbell. Grade 3 — 1. George MacPhee, 2. James Campbell, 3. Helen La Pierre. Grade 2 — 1. Frances MacPhee, Leo McInnis, 2. Ann Campbell. Grade 1 (a) — 1. Anne Rose, 2. Margaret Sutherland, Albert Whalen, 3. Vernon Garrett, George Campbell. Grade 1, (b) — 1. Mae MacPhee, 2. Robert MacPhee.

At the conclusion of the Mass in the courthouse, Bishop Plessis gave an exhortation which he says in his journal, was "in very bad English". In this address he impressed upon the faithful, the urgent necessity of providing a chapel for themselves, saying that he hoped by the next spring, there would be one built upon a site which had been offered by a Mrs. Calbeck, a Protestant widow. Confiding the work to the care and zeal of Father McEachern, the Bishop closed his address by naming St. Dunstan of Canterbury as the titular saint of the proposed church. Later in the day, the Bishop called upon Mrs. Calbeck to thank her and to encourage her in her charitable project. Having dined with the Governor on Wednesday and with General Fanning on Thursday, the Bishop excused himself from accepting the invitation of Chief Justice Colclough for Friday and made preparation for reembar-

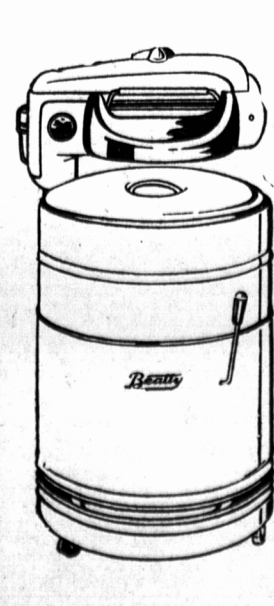
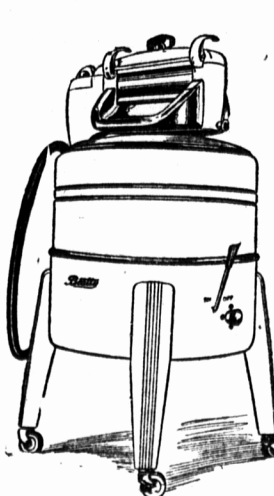
ing. The kindness of his new friends

Persons Mrs. Henry Blanchard, 154 Dorchester St., is a patient in the Charlottetown Hospital. Mr. H. B. Chandler is in Ottawa attending a conference of the National Film Board. Mrs. Michael Devereaux, New Haven, is leaving on a visit to Philadelphia, Pa. She is accompanied by her son, Louis Devereaux, who resides in Philadelphia. Miss Irma Holmes and Miss Violet Aiken, student nurses at the Prince Edward Island Hospital, left Wednesday morning, to spend their holidays in Toronto, Ont. Prof. J. H. Blanchard leaves today for Ottawa to attend a meeting of the Federal District Com-

YOUTH FOR CHRIST REPRESENTATIVE WILL SHOW 2 OUTSTANDING CHRISTIAN FILMS AS FOLLOWS: EVANGELIST BILLY GRAHAM'S FILM "MR. TEXAS" Charlottetown—Rollway Club—Sunday 16—8:30. Georgetown—Town Hall—Monday 17—8:00. Montague—Yeo Theatre—Tuesday 18—7:30. Upton Gospel Chapel—Thursday 20—8:00. "THIS GATHERING STORM" By Missionary Bob Pierce Murray River—Mayfair Theatre—Sun. 16—5:00. Montague—Yeo Theatre—Wednesday 19—8:30. A Free Will Offering Will Be Taken All Welcomed — Come Early To Get A Seat

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