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FIFTY YEARS A PRIEST

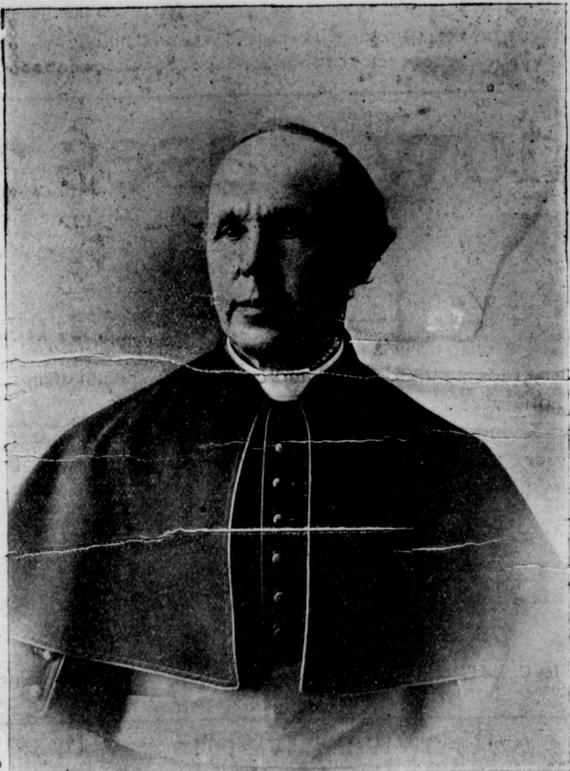
MONS. CONNOLLY CELEBRATES HIS GOLDEN JUBILEE.

Preparations That are Being Made for the Event by his Parishioners and Other St. John People—Portrait and Sketch of the Clergyman's

It is just fifty years ago today since the Very Rev. Monsignor Thomas Connolly, Vicar General of the Diocese of St. John, began his pastoral labors and to-morrow

honor of Father Connolly. The citizens in general have taken official note of the occasion and as a result of a meeting at the mayor's office there will be a public reception at the Mechanics Institute next week when many prominent citizens will attend to congratulate the Vicar General on his golden jubilee.

The memory of this festive occasion is to be handed down through the enduring medium of the printing press; a jubilee volume is now in press, illustrated with



The Very Rev. Monsignor Thomas Connolly, V. G.

the occasion will be celebrated with all the eclat appropriate to such jubilee festivities.

There are not many clergymen who are able to look back upon a period of active service of half a century and there are fewer who have so endeared themselves to their people as to call forth such enthusiastic congratulations as are awaiting the Vicar General. Father Connolly's co-religionists apparently cannot do too much to honor him and other sects have imbibed their enthusiasm and have decided to lend their aid as well. The esteemed Vicar General's fellow workers do not do things by halves when they attempt any function of this sort and in this respect certainly their zeal is to be emulated.

To-morrow morning there will be solemn high mass at St. John the Baptist and the sermon will be preached by Rev. H. A. Meshan, of Moncton. At 3 p. m. there will be a procession of catholic societies of the city and Carleton, accompanied by bands of music. There will be three addresses to the vicar General presented by the parish of St. John the Baptist, Father Matthew association and the united societies of St. John Carleton and Fairville. The kindly sentiments will also be accompanied by the more tangible token of a fund of money containing some \$700 or \$800 subscribed by the good father's friends.

In the evening there will be a reception given by the ladies' auxiliary society of St. John the Baptist at the rectory; a large number of invitations have been issued and it will be an enjoyable occasion. The chief event of this occasion will be the presentation of a large oil painting of himself to Rev. Father Connolly. The painting shows the priest in his library and is a very faithful reproduction of the strongly lined and resolute face. The painting was done by Mr. F. H. C. Miles. On the frame is an oblong plate of solid silver containing the inscription "Presented to the very Rev. Monsignor Thomas Connolly, V. G., by the ladies of his congregation on the jubilee of his priesthood, July 10th, 1898." The plate was handsomely engraved by Mr. Herbert A. Green, jr.

It is also noteworthy that at the services tomorrow the new organ which was put in St. John the Baptist church in May last will be used in the service of the church for the first time.

But this is not all that is to be done in

pictures of Father Connolly and the associates in his life work, describing the jubilee exercises and giving a sketch of his life. The latter is written by Rev. W. C. Gaynor who is known as a talented writer and historiographer.

Father Connolly, according to this sketch was born at Duke street, St. John, March 4th, 1823. His father was Mr. James Connolly, a prominent mason and contractor. He was educated at the Fredericton Grammar school and at St. Andrews college near Charlottetown. In 1844 he went to Quebec to prepare for the priesthood and on July 8th, 1848, he was ordained to the priesthood at the hands of Right Rev. William Dollard, first Bishop of New Brunswick, at St. Michael's chapel, Chatham.

During the half century that has succeeded he has been stationed pretty much all over the province and there is scarcely a place that has not felt the impress of his labors. Among his charges were, St. Louis, Kent Co; Fredericton, Woodstock, Barachois, Milltown, Johnville, Cathedral, St. John; Grand Digne, Kent Co.; Carleton, St. John; and St. John the Baptist, St. John. It was during his incumbency as rector of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in October, 1868, that he was elected to the rank of Vicar General. During that period too he was chaplain of the garrison at St. John and chaplain of the penitentiary.

Father Connolly has always been a steadfast temperance worker. He founded the Father Matthew Total Abstinence society and he was in 1879 elected president of the New Brunswick Total Abstinence Union.

There are many monuments to the venerable priests industry and zeal distributed about the province. He built several churches at Yarmouth and displayed the diversity of his genius by being his own architect. He was given the task of organizing the parish of Lower Cove which was separated from the mother parish in 1889. He also established St. Rose's at Fairville, so that Father Connolly has had much to do with determining the history of his church in this city.

The cut which is given herewith is an excellent photo of Father Connolly and people will see in the rugged face the stern qualities that enabled him to plant the banner of his church in the wilderness places of New Brunswick, to pass through many hardships

and trials, to overcome many obstacles and as pioneer and builder to extend the work and influence of the cause he early in life espoused.

HOW HE VIEWS IT.

What One Citizen Thinks of Some Other Folks and Their Work.

PROGRESS has received the following letter for publication. It is not given in full because there were matters touched upon which did not concern the public. It is always a pity from a newspaper standpoint that the man who writes to the press upon what he considers a grave public wrong cannot persuade himself to sign his name to his communication. But these things have been and probably always will be.

There is no doubt that there is much discussion among the people regarding the administration of the liquor law. According to the statements made by the commissioners in session, matters are decided by the chairman without consulting the other members. There has been a rumor around the city for some time that Chairman Knodell aims at the powers of inspector. However that may be, his actions at times would indicate that he was respecting the inspector. But here is the letter.

To THE EDITOR OF PROGRESS.—I was quite amused on reading the Sun this week over the controversy on one Miles Carroll's beer license, in trying to get him to close his store on Sunday. Why do they seem to pick on a man like him? Are there not hundreds open on Sundays? And, to speak plainly, can I not go out on the Sabbath day, and get intoxicating liquors in a great many places?

Mr. Editor, if you can tell me why the chairman of that commission, seems to enjoy nosing around the rum and common beer saloons, watching an opportunity to inform on some one, it is more than I can do. Why did our friend Ring receive the appointment not long ago from the Government when we have in our midst a man of intelligence like the honorable chairman.

I have watched this brazen chairman on several occasions, nosing around and venture to say he is not in the house, two nights in the 365, as he enjoys his peeping acts. On three different occasions, I have caught him watching the place I think is called Tammany Hall, on King square.

I would willingly give this chairman five hundred dollars, and guarantee him three others of like amount, who have sons, like myself, if he will stand at the corners, (for which he is noted) and give the names to the police magistrate, who enters the hellholes of our city. It makes me mad, to think of such excitement over a trifling matter like Carroll's and not intoxicating at that, and to think of the other dens, that are operating full blast and putting it out wholesale.

If I can make satisfactory arrangements with the chief, I am going to give the different policemen a chance to make extra money, and that will be for every person who is caught in a hotel (after hours) or a house of ill-repute, I will give the man making the arrest, \$5.00 a head, even if he scoops half the congregation of one of our churches.

I have two sons and have repeatedly watched them going into these hell holes, and if the names could be published it would make interesting reading. I may be a crank, but this city is run like no other city in the world. We have a Liquor Inspector, who is well paid? Where are the people he has reported? He may be a good man, but I think there is room for question. This liquor business is pure and simple, from beginning to end, all rot, and to put it in the language of an ex-licensed liquor man, I would not take out a license. Why I asked, well, said he, in the first place the license costs so and so, that's lots of money, I can afford to run my place without it (providing that Mr. Knodell don't sit on my door step, and smoke cigars) you are very liable to run a long time without being caught, and then the fine is not heavy. And then again if you are fined, they will not bother you for some time on the second trip, perhaps next year, so you see I have figured pretty well.

It might be well to mention that this chairman (who is trying to please the ladies) has a son travelling for a liquor house, in the shape of Jones' Brewery.

Thanking you for your space

I am, yours Etc.

WHOLESALE GROCER.

HIS SLIGHT MISTAKE.

MR. WILLET NOMINATES THE WRONG MAN.

He Meant Mr. Sutherland and he Said Mr. Mullin—Why Mr. Baird was not a Successful Shepherd—Some Incidents of the now Famous Case.

The Mullin case has made two rapid and kaleidoscopic changes of front recently. There was the meeting at Fredericton when the question was thought to have been settled for all time and there was the meeting at St. John when it took an aspect more direful than ever. From being merely an ecclesiastical row it has the appearance of becoming also a bitter legal fight.

At the meeting of the Presbytery at Fredericton Rev. Mr. Mullin and his elders agreed to submit gracefully to the administrations of a catechist, Mr. Frank Baird whom the Presbytery appointed to hold services in the disputed territory in conjunction with Mr. Mullin.

The elders it seems, changed their mind afterward and regretted that they had so far bowed to the will of the presbytery for they determined to allow no one but Mr. Mullin to watch over them and gave Mr. Baird to understand that no alien shepherd was wanted.

Mr. Baird appealed to the presbytery and when that astute body met at St. Andrew's church in this city this week there was a large attendance of clergy and laymen present. They had a determined look and it was evident that they had come to the conclusion that the time for temporizing was past. They had temporized for ten years or more and it was time to take the bull by the horns and bring matters to a climax.

The will of the presbytery had been disobeyed. The minister and the session had set themselves up against the presbytery, their ambassador had been treated with discourtesy and war must be declared. They therefore proceeded to mete out to Rev. Mr. Mullin the stripes of ecclesiastical discipline.

The clergyman saw it coming and he spoke in an apologetic manner endeavoring to shunt the responsibility from himself upon the session. But those present felt that Rev. Mr. Mullin was the real one who was responsible for refusing to open the church doors to Mr. Baird and they did not delay much when they proceeded to deal with the case. It was moved that the church be declared vacant and with scarcely any debate the motion was carried; of the 21 who voted on the motion only two voted against these were, Rev. Dr. Geo. Bruce and Rev. J. S. Mullin. The former thought perhaps that the presbytery was too severe. Some one objected to Rev. Mr. Mullin voting on the ground that he as a member of the court was adjudicating in his own case, which was not just. The point was not pressed, however, and Mr. Mullin was allowed the privilege of casting his vote.

Rev. James Ross of Woodstock, has been appointed moderator of the session and now those interested will await the result of his visit to Nashwaak and Stanley. It is not likely that Mr. Mullin will back down now, and if he refuses to hand over the key of the church to Mr. Ross there will be more trouble and it may get into the Civil Courts.

The presbytery has one thing, however, the records of the session. At this meeting of the presbytery the records of the sessions of various stations which were referred to committees to be examined. The committee who looked over the records of the session of Nashwaak and Stanley found some trifling errors and omissions to be attended to, and made their report to the presbytery to that effect. Rev. Mr. Mullin observed that the minutes of some recent meetings were not entered and asked for the book in order that he might enter them. "Oh, no," said Rev. Mr. Ross, the superintendent of home missions, as he tucked the records of the session under his arm, "you might write out the records on a scroll and hand it over to me to insert in the book."

There was rather a peculiar incident in this connection; at the meeting of the presbytery a moderator was elected, Mr. L. W. Johnston, of Fredericton, nominated Judge Forbes. Then Mr. John Willet arose and nominated Rev. J. S. Mullin. After pronouncing the word "Mullin" he sort of hesitated and some one asked "Whom did you say?" Mr. Willet thought a second and then said, "Yes, I nominated Rev. J. S. Mullin." The divines and

elders probably wondered whether he was joking but they proceeded seriously to a ballot and though the number of votes cast for each was not announced it can be imagined. It is sufficient to say that Judge Forbes took the chair.

Mr. Willet now says that he intended to nominate Rev. J. S. Sutherland but by a lapsus linguae said Rev. J. S. Mullin and he thought he might prejudice Mr. Mullin's case if he corrected himself so he let it go at that.

ON MOOSEPATH PARK.

Why Thursday's Races Were not a Very Brilliant Success.

The Moosepath races are over. They cannot be said to have been a very brilliant success from any standpoint. The weather, the condition of the track, the high wind, the want of enthusiasm on the part of the crowd, and in fact circumstances in general combined to have a somewhat dampening effect on Thursday's races. There were between 600 and 700 paid admission and these included representatives of the sporting fraternity from St. Stephen, Fredericton, Amherst, Moncton and other towns.

It may have been that the quietus which the Chief of Police put upon pool making at the outset in a way accounted for the lack of excitement; it certainly has created considerable talk. Mr. Briggs the veteran pool seller was there and started in briskly when officers of the law intimated that his work must be stopped. There is some little doubt regarding the act dealing with this matter, but it is pretty generally understood that pools can be sold only on an exhibition of races. With Mr. Briggs therefore business was very dull on Thursday. It was a sort of off day with him, so to speak.

Mr. Wheeler also came in for a share of attention from the police, and was stopped from running a dice game. As a rule the event was well managed and satisfaction prevailed.

Mr. George Carvell made his first appearance on the track after an absence of three years and was given an ovation. Speculation was in good form and did well considering that he was going against pacers.

Terrell S. entered by John M. Johnson of Calais was one of the trimmest, smoothest bits of horseflesh seen on the track here in a long time. This horse has been entered in three large stakes in the west and it is prophesied by competent judges that he will come close up to the 2.10 mark this fall.

Enthusiasts in horse racing are eagerly anticipating the day when trotters and pacers will not be classed. As it is now the number is too small to do anything other than amalgamate the two in these races.

Halifax strongly favors distinct and separate classes for pacers and trotters, and the time is not distant, say sporting men when this will be possible.

GETTING THEM READY.

The Tax Lists and How They are Progressing.

The preparation of the tax lists has been going on steadily and people are looking forward with longing anticipation to its appearance—nit. Some of the aldermen were computing some time ago that the rate would make a big leap this year from 1.46 its present mark to 1.60. It would not, however, be overstating it to say that it will probably be advanced from 1.46 to 1.55. The man with the income of \$1000 will pay 90 cents more in taxes. The Sand Point works, the loan for Carleton water supply and the exemption of the cotton mill will be among the items swelling the tax rate, and while the rate will not be less than 1.55 it may rise to 1.60. It is pretty certain however, that when the rate is officially made known there will be a greater cry for economy than the T. R. A. ever raised. The assessment, it is said, will be made up about the first of August and then the people will know just what they will have to pay for the privilege of living in the city.

Mr. Cameron Honored.

Mr. Charles K. Cameron has achieved a high place in the Order of Scottish Clans, having recently been appointed royal deputy chief for the province of New Brunswick, to succeed the late clansman John Leitch. Referring to the appointment the Fiery Cross the official organ of the order says: "Brother Cameron is a most enthusiastic clansman, and is well worthy of the honor that has been bestowed on him by the Royal Clan." Mr. Cameron is a member of Clan Mackenzie, No. 96, of this city, and was chief of the clan for three years in succession. The order is a strong one in the United States, and is growing in Canada. It is confined to Scotchmen or persons of Scotch extraction.