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Venerable Head of the Diocese Passes Away.

The Church Mourns the Loss of a Distinguished Prelate.

Right Rev. Bernard John McQuaid, bishop of the Diocese of Rochester, is dead. The end came peacefully and quietly about 9 o'clock Monday morning.

At the bedside was Bishop Hickey, Dr. T. A. O'Hare and Dr. Simpson, attending physicians. Since last Wednesday the approach of death had been recognized, and close watch was kept night and day. At times the mind of the bishop was clear, and he was able to talk rationally with those about him. At other times his mind wandered. It was evident that the life sands were slowly slipping away.

The wonderful vitality and splendid constitution of the aged bishop had withstood for weeks, the final dissolution, until there seemed a complete exhaustion of the remarkable store of strength that had sustained him, aided by an indomitable will.

Rt. Rev. Bernard J. McQuaid was born in New York, Dec. 15th, 1823. Sent to school in Canada at age of 14 and remained in classical school at Chambly several years. Then pursued ecclesiastical studies at St. John's Fordham, New York City. Raised to priesthood Jan. 16, 1848. First ministerial work in Madison, N. J. In 1853 was made rector of new Cathedral in Newark. While there Seton Hall College and Seminary, and St. Elizabeth College were established through his efforts. Was appointed Bishop of Rochester in 1868, and consecrated by Archbishop McCloskey on July 12 of that year. Lectured in many places on the education of the masses from the Catholic standpoint and the lectures were published under the title "Christian Free Schools". Was instrumental in the founding of St. Andrew's Preparatory Seminary and St. Bernard's Seminary.

Not many dioceses have been served so long by one bishop. Not often is it vouchsafed to a bishop to remain so long over his flock.

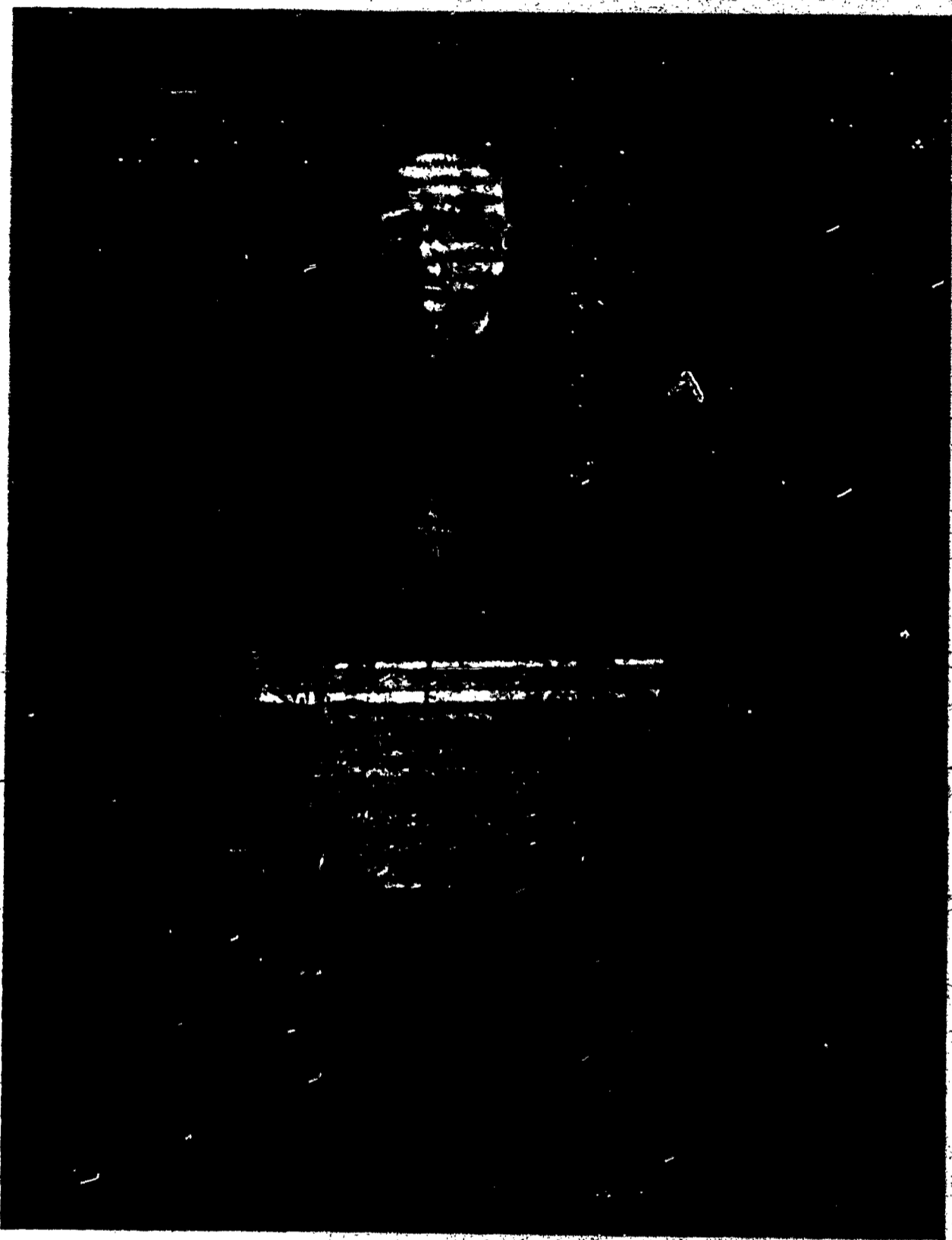
Rochester is not the largest diocese in the country either in point of territory or in point of Catholic population. Probably, a score excel it in both respects. But not one in the United States, if in the world, surpass it in point of generous and devoted Catholic people. Few dioceses in the world are so well equipped with churches, hospitals, theological seminaries, homes for the aged and in Catholic schools.

Go where one will in the city of Rochester he meets the cross towering above a Catholic church. If it is not a church, then it is a parochial school, an orphan asylum, a hospital, the cemetery, a convent or a seminary.

All these have been built, in great part, since Dr. McQuaid came here as the first bishop of the new see of Rochester on July 12, 1868. This work has been accomplished, not by munificent donations from individual wealthy Catholics but by the widows' mites, the contributions of the comparatively poor Catholics who responded generously to the appeals of our right reverend bishop for aid in achieving the aims he had in mind.

Seeing how difficult it was to obtain the right material for the priesthood in this western land, Bishop McQuaid resolved, when opportunity offered, to establish a seminary where students for the priesthood might be educated under the watchful eye of the bishop and the people. When he broached the subject to his priests many of them tried to discourage it. The field was too limited, they urged. Practically the same remonstrance was urged by his brother bishops. This opposition did not deter Bishop McQuaid from starting upon the work. An annual seminary collection was decided upon to raise funds. At first the response was not gener-

Bishop Dead.



RT. REV. BERNARD J. McQUAID.

ous but as the people began to understand what was in the mind of their bishop they gave more freely until to-day many thousands of dollars are received annually as the net result of the dollars donated by the ordinary workaday Catholics of the diocese. The seminaries—for there are two, one for the preparatory students, the other for those who have been selected to finish their theological studies—are in such great demand that every available inch of room has been pre-empted for a year ahead by the bishops all over the country who wish to avail themselves of the opportunity to have their future priests educated under the direction of the "Father of Catholic Education."

Few dioceses in the United States, even to our far-off insular possessions, but are now enjoying the influence of St. Bernard's spirit, as priests from these sections have been and are being educated in Rochester's famed Catholic seminary. Over in Rome its fame has penetrated and the Vatican has conferred upon its faculty the power of conferring degrees in theology and philosophy, a privilege not often granted to diocesan seminaries.

Ere many years have passed, every parish in the diocese will be presided over by a priest educated in our own seminary. This cannot but result in benefit to both diocese, people and priests and the church at large.

Bishop McQuaid's work in establishing a comprehensive sys-

tem of Catholic schools met with even more pronounced and vigorous opposition than did his proposition to establish a diocesan seminary. Many Catholics, prominent in professional and political circles, fought it aggressively. They inveighed against the unnecessary expense involved to the Catholic population, many of them poor and ill able to support their children even in the public schools. They protested that it was inexpedient to anger those not of our faith when the spirit of bigotry was rampant.

Bishop McQuaid was unconvinced and undaunted. He kept on agitating for a Catholic school system where Catholic school children could be given instruction in the principles of their holy religion, at the same time receive an education in the secular branches, parental control being supreme.

Again the plain people stood by their bishop and to-day they are glad that they did. Rochester's system of parochial schools is the model for the United States. Bishops have visited here and then fashioned their school systems like ours. Non-Catholic educators are not ashamed to pay their meed of praise to the teaching orders who shape the destinies of the Catholic youth of the city. Non-Catholic educators do not hesitate to say that pupils of Rochester Catholic schools are splendidly equipped and that they are in every way the equal of the product of the secular schools. In fact, they cannot well say other-

wise, inasmuch as our Catholic pupils graduate only upon certificates from the State Department of Public Instruction that they have passed the required examinations laid down by the State authorities.

Business men are not at all backward in saying that graduates of the Catholic schools are in every way superior and better equipped for commercial life than those who apply from the state schools. More than one big concern in Rochester has an office force composed in great majority of graduates from Catholic schools and these were selected by Protestant superintendents for superior merit.

So that in material point, as well as in the spiritual side, Bishop McQuaid's school policy has been of great benefit to his people.

In establishment of the Home for the Aged, Bishop McQuaid demonstrated that he was one who looked ahead and was not guided by the needs of the passing moment.

As a civic force, Bishop McQuaid has been potent. To him as much as to any one person, Rochester owes its splendid system of public parks. No public movement was denied support from our Bishop.

As a churchman, as a public-spirited citizen, as a friend to old and young, as a statesman, Bishop McQuaid measured up to the standard of the really great American citizen.

Order of Services.

Bishop Hickey announced the following order of services of which are open to the public: Starting Tuesday morning there will be each day a solemn requiem mass at 9 o'clock. The pontifical mass at the Cathedral officiated Tuesday morning and the requiem mass of the faculty of St. Bernard's Seminary Wednesday morning. Thursday there was a solemn pontifical mass celebrated by Bishop Hickey, assisted by the priests of the city. Thousands of pupils of the catholics were present in large numbers.

The body was taken to the church where it laid in state until Friday morning. Wednesday evening at 7:30 o'clock solemn requiem mass of the dead was celebrated at the cathedral. Thursday evening the obsequies of the mass and funeral were officiated at the dead by the students of St. Bernard's.

A guard of honor watched the remains as they lay in state from 8 to 9 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, the Rosary Society and Young Ladies Sodality of the Cathedral composed the guard. Wednesday, the Men's Guild of the Cathedral sang Mass at 8 o'clock and from 10 to 11 o'clock the students of St. Bernard's Cathedral sang Mass at 9 o'clock, representing various religious societies of the city.

Funeral services were held at 10 o'clock Thursday at the Cathedral.

The funeral of Bishop McQuaid will take place at 10 o'clock Thursday at the Cathedral. The body will be taken to the cemetery at 11 o'clock. The funeral will attend in a body.

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