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The Rise of the O'Connor's

Continued from last week

But at length, the Vincentians had enough to buy furniture for the house of the O'Connors out in Nebraska. With the newly purchased furniture and the stoves, carpets and other impedimenta, duly delivered at the coal yard, all was ready for the scheduled departure of the O'Connors. Henry, the druggist, who had for months declared the O'Connors to be pests, and had said the neighborhood would be well rid of them, was the man who brought up a new difficulty. He pointed out that if the household goods went by freight, while the family went by passenger train, the numerous O'Connors would be on their Nebraska farm for fully two weeks before they would have stoves, chairs or household goods. And the truth of this dismayed the men who thought they were almost at the end of the O'Connor problem.

But the coal merchant, whose quick wit and ingenuity had weathered many a rebuff, and who had engineered the securing of the pass for fifteen persons, was the man who solved the new trouble. "We'll send the stuff as baggage," he said. And he had built an enormous packing case, much larger than an organ-shipping case, and into this great box went the stoves, the carpets, the household goods and other stuff of the O'Connors. The box was mailed up, labeled with the name of the family, and the destination, and in its raw white wood loomed up over 7 feet in height in the black surroundings of the coal yard like a young cliff.

John McDermott, the truckman, and a member of the St. Vincent de Paul Conference, came to take the O'Connor box to the Erie ferry. When he arrived, the genial coalman said, "Johnny, take this box down and check it as baggage on this pass."

McDermott gasped. "Holy mackerel, man, baggage y'e say! That'll never go as baggage."

"Well, try it, anyhow," said the coal man, "we've got to have it go as baggage."

"I'm game," said McDermott. And with four helpers, who sweated and puffed and said things that suggested the need for membership in another society than the St. Vincent de Paul, he loaded the mighty box upon his truck and went to the ferry.

Presenting his pass to the baggage master, McDermott quietly said, "Hey, check this baggage, please." "Why, that's grub and travel," answered O'Connor rather testily, "did you think we looked up, gazed around for the could travel with our hands empty and then followed the direction of McDermott's finger that he regarded himself as the which was level at the sweating men unloading the box from the truck. "Baggage," yelled the checker, "what d'ye take me for. Get to the freight yard with that stuff."

But McDermott's feet were firmly planted on the floor. "That's baggage," he said, "it weighs 1,100 pounds. The pass calls for fifteen people. Ain't they entitled to 100 pounds apiece?"

The baggage man could not answer for a moment. Then he said vehemently: "Eleven hundred pounds on a free pass? Say, my son, I'll never do it. You'll have to see someone higher up."

"Well, who is he," said McDermott, and upon being told he sought the man higher up. That official came to the packing case, looked it over twice, read the pass twice, and when McDermott said, "Ain't those fifteen people entitled to 100 pounds of baggage apiece?" the man looked at him and said, "Good Lord, yes. But that is the limit. Of all the crust I ever saw, the box of 1,100 pounds on a pass as 'baggage,' takes the cake."

And the baggage was checked. McDermott's report was received with joy by the Vincentians. Saturday was fixed as the day for the start of the O'Connors. The neighborhood was awake to the greatness of the occasion. No better day could be chosen. All the school children were free. A few neighbors treat-

ed O'Connor senior very well on Friday evening. His rooms were illuminated. A light caused by his friends' liberality shone in his eye. Child after child called to say farewell to the O'Connor children. Almost every caller brought something as a present. Money, food, clothing, small objects piled in. It was late on Friday night when the last visitor had come and gone and the O'Connors went to bed.

Saturday came and the crowds began to gather outside the door. Nearly every child from the school was in the street. The throng attracted the police from Madison street station. There was a hum of expectancy in the air. The street sat Henry, the druggist, hopeful that he would see the last of the O'Connors but gloomily doubtful, as usual. The coal merchant would not trust himself with the party. He had provided car fare, but had gone ahead to the ferry.

At last the hour came and the O'Connors descended the stairs and the high stoop. Every neck was craned to see them. They were fairly freighted with bags. Father, mother, Johnny, Jimmie, the older twins, the younger twins, even Frankie, the two-year-old—every one of them had a bag. Most of them had a grip or a bundle in one hand, some in both hands. Over the shoulder of each wastied a bag. Frankie's was a paper bag, but the others were flour bags. Their precious articles, gifts, and portables were in this wonderful collection of bags.

The bobtail Madison street car halted at the door. The O'Connors family boarded it. With two neighbors they filled the old car. The bell jingled, the weary horse started on his measured trot, the neighbors shouted "good-by, good luck," O'Connor senior waved hands, the children cried or shouted, and the O'Connors had started. It was a grand send-off.

Henry, the druggist, arose from the stoop. "By Jimmy, they're gone," he said, "but I'll bet a dollar they'll be back again this winter."

"Oh, bosh," said a more optimistic friend near by. But the gloomy Henry shook his head and went back to his store.

At the ferry the coal merchant awaited the O'Connors. At length the bobtail car slowly rolled into its stopping place, and the motley throng piled out. When he saw the assorted collection of bags, bundles, grips and parcels, he was astonished. "For heaven's sake, what are all these bundles," he asked with irritation.

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News From Ireland Catholic News Notes

Armagh.

A number of workmen who were digging for foundations for a house in a field close to Armagh came to what is believed to be a rich vein of gold, which extends for a considerable distance. A sample of the supposed gold was sent to an expert for testing.

Cavan.

Thomas Flynn, Derry, has been returned for trial at the Assizes for causing the death of John Prior of Arva, recently. Terence Clarke, Farhadreen and Miss Mary McIntyre, Relaghan, have been elected master and matron respectively of Ballyboro' Union.

Clare.

Joseph F. O'Connor has resigned as engineer to Ennis Rural Council.

John Hasset, of Burrane, Knock who died on the 2nd of April last, left estate valued at \$12,600 his son.

Down.

Miss Christie Linehan (in religion Sister Enlilan), daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Linehan, St. Mary's Villas, Richmond Hill, was professed at the convent of St. Marie's of the Isle.

Dublin.

A handsome new hall at Glack, about four miles from Limavady was opened on November 27, by J. P. O'Kane, Ballycastle. The building which is a large and commodious one has been erected by the local division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians.

Dundalk.

Miss Mary Devin of Dundalk died recently at the age of 56 years.

Down.

Dr. John P. Kean, of Newry, has been appointed medical officer of Meigh district.

The Bangor Urban Council have decided to provide an infectious diseases hospital for the town.

Dublin.

Brackenstown House, County Dublin owned by Captain O'Callaghan comprising 25 rooms, and standing on a large farm where several well known Irish racehorses were bred, was destroyed by fire on November 23.

Galway.

Galway County Council has appointed Mr. Lee, B. E., as assistant county surveyor.

Miss McCann, formerly of Eastland House, Tuam, where she lived with her uncle, the late Dr. Dowling, has obtained an important position in Oporto, Portugal.

Kerry.

Died.—Recently, in Dublin, Henry Keane, Aunacaul, recently, Miss Teahan, Castlegregory.

Kildare.

The death occurred at Leixlip Castle, Leixlip, on November 22, of William Mooney, J. P., since 1860 Clerk of the Crown and Peace for County Westmeath. Deceased had reached his 90th year.

Kings.

Mrs. Kilmartin has resigned her position as matron of Birr Union, after a service of twenty-six years.

Leitrim.

The County Leitrim Committee of Agriculture have appointed D. Keenan expert ploughman, of County Wicklow, to the position of ploughing demonstrator for North Leitrim.

Longford.

The military barracks on Longford has been permanently closed.

Louth.

The Dundalk Rural Council is considering plans to provide a water and sewerage system for Blackwick at a cost of \$20,000.

Wicklow.

The late J. Murphy, of Newcastle, County Down, and formerly of Bary, left personal estate valued at \$6,609.

Queen's.

Died.—November 23, Patrick Daly, sr., Rathdowney, recently, John Kelly, Rathdowney.

Catholic News Notes

Bishop-elect Koslowski will be consecrated titular Bishop and Auxiliary to the Archbishop of Milwaukee, in the Cathedral of that city on January 14th. The assistant consecrating Bishops will probably be Mgr. Richter and Mgr. Rhode.

Catholic physicians of New York made a spiritual retreat in the chapel of St. Vincent's Hospital recently.

The beautiful new school of the Holy Rosary, New Orleans, was recently dedicated by Most Rev. James H. Blenk, D.D.

The Church of the Holy Angels for Italian Catholics has been opened at Barrington, R. I.

Twenty-three Sisters of the Incarnate Word, who were forced to leave Mexico, have settled in Fontitown, Ark., where they will establish an orphanage.

Attending St. Paul's University are 471 Catholic students. At this State University a Catholic chapel is in course of erection.

Rt. Rev. Charles H. Colton, D.D., dedicated the new Church of the Sacred Heart, Buffalo, recently. The building is to form part of group to include church, school, rectory and convent, the whole to cost at least \$150,000. Rev. William Bernet is the rector.

In West Milwaukee the first stone of a Carmelite Church, to cost \$25,000, was laid on the 30th ult.

Rt. Rev. Mgr. John B. Murray, V. G., of Cincinnati, O., has been raised to a dignity of Prototary Apostolic.

At the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. B. Casey, of Seattle, Wash., their three priest sons officiated at the solemn mass.

The new hall of residence of the College at New Rochelle, N. Y., which was dedicated recently by Mgr. Hayes, Chancellor of the diocese, cost \$300,000. Two hundred and fifty girls occupy the three upper floors.

This year's Seminary collection in the diocese of Davenport, Ia., is \$4,930.86.

The Sisters of the Visitation have published a life of the late Rt. Rev. Alfred A. Curtis, Bishop of Wilmington.

The new committee house of the Fathers of Mercy at Morningside Drive, New York City, will be completed and dedicated in January.

At the Baltimore convention of the Federated Catholic Societies next year Archbishop Ireland and Bishop Donohue will preach at the Pontifical masses.

Rt. Rev. Charles E. McDonnell, D. D., Bishop of Brooklyn, proposes to establish a new college in his See city. Already it is said that \$110,000 has been subscribed to the building fund.

Two new parishes are to be erected in the city of Toledo, Ohio, one from St. Peter's and the other from the parish of the Sacred Heart.

In Bengal, India, there are 28,885 Catholics.

The President of the new Republic of China is favorably inclined to the Church, and two of his cabinet ministers are Catholics.

A multitude of books distract the mind.

St. Andrew's New Catholic Church

Two hundred members of the newly established St. Andrew's Catholic Church, for which a site has already been purchased in Portland Ave., met in Concordia Hall in Clifford Ave., Sunday afternoon to discuss the plans for the edifice and outline the methods for obtaining funds. Rev. Joseph A. Miller, pastor of Holy Trinity Church in Webster, who has been appointed by Bishop Thomas F. Hickey to fill the pastorate of the new church, presided at the meeting. In a short address he told the reasons for the formation of a new church in the northeastern section of the city, pointing out that for the last few years the need of more adequate facilities of worshiping has been felt by the many Catholics living there.

The new parish which will be formed from the present parish of Holy Redeemer Church, will be the third mission church established in that parish. The other two are Our Lady of Perpetual Help and St. Francis Xavier Churches. It will also be the 26th Catholic church in the city.

Property in Portland Ave., has been purchased for the site of the new church at a cost of \$10,000. It will have a frontage of 371 feet in Portland Ave., 480 feet in Barbour Street and 245 feet in Duran Street, comprising nearly two acres. The boundaries of the church take in a wide section of territory. The number of houses being built there is growing each day, and it is expected that the population will double in a few years.

The principal matter discussed Sunday afternoon was the kind of a building that should be erected. Most of the parishioners are of the opinion that two separate buildings, one for school and the other for church purposes, would be the best plan to adopt. A single building, for church and school, they feel soon would be overcrowded. Acting on these suggestions, Father Miller appointed a building committee, of which he will be the chairman, composed of the two lay trustees of the parish, Jacob LaFrois and Frank X. Feery, and Benedict Meiszahl and Leo Spiegel.

It will be the work of the committee to find out what kind of a building will be satisfactory, and likewise what materials will be used. They will submit their report, for the approval by Bishop Hickey, at the next meeting to be held on Sunday, January 18, in Concordia Hall.

Another problem to be met by the people is the obtaining of a place for holding services while the new church is being erected. If a building suitable for the purpose can be had, regular Sunday services will be held, commencing in a few weeks. The using of a tent in the spring and summer months met with the favor of those present.

Ground will be broken in the spring and it is hoped that the building, or buildings, will be completed by autumn. Father Miller will continue to fill the pastorate in the Webster church until the new church is ready for occupancy. To obtain funds, collectors will be appointed to visit the different families in the parish and, in addition, parties and entertainments will be held. The pastor has visited 250 families in the past few weeks and is confident that with the upbuilding of that locality where it will be situated, St. Andrew's Church will grow to be one of the leading parishes of the city.

Baker Theater.

Rowland and Clifford will present "The Divorce Question" by William Anthony McGuire at the Baker Theater, Jan. 5, 6, 7th, with matinees Monday and Wednesday. The splendid success of this play at McVickers Theater in Chicago, where 107 performances were given proves conclusively the merit of this attraction and moreover gives ample evidence that the public of nowadays want a serious play, one that will benefit their education.

Teacher.—What is a vicenary? I know, teacher. I have it in my head, but I can't just think of it. —Brooklyn Life.

No man can produce great things who is not thoroughly great himself. —Brooklyn Life.

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