



The *Great* Canadian
Catholic Hospital History Project

Documenting the legacy and contribution of the
Congregations of Religious Women in Canada,
their mission in health care, and the founding and operation of Catholic hospitals.



Projet de la *Grande* Histoire
des hôpitaux catholiques au Canada

Retracer l'héritage et la contribution des
congrégations de religieuses au Canada,
leur mission en matière de soins de santé ainsi que la fondation et l'exploitation des hôpitaux catholiques.

**Souvenir of First Centenary
Hotel Dieu Hospital, Kingston, Ontario
1845 - 1945**

Source: Courtesy of the RHSJ St. Joseph
Region Archives, Kingston

Copyright: Public Domain

Digitized: April 2012

SOUVENIR OF FIRST CENTENARY

HOTEL DIEU HOSPITAL



KINGSTON, ONTARIO

1845 - 1945

Acknowledgment

THIS Centenary Souvenir is published by J. J. Harpell, Garden City Press, Gardenvale, Que., entirely at his own expense. The Superior and Sisters of the Hotel Dieu are deeply grateful to Mr. Harpell for his kind thought and generous act.

SOUVENIR OF
FIRST CENTENARY

HOTEL DIEU
HOSPITAL

KINGSTON, ONTARIO



1845 - 1945

CONTENTS



Greetings	3
Foreword	5
The Beginning of Things	7
The Family Tree	9
Daughter of Destiny	13
Like a Green Bay Tree	17
Mother Superiors	23
Kingston—A Mother House	25
In Memoriam	27
Appendix	29

Greetings



THE observance of the Centenary of the coming of the Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph to Kingston is primarily a public acknowledgment of gratitude to Divine Providence for the increase vouchsafed to the seeding of 1845. Mother Bourbonière had the stout heart and great soul of all Adventurers for God. Yet unless Heaven had smiled upon her labors, she could never have triumphed over the difficulties and uncertainties that lay in her pioneering path. Ten decades of progress manifest beyond question that God's hand was in the work. To Him be glory and honor for ever and ever.

It is fitting, too, that on this anniversary we should have thought of the Religious whose devotion and self-sacrifice built upon the foundations so well and truly laid. True Spouses of the Heavenly Bridegroom, they spent themselves for the Great Lover of Souls, leaving to those who follow them a compelling inspiration to high and holy duty scrupulously performed. In the "Nuns' Acre" of St. Mary's Cemetery their bodies moulder into dust, but their spirit lives on in the Institute they loved as they plead for us before the Throne of God.

Nor may we omit a heartfelt acknowledgment of the debt we owe the medical profession, without whose skill in the healing art and sense of devotion and vocation the Hotel Dieu of today would have been an impossibility. A word of sincerest appreciation is also due our nurses, the Ladies' Auxiliary, the Jeanne Mance Guild, and all our benefactors and friends. May their generous co-operation be remembered in the Book of Life.

SISTER BREault, Superior.

Foreword



BECAUSE the Catholic Church takes Christ at His word and literally interprets the second great Commandment of the Law, she has ever been the great Almoner of the world. The office of the Seven Deacons, whose appointment to serve the needy is recorded in the sixth chapter of the Acts of the Apostles, has been continued down the ages. Care of the sick and needy has gone hand in hand with the preaching of the Word, so that across the face of the earth the cross that marks the hospital, the orphanage, the house of refuge, points to the heavens.

On the fourth of September 1845, a new chapter in this age-old tradition was unfolded in Kingston. Without any fanfare, but quietly as the evening falls, the five Founding Sisters crossed the threshold of the Hotel Dieu for the first time. The building was of meagre proportions, reminiscent of a Cottage in Nazareth, but it was destined, in the words of Ecclesiasticus, to expand and flower into fruits precious in the marts of God.

The inspired writer tells us that neither hammer nor axe was heard when Solomon erected the Temple, since it was built of stones hewn and made ready. So silently, its stones hewed and made ready by unwavering faith and cemented by boundless trust in Divine Providence, the Hotel Dieu began a work that today has ripened to a century's rich harvesting. Other than dauntless souls would have hesitated to make a beginning of things; for the Kingston of 1845 was not the populous and prosperous city of today, nor did its Catholic inhabitants possess an abundance of the world's goods. With a zeal and devotion characteristic of all our Sisterhoods; without capital other than their consecrated love for suffering humanity, the Founding Sisters offered themselves as hostages to destiny in the full confidence of one day hearing from

H O T E L D I E U C E N T E N A R Y

divine lips the precious encomium, "I was sick and you visited Me."

There are those who judge worth by weight and measure, influence by miles. To such the history of the Hotel Dieu will not prove very exciting, since for them it is merely a block of buildings where physical pain is eased and bodily infirmities are healed. But for all whose standard of values is not merely the present and tangible; who see the Hotel Dieu as an institution dedicated to the higher and nobler purpose of God's glory through the religious motive that inspires its humanitarian work and the unostentatious edification of the dedicated lives of the Community, the garnering of a century is not so much the total of bodies healed as the aggregate of souls influenced by the silent sermon it preaches on eternal values.

To the hallowed memory of the Hotel Dieu's founders and to all those who, through a century of years, have given themselves so completely to the Christ-like work the pioneers of 1945 so courageously and worthily initiated, these pages are dedicated in humble and affectionate tribute.

D. A. CASEY.

The Beginning of Things



CATHOLIC France has given great sons and daughters to the Church, on the roll of which the name of Jerome Le Royer de la Dauversière is indelibly inscribed. Born at La Flèche three years before the dawn of the seventeenth century, scion of an old and noble family, this simple layman was destined to give a new Company to the Church Militant and to contribute materially to the seeding of the Faith in an unknown land.

To the superficial eye M. de la Dauversière had none of the qualifications required of an architect of God. He was a failure in business, afflicted with poor health, and lacking in personal magnetism. The citizens of La Flèche who rubbed shoulders with him would have ridiculed the idea that, in the mysterious ways of Divine Providence, his name was to live down the ages. All unknown to them the Call was whispering in the silence of his soul, to become vocal through an alternation of light and shadow and oases of illumination beckoning across deserts of interior darkness. Finally, on the Feast of the Purification, ¹⁶³⁰1630, as recorded in the Annals of the Hotel Dieu of La Flèche, "after Monsieur de la Dauversière had received Holy Communion with his usual fervor, God made known to him that he was to establish in France, in honor of the Holy Family, an order of Nursing Sisters. This order was to extend to New France where the Holy Family was to be particularly honored."


The difficulties which barred the way to the execution of M. de la Dauversière's divine commission seemed so insuperable that we can well imagine the skeptical asking, in the words of the Book of Esdras, "who has given you authority to build this house? In the first place there was almost a total lack of funds for the beginning of the work in France and its extension to Canada was

considered by the Jesuit Fathers, who were familiar with conditions across the seas, as a wild dream beyond the probability of realization. But, like the Crusaders of old, M. de la Dauversière knew God willed it and that therefore the formidable obstacles could be surmounted. Without scarcely any capital save unquestioning faith he secured a tiny dilapidated building and there, under a roof poor as a Stable in Bethlehem, watched by the cradle of the Hotel Dieu.

Mindful of his commission to promote devotion to the Holy Family, M. de la Dauversière set out almost immediately to erect a chapel that would be dedicated to the Head of the House of Nazareth. Aided by his brother Rene, he canvassed the city for funds. Of the first Drive in Hotel Dieu history the annalist of La Flèche records: "The first alms given our Founder was that of a very poor French child, a veritable pauper. Shyly the little one placed two pennies in Monsieur de la Dauversière's hand. The second came from an equally poor peasant woman who from her extreme poverty gave a penny. The two brothers, and indeed all interested friends of the proposed chapel, loved to think that the Child Jesus under the form of a French child, and the Blessed Virgin in the guise of a peasant woman, wished to contribute to the erection of an edifice destined to increase in France and America the honor paid St. Joseph." The story of these touching donations being noised abroad, many of the well-to-do gave generously and the City Council made a grant to build the chapel and reconstruct the hospital. On May 2, 1634, Bishop Claude de Roueill dedicated the first Hotel Dieu chapel of St. Joseph.

While human hands were fashioning the chapel of St. Joseph, Providence was strengthening the foundations of the Hotel Dieu that was to be. At this time three wealthy young ladies were inspired to serve the sick in the little hospital. We can well imagine with what holy joy the pious founder welcomed their aid, since, now that he had the sympathy and support of the rich and influential, he could vision the future security and expansion of his charitable undertaking. We may note here, too, that the very worthy organization we know as the Hotel Dieu Ladies' Auxiliary has a venerable and honorable history dating back to three worthy ladies of La Flèche.

The Family Tree



NOW that the seed sown by M. de la Dauversière had fallen upon good ground and taken root that was to yield fruit a hundredfold, the finger of God moved again to insure the rich harvesting. Since man is mortal, the permanence of the Hotel Dieu called for the foundation of a community of nursing sisters who could continue and increase its beneficent work down through the years. For this high purpose God chose Marie de la Ferre, one of the three worthy ladies who had offered their services to M. de la Dauversière.

Born at the ancient manor of La Ferre in 1592, this destined angel of charity was abundantly endowed with the choicest gifts of nature and grace. Her early years made unhappy by a domineering step-mother, her father sent the young Marie to reside with a maternal aunt, a worldly woman who set out to make of her young charge a society butterfly. But it was when "joy revelled around her" and "love shone at her side" that Marie de la Ferre resolved to consecrate her life wholly to Christ and His suffering poor. The Prisoner of Love, before whose tabernacle she would remain rapt and motionless for hours, and the Immaculate Mother to whom she had consecrated herself at the death of her mother according to the flesh, pleased with her complete renunciation of self, accepted her into the number of the elect. As is not infrequently the case, Marie's decision was not altogether welcome to her households and friends. But entreaties and expostulations failed to dissuade her from her high purpose of dying to the world and living only to God. Finally, when it was evident that she could not be diverted from her resolve, Marie was left free to follow in peace the path of her choice.

At first Marie made a nunnery of her life in serving M. de la Dauversière's little hospital, for whose maintenance she became

a beggar among her wealthy friends. She elected for her hospital care those whose condition entailed the most repulsive duties. Often, as the faded pages of the annals of La Flèche record, she was seen to kiss the very sores that inspire nature with disgust, and on more than one occasion her abnegation was rewarded by the surprising cure of the patient. Meanwhile the plan to establish a new community of hospital sisters under the patronage of St. Joseph and the Holy Family was taking shape. At last, when there remained not the slightest doubt such was the divine purpose, Marie de la Ferre gave to the Church and the world the Religious Hospitalers of St. Joseph. The name chosen for the new institute may sound odd to modern ears; but the title has a long and honorable history dating back to the time of the Crusades, when "hospitaller" designated an order of military monks or knights who, after the manner of modern army medical corps, followed in the wake of the Christian forces heroically campaigning for the rescue of the Holy Places from infidel hands. Thus Marie de la Ferre was linking up with a venerable tradition when she named the new institute and opened the first Hotel Dieu hospital in the year of grace 1636. Again, as in the case of M. de la Dauversière, Providence raised up a generous benefactress in the person of the Princess de l'Epinoÿ, one of the first to seek admission to the infant community. Three sister foundations followed in a short space, one at Moulins where a violent epidemic was raging. To Moulins went Mother de la Ferre to aid her sisters in battling the steady progress of the disease and to become herself one of its victims. Thus, the crown assured to the good and faithful servant already prepared, the plough to which she had set her hands marking a straight furrow the soul of Marie de la Ferre went up to God July 28, 1652. Hardly was she cold in death before the populace evidenced their belief in her heroic virtue as, despite the danger of contagion, they forced their way into the death chamber to lavish upon the precious remains tokens of their esteem and veneration.

Jeanne Mance



Daughter of Destiny



THE orphaned daughters of Mother de la Ferre were soon consoled by palpable signs of divine favor. Seven new foundations followed in rapid succession and across the seas the uncharted domain of New France waited but seven years to welcome the first Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph. In the story of their coming to Canada we meet again the pious Dauversière, this time in the company of the noble Maisonneuve and the valiant Jeanne Mance.

Together with another man of God, the venerable Father Olier, Dauversière was inflamed with the purpose of spreading the Faith by the banks of the St. Lawrence. Their holy ambition was dear to the heart of Maisonneuve, one of Canada's immortals whom Parkman salutes as "a great man, knightly in bearing, brave as a lion, and devout as a monk." The island of Montreal was set aside for colonization purposes, and Maisonneuve and a little company of pioneers got ready at La Rochelle for the great adventure. At last but one obstacle remained to be surmounted: the emigrants insisted on some provision for the care of the sick. The Community of La Flèche could not meet the need because of their limited numbers. But Providence had made provision. On the sunny June day set for departure Jeanne Mance arrived to join the expedition. Six weeks later, after what was anything but a pleasure cruise, the adventurers entered the parish church of Quebec to offer a prayer of thanksgiving. It was the feast of St. Lawrence, Martyr, August 10, 1641. There was official red tape even in those days, so that it was not until May 17, 1642, that Maisonneuve arrived at the site of Canada's future metropolis and named it Ville-Marie, Mary's City. In his party were Father Vimont, Madame de la Peltrie (who two years earlier had greatly assisted the coming of the Ursulines to Quebec), and Mlle Jeanne

H O T E L D I E U C E N T E N A R Y

Mance, Canada's pioneer nurse and the founder of Canada's first Hotel Dieu. Following the example of their pious chief and future Governor, the colonists knelt to reverently kiss the virgin soil and voice their gratitude to God for a hazardous journey safely concluded. The next morning on a rustic altar adorned with wild flowers gathered by Madame de la Peltrie and Mlle Jeanne Mance, Father Vimont said the first Mass ever celebrated on Mount Royal.

That May morning Jeanne Mance had found her destiny. From that date the inspiration which came to her during the Holy Week of 1640 to devote her life to the cause of Christ and of humanity was translated into action. Mlle Mance was an instrument admirably fitted for her dual purpose. She was a Joan of Arc and a Florence Nightingale united in one person. In the grand drama of Canada's early history this wonderful woman has played a part far more important than our historians have seemed to realize.

The Montreal settlement was no Garden of Eden. The colonists had few of the comforts of life and lived in constant fear of attack from the Iroquois warriors bent upon providing patients for the hospital Jeanne Mance was planning. Even the St. Lawrence seemed to resent their presence. Early in the winter of 1642 it overflowed its bank and inundated the entire settlement, obediently subsiding after Maisonneuve had made a vow to make a pilgrimage to the summit of Mount Royal and there erect a cross. The vow was kept, the entire population accompanying the Governor to the Mountain's top where Father Vimont said Mass and blessed the votive cross. On this holy and venerable spot there stands today a magnificent cross, one hundred feet high, which is illuminated nightly.

To afford protection against their savage neighbors, the colonists constructed a Fort which was solemnly inaugurated on the Feast of St. Joseph, March 19, 1643. Within its protective walls were the wooden and bark houses and tents occupied by the inhabitants. One of these houses was presented to Mlle Mance by the Governor, and at once she opened its doors to the sick. A year later Jeanne Mance's dream of a hospital was realized, a modest structure sixty feet by twenty-five with a small chapel or oratory attached. For thirteen years Jeanne Mance managed this

institute of mercy with spartan courage and tenderest solicitude until one Sunday morning in 1657 the Angel of Mercy met with an accident which threatened to invalid her for life. Entirely deprived of the use of her right hand, she returned to France to beg at La Flèche for some Sisters to come to Canada to take up the work she had to abandon. There while praying at the tomb of Father Olier in the chapel of Saint-Sulpice, to which she had gone, as she herself says, "having no hope of any cure, and never dreaming of a miracle," asking only "somes light relief in my arm, enough that I might use it some way, such as to dress myself and to fix up our altar at Montreal," the use of her arm was restored. Her thanksgiving was to raise the restored member in the Sign of the Cross.

At the same time that Jeanne Mance was restored to health, the permanence of her work in New France was guaranteed by the decision of the La Flèche Community to send three of its members to Montreal. De la Dauversière, we are told, selected the pioneer Hospitallers because of their humility. Accompanied by Jeanne Mance, the three Sisters so honored — Judith Moreau de Bresoles, Catherine Mace and Marie Maillet — set sail from La Rochelle on the feast of Saints Peter and Paul, June 29, 1659. The good ship "Saint-André" had other passengers that day destined to play a great part in the drama of Christian civilization on the North American continent — Marguerite Bourgeoys and three companions, the nucleus of the Congregation of Notre Dame.

When the Religious Hospitallers arrived in Montreal on October 18, they found a tiny settlement of 40 houses and some 260 inhabitants, a striking contrast to the busy city of La Flèche. Conditions were so starkly primitive that they had no difficulty in the practice of their predominant virtue. These religious, born under sunny skies and nurtured in ease, were now minus even the frugal comforts of the convent home they had left behind. They lived in a house which, writes Parkman, "being hastily built of ill seasoned planks, let in the piercing cold of the Canadian winter through countless cracks and chinks; and the driving snow sifted through in such quantities that they were sometimes obliged the morning after a storm to remove it with shovels. Their food would

freeze on the table before them and the coarse brown bread had to be thawed on the hearth before they could eat it.

For fourteen years Jeanne Mance worked and prayed with the first Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph, until in June of the roses and of the Sacred Heart she went to receive the accolade of Him Who said, "I was sick and you visited Me." Truly she was a valiant woman, than whom in the religious romance of early North America there is no more lovable or inspiring heroine. Florence Nightingale is rightly honored and remembered for her humanitarian work. But it should not be forgotten that two hundred years before the Lady with the Lamp gave such a shining example of philanthropy, Jeanne Mance pioneered in social service raised to the heights of the virtue of charity. Not herself a religious, she is a shining example to those treasures of the Church, while at the same time she is a commanding challenge in the field of the Lay Apostolate.

Canada's metropolis remembers Jeanne Mance in magnificent bronze effigy, a street and a public park. But her greatest monument are the Houses of the Religious Hospitallers in Canada and the United States and, especially, the great Hospital spread across the slopes of Mount Royal where on a memorable morning in Mary's own sweet month she knelt on a verdant carpet for the renewal of Calvary.

Hail Virgin in Virginitie a Spouse!
Heard first below
Within the little house
At Nazareth;
Heard yet in many a cell where brides of Christ
Lie, hid, emparadis'd.

Coventry Patmore

Like a Green Bay Tree



THE tree planted by Jeanne Mance nearly three centuries ago has spread its branches far and wide across this continent. To the Kingston Hotel Dieu belongs the distinction of being the first foundation from the venerable Canadian Mother House.

Scarcely was Bishop Gaulin seated on the throne first graced by the illustrious Alexander Macdonell than he begged the Bishop of Montreal to send him Sisters to open a hospital in Kingston. Bishop Bourget came to Kingston to look over the situation and was so impressed with the difficulties, financial and otherwise, which lay in the way of the project that on his return to Montreal he warned the Sisters: "You must depend solely on Divine Providence." But the call for help so touched the compassionate heart of the Community that, fully conscious of conditions, in unquestioning trust in God they immediately began preparations for the mission of mercy, and although circumstances delayed their departure for four years they refused to unpack the many large bundles destined for "Kingston, Ont." At last toward the end of 1844 God inspired a wealthy young lady, Mlle Josephine Perras, to devote herself and her fortune to the establishing of the Kingston Hospital. Now that the horizon was visibly clearing, the Superior of the Montreal House, Sister Bourbonnière, accompanied Miss Perras, took the steamer for Kingston arriving on the evening of May 27, 1845, to be welcomed by the Bishop and Vicar-General Angus MacDonnell and hospitably received by the Sisters of Notre Dame Convent, established in Kingston in 1841. Next day a property on Brock Street, across from the site of the present hospital, was acquired for three hundred dollars, and so the present great institute of physical healing and spiritual influence began to take shape. Mother Bourbonnière's return to Montreal with the way prepared and made straight was welcomed with holy joy and

humble thanksgiving. And now, as a happy augury of the future, the door of the Mother House opened to a Dr. Hallowell, a Protestant from Kingston, who came to offer his services to the projected hospital free of charge. In the hundred years of its existence the Kingston Hotel Dieu has known many Dr. Hallowells who deserve grateful mention in these pages.

At length, on September 1st, 1845, after a touching farewell from the Community, Mother Bourbonnière and Sisters Hugnot, Davignon, Latour and Emilie set sail for the scene of their future labors. The next day they arrived in Kingston and were welcomed at the landing place by Bishop Phelan who escorted them to the Cathedral to return thanks to Almighty God and ask His blessing on the new undertaking. The next two days they spent as guests of the Notre Dame Sisters until, everything being ready, on September 4th they entered under their own roof. Eight days later the first patient sought their loving care. On October 28 Bishop Phelan, assisted by his Vicar General and Fathers Dollard, Lawlor, Begley and Murtagh, officiated at the canonical dedication of the hospital, chapel and monastery in the presence of kindly citizens of all denominations. The needs of the sick being provided for, the maternal heart of the Sisters remembered the homeless little ones and set aside two wards for their accommodation. This extra obligation was tenderly and faithfully discharged by the Hotel Dieu until 1910 when St. Mary's-of-the-Lake Orphanage was opened under the direction of the Sisters of Charity of the House of Providence.

St. Teresa of Avila has well said that "a tried foundation is sure to succeed." The fruitful flowering of the seed sown in Kingston one hundred years ago witnessess to this truth. In addition to the three vows taken by all religious, the daughters of Mother de la Ferre are bound by a fourth to the service of the poor, and always and everywhere they have discharged this obligation with the tenderest solicitude. This Christ-like charity must have been especially dear to Mother Bourbonnière and her companions, since in all verity they could say with St. Peter "silver and gold I have none." Their only capital was trust in Providence. Even the laborers were too few, as is evidenced by the first election to office held on October 29, 1845. The Superior was in addition

H O T E L D I E U C E N T E N A R Y

Mistress of Novices and Pharmaceutist; Mother Assistant Latour was also Chief Hospitalier, Secretary of the Chapter and Overseer of the Orphanage; Sister Davignon was Bursar, Sacristan, Portress, and had charge of the Refectory. Sister Emilie was Community and Hospital cook and in addition made shoes and candles and looked after the laundry, poultry yard and bakery. Somehow they must have solved the problem of being in two or three places at the one time! Certainly time didn't hang heavy on their hands. Most keenly felt, was the lack of hospital space — an impediment to their work which even today faces the Community, great as has been the Hospital's expansion down through its century's history.

All days in a House of God are happy days, but March 14, 1846, is marked as especially joyous in the calendar of the Hotel Dieu. That day Angela Boulette asked admission as a postulant. On June 1 of the same year Kingston gave its first recruit in the person of Lucy McDougall. Others soon followed — Sisters Odile, McGorian, Debuc, Brady, Conroy, Hickey, Leahy and Murphy. God was looking after His own. The increase in numbers was manifestly providential, since during the novitiate of the new laborers in the new vineyard Kingston suffered a fearful epidemic of typhus fever. Thousands fleeing from a famine-stricken Ireland crowded the emigrant ships which, because of the terrible conditions under which they were transported across the sea, were little better than floating morgues. From the Gulf to Kingston they left a fearsome trail of disease and eath. Quite naturally Kingston was in a panic of apprehension, fearing the spread of the plague. Sheds were speedily erected to shelter the sufferers and placards posted about the town asked for volunteer nurses. The Sisters of the Hotel Dieu immediately offered their services. Night and day they watched by the bedside of the sick and closed their weary eyes in death. Two caught the contagion and one, Sister McGorian, died a white-robed martyr to duty crying out in her delirium to be taken back to the sheds where she said the sick were calling her. Today the "Angel of the Resurrection," erected by the illustrious Archbishop Cleary, looks down upon the pit where hundred victims of the dread epidemic sleep their last sleep. In St. Mary's cemetery a simple white cross marks the

H O T E L D I E U C E N T E N A R Y

grave of the young religious who saw Christ in the afflicted exiles of Erin. The Irish of Canada should not forget the debt they owe the Hotel Dieu of Kingston. With them Sister McGorian should be remembered forever.

In the years immediately following Sister McGorian's death heroic death the hospital made considerable progress. Yet when in 1857 Bishop Horan, who had succeeded Bishop Phelan, made his first visitation of the institution he was struck with the extreme poverty of the community. Much history has been written since then; the Hotel Dieu has developed wonderfully; still it remains true that even today it lacks the resources necessary for its vastly expanded service to the public. The first material addition on the original site in the form of a new wing was dedicated by Bishop Horan in 1872. Three years later the Hotel Dieu had the honor and privilege, for the first time, of welcoming an Apostolic Delegate in the person of Archbishop Conroy of Armagh, Ireland. In paternal and commendatory words His Excellency likened the Hotel Dieu to the little home of Nazareth, since in the modesty of the nuns he saw the sweet face of Mary, in the happy little ones the smile of the Child Jesus, and in the resigned sufferers the patient St. Joseph.

Next after the foundation year of 1845, the most important date in the story of the development of the Hotel Dieu is 1891. The years had brought an increasing appreciation of the institution's worth, and with the growing demands upon its services it was reluctantly realized that the site endeared by the hallowed memories of forty-six years had to be relinquished. Accordingly the momentous decision was made to purchase Regiopolis College and grounds, a fine property occupying an entire city block. The necessary alterations were completed in exactly a year and the transfer took place. Hospital accommodation was now considerably enlarged, but a becoming Chapel was still lacking. Two years later Archbishop Cleary laid the corner stone of the present beautiful Chapel of St. Joseph. That this was regarded as a great event in the history of the Hotel Dieu is evidenced by the attendance at the ceremony of forty-two of the diocesan clergy. On that occasion His Grace expressed the hope that he would soon have

H O T E L D I E U C E N T E N A R Y

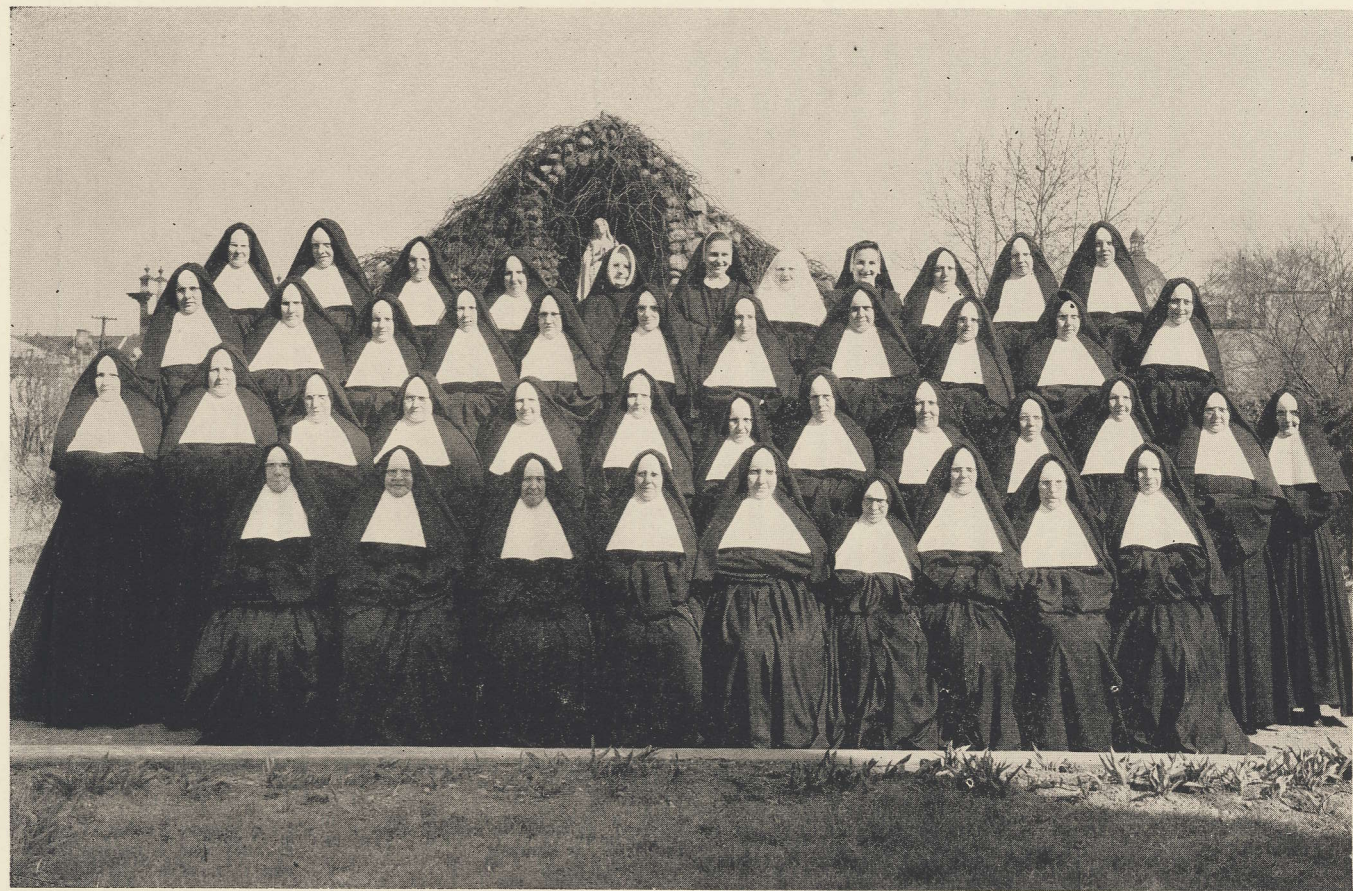
the pleasure of laying the corner stone of a new Monastery, a wish he realized on June 13, 1897.

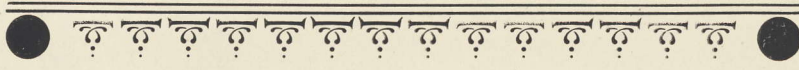
With a greatly enlarged hospital, a worthy chapel and monastery, it might have been reasonably assumed that the Hotel Dieu had done with contractors and builders for a considerable period. But it seems as though Providence has designed that each succeeding Archbishop of Kingston would have the happy privilege of declaring a corner stone well and truly laid. For the mustard seed of 1845 continued its upward trend so vigorously that Archbishop Gauthier saw the beginning of a new wing in 1909, Archbishop Spratt the erection of a Nurses' Residence in 1937¹⁹³³ which was enlarged in 1927, and Archbishop O'Brien that of the ultra-modern St. Joseph's wing in 1929. Nor is the remarkable chain about to be broken. As these lines are being written preparations are under way to commemorate the Hospital's Centenary by the erection of a Jubilee Wing as a tribute of gratitude and affection from the clergy and laity of the Archdiocese for the magnificent work accomplished in the past century by the devoted Religious Hospitaliers.

Close on the syllables of death's "Be still".
There came the love song of the Canticles:
"Arise, make haste, my love, my beautiful one.
And come."

A nun is a city builded
About a citadel,
A walled silent city,
Where God alone may dwell.
A Sister, a candle gleaming
In Earth's dull window pane,
That men may be reminded
Of Christ and His sweet reign.

A Page, C.S.C.





Mother Superiors

1845 - 1945

1845	Mother Bourbonnière	1899	Mother La Rose
1848	Mother Louni	1902	Mother Dauversière
1851	Mother Latour	1905	Mother Powers
1854	Mother Lacroix	1908	Mother Powers
1857	Mother Latour	1912	Mother Farrell
1860	Mother Latour	1915	Mother Powers
1863	Mother Brady	1917	Mother Farrell
1866	Mother O'Brien	1920	Mother Farrell
1869	Mother O'Brien	1923	Mother St Aloysius (MacDonald)
1872	Mother Leahy	1926	Mother St. Aloysius
1875	Mother Leahy	1929	Mother Bulger
1878	Mother Brady	1932	Mother St. Aloysius
1881	Mother Leahy	1935	Mother St. Aloysius
1884	Mother Leahy	1938	Mother Donovan
1887	Mother Doran	1941	Mother Donovan
1890	Mother MacDonell	1944	Mother Breault
1893	Mother Hopkins		
1896	Mother Walsh		



Kingston a Mother House



FROM the last chapter it is evident that the Founding Sisters brought to Kingston "some green shoots of vine" which held in them the promise of vintage rich beyond their dreams. One would like to think that they visioned the century of progress we commemorate in this year of grace 1945. But this we do know, that in days that went swifter than a weaver's shuttle they found their blessedness, content in the knowledge that the future was secure in the hands of God.

The tendrils of the vine planted in Kingston in 1945 have spread afar. As in its hour of need Montreal had given to the city of Frontenac, so with an equal zealous generosity Mother Bourbonière's daughters went out from Kingston to wait on Christ in the person of the sick. Today in Cornwall, Ontario; Chicago, Illinois; Polson, Montana and Hartford, Wisconsin, foundations made from Kingston perpetuate the work of M. de la Dauversière, Mother de la Ferre and Jeanne Mance, adding new stars to the crown and shedding new lustre on the glorious record of the Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph. The Hotel Dieu of Cornwall was opened in 1897, Chicago in 1903, Polson in 1916, and Hartford in 1926. The daughter houses look to their Mother House with veneration and love and it, in turn, has for them a truly maternal affection.




In Memoriam

REV. Mother Bourbonnière, who watched over the cradle of the infant foundation, was compelled by ill health to return to Montreal after completing her three-year term as Superior. There in the Mother House, on the eve of the feast of St. Joseph, March 18, 1855, she passed to the reward. Under little white crosses in St. Mary's Cemetery, within echo of the Hotel Dieu bell, rest fifty-nine of the Sisters who after years of faithful service, their lamps trimmed and made ready, gladly answered the Bridegroom's "Veni." The inscription on the first cross reads "Sister McGorian, December 3, 1847." Beside her sleep Sisters Kelly (1851), Conroy (1861), Granger (1863), Belanger (1864), Baker (1865), Kavanagh (1865), Behan (1866), Barron (1872), O'Brien (1874), Debuc (1882), McGillivery (1882), McCann (1883), Leahy (1887), Hickey (1889), Holden (1893), Murphy (1897), Coughlin (1897), McDougal (1898), Ryan (1898), Whelan (1900), Judge (1903), Murphy (1905), Brady (1905), Dunne (1905), Dupont (1905), Hamilton (1907), Kennedy (1908), Donnelly (1909), La Rose (1912), Donovan (1914), Doran (1915), McKeown (1915), Deasy (1915), Walsh (1916), Powers (1916), McCaffrey (1917), O'Connor (1917), Duffy (1918), O'Hara (1919), Doherty (1920), Maloney (1921), Madden (1923), Farrell (1926), La Rose (1927), Hazelton (1928), Augustine (1928), Wiseman (1929), O'Gorman (1932), Smith (1933), McKeown (1940), O'Brien (1940), Bulger (1942), Kennedy (1942), Gallery (1942), Culkeen (1944), Keon (1944), McDonald (1944). Four others who labored long and faithfully in Kingston have died at the daughter houses of Polson and Hartford: Sisters Hazelton, McGowan, St. Joseph and Mary of the Sacred Heart.

**Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine, et lux perpetua
luceat eis.**



Appendix



STATISTICS are no true interpreter of the worth of such an institution as the Hotel Dieu. Yet they do indicate the great expansion of the work of the hospital.

Measured by Figures.

Five Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph came to Kingston in 1845: today the Religious Sisters number 47.

The bed capacity of the first hospital was 20: today it is 217.

In the first 65 years of its existence the hospital treated 25,000 patients. Last year 4,962 received hospitalization and 5,195 were treated in the Outdoor Department — a total of 10,157. The Outdoor Department affords a 24 hour service for all who require medical attention but not hospitalization.

The Training School for Nurses was opened in 1913 with an enrollment of 8. At present the number is 83. Moreover, 32 of the Religious Sisters have diplomas as Registered Nurses and there are 21 lay Registered Nurses permanently on the Staff, making a total of 116 nurses attached to the hospital.

In 1845 such a thing as a Medical Staff did not exist; today it boasts a membership of 33, plus 14 interns.

Measured by stone and mortar, a wing was added to the original hospital in 1872. Accommodation was greatly increased by the purchase of the buildings of the old Regiopolis College in 1891. The corner stone of the chapel was laid in 1893, and that of the Monastery, or Sisters' Residence, in 1897. Another

hospital wing was added in 1909, a Nurses' Residence in 1923, still another wing in 1929 and an Interns' Residence in 1943.

A Fully Approved Hospital.

The Hotel Dieu meets the full requirements for standardization demanded of the modern hospital. It is fully approved by the American College of Surgeons and by the Canadian Committee on Approval of Hospitals for Internship of the Canadian Medical Association. It is affiliated with Queen's University for Clinical Training, and its Training School for Nurses is approved by the Nurses Registration Branch of the Ontario Department of Health.

Staff Doctors.

The Hotel Dieu is served by an efficient and devoted Medical Staff of which the present president is Dr. F. X. O'Connor, with Dr. F. J. O'Connor, Jr., as Vice-President and Dr. A. D. Milligan as secretary-treasurer. Other members of the Staff are Doctors L. N. Armstrong, C. W. Bennett, N. E. Berry, G. W. Blenkinsop, D. W. Boucher, J. De L. Campbell, W. Ford Connell, H. C. Connell, J. S. Delahaye, W. A. Hay, S. Houston, C. A. Howard, J. E. Kane, B. M. Koster, G. Lindsay, R. R. MacGregor, J. E. Millard, G. W. Mylks, Sr., G. W. Mylks, Jr., A. J. Medley, F. J. O'Connor, Sr., F. D. O'Connor, J. P. Quigley, K. J. Regan, E. Robertson, S. S. Robertson, T. Rutherford, J. F. Sparks, J. T. Tweddell and G. K. Wharton.

Interns.

Four Canadian Provinces and the United States are represented by the fourteen interns. They are Drs. Antonik, Kapukasing, Ont., Blanchaer, Kingston, Ont.; Bracken, Brockville, Ont., Cappe, Ottawa, Ont., Jeffrey, Ottawa, Ont., Kuzyk, Vegreville, Alta., McIlroy, White Plains, N.Y., Polowin, Ottawa, Ont., Prosterman, Vancouver, B.C., Rabkin, Winnipeg, Man., and Shaw, Sacharoff and Wolfe, Kingston.



The Proposed Centenary Wing

The Present Need.

To contrast the Hotel Dieu of 1945 with the original hospital is to be reminded of the parable of the mustard seed. The expansion is all the more remarkable in that in its hundred years of operation it has never made a public appeal for financial assistance. This is little short of a miracle, even if we remember that the Sisters receive nothing for themselves save the plain habit they wear and the simple food they eat. Moreover, not only do they give their services without thought of personal gain, but every year they provide hospital accommodation and care for which the hospital receives no payment from any source. Last year this free service amounted to \$15,000 and in the past ten years to \$140,000.

But splendid as is the institution upon which the sun of the centenary year shines, further expansion is imperative if the Hotel Dieu is to keep pace with modern hospitalization demands. A pressing need at the moment is the provision of a new wing for the Children's and Maternity Departments at an estimated cost of \$250,000. Such a wing is a two-fold necessity. Primarily, and in line with the best hospital technique, it would set these departments apart, and, secondly, it would greatly relieve the overcrowding in the present buildings by releasing space for general hospital services. Aware of these facts, friends of the hospital decided to appeal to the public for financial assistance. A Kingston Hotel Dieu Centenary Campaign Committee is soliciting subscriptions for a Building Fund. Substantial results have so far rewarded the Committee's efforts. But much more is necessary if the proposed Centenary Wing is to become a reality. A cheque to the Treasurer of the Centenary Building Fund, addressed to Mr. C. V. Tierney, 279 Johnson Street, Kingston, Ontario, will be a donation to a worthy cause and a becoming mark of appreciation of a century of excelling religious and humanitarian service.

