



ROCHESTER CONVENTION
1892

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Roman Catholic Institutions

OF THE

City of Rochester, N. Y.,

Devoted to

WORSHIP, EDUCATION, CHARITY.



A Souvenir of the Convention of New York State Grand Council of the Catholic
Mutual Benefit Association, held at Cathedral Hall, August 1st
30th to September 2nd, 1892.

Union and Advertiser Press.

The C. M. B. A.



The object of this corporation shall be to improve the moral, mental and social condition of its members, and to educate them in integrity, sobriety, and frugality, to endeavor to make them contented with their position in life, and to aid and assist members, or their families, in case of death.



Diocese of Rochester.

Before the establishment of the Hierarchy in these United States of North America, Catholic Missionaries had visited the territory embraced by the present Diocese of Rochester, and had sown the seeds of faith among the Indian tribes that dwelt in the region that lay between the Mohawk Valley and Lakes Erie and Ontario. Traces of these early missions are not wanting in several places east of our city, but the brevity of our notice forbids entering into detail, even though the subject be of great interest. O'Reilly, of telegraphic fame, tells us in his "History of Rochester," that the first religious communities were formed in 1818. From the sources of information at our hand, we would infer that even at that early date Catholics met for public worship, at the place which was destined after the lapse of half a century to be the centre of a flourishing Diocese. The Church grew gradually, and when the Diocese of Buffalo was formed in 1847 there were within the limits of the present Diocese of Rochester four Churches in the city, a Church at Mt. Reed, another at Scottsville; there was a resident priest at Auburn, who attended missions at Seneca Falls and Geneva; the Genesee Valley was attended from Dansville and Rochester; there was also a congregation established at Ithaca, and its needs looked after by a priest resident at Owego, and finally a mission at Canandaigua, attended by the Rev. Wm. O'Reilly, assistant pastor of St. Patrick's in this city. At the same time there were in Rochester an asylum for orphan children, under the charge of the Sisters of Charity, to which was attached a select school for girls, and an academy for boys, in care of the Brothers of Christian Schools.

On the 16th of January, 1848, in the Cathedral of New York, there was elevated to the priesthood a young man who was destined to be the great instrument under God for the building up of Catholicity in these parts. For twenty years the Rev. Bernard J. McQuaid labored in the State of New Jersey, everywhere leaving behind him monuments of his

wisdom and untiring zeal. He built Churches and Schools, procured a teaching body for the Diocese of Newark, made Seton Hall one of the first institutions of its kind in the country, while in the capacity of Vicar General he ably assisted the late Archbishop Bayley. In 1868, on the 3d of March, he was preconized Bishop of the new Diocese of Rochester, and on the 12th of the following July was elevated to the Episcopate. The new Diocese embraced the Counties of Monroe, Livingston, Wayne, Ontario, Seneca, Cayuga, Yates and Tompkins, in the State of New York. Nature has done much for this territory. To the south stretches the beautiful Valley of the Genesee, its eastern portion is diversified by hill and woodland and lake, to the west are the fertile fields of Monroe, Genesee and Orleans, while on the north it is washed by the blue waters of the great Ontario.

The Catholics whom the Bishop found on his entrance into the Diocese were mostly descendants of Irish and German emigrants, who had brought the old faith and the old religious customs of their European homes to this new land of the west. In numbers they were but a small fraction of the population. Their wealth was far from great, their educational advantages from a Catholic standpoint almost nothing. The priests were few in number, only 38, inadequate to the needs of the growing Diocese, the Church buildings poor, the parsonages in keeping with the Churches.

Catholic education was the great need, for it would keep alive the fire of faith, raise the standard of education, and the standing of the Catholics in the community. Although through the Diocese the public schools everywhere offered educational advantages, still these advantages, great as they were, could not be enjoyed by Catholics without sacrifice of principles they held dear. But how establish thoroughly Catholic Schools amid such surroundings? The Bishop was not long in the Diocese before he began the crusade in behalf of Christian Schools. As a matter of principle it was argued that we should have institutions wherein the poor as well as the rich should be taught; where the poor as well as their more fortunate neighbors should enjoy the priceless treasure of Christian education. Moreover the State should not insist that Catholics should pay for that, which in conscience they could not make use of; as a consequence, if the State were to continue obliging Catholics to pay for State education, then such schools should be established as Catholics could in conscience frequent.

Many who read this little notice will remember the Catholic Procession of Corpus Christi, 1871. In the line were about 5,000 Children from the different Parochial and Sunday Schools, to say nothing of the Societies of men who joined,

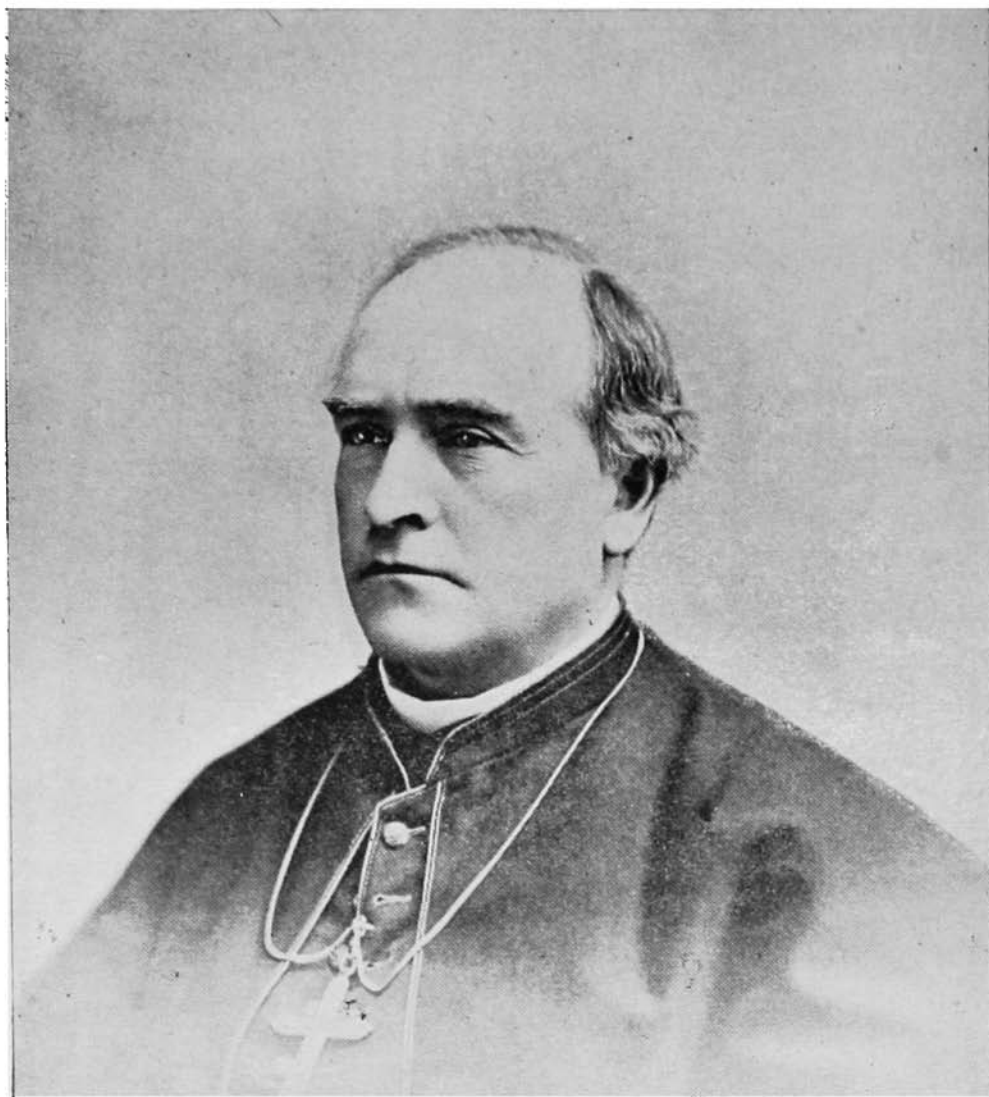
to make the day memorable. After passing through the principal streets they marched to Jones Square, where addresses were delivered in English, German and French. At the conclusion of the services the assembled throng sang the "Te Deum" of thanksgiving. The number of Catholics in the procession surprised the people of Rochester and gave the Bishop an opportunity of insisting on the justice of his demands in behalf of Catholic Parents and Catholic Children.

In order to appeal to the sense of right for which our people are noted, to justify his course in founding these schools in his own diocese and to impress on Catholics the duty and necessity of supporting such schools the Bishop wrote and lectured extensively. He introduced into his diocese the Sisters of St. Joseph, procured for them all that would be helpful in making them efficient teachers. This work has surely been blest by God, for from three they have grown to be a community that numbers more than 200, and at present are in every way equipped for the work to which they consecrate their lives. They are ably seconded in the work of conducting our Parochial Schools by the Sisters of Mercy who teach in Auburn and in Rochester and by the Sisters of Notre Dame who have charge of almost all the schools attached to the German Congregations with the exception of the Boys School at St. Joseph's where the "Brothers of Mary" preside. As the result of the combined efforts of Bishop, Priests, Sisters, Brothers and People the diocese has a system of schools which constitutes its glory. The number of children in our Parochial Schools is almost ten thousand. As yet we have no college or high school for boys, while for girls ample provision has been made. About the close of the fifties the religious of the "Sacred Heart" were transferred from Buffalo to Rochester, and since that time have conducted a convent school for the education of young ladies. Situated in the most beautiful part of our beautiful city, affording every facility for the training of the young in knowledge and piety, this school ranks with the best of our country. Attached to the convent there is also a free school which ante-dates most of our Parochial Schools, and before these were established, afforded a Catholic education to the children of the Eastern portion of the city. The chapel of the convent of the Sacred Heart is of rare beauty of Architecture and finish. In addition to this convent, there are also institutions for the higher education of young ladies at "Nazareth," under the care of the Sisters of St. Joseph, and at St. Mary's on South Street, under the Sisters of Mercy. Nazareth Convent is chartered under the Board of Regents of New York State.

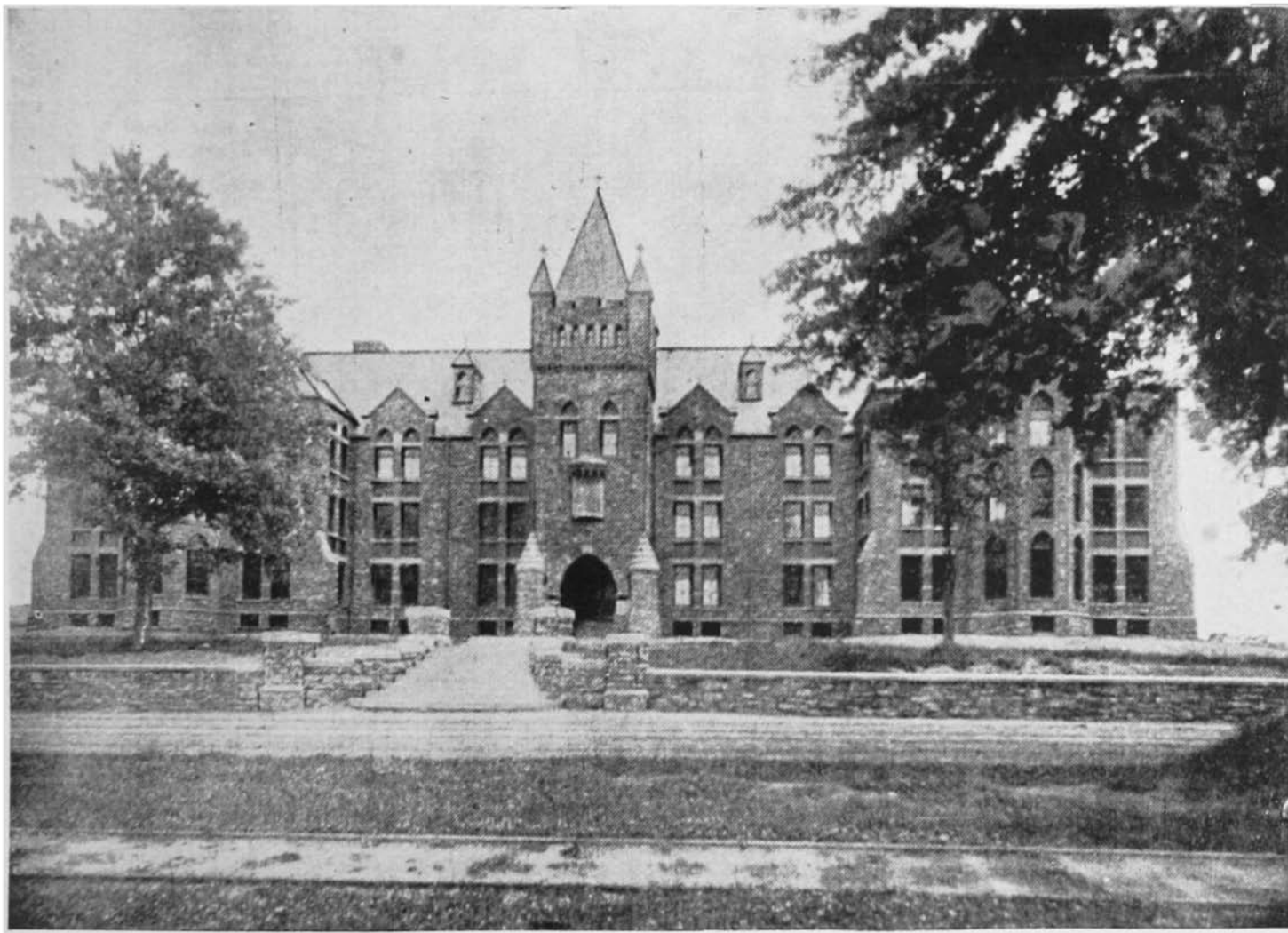
While mention is being made of educational institutes, St. Andrew's Preparatory Seminary must not be forgotten. It was established in 1870 and is located in the shadow of the Cathedral and the Bishop's residence. It is intended for

the instruction and preparation of young men called to the priesthood. The children of the diocese are admitted to it after they have finished the course of studies prescribed for the Grammar Schools and leave it to enter the Theological Seminary. It is novel in its plan, being the only institution of its kind in the United States.

In the early days of September, 1893, the diocesan Theological Seminary now in process of construction will be opened. It is dedicated to the great Doctor of the Church, St. Bernard, and will be the crowning of the educational work of the diocese. Its beginnings are of remote date. Small at first were the contributions, smaller it would seem the hope of ultimately realizing the design the Bishop had so deeply at heart. But confidence in the wisdom of the Council of Trent, faith unshaken in the cause, persistent keeping of it before the minds of the people and the increasing prosperity of the diocese have made the ultimate realization of the Bishop's fondest hopes, sure. In beauty of design and charm of locality it is unequalled in these parts. The building, as will be seen from the picture in this little volume, is large and commodious. Aside from beauty of the surroundings, the location is very healthful. The land is so light that dampness is impossible, purest of crystal water bubbles up from many springs and the high banks of the river are at the same time ornamental and serviceable for perfect drainage. The nearness to the Cemetery of "Holy Sepulchre" far from detracting only adds to the charm of the place. Moreover while near the city it has all the advantages of the open country. The professorships in the institution are to be founded and endowed, the seminary already possesses valuable lands, its teachers are given excellent opportunities to perfect themselves for their work. Thus for all time is the diocese assured of priests for the maintenance and further propagation of Catholicity among the people hereabouts. A final glory of the diocese is the friendly feeling that exists in politics and social life between Catholics and those who differ with them in matters of religion. No better proof of this is wanting than the freedom we enjoy everywhere; for in State, in County, in Municipal institutions alike our rights are freely admitted and honorably respected. We are indeed blessed of God. Blessed in a Bishop of power of mind and heart, in a Bishop of untiring zeal — blessed in priests that ably second him in his works; blessed in religious who give their lives and their all to further God's cause; blessed in institutions of charity, in asylums for our orphan children, in homes for working girls, in a hospital that from the early years of the war has been a refuge for the poor, the injured, the sick; blessed in institutions of learning; blest in a population faithful, generous, true; blessed in healthful climate, a fertile soil, in beauty of scenery almost unrivalled.



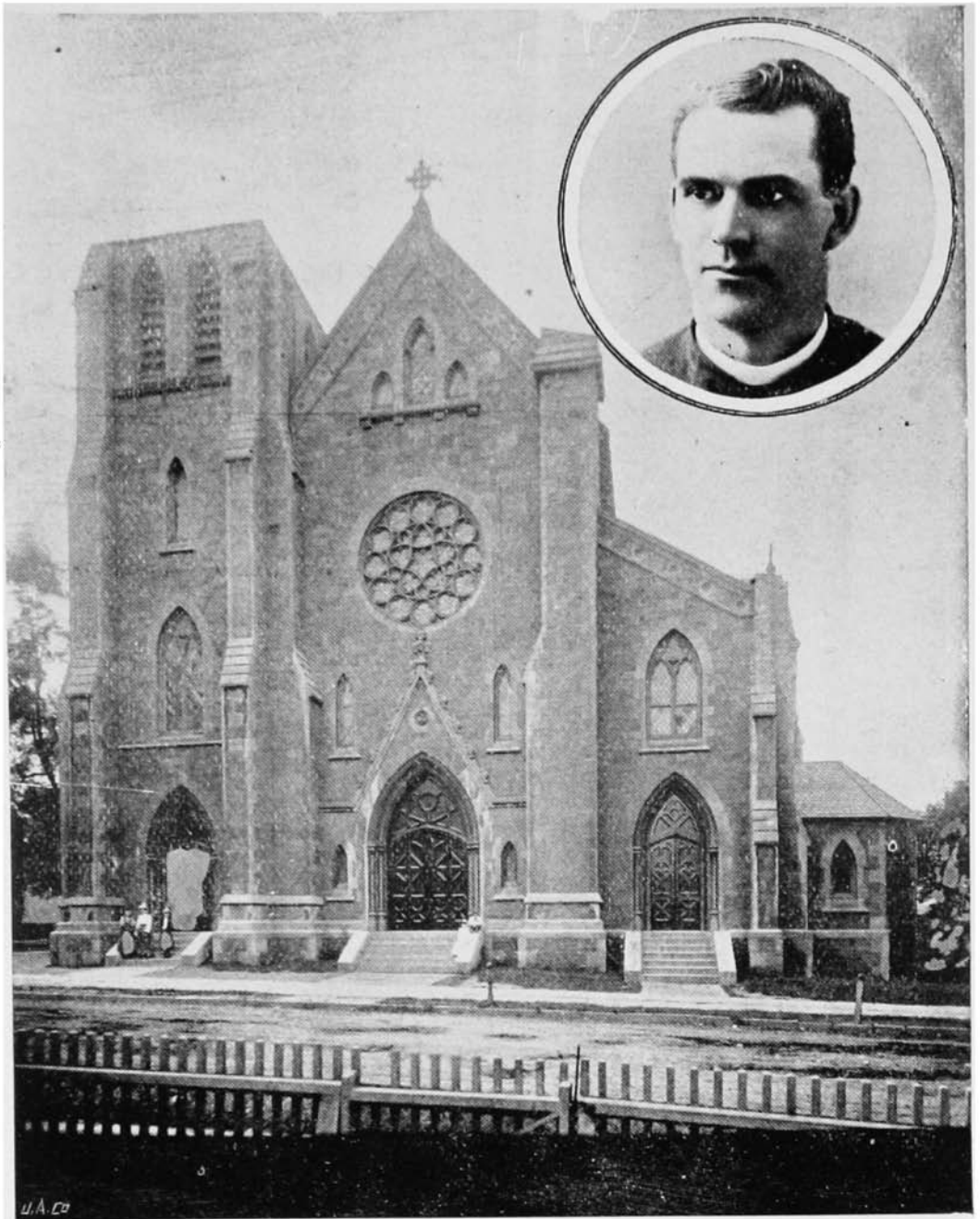
RT. REV. B. J. McQUAID, D. D.



ST. BERNARD'S SEMINARY.



THE BISHOP'S RESIDENCE AND ST. ANDREW'S SEMINARY.



ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL. Founded 1820.

REV. J. P. KIERNAN, Rector,

Branch No. 88 C. M. B. A.



CATHEDRAL HALL AND SCHOOL.

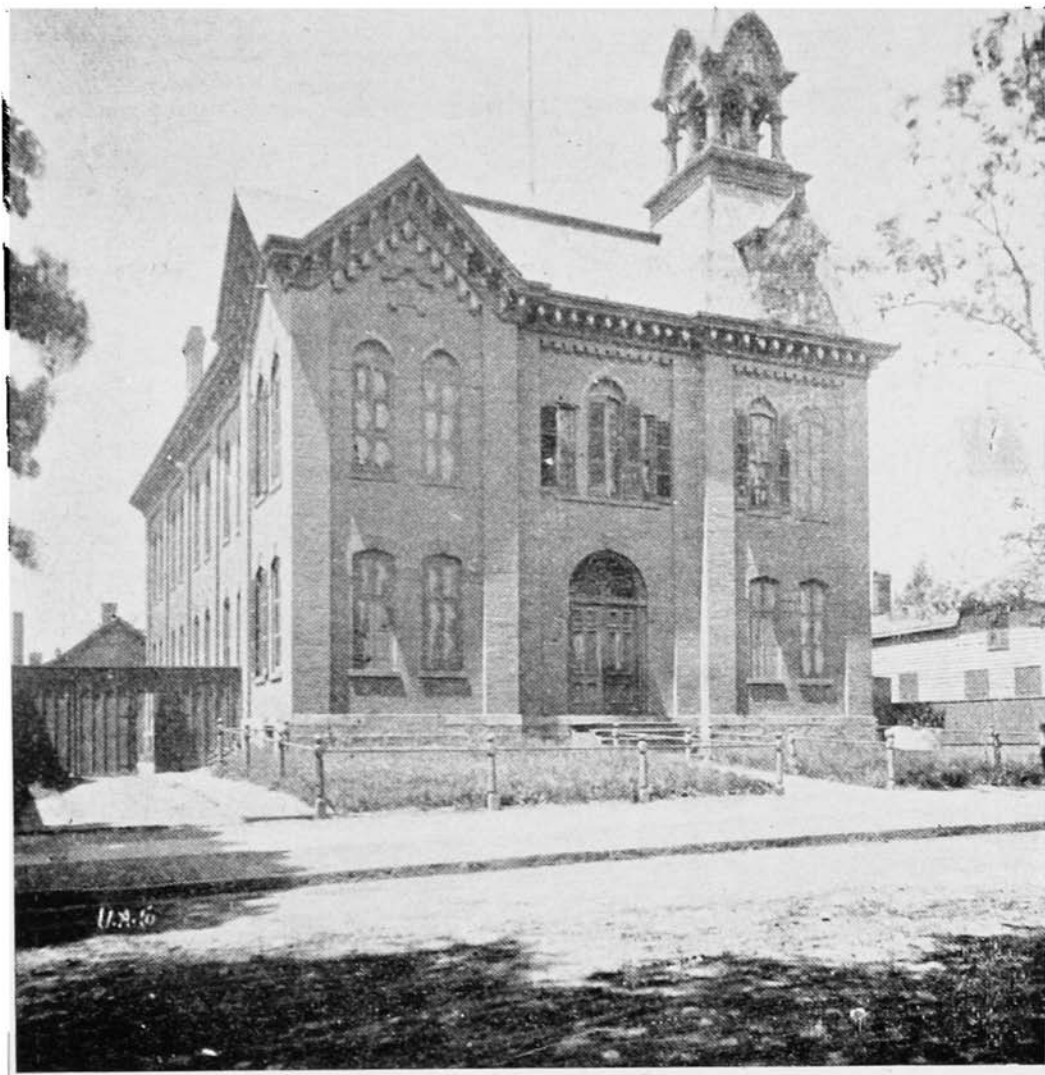
Sisters of St. Joseph.



REV. J. P. STEWART, Rector.

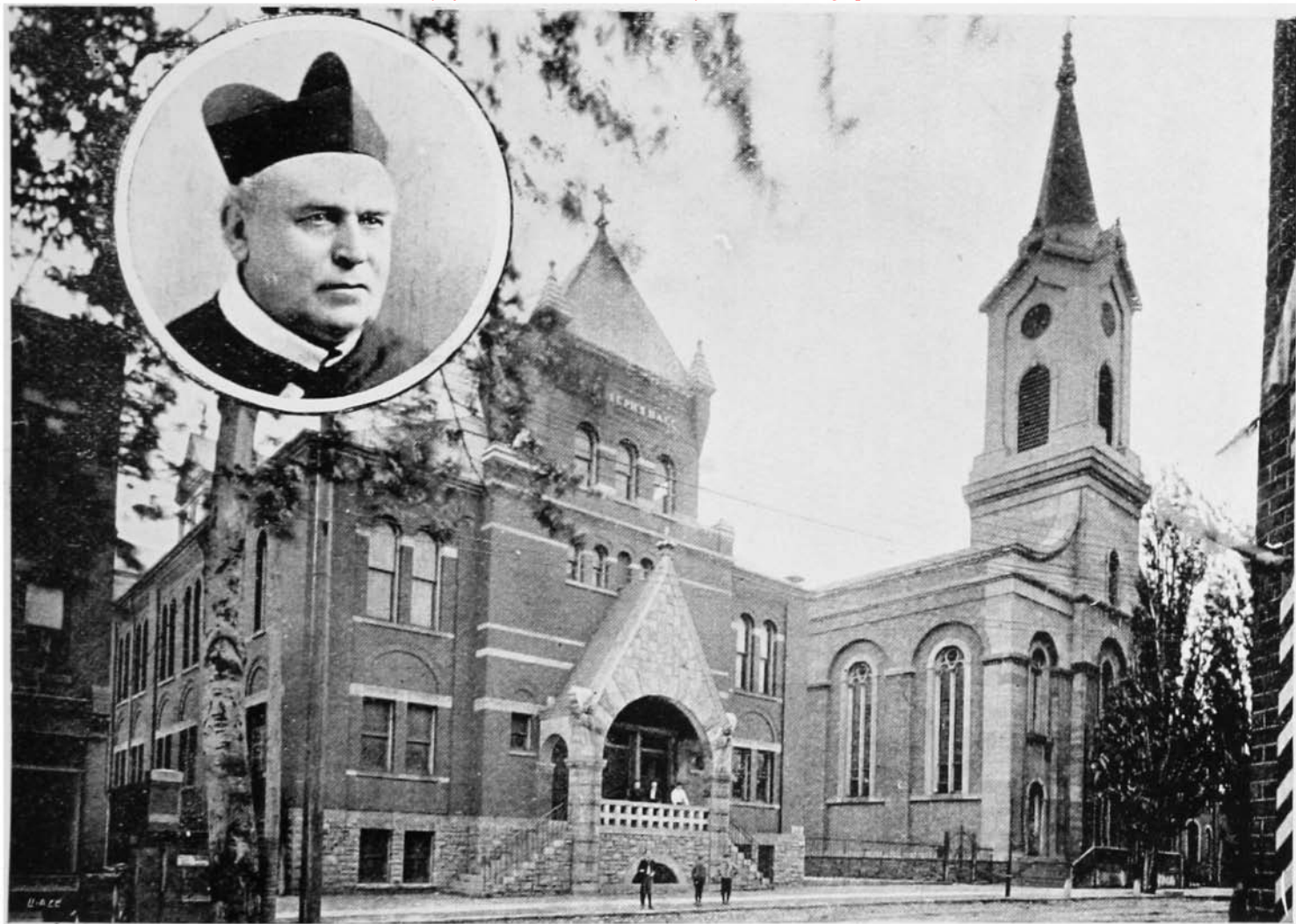
ST. MARY'S CHURCH Founded 1834.

Branch No. 87 C. M. B. A.



ST. MARY'S SCHOOL.

Sisters of Mercy



ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH AND SCHOOL. Founded 1835.

REV. JOSEPH WIRTH, C. SS. R., Rector.

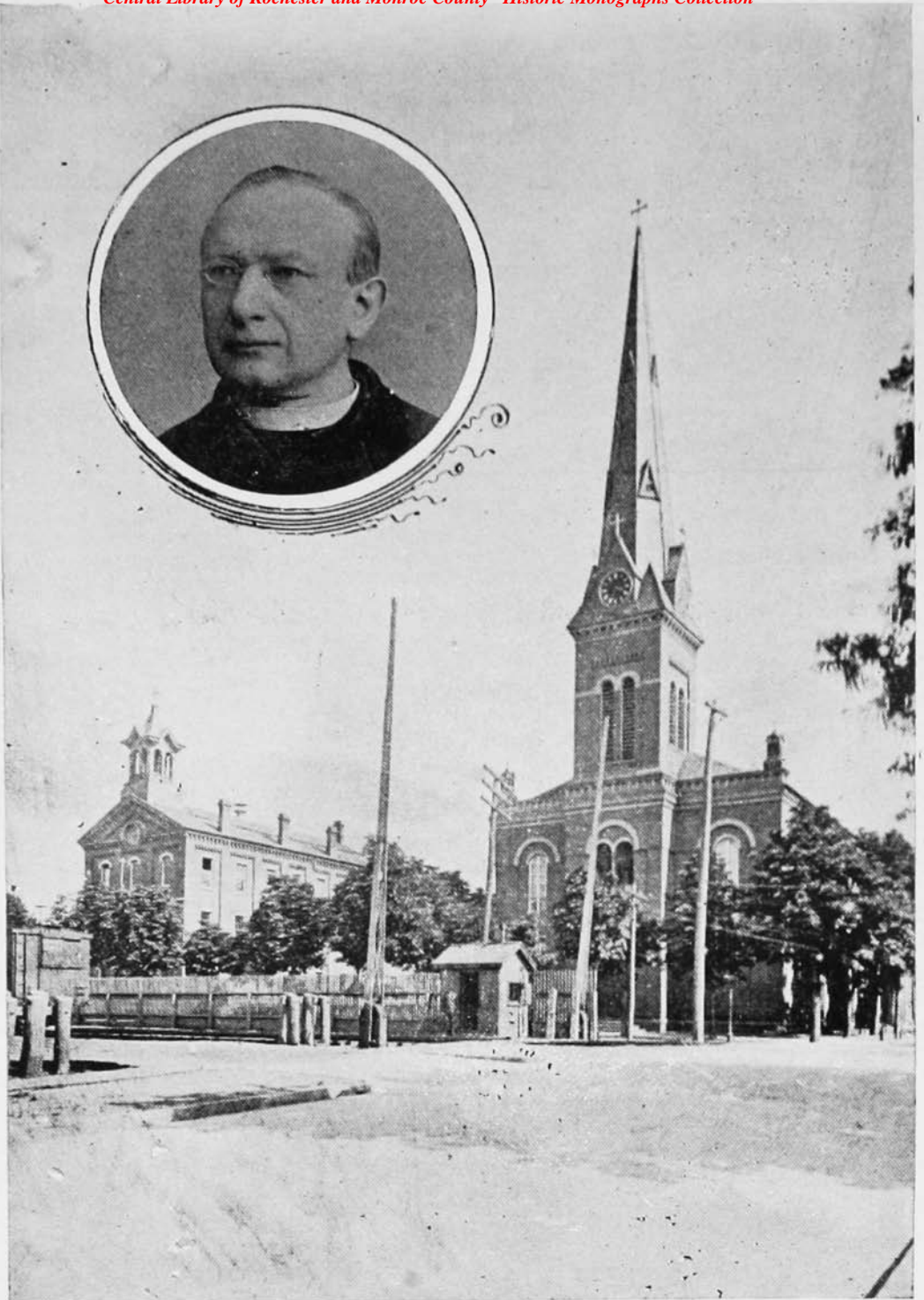
Brothers of Mary, Sisters of Notre Dame.

Branch No. 81 C. M. B. A.



ST. JOSEPH'S ORPHAN ASYLUM.

Sisters of Notre Dame.

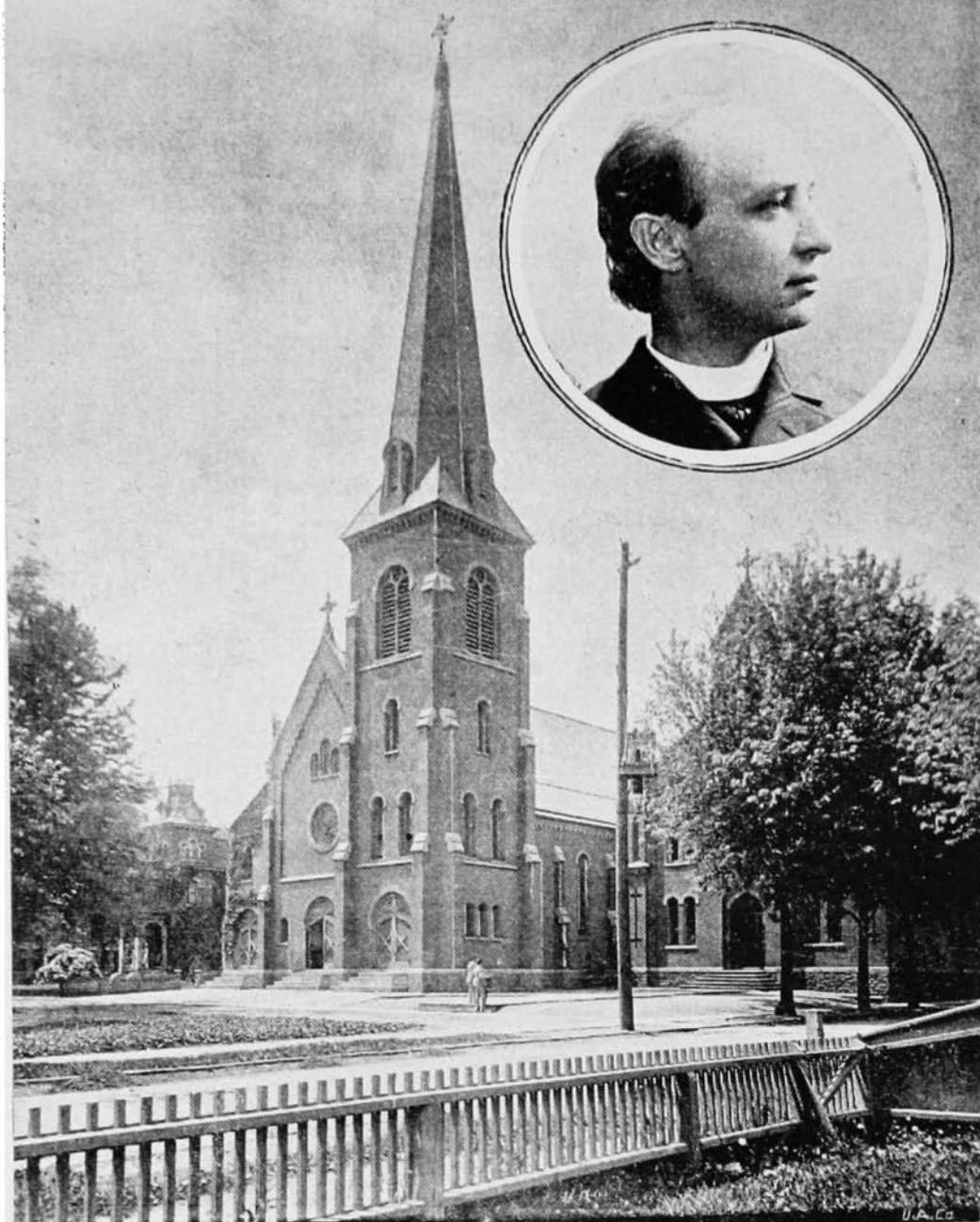


STS. PETER AND PAUL'S CHURCH AND SCHOOL. Founded 1843.

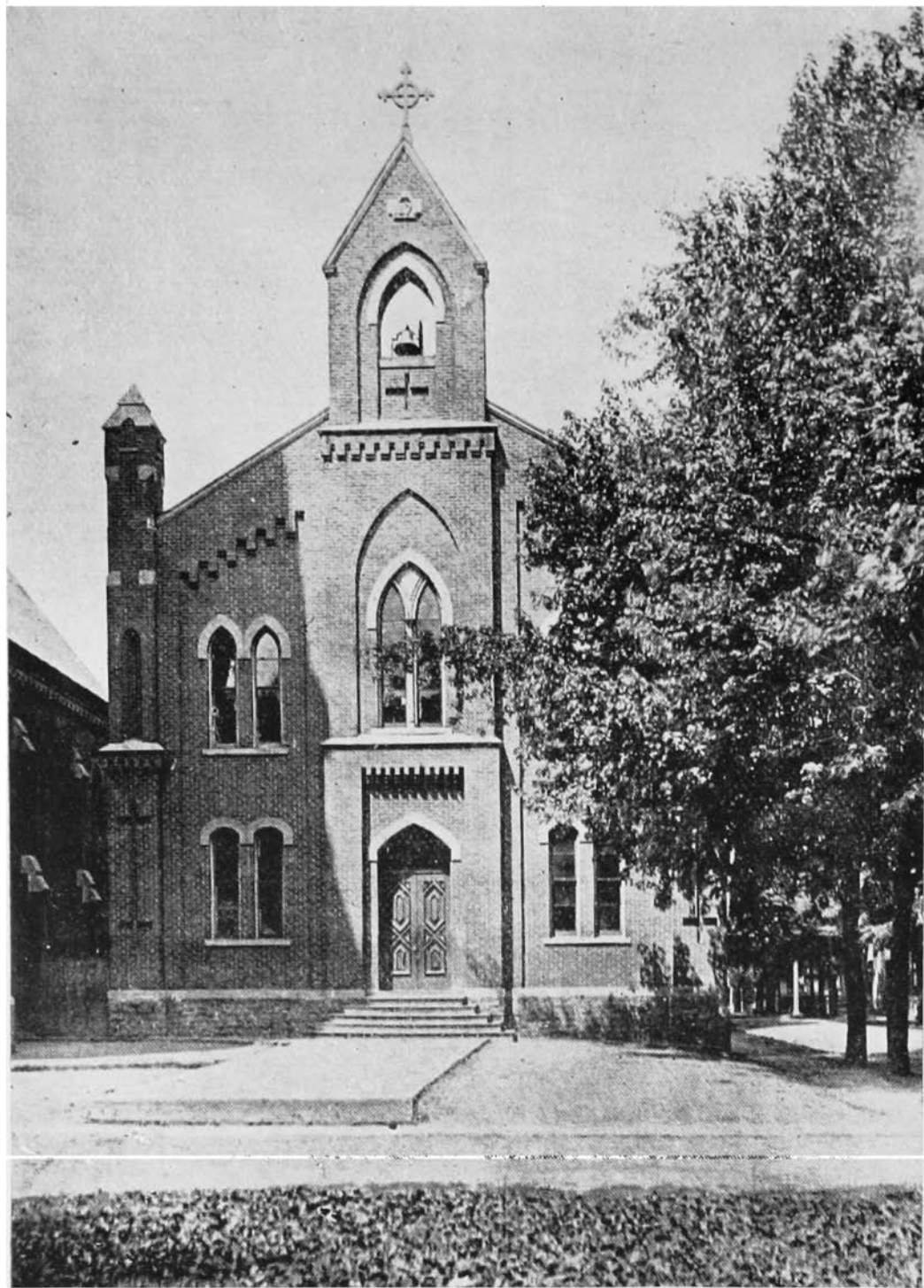
REV. F. H. SINCLAIR, D. D., Rector.

Sisters of Notre Dame.

Branch No. 82 C. M. B. A.

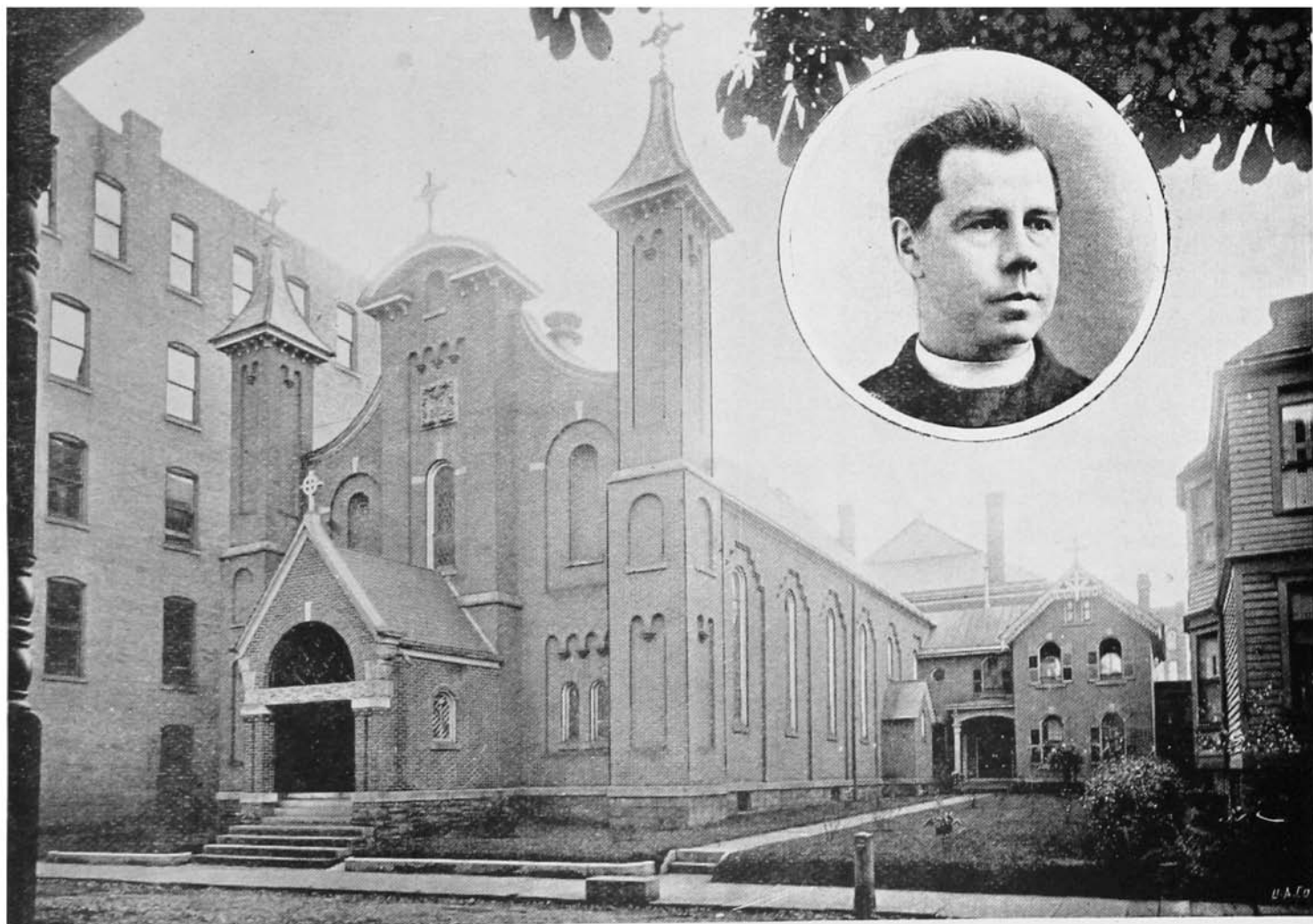


CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION. Founded 1848.
VERY REV. J. F. O'HARE, Rector. Branch No. 93 C. M. B. A.



SCHOOL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION.

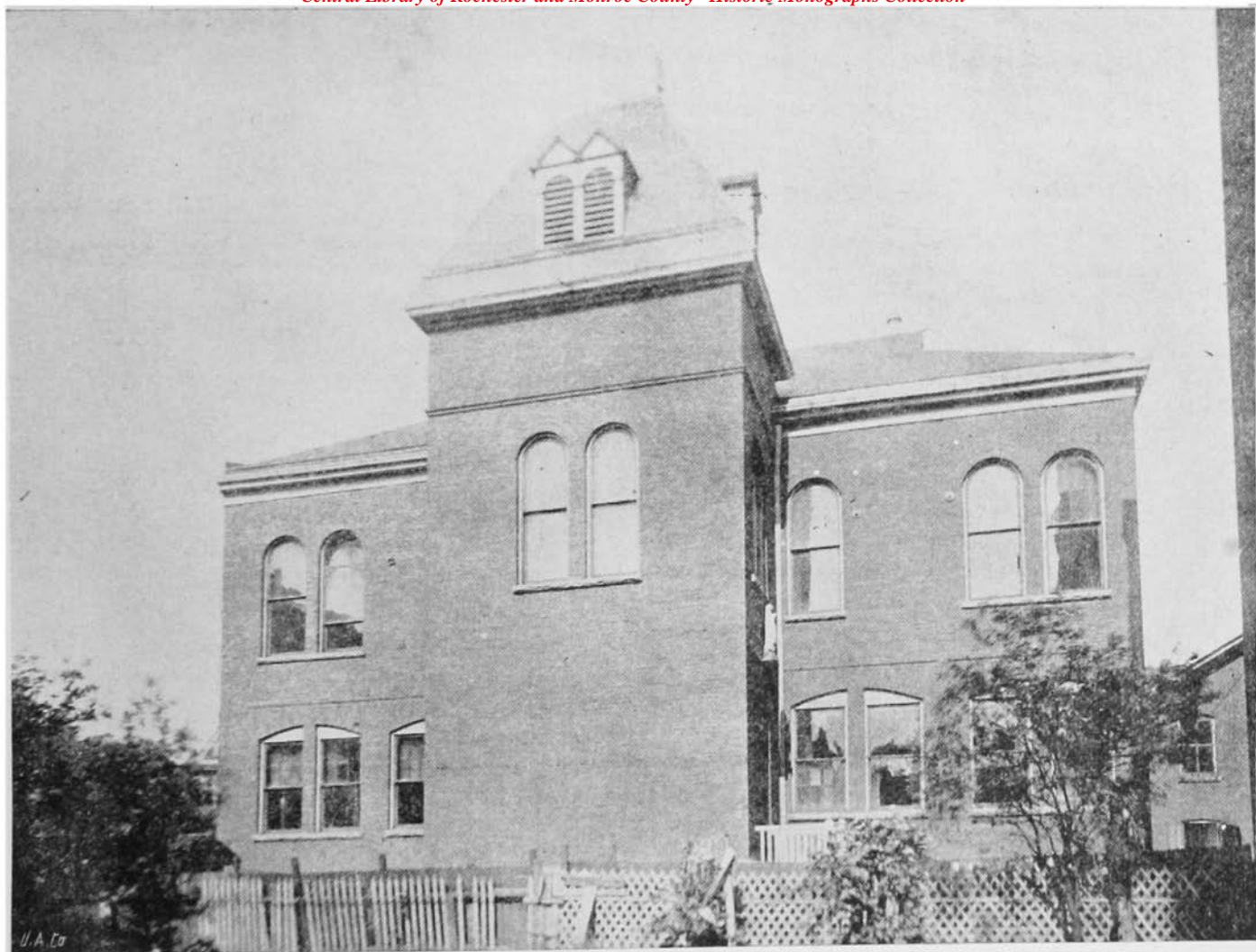
Sisters of St. Joseph.



CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF VICTORY. Founded 1848.

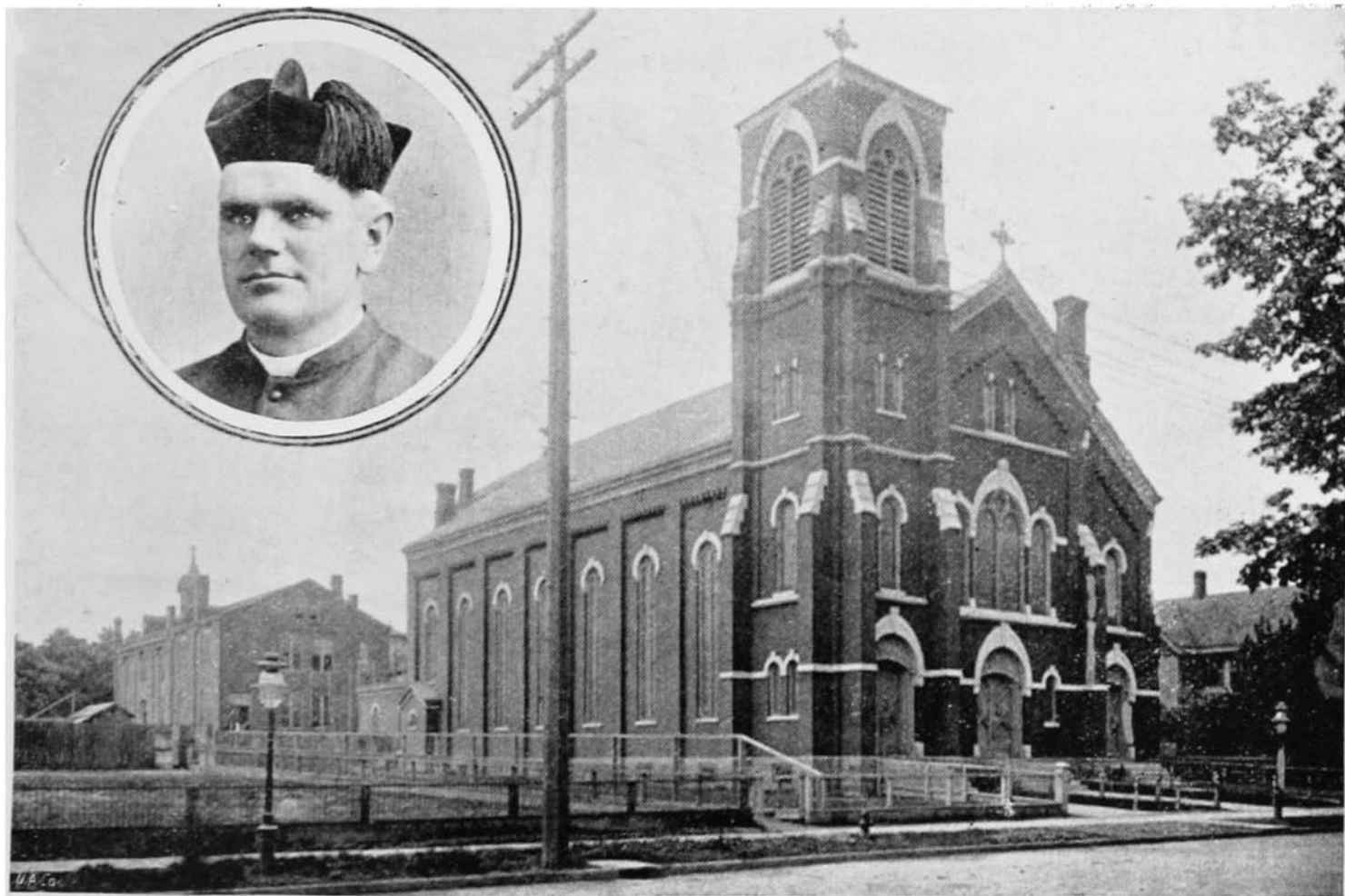
REV. A. A. NOTEBAERT, Rector.

Branch No. 134 C. M. B. A.



SCHOOL OF OUR LADY OF VICTORY.

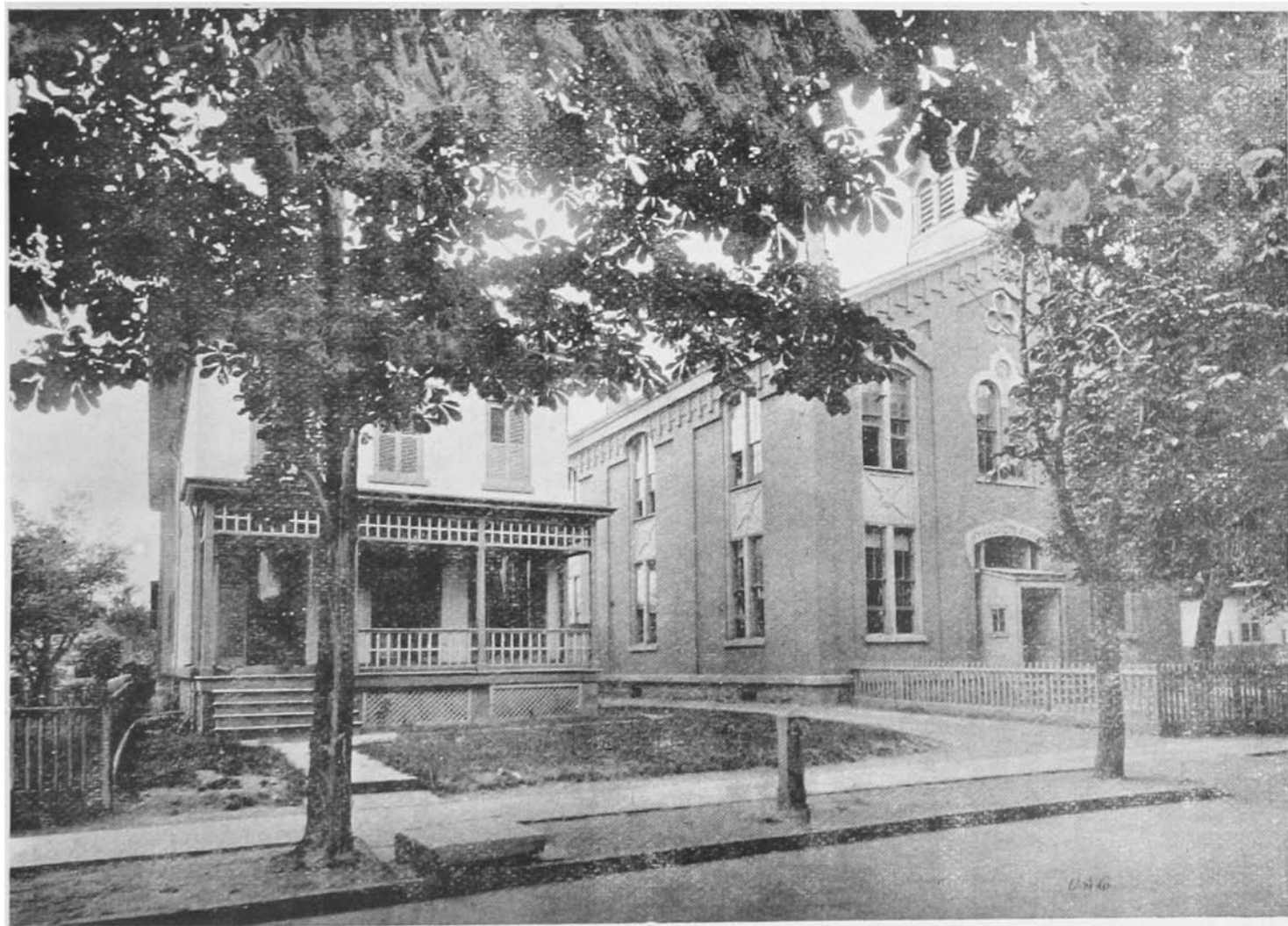
Sisters of St. Joseph.



ST. BRIDGET'S CHURCH. Founded 1854.

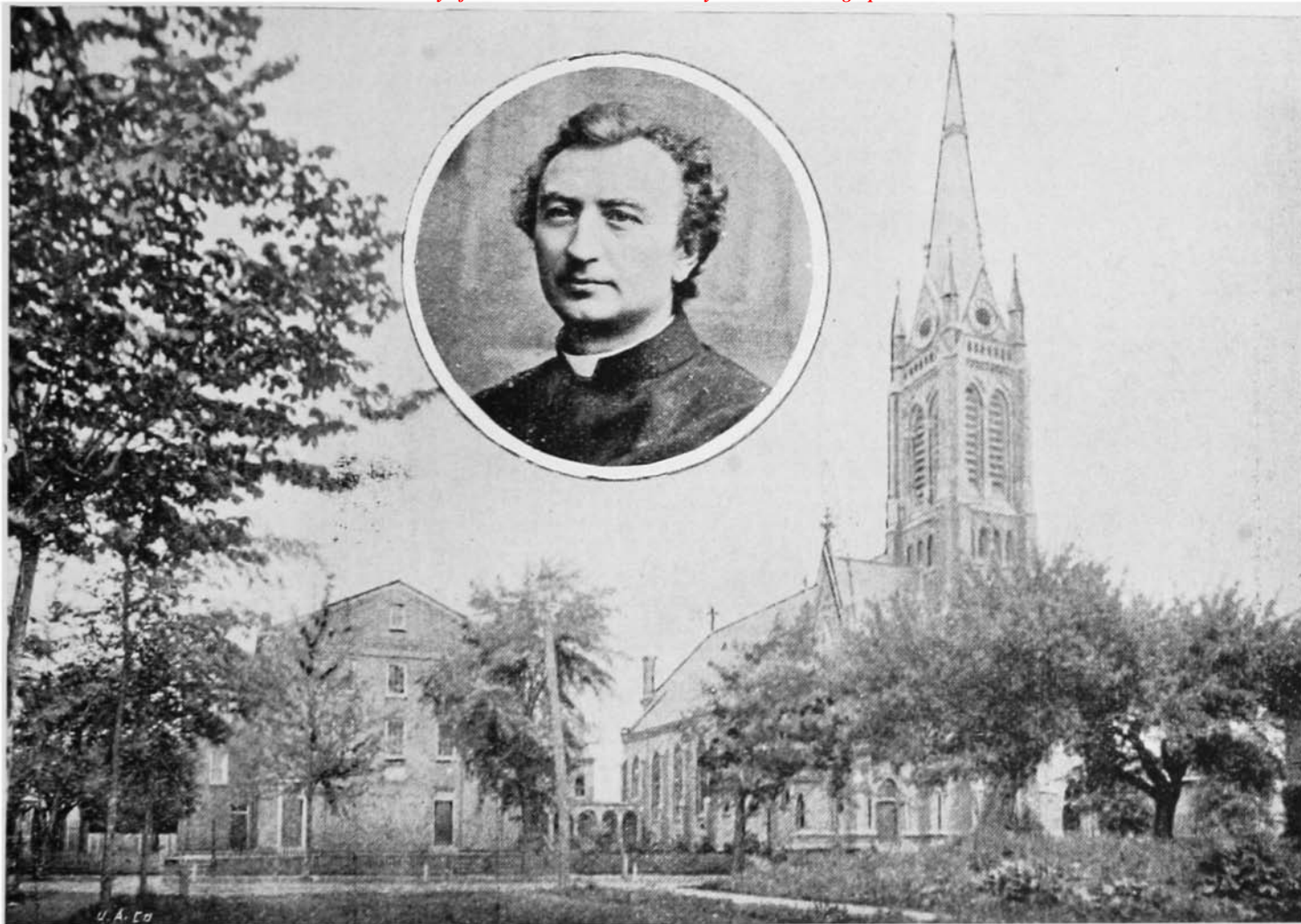
REV. T. A. HENDRICK, Rector.

Branch No. 12 C. M. B. A.



ST. BRIDGET'S SCHOOL.

Sisters of St. Joseph.

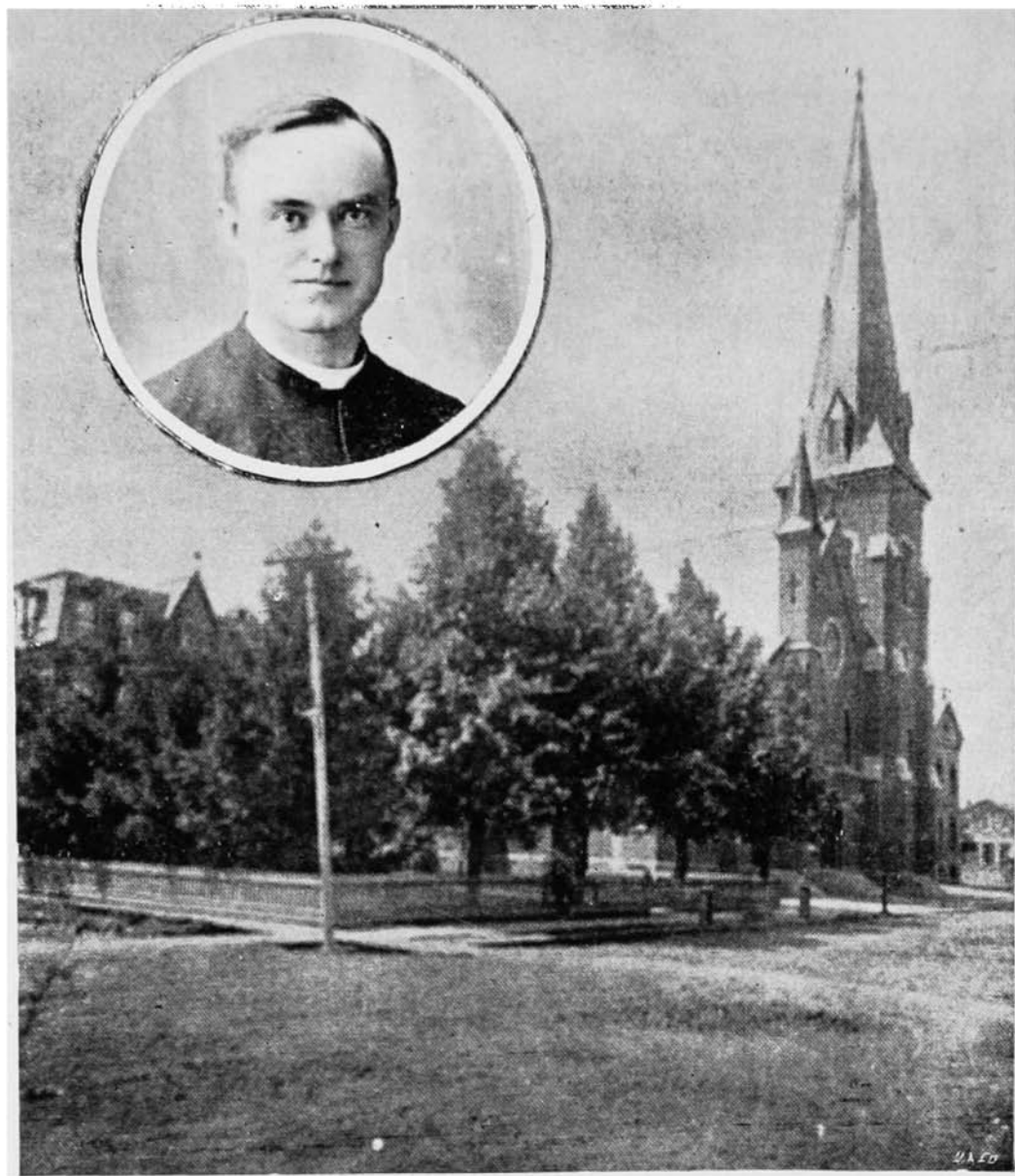


ST. BONIFACE CHURCH AND SCHOOL. Founded 1861.

REV. HERMAN RENKER, Rector.

Sisters of Notre Dame.

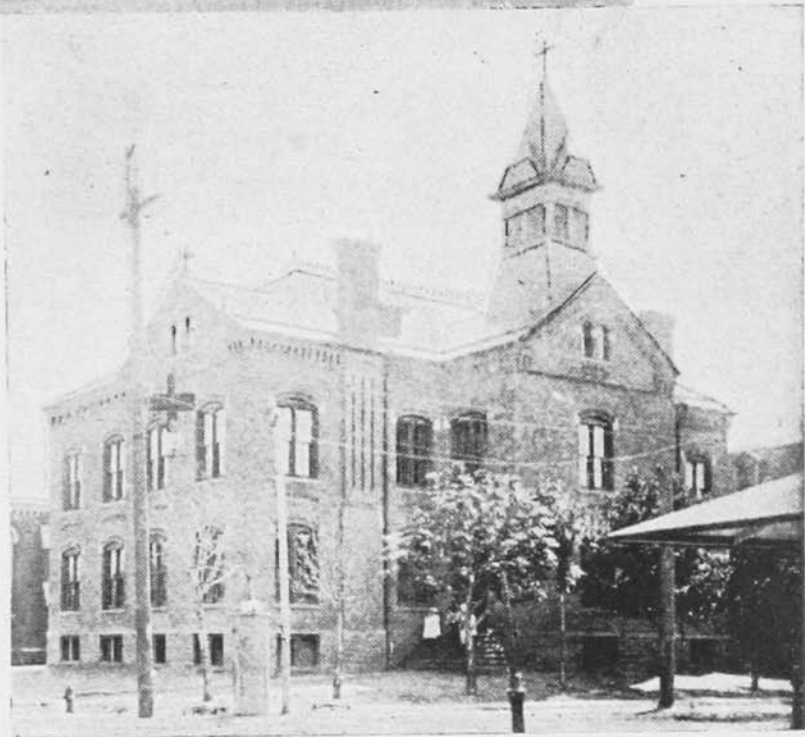
Branch No. 80 C. M. B. A.



CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY. Founded 1864.

REV. D. LAURENZIS, Rector,

Branch No. 117 C. M. B. A.



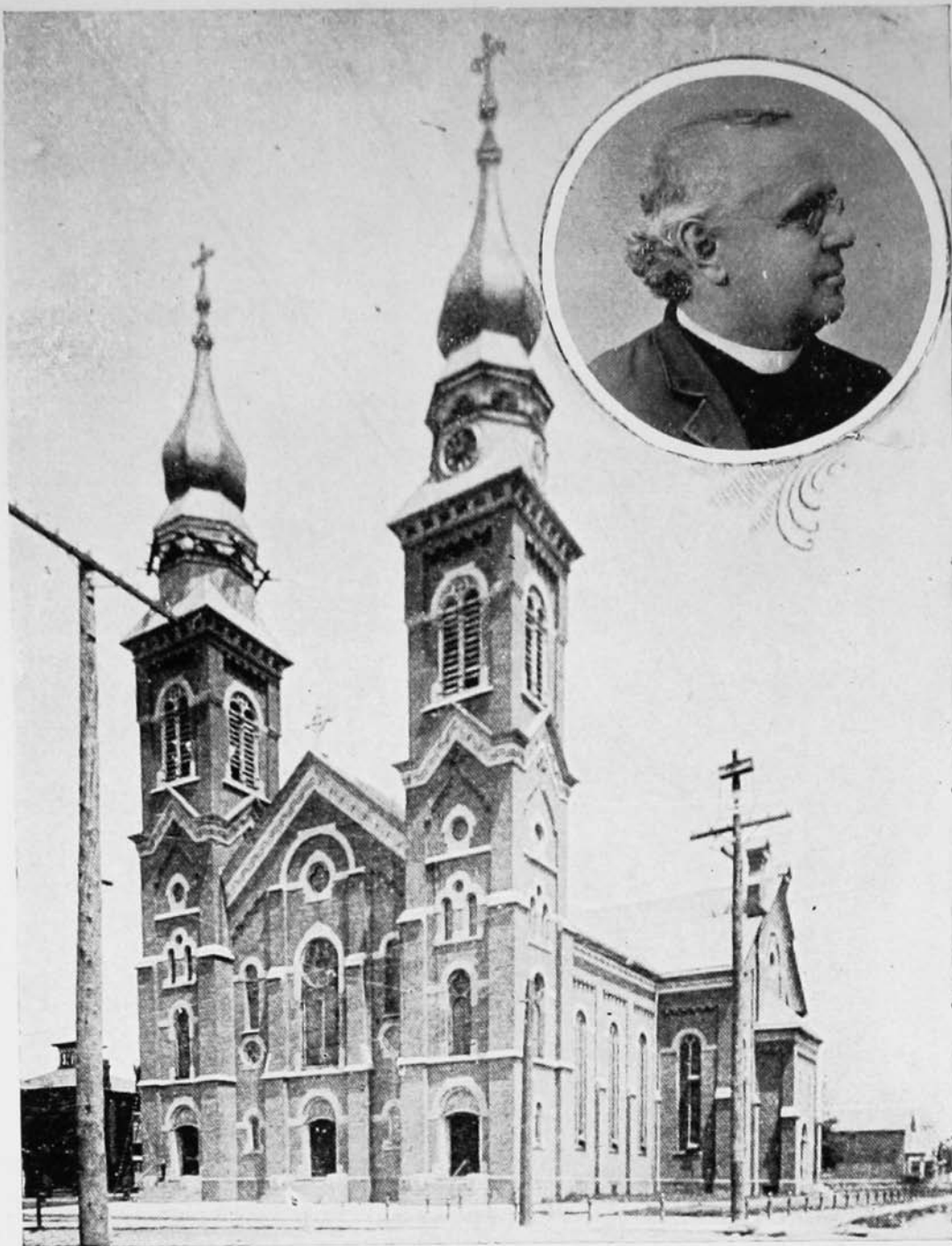
HOLY FAMILY SCHOOLS.

Sisters of Notre Dame.



CONVENT OF THE HOLY FAMILY.

Sisters of Notre Dame.



CHURCH OF THE HOLY REDEEMER Founded 1866.

REV. F. C. OBERHOLZER, Rector.

Branch No. 58 C. M., B. A.



CONVENT AND SCHOOL OF THE HOLY REDEEMER.

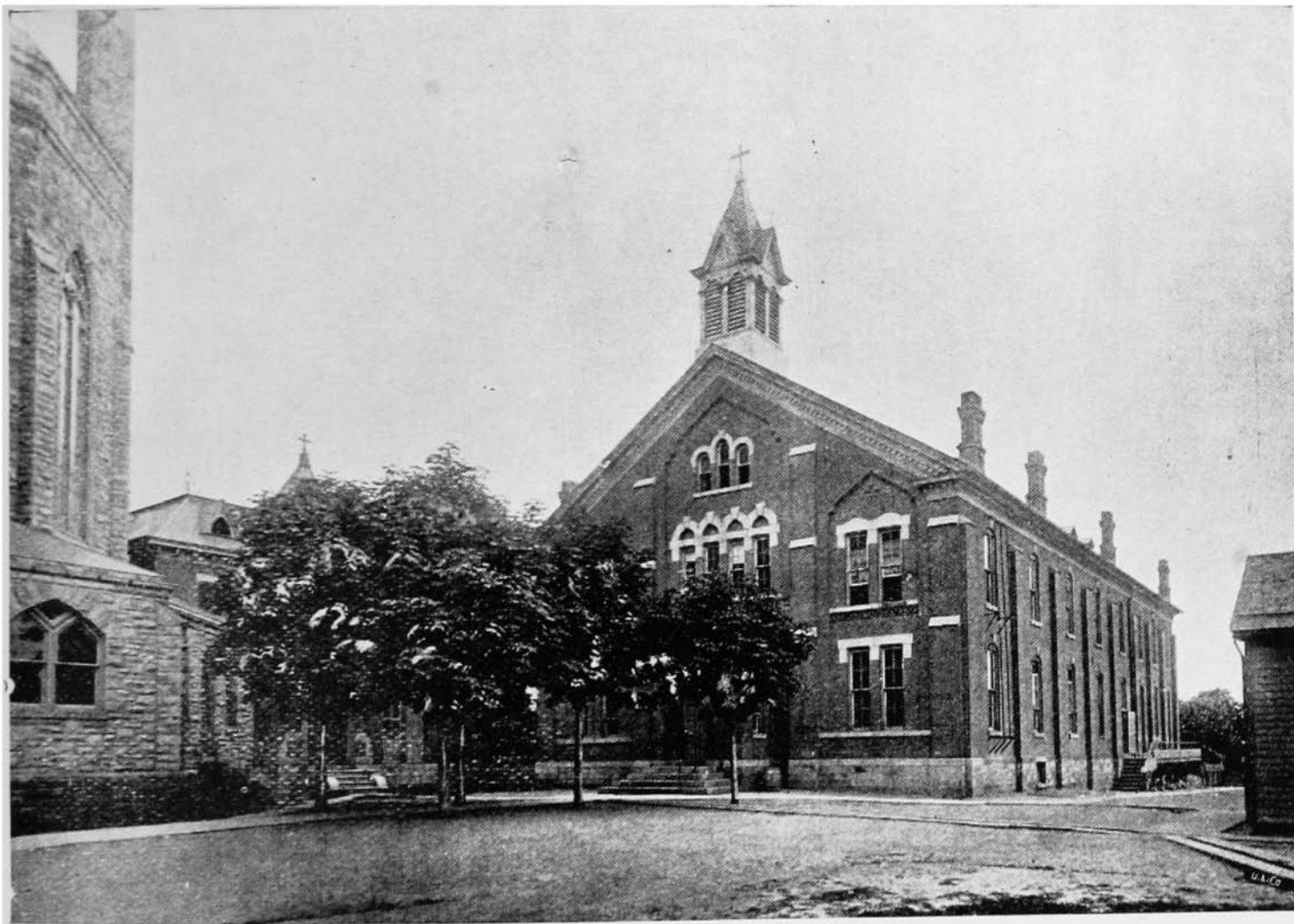
Sisters of Notre Dame.



ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH, Founded 1874.

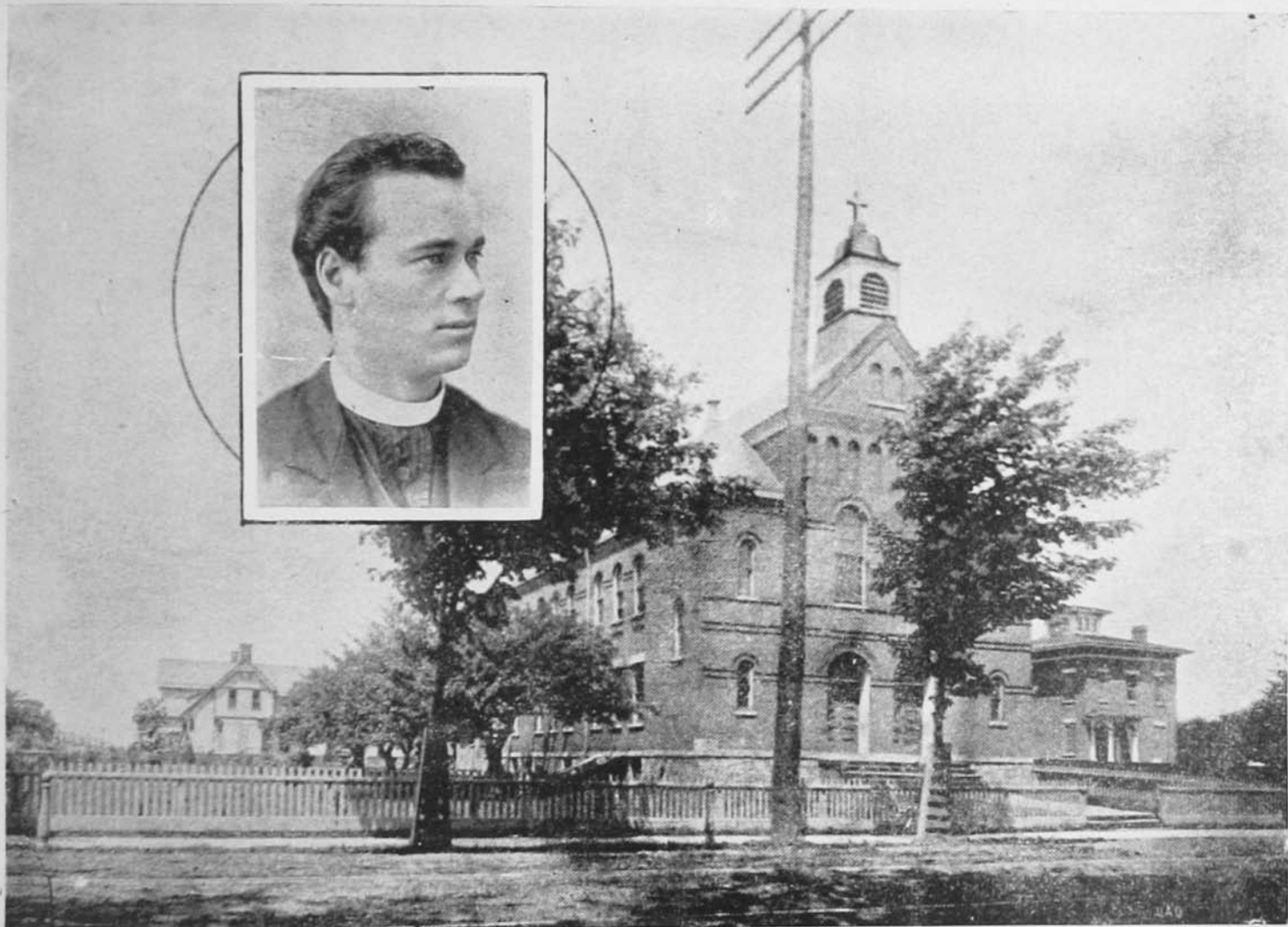
REV. F. PASCALAR, Rector.

Branch No. 34 C. M. B. A.



ST. MICHAEL'S SCHOOL.

Sisters of Notre Dame.

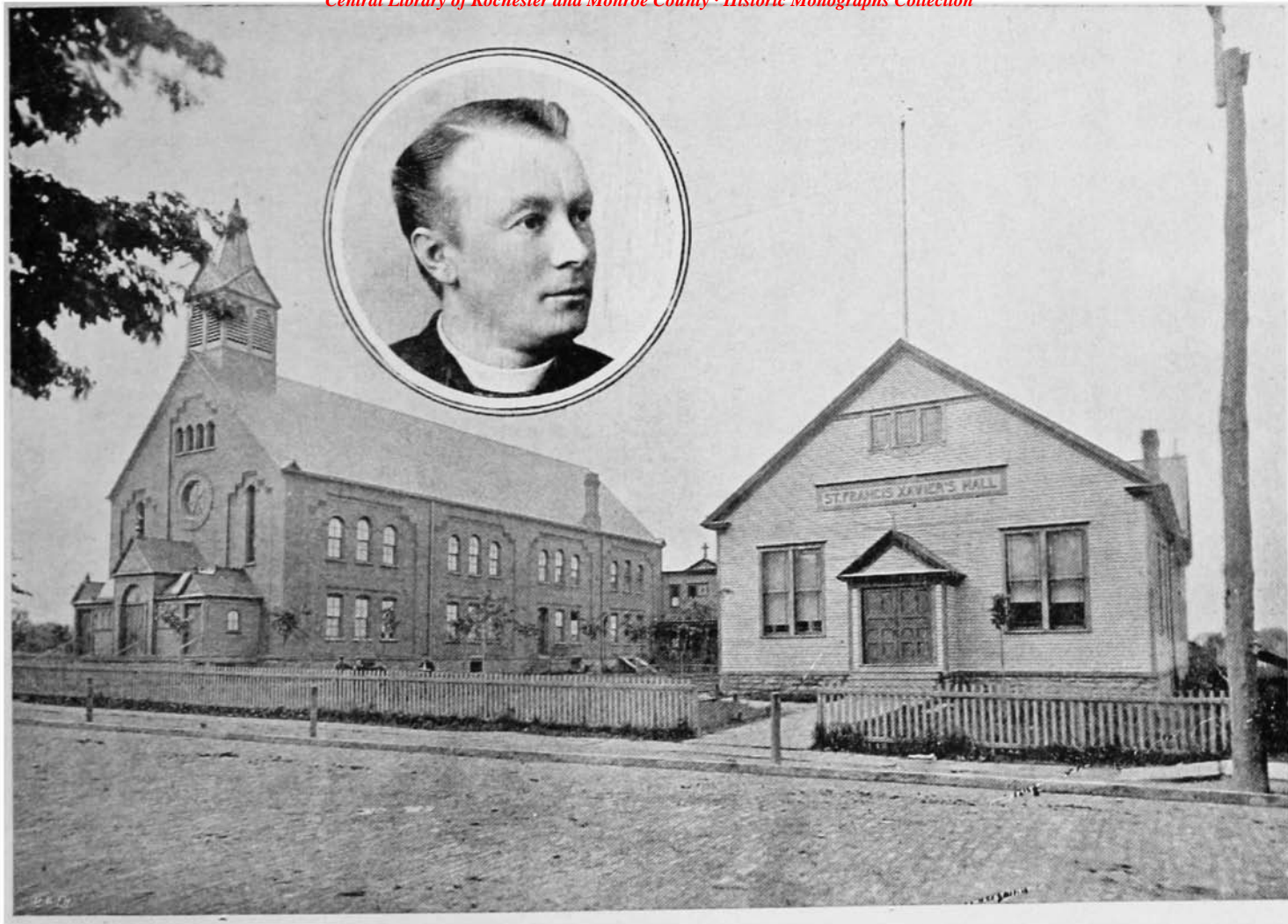


HOLY APOSTLES CHURCH AND SCHOOL. Founded 1884.

Sisters of St. Joseph.

REV. T. C. MURPHY, Rector.

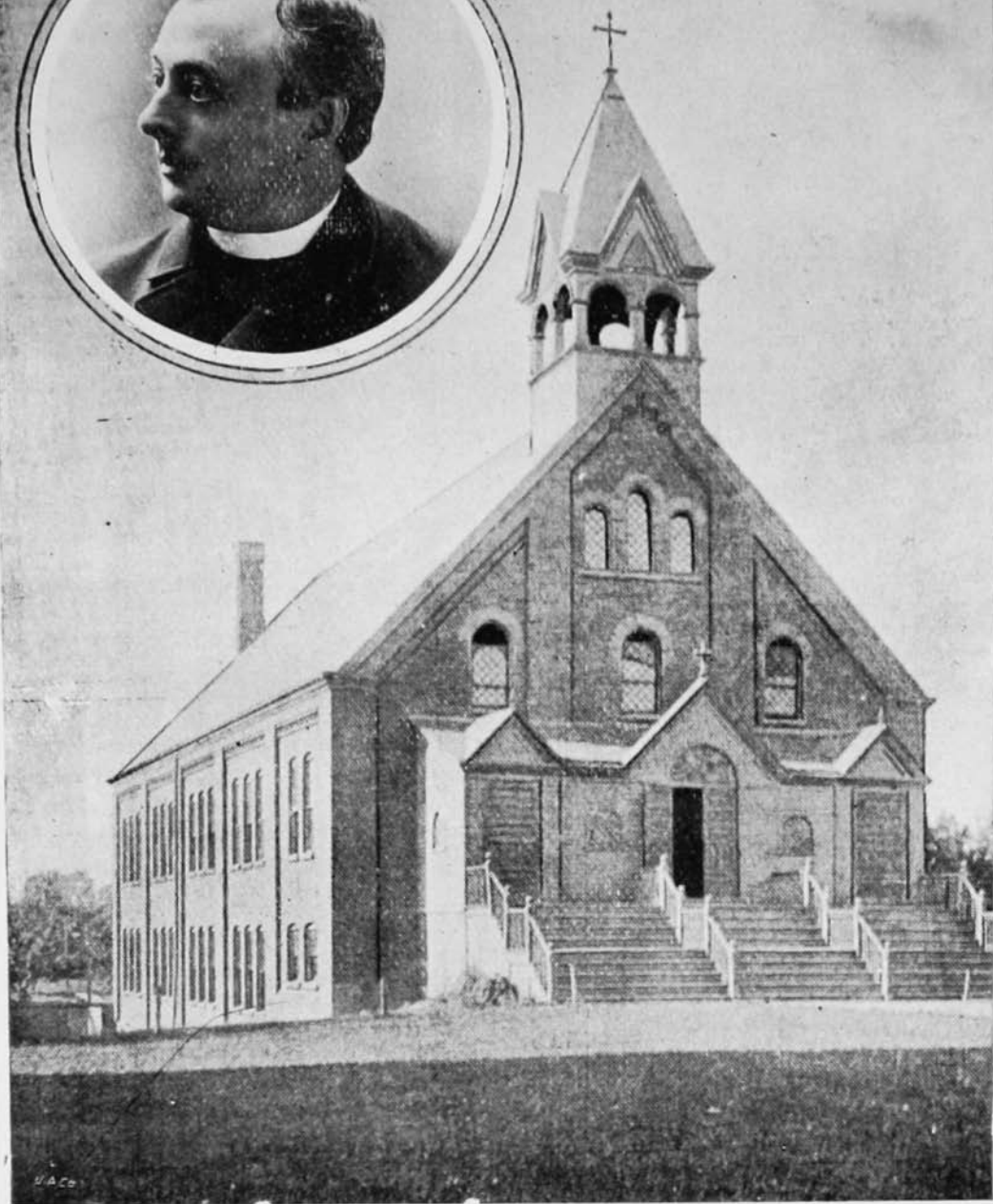
Branch No. 121 C. M. B. A.



ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH AND SCHOOL. Founded 1888.

REV. M. J. HARGATHER, Rector.

Branch No. 131 C. M. B. A.



CORPUS CHRISTI CHURCH AND SCHOOL. Founded 1888.

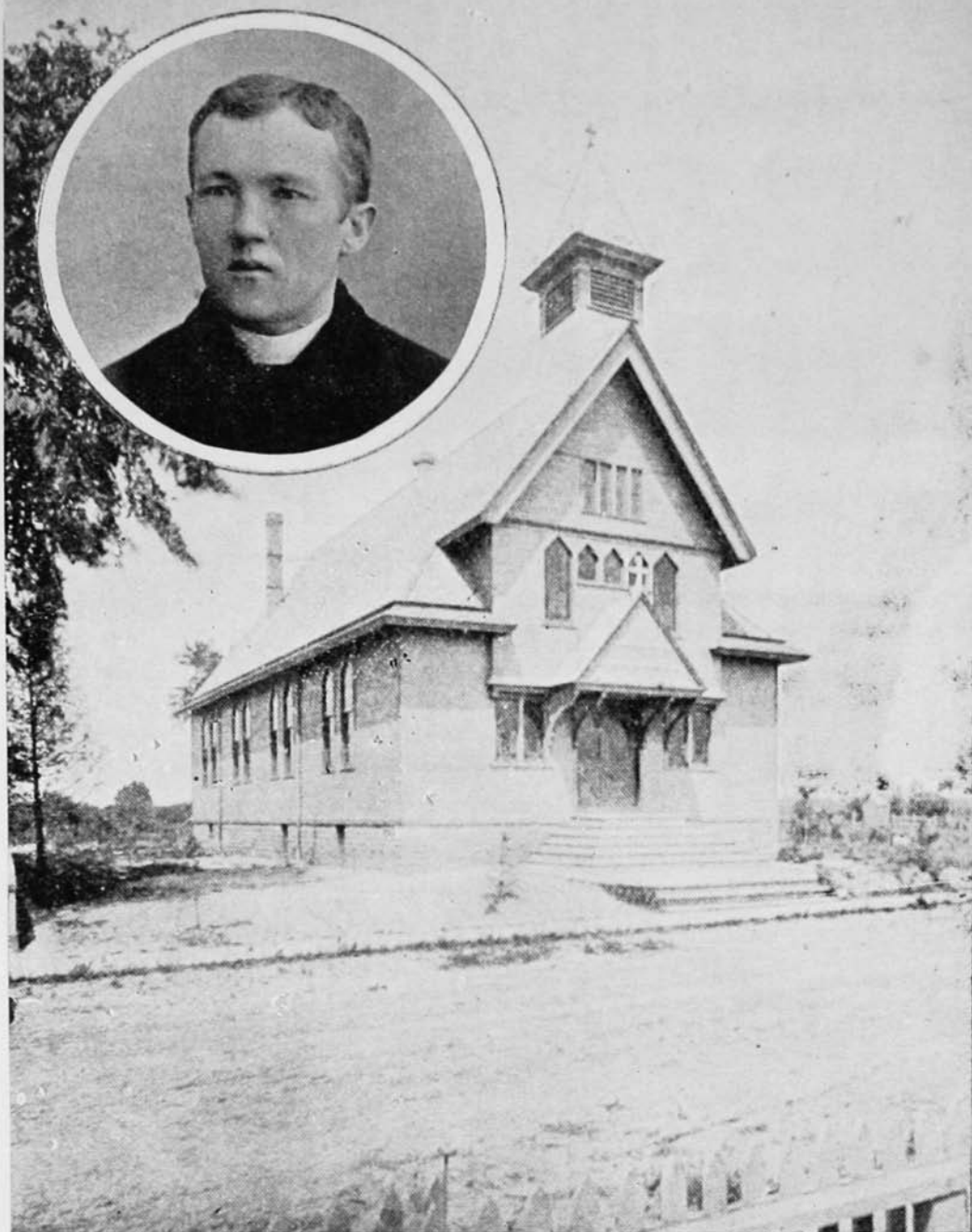
REV. J. J. LEARY, Rector.

Sisters of St. Joseph.

Branch No. 139 C. M. B. A.



HOLY ROSARY CHURCH AND SCHOOL. Founded 1891.



ST. STANISLAUS CHURCH. Founded 1890.

REV. T. SZADZINSKI, Rector.



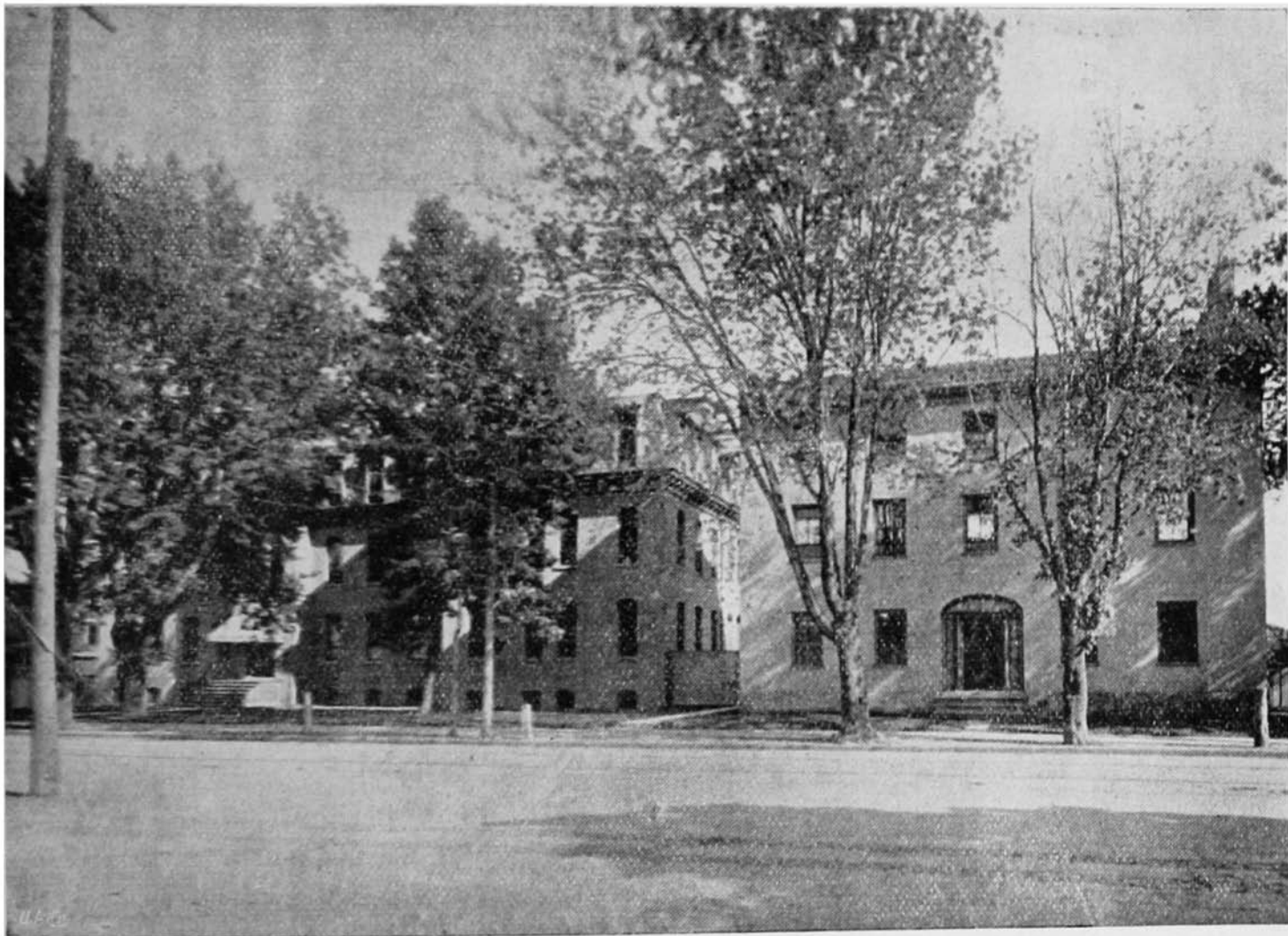
ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL. Founded 1857.

Sisters of Charity.



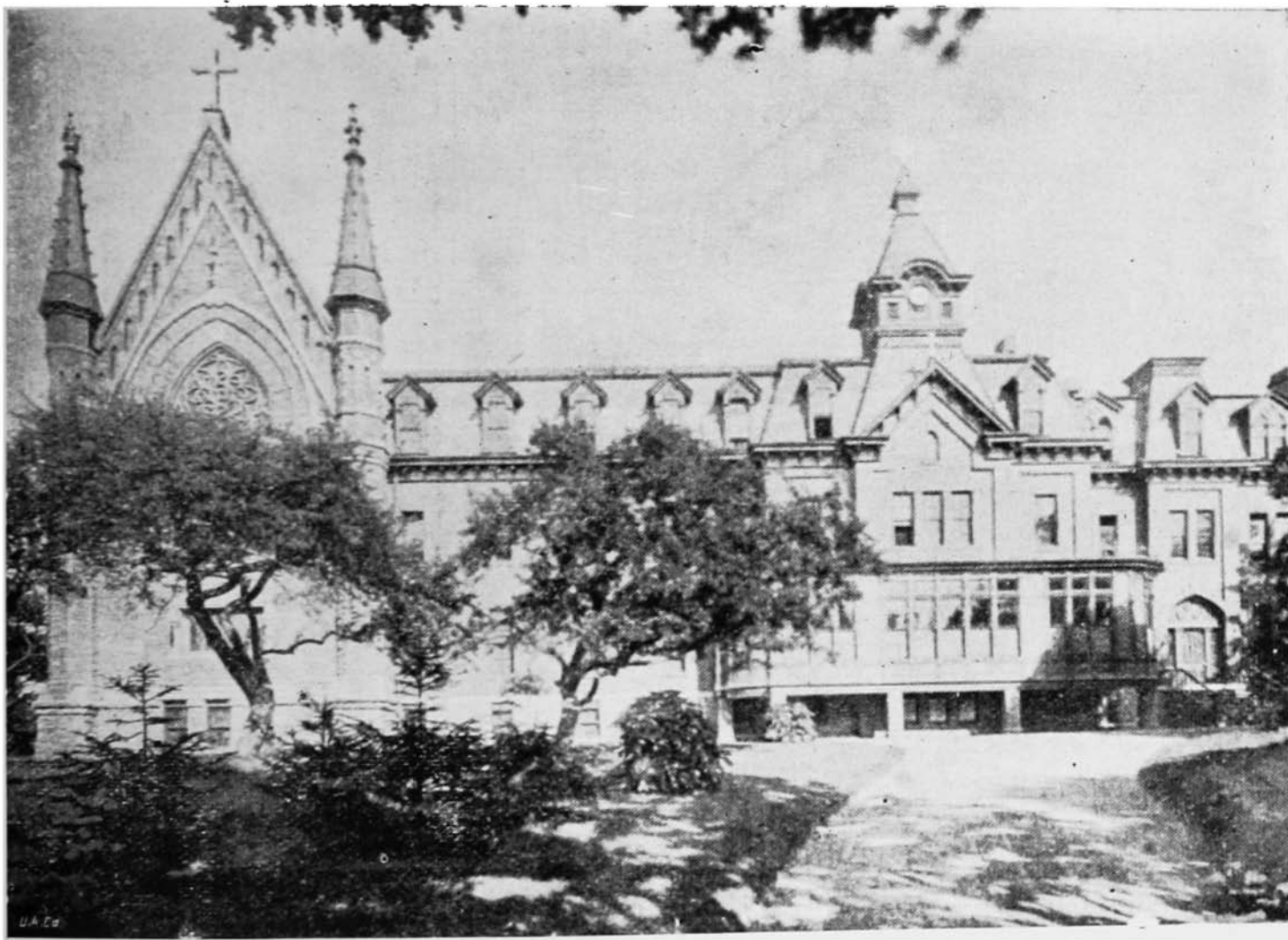
ST. PATRICK'S ORPHAN GIRLS' ASYLUM.

Sisters of St. Joseph.



ST. MARY'S ORPHAN BOYS' ASYLUM.

Sisters of St. Joseph.



ACADEMY OF THE SACRED HEART.

Ladies of the Sacred Heart.



INTERIOR OF CHAPEL AT THE SACRED HEART ACADEMY.



ST. MARY'S ACADEMY.

Sisters of Mercy.



Wm. H. H. Co.
Rochester, N.Y.

ACADEMY OF NAZARETH.

Sisters of St. Joseph.



HOME OF INDUSTRY.

Sisters of St. Joseph.



Historical.



The Catholic Mutual Benefit Association is a corporation doing business pursuant to Chapter 496 of the Laws of 1879, and its principal objects are to improve the mental, moral and social condition of its members; to educate them in integrity, sobriety and frugality; to endeavor to make them content with their position in life, and to aid and assist members or their families in case of death. To accomplish the latter object the association has established a beneficiary fund, out of which there is paid to the relatives of deceased members the sum of either one or two thousand dollars, according to the class to which the member may belong. It was organized at the village of Niagara Falls, in July 1876, and the necessity of a society of this kind among Catholics being so apparent in all localities of the Union and Canada, led men, always to be found who are interested in the good and welfare of their fellow-men, to encourage the plan of organization and secure its incorporation by the Legislature of New York State. Members of the association must be practical Catholics, physically sound and not less than eighteen nor more than fifty years of age at the date of initiation. They must have the endorsement of their pastor as to spiritual qualifications and the approval of the local and Supervising Medical Examiner as to their physical soundness. The body corporate is known as the Supreme Council, which is composed of the officers thereof, who are elected biennially, and the delegates from the several Grand Councils, each Grand Council being entitled to three representatives. There are already Grand Councils established in New York, Canada, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Michigan. The several Grand Councils have under their jurisdiction branches which form the membership of the association and perform the practical business part thereof. New York leads in both branches and membership. Grand Councils meet biennially and are composed of the regularly elected officers and the representatives from the branches, each branch being entitled to one representative. The records of the Insurance Department of the State of New York show that the association stands at the head of the list of all Co-operative Insurance Companies doing business within the State, in being the most economically managed, with the lowest death rate, and the promptest in the payment of death claims. The cost of membership in the organization is about one-third of the cost of a risk for a similar amount of insurance in any of the most reliable old line companies, and the mode of payments of assessments brings it within the means of all classes of Catholics, irrespective of their station in life, of becoming members and meeting the obligations thereof. The beneficiary payable on the death of a member is exempt from execution and not liable for the payment of his debts, by the law of incorporation, on the principle that the fund is contributed not for the payment of the debts of a member, but to assist his family in the hour of necessity and distress. Another great object has been accomplished by this association in bringing together members at branch meetings and encouraging them to participate in

debates arising therein, thus rendering them accomplished and fluent speakers. It has also obliterated race and national prejudices, and all members are banded together with the spirit of brotherly love, unity and affection, having always in mind the objects of the association, which make them better men and better citizens.

The cost of admission is as follows :

Initiation fee.....	\$3 00
Medical examination—according to locality.	

And on initiation, one assessment as per class, and dues to the end of the current quarter. The dues are 25 cents per month, payable quarterly.

Upon each assessment the member will pay, according to age, as follows :

FOR \$2,000 BENEFICIARY.

18 to 25 years.....	\$1 00
25 to 30 years.....	1 10
30 to 35 years.....	1 20
35 to 40 years....	1 30
40 to 45 years.....	1 45
45 to 50 years.....	1 65

FOR \$1,000 BENEFICIARY.

A person not wishing to take as much as \$2,000 insurance may take a \$1,000 certificate and pay as follows :

18 to 25 years.....	\$0 50
25 to 30 years.....	55
30 to 35 years.....	60
35 to 40 years.....	65
40 to 45 years.....	75
45 to 50 years.....	85

And he may at any time before he is fifty years of age, take the other \$1,000 beneficiary, provided he passes a favorable medical examination, and his Branch approves his application.

Assessments—either single or double—according to the number of deaths in the previous month, are issued monthly. The assessments issued during the past seven years are as follows:

In 1884.....	16 assessments.
In 1885.....	17 assessments.
In 1886.....	16 assessments.
In 1887.....	16 assessments.
In 1888.....	17 assessments.
In 1889.....	16 assessments.
In 1890.....	18 assessments.
In 1891.....	18 assessments.

Take these, in connection with the classification above and you can determine the annual cost of membership.

The total membership of the Association is about 33,000, of which New York State, with 163 Branches, contains about 14,000, or nearly half of the entire membership.

Up to August 1st, 1892, there has been paid by this Association to the beneficiaries of deceased members \$3,464,231.69.

The Reserve Fund.

As a measure toward the perpetuation of the Association and for the protection of its members from the effects of epidemics or heavy death rate, when assessments might be more numerous than members would be able to pay, a Reserve fund has been established, surrounded by the safest and most reliable safeguards for its protection. It will from time to time be invested in the safest of interest-bearing securities, and neither principal nor interest can be drawn upon until MORE than twenty four assessments would be necessary to be levied on the membership of the Association in any one year.

The object of this fund is to insure the *permanency* of the Association and guarantee a limit to the number of assessments that shall be issued in any one year. It was established July 1, 1887, and is accumulated by setting apart five per cent. of the beneficiary fund collected on each assessment.

As the man who permits his expenses to equal his earnings can have no hope for the future, so insurance associations that have no reserve fund accumulating are actually living up to every dollar of their income from year to year. This will do very well while the society is young and strong, but the membership is bound to grow old in time, the deaths will rapidly come. These death claims can only be paid by DIRECT assessments *on the membership*. The assessments will be too numerous, the healthy members will drop out, and of necessity the association goes to pieces.

With its growing Reserve Fund, the C. M. B. A. undertakes to say, there shall be but twenty-four assessments levied on the membership in any one year. If more are necessary to pay the death claims, the Reserve Fund will supply the balance.

So far we have never had more than eighteen assessments in any year.

The fund now in the whole Association exceeds \$129,000. Each Grand Council is the custodian of this fund accumulating in its jurisdiction, and it is invested in first-class securities, paying semi-annual interest.

The C. M. B. A. in Rochester.

On the 29th day of March, 1879, the first branch was organized in the city of Rochester by Grand President Barrett in St. Bridget's parish and known as No. 12. This branch was formed largely through the efforts of Rev. James O'Connor, then the pastor of the parish, and Dr. Frank B. Gallery, one of the most active and enthusiastic workers the C. M. B. A. ever had in this locality. Branch No. 34 was started on the 11th of May following. No further efforts

were made to increase the branches of the organization until April 18th, 1882, when the members of Holy Redeemer parish by active efforts caused branch No. 58 to be established, and the above branches contained the full membership of the association in Rochester until March 15th, 1885, when St. Boniface branch was organized. From that time a masterly activity was manifested in behalf of the association both in the formation of branches and increase of membership. St. Joseph's, SS. Peter and Paul's, St. Mary's, St. Patrick's, Immaculate Conception, Holy Family, Holy Apostles', St. Francis Xavier's Our Lady of Victory, and Corpus Christi branches were organized in the order named in rapid succession. On August 1st, 1892, there were fourteen branches of the association in the city of Rochester, N. Y., with an aggregate membership of nearly fifteen hundred. The utmost harmony, unity and brotherly feeling prevail amongst both branches and membership, and each member is always ready and willing under all circumstances to assist another in times of both prosperity and adversity. A great benefit to the members of the families of deceased brothers residing in Rochester may be appreciated when it is known that, since the first branch was instituted, there has been disbursed by the organization in this city the sum of one hundred and fifty-eight thousand dollars in the payment of beneficiaries. The year 1892 marks a grand epoch in the history of the organization in this locality. At the Grand Council Convention, held at Binghamton, N. Y., in September, 1890, Rochester was selected as the place for holding the next convention. Immediately thereafter the branches of this city appointed the following members as a committee having in charge the arrangements of the convention and reception of the representatives from the several branches of the State: James L. Whalen, Charles P. Mead, Edward J. Ernst, Robert J. Lennon, John F. Kinney, John H. Lehman, Robert Siebert, John Englert, Geo. M. Aman, Leo Siebert, J. J. Schueler, Nicholas J. Miller, Dr. James F. Crowley, Michael J. Hyland, Cornelius Curtin, Theo. W. Mensing, Joseph Fritz, Andrew R. Schell, Ferdinand Roeser, Dr. A. J. Cormier and Charles H. Crowley. How successful their efforts may prove remains to be demonstrated, but, in any event, the united membership of the C. M. B. A. of Rochester extends to the representatives a hearty welcome to the Flower City, and earnestly desires that this session of the Grand Council of New York State may be the most successful and profitable ever held in the annals of the organization.

NEW YORK STATE GRAND COUNCIL OFFICERS.

Spiritual Adviser—REV. JAMES P. MAGEE, Syracuse.
 Chancellor—A. E. SCHWEIGERT, Buffalo.
 President—JOHN J. HYNES, Buffalo.

First Vice-President—JOHN F. KINNEY, Rochester.
 Second Vice-President—EDWARD RYAN, Syracuse.
 Secretary—JOSEPH CAMERON, Hornellsville
 Treasurer—STEPHEN MAST, Buffalo.
 Marshal—EDWARD J. ERNST, Rochester.
 Guard—JOHN H. LEHMAN, Rochester.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

CHAS. McDONOUGH, Buffalo.
MARTIN FISHER, JR., Buffalo.
REV. WM. J. McNAB, Medina.
T. LYNCH, Batavia.
P. J. KELLY, Salamanca.

DR. DANIEL McNAMARA, Supervising Medical Examiner,
Syracuse.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

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The next Convention of the Supreme Council will be held at Montreal, Canada, in October, 1892.



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Grand Spiritual Advisor, Syracuse.

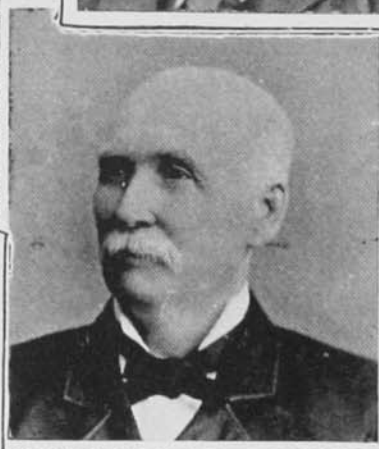
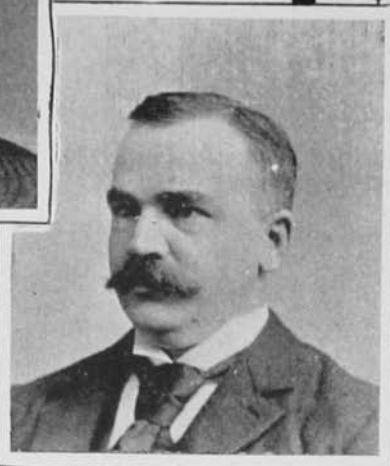
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DANIEL McNAMARA,
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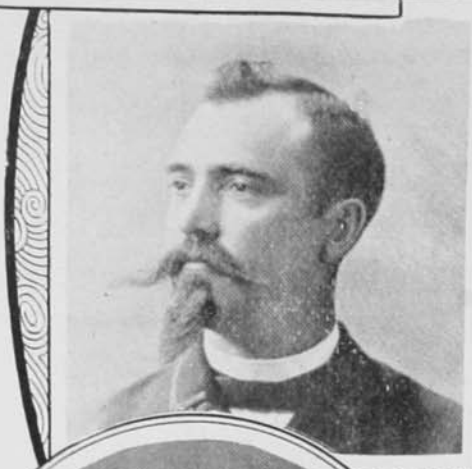
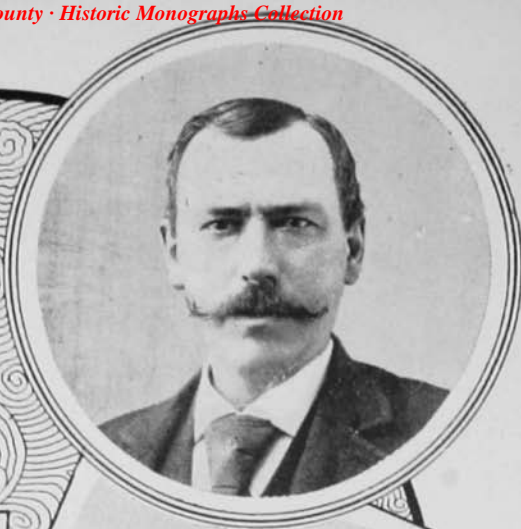
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CHARLES P. MEAD.

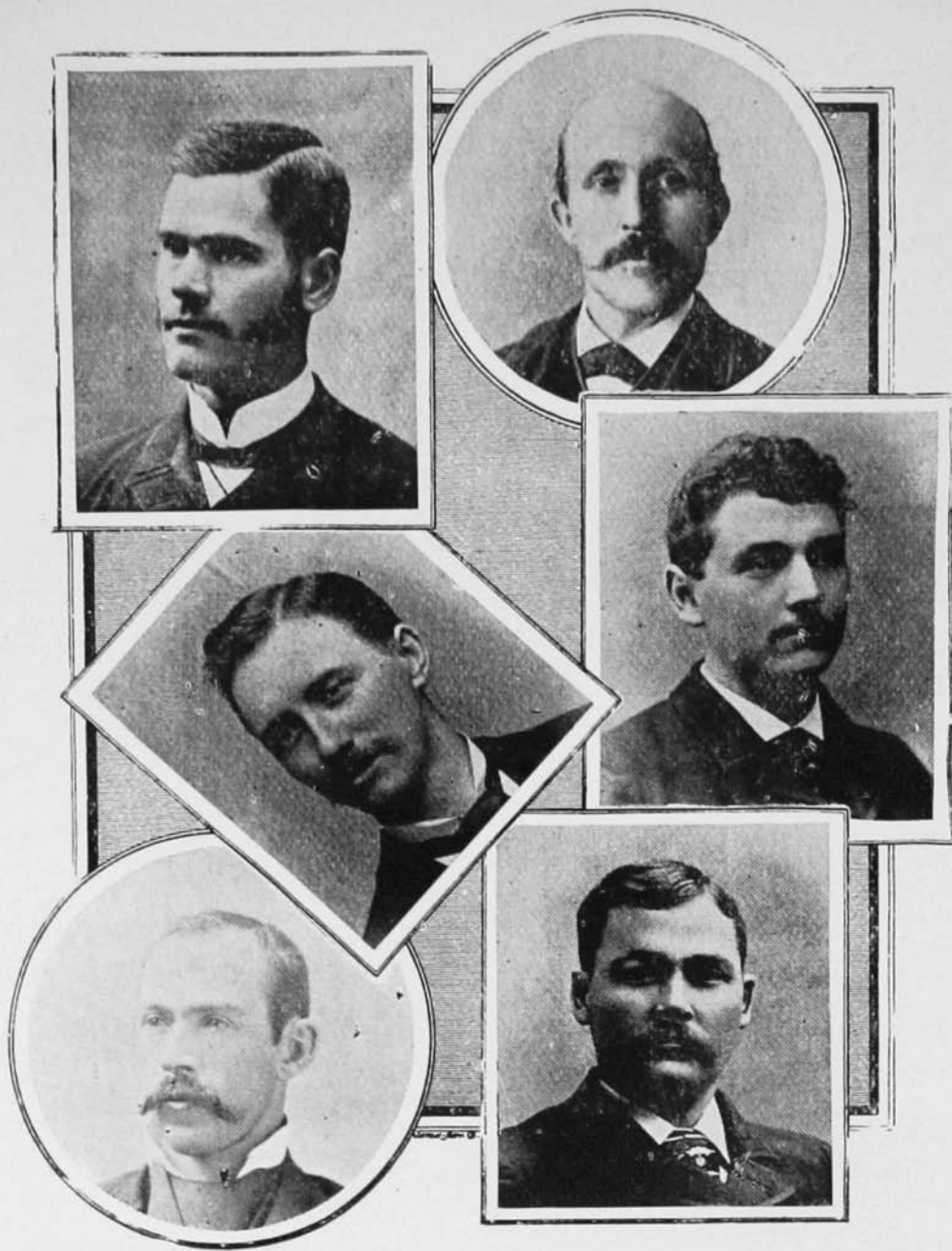
ROBERT J. LENNON.
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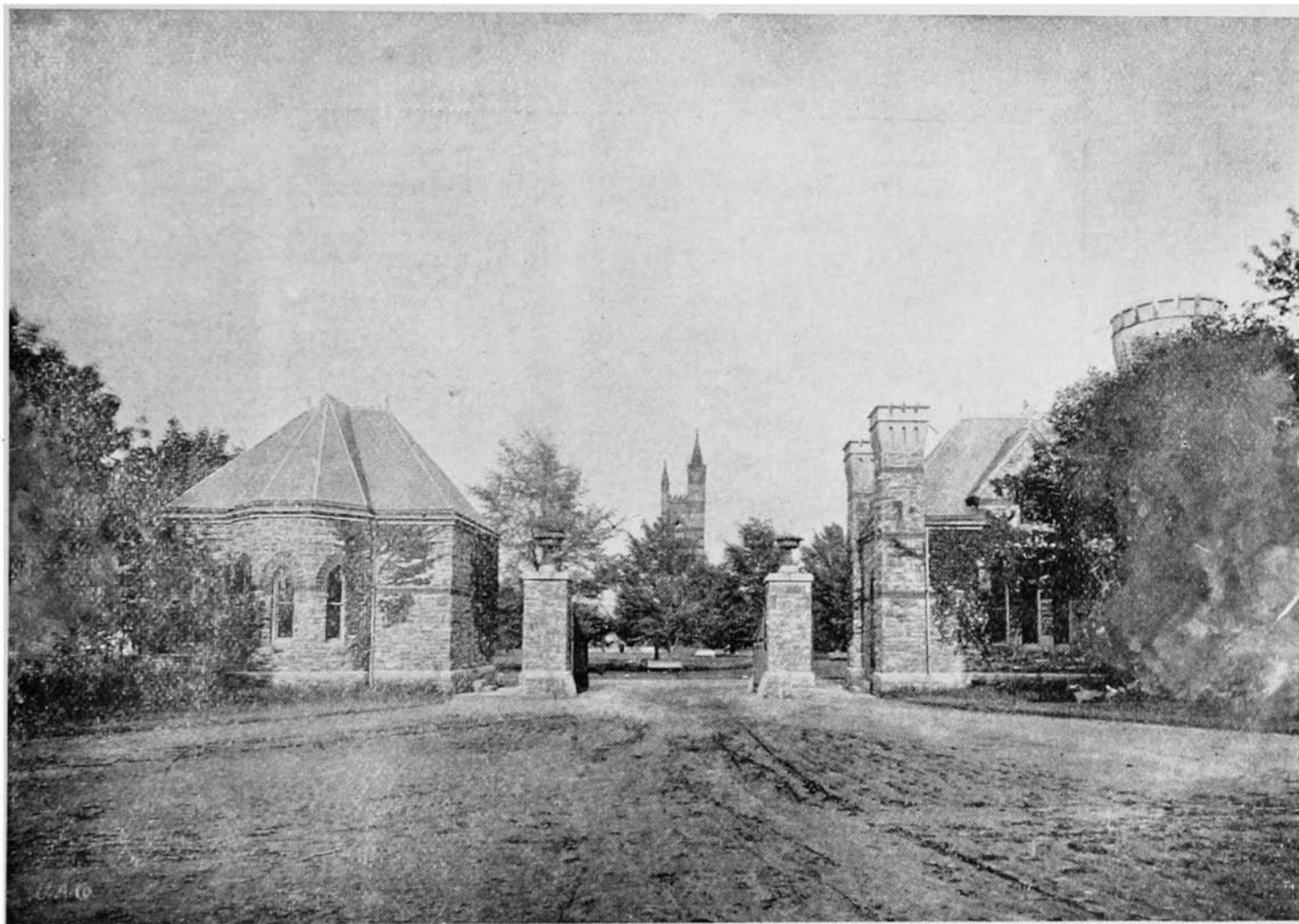
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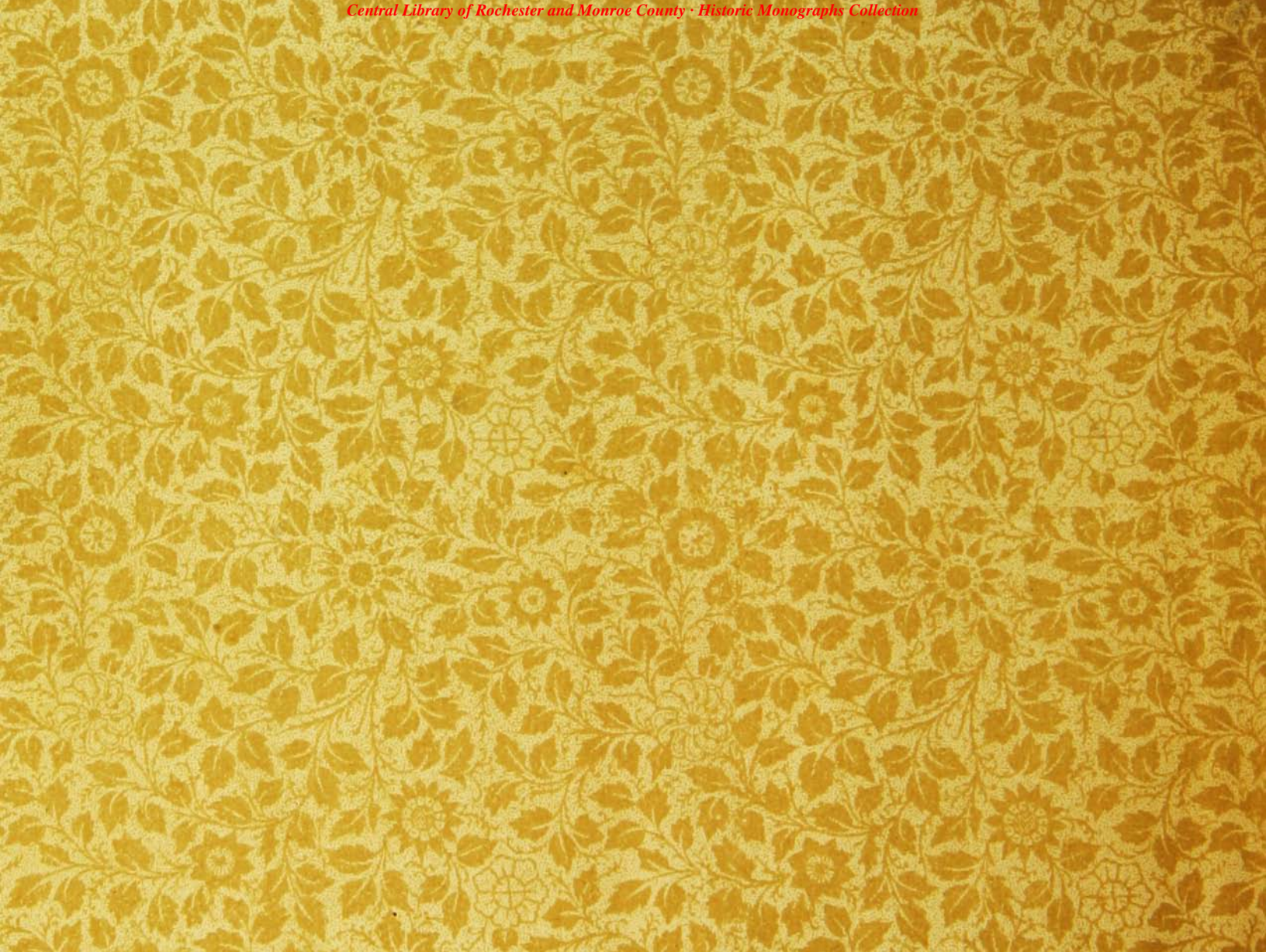
POPLAR WALK AT HOLY SEPULCHRE CEMETERY.



ENTRANCE TO HOLY SEPULCHRE CEMETERY.



ALL SOULS CHAPEL AND TOWER IN CEMETERY.





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