

ALBANY CATHEDRAL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION TO BE CONSECRATED TO-DAY IN ITS JUBILEE YEAR

which is a necklace of the first Pharaoh, and a signet ring of Shoofoo, or Cheops, the builder of the greatest of the Pyramids. These articles are shown in a case in the second gallery, under a fair light—an exception that is rare indeed. The first of these dates from 2,750 B. C., and the other from 2,325 B. C.

Another ancient relic, in which devotees of the card table should feel a keen interest, is a pack of thirteen playing cards, one of which bears the date 1546. The cards are of a coarse and dirty grayish paper considerably moth-eaten, and are painted in colors. The design is very crude, and the grouping of the representations of hearts and spades is peculiar. There are no clubs or diamonds in the pack, which is only a portion of the original.

Among the earlier Washington relics, besides the inauguration balcony panel, is a gold watch given by Washington, at Trenton, N. J., probably at Christmas, 1777, to Colonel Thomas Johnson, of Maryland. The evidences of wear about the keyhole show that the recipient and his descendants made good use of the time-piece. The case is well preserved, and the inscription on the back is as legible as it was on the day of the presentation. The story of the preservation of the balcony railing is interesting. When the present statue of Washington was erected on the place of the inauguration, in front of the Sub-Treasury, in Wall-st., Richard M. Hunt removed to his office the panel at the place where Washington stood. He gave it to the Historical Society. The remainder was used in decorating one of the older buildings of Bellevue Hospital, about 1811, and still stands there.

The key to the old Bridewell, in City Hall Park, where prisoners for debt were confined, is one of the interesting relics of early New-York. It is about six inches long, and massive enough to send a little chill up the backbone of the sensitive beholder who has debts.

The walking stick of Benjamin Franklin, the sword of General Gates, the tomahawk pipe of Red Jacket, a flag used at the siege of Louisburg in 1745, and an old Indian Bible and prayer book are among the interesting things shown.

The collections of historical deeds and other documents are extensive, and contain many treasures. Among the more interesting is the last deed to Staten Island given by the Indians. It was executed in April, 1679, and the consideration was four hundred fathoms of wampum, thirty boots, eight coats, thirty shirts, thirty kettles, twenty guns, a firkin of powder, sixty barrels of lead, thirty axes, thirty "hows" (hoes) and fifty knives. That was the price paid by the Duke of York and Albany for the present Borough of Richmond.

The letters and documents of General Horatio Gates, who is credited with an aspiration to become the commander-in-chief of the Revolutionary Army at the expense of Washington's leadership, are highly valuable. One of the most interesting of the documents is the original of the terms of surrender of General Burgoyne, at Saratoga. It bears the signatures of both General Gates and General Burgoyne, and the date, October 15, 1777.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY HOME.

WHAT THE NEW STRUCTURE OPPOSITE CENTRAL PARK WILL BE LIKE.

One of the notable additions to the architectural features of this city will be the new home of the Historical Society, the cornerstone for which was laid a few days ago. The building will stand in Central Park West, on a plot extending from Seventy-sixth-st. to Seventy-seventh-st. In style of architecture the building will be Colonial, with a fine entrance on the Central Park side. On this side there will be an Ionic colonnade, and columns of the same style will adorn the other sides of the structure. On the main floor there will be the lecture room, with a seating capacity of 450. Reading rooms, a reception room and offices will also be on this floor. At the north end there will be the library, in which there will be space for about 400,000 volumes. The museum, on the second floor, will have a vaulted ceiling and will be lighted by seven large windows. It will be 130 feet long and 28 feet wide. The plans for the building, which were made by York & Sawyer, include two large wings, which will be used as picture galleries.

DANGEROUS CRIMINALS.

"Why," said a lady, reproachfully, to her husband, "you know when I say Denmark I always mean Holland!" Perhaps the city girl in the following story, told by "The Philadelphia Telegraph," allowed herself a similar latitude of expression:

She was sitting on the porch, lazily rocking to and fro, and watching the fireflies flitting about her companions and said, in a musing tone:

"I wonder if it is true that fireflies do get into the haymows sometimes and set them afire?"

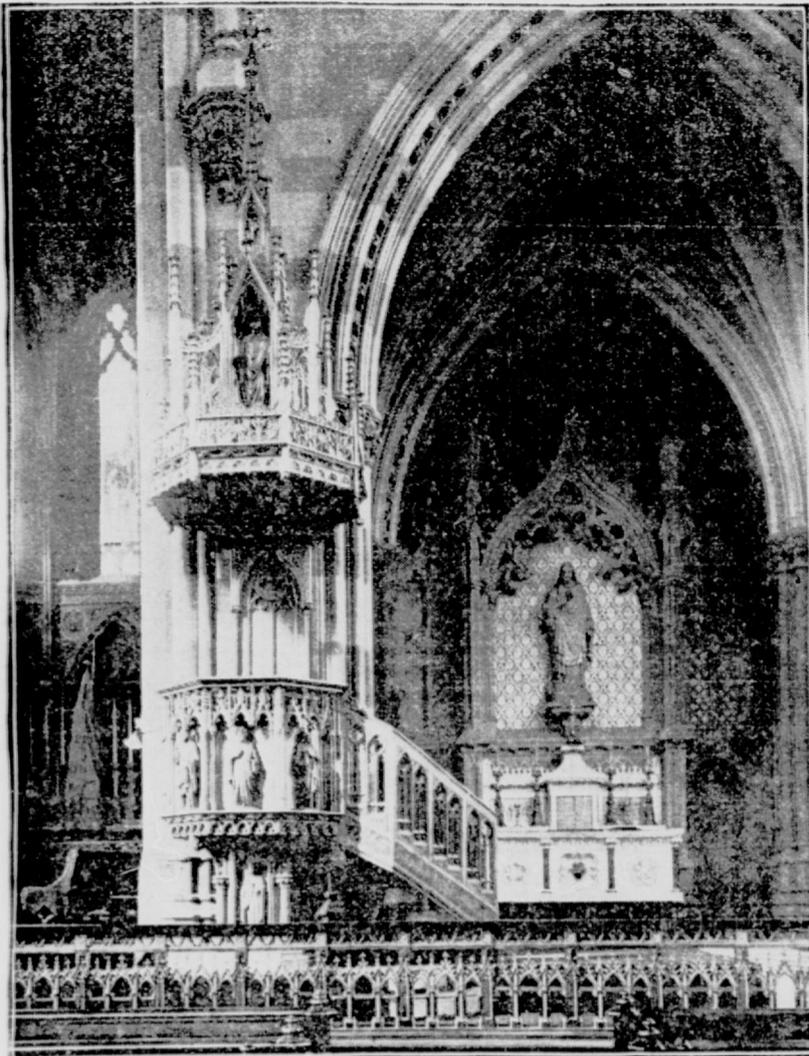
Everybody laughed at what was apparently a pleasantry, but the young lady looked surprised.

"Why," said she, "it was only yesterday that I saw in the paper an article headed, 'Work of Firebugs!' It said they had set a barn on fire. Really."

DEVOTED.

Knicker—Is Jones paying attentions to Miss Smith?

Bocker—Yes, indeed; he carries her a five-pound box of coal every time he calls.



PULPIT OF THE CATHEDRAL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION. The gift of John A. McCall, president of the New-York Life Insurance Company.

JOHN A. McCALL'S GIFT.

HE PRESENTS A FINE PULPIT TO AN ALBANY CATHEDRAL.

Albany, Nov. 15 (Special).—The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception here will be consecrated to-morrow. Built in 1852, the consecration services will be the golden jubilee of the cathedral. Now the cathedral is out of debt, and thus it is permissible, under the rules of the Roman Catholic Church, to consecrate it. After it is once consecrated as a temple to God, no debt must be imposed upon it.

The edifice is a noble one, with two tall towers of brownstone, and with a front of the same

stone, facing upon Eagle-st., at Madison-ave. From the Hudson River it is one of the most conspicuous buildings to be seen in Albany. Its architecture is Gothic. In the last two years the sum of \$27,000 has been expended in repairs and in improvements to the cathedral. Part of this has been for the purchase of ten beautiful stained glass windows, and part of it in recutting the brownstone of the building, which had become disintegrated in a measure by winter snows and frost.

Gifts have also been made to the cathedral which further beautify it. One is a carved oak pulpit of fine design, the gift of John A. McCall, president of the New-York Life Insurance Company of New-York. Mr. McCall was formerly a resident of Albany, and a member of

the cathedral congregation. When in town last spring he visited the cathedral, observed the repairs being made to it, and expressed his desire to give something to ornament the structure. He was told that the gift of a pulpit would be appreciated. Mr. McCall immediately said it would be a pleasure to him to make such a gift, and authorized the construction of a pulpit at his expense. The pulpit, which cost \$2,800, has arrived from Holland, and has been set up. The pulpit corresponds to the Gothic design of the church, its panels, the arching stairway leading to its platform, and the roof above it all being of Gothic design and with Gothic lines. The central panel has within it the figure of the Saviour. In the other front panels are figures of the four evangelists, and in the rear panels are figures of the prophet Isaiah, Jeremiah, Daniel and Ezekiel. In a panel over the sounding board of the pulpit is a figure representing the Virgin Mary. The pulpit is twenty-one feet in height, and a great addition to the church.

Another gift to the church which increases its beauty is that of a brass sanctuary rail. This is the gift of Anthony N. Brady and Eugene D. Wood. The rail is 117 feet in length and extends from one side of the church to the other. The cost of this was \$5,600.

At the cathedral consecration there will be at least three hundred members of the clergy of the Roman Catholic Church present. Among those who have accepted the invitations of Bishop T. M. Burke, of the Diocese of Albany, to be present, are Archbishop Farley, of New-York, who will be the preacher of the occasion; Archbishop Kean, of Dubuque, Iowa; Archbishop Gauthier, of Kingston, Ontario; Bishop McDonnell, of Brooklyn; Bishop Gabriels, of Ogdensburg; Bishop Ludden, of Syracuse; Bishop McQuaid, of Rochester; Bishop Quigley, of Buffalo; Bishop O'Connor, of Newark; Bishop McPaul, of Trenton; Bishop O'Connell, of Portland; Bishop Michaud, of Burlington; Bishop Harkins, of Providence; Bishop Tierney, of Hartford; Bishop Bevins, of Springfield; Bishop Foley, of Detroit; Bishop Keiley, of Savannah; Bishop Conaty of Washington; Monsignor Doane, of Newark; Monsignor Lynch, of Utica; Monsignor Kennedy, of Syracuse, and Monsignor Rooker, of the Papal Delegation at Washington.

The deacon of the mass on the day of the celebration ceremonies will be the Rev. Father Lynch, of the cathedral; subdeacon, the Rev. Father Charles, of the cathedral; the deacons of honor, the Rev. Father Ottenbeus and the Rev. Father Lizet; assistant priest, Vicar General Swift; and the masters of ceremonies, the Rev. J. L. Reilly, of Schenectady, and Father Delaney, Bishop Burke's secretary.

All of the priests of the diocese will be present. The bishops and visiting clergy will be guests at a dinner at the Ten Eyck Hotel.

LINCOLN'S LAST STORY.

IT CONNECTED PARDONS AND THE PATAGONIAN WAY OF EATING OYSTERS.

The last story ever told by President Lincoln was just before he left the White House to go to the theatre on the night he was killed. This is vouched for by Thomas F. Pendel, who is the oldest employe of the White House, and who went with Mr. Lincoln to his carriage on the fatal night.

"I have every reason," said Mr. Pendel, "for saying that the last pleasant little story Mr. Lincoln ever told was right here in this house. As is generally known, Speaker Colfax and Mr. Ashmond, of Massachusetts, were the last men to call on the President prior to his departure for the theatre. When these men called I carried their cards to Mr. Lincoln, and I know that they were the last to see him. However, not very long before they came Mr. Lincoln had received a visit from Marshal Lamon, who was from the President's home district, and it was Mr. Lamon who had introduced me to the President when I received my appointment, in November, 1864. Mr. Lamon wanted to talk to Mr. Lincoln about a pardon for an old friend, a soldier who had been found guilty of some slight violation of army regulations. The case was thoroughly gone over by the two, and, with pen in hand, Mr. Lincoln was in the act of signing the paper which would make the soldier a free man when he turned to Mr. Lamon and said:

"Lamon, do you know how the Patagonians eat oysters?"

"No, I do not, Mr. Lincoln," was the reply.

"Well, Lamon, it is their habit to open them as fast as they can throw the shells out of the window, and when the pile of shells grows to be higher than the house, why they pick up stakes and move. Now, Lamon, I feel like beginning a new pile of pardons, and I guess this is a good one to begin on."

"It wasn't long after this before the other gentlemen came, and when they had finished their call Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln came down and I went with them to the carriage. That was the last time I saw the good man alive."

Mr. Pendel says that he had every opportunity to study the President, for he was in the room with him nearly all the time—a bodyguard. Mr. Lincoln did not like the idea of being guarded and made frequent objections to having some one constantly near him. On one occasion he said to Mr. Pendel:

"Pendel, I do not like to be guarded, but I have received a number of threatening letters lately. I have no fears, however. That fellow we saw over at the War Department crouching at the foot of the stairs, and who eyed me suspiciously, answers perfectly the description of a man I was warned to look out for in a letter I received the other day."



ROMAN CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, ALBANY. It will be consecrated to-day.