

CHURCH IS DEDICATED

Ceremony at St. Francis de Sales, in Langdon.

BUILT UPON HISTORIC SPOT

Bishop Curtis, of the Baltimore Diocese, Assisted by Dr. Buel and Rev. Southgate, Officiates—Rev. Dr. Edward A. Pace, in Sermon, Reviews History of "Queen's Chapel," Two Centuries Old.

On the site of the historic Queen's Chapel, a spot sacred to local Catholics for nearly two centuries, a reverent throng yesterday participated in the solemn ceremony of dedicating the new Church of St. Francis de Sales, at Langdon. The church, a substantial brick structure, is admirably situated to command a view of the surrounding country. A large number of local clergy and laymen attended the services. Many persons, unable to obtain admission, stood outside the church throughout the ceremony.

Rt. Rev. Bishop A. A. Curtis, of Baltimore diocese, officiated. Bishop Curtis was assisted by Dr. Buel, president of Georgetown University, who acted as deacon, and Rev. E. M. Southgate, pastor of St. Anthony's Church at Brookland, as subdeacon. The ceremonies were in charge of Rev. George A. Dougherty, of the Catholic University, and Rev. A. M. Mark, pastor of St. Francis de Sales. Rev. Edward A. Pace, D. D., professor of philosophy at the Catholic University, preached the sermon.

Has Seen Nation's Rise.

"The time that has elapsed since the altar was first raised on this spot," said Dr. Pace, "has been marked by progress unequalled in the world's history. The founding of the republic, the peopling of this country with immigrants from every nation, the development of vast resources, the growth of industry, commerce, and science—all these have been crowded into less than two centuries. And in the midst of all the church has carried on her work with vigor and success. Through changes rapid and far-reaching, she has taught her doctrines, maintained her worship, and enforced her laws, just as she had done from the beginning in older lands.

"This power of adjustment is proof of her vitality. It is the manifestation of the divine guidance, which Christ promised, the showing forth of the spirit of God, who abides with the church forever. However the outward form may vary, the substance endures. From age to age, from clime to clime, in catacomb or cathedral, in struggle or in peace, there is for the Catholic Church one Lord, one faith, one baptism. And the facts of the past are our guarantee for the future. With a certainty higher than promise of man can give, we know that so long as the cross surmounts these walls it will invite men to hear the same truth and to share in the same sacred rites. The service to which we have dedicated this church to-day will be offered, a clean oblation, through all the unfailing years of God."

Societies Are Represented.

Delegations from the Ancient Order of Hibernians, the Catholic Knights of America, the Knights of Columbus, and other Catholic organizations were in attendance. Gen. Nelson A. Miles Camp, United Spanish War Veterans, D. J. Leahy, commander, was present. The student choir of Holy Cross College rendered music.

Among the clergymen present were Rt. Rev. Bishop O'Connell, rector of the Catholic University, and his chaplains, Rev. Dr. Sollier, of the Marist College; Rev. Dr. Burns, of Holy Cross College; President Buel, of Georgetown University; Rev. T. E. McGuigan, assistant pastor of St. Patrick's; Rev. Valentine Schmidt, of St. Joseph's; Rev. Dr. Sauvage, of the Catholic University; Rev. Dr. E. Kennedy, O. P.; Rev. Bede Oldgeering, of the Franciscan Monastery, and Rev. E. Weber.

Queen Chapel was erected by Richard Queen, owner of the celebrated Queen estate, in 1730. It was a favorite sanctuary of the devout Catholics among the Maryland pioneers. It was burned during the Civil War by the Garibaldi Guards.

Rev. A. M. Mark, pastor of the new church, has had charge of the Langdon pastorate since last November, and under his direction the congregation has done excellent work in organization and collection of funds for the new structure. Father Mark, who was ordained in 1899 and who completed a post graduate course, was formerly assistant pastor of St. Anthony's Church, Brookland.