

This is a copy of the oldest document in the archives of Christian Brothers at Napa California The information was compiled by the community of St. Patrick Institution (Later CBS) in Sacramento.

3/29/16

(Facsimile: Community Record, Christian Brothers, Sacramento, California)

St. Patrick Institute.

This Community was dedicated to Almighty God, and placed under the protection of St. Patrick by the Most Rev. Joseph S. Alemany Archbishop of San Francisco on the 16th day of July 1876.

His Grace delivered an eloquent and telling address on the occasion dwelling chiefly on what the Church has done in every age of her existence for the cause of education. He spoke in terms of great praise of the success of our Brothers in the grand work of Christian education, and predicted that happy results would follow from the establishment of this Community.

His Grace was followed on the stand by Governor Irwin and Adjutant General Walsh of the State of California, the former a Protestant and the latter a Catholic and a former pupil of the Christian Brothers.

Both these gentlemen were very happy and encouraging in their remarks. The House was opened to all visitors and a great concourse of people both Protestants and Catholics made a thorough inspection of the premises.

The Institution was then handed over by the Pastor Rev. Patrick Scanlan to the Brothers who had to assume all expenses connected with the school and community from that forward.

On Monday July the 17th the Brothers commenced to receive pupils. There was quite a throng of applicants and during the week all arrangements were completed to commence the classes on Monday the 24 which was accordingly done with over 200 pupils.

The Brothers who composed the Community were Bro. Cieran, Director, Bro. Alexander Sabast, Sub Director Bro. Samand 2nd Class teacher Bro. William, 3rd Class teacher Bro. Ulfrid Patrick 4th Class teacher Bro. Wenceslaus, teacher of French German, Penmanship and Drawing Bro. Sinton, Prefect.

In less than two months the number of Students increased to 250.

The intention of the Rev. Pastor was that there should be a few boarders to help support the Community as the charges made for tuition were very moderate ranging from \$ 3 to \$ 10 a quarter of 2½ months.

At the end of September there were 12 boarding scholars.

The conditions on which the brothers accepted the Institution were that they could charge such as were able to pay, but could not refuse any pupil on account of non-payment when the parents could not afford.

The Sunday School was commenced on the 30th of July. All the Catholics boys of the parish were invited by the Pastor to attend Sunday School whether they attended the day-school or not. A large number of boys and children who attended the Public schools were received and instructed on Sunday during one hour, from 2 to 3 P.M. The weather being excessively hot it was deemed prudent to only keep them an hour.

FURNITURE for Community and Class-rooms.

The Rev. Father Scanlan furnished four class-rooms with desks sufficient to accommodate 260 pupils. Also a teacher's desk and revolver chair for each class. The Community room was well furnished for seven brothers.

Dormitories.

The brothers dormitory had 7 beds with spring mattresses, a bowlster and pillow, two pairs of sheets & pillow-slips, one pair of blankets & two spreads for each, to which the Community had to add a pair of blankets for each brother in the course of a week.

There were twenty bedsteads and mattresses for the boys dormitory with a bowlster and pillow for each. The ordinary cooking apparatus and necessary utensils for the kitchen and dining-room were also provided for about 30 persons. Three tables for dining-room and one for kitchen and a dozen dining-room chairs were also supplied. The parlors were furnished rather modestly with two small tables and a dozen plain chairs.

The only class-room apparatus procured were two Franklin globes, a terrestrial and celestial, 2 doz. black-board brushes & 2 doz. pointers. This is all the furniture found in the establishment at our taking charge.

This House and lot belong to the parish, having been built by the people and when handed over to the Brothers had cost over Twenty four Thousand dollars. The Community has to pay the Insurance Taxes, Street assessments & without calling on the parish for any more help. The extra fixings which were found necessary for the Community's comfort cost \$ 250.

The unfurnished part of the house which consisted of three large school rooms on the first floor was completed by the Community in October at a cost of \$ 943.75.

Jan 24th, 1877

Ifind the record of events clear, concise and full in every respect

(signed) Bro Justin

The first public entertainment by the students was given on May 28th 1877 in the Assembly Chamber in the State Capitol building. The use of the Chamber was kindly granted by Mr Beck Secretary of State. Governor Irwin presided at the awarding of Certificates to the Students. Several certificates in various specialties were awarded, and the leading men of the various orders of Society, the Sacramento Board of Education in a body and the principal State officers attended. Two diplomas were given in the Commercial department. The general opinion of all was that the closing exercises were a grand success and gave great hopes of the future of the Institution. The Community left for St-Mary's College a day or two after the closing and spent the vacation in San Francisco on account of the great heat here. The Second Scholastic year commenced in August ( )th 1877. And after one or two weeks the classes were well filled. Many new boys were entered.

The second Commencement Exercises were held in the Assembly Chamber State Capitol on Saturday May 25th. His Excellency, Gov. Irwin presided and Hon. Grover L. Johnson delivered the address to the young gentlemen who rec'd Diplomas & Certificates.

The Third Commencement Exercises were held in same place on June 2nd. Hon. Joe. Hamilton presided and Hon. G. Maslin delivered the address.

The dear Bro. Patrick Ass't made a visit to the Community on the 22nd October and remained two days.

On his departure for the East he took with him Bro. Justin who was made Visitor of New York and Bro. Bettelin replaced him as Visitor of California.

Bro. Cianan changed from Sacramento to San Francisco on Dec.13th -'79 and the dear Bro Stephen was installed by dear Bro. Bettelin in December in Bro. C's place.

Dear Bro. Stephen called to New York Dec 28th -'79. Dear Bro. Bertram arrived Jan. 5th 1880 to replace him as Director.

Dear Bro. Bertram was changed to St. Mary's College, Aug.29th, 1880, and dear Bro. Sabinian was installed as director.

Bro. Sabinian was changed to St. Joseph's Academy, Oakland, Jan. 1st, 1881, and Bro. Bosonis was installed as Director.

Bro. Bosonis was changed to Sacred Heart College, and Bro. Genebern, late of the Sacred Heart was installed Director May 1st 1883.

The Rev. Father Grace, pastor, kindly donated the proceeds of a Raffle to establish a Banking Department, which was put up at a cost of Five Hundred and twenty-five (\$525.00). The opening entertainment was held on the 17th of January 1884, in the presence of the parents of the Students.

On the 15th of November, 1880, dear Bro. Cianan Director was transferred to the New St. Mary's College, Oakland, and dear Bro. Bosonis-John, Sub-Dtor was installed as director. Bro. Bertram of St. Mary's College, was made Sub Dtor.

On Jan. 29, 1892, dear Bro. Cianan returned from St. Mary's College, Oakland, as Director in place of dear Bro. Bosonis John who was transferred to Temescal, same date.

On July 12, 1894 Bro. Walter E. arrived from St. Mary's College, Oakland, as Director, in place of Brother Cianan, who went to St. Mary's College, Oakland.

In July, 1895 (or 6), Bro. V Ambrose arrived from St. Mary's College, Oakland, as Director, in place of Bro. Walter Erminold, who returned to St. Mary's College, Oakland.

In July, 1898, Bro. Vellesian, teacher of the 1st class, became Director, replacing Bro. V. Ambrose, who was drowned in the wreck of the ill-fated steamer Burgoyne while on a voyage to Paris to make the long retreat.

In July 1900, Bro. Walter (Erminold) was again appointed Director to replace Bro. Vellesian, who was called to St. Mary's College, Oakland.

In 1903, a new wing was added to the main building, at an expenxe of nearly five thousand (5000) dollars. This addition was the generous gift of Mrs. M. Bethel of Sacramento, who must hereafter be regarded as a benefactress of the Community.

The same kind lady furnished means to decorate the chapel, and also donated two beautiful statues, -one of the Sacred Heart, the other of the Holy Founder. She has also on many occasions, given liberally to the Community.

In 1906 Dear Bro. Walter Erminold was called to the Mother House, Belgium, to do some special literary work for the Institute.

Aug 6, 1906, Dear Brother Florinus arrived as director, from Vancouver and continued in office till Aug. 16, 1909, when he was called to St. Jos.

1909 Brother Victorinus Leo, teacher of the first class was appointed director.

(1911-1914) Brother Florinus returned and after a year, was succeed by Brother George, who was here a year, when Brother Victorinus Jasper was named director in Aug. 1915.

1919 In August of present year 1919, Brother Jasper was changed to St. Joseph's Academy, Peralta Park, Berkeley, with an obedience as Sub Director and teacher of First Class.

August 1st, 1919, Brother U. Vivian received an obedience to repair to C.B.College, Sacramento as Director and Inspector of classes.

During the latter part of the vacation of Aug. 1919, and the first month of school, following, considerable improvements, in the way of renovating and repairing of building was done by the Rev. Pastor, Father P. Ryan. The rear part of building and galleries receiving two coats of paint. All the class rooms, private rooms, and hall ways etc. were papered, painted or calcimined, inside wood work of doors and wain-scoting stained and varnished. All stair ways were painted, new lenolum placed on landings, ( ) and washhall. The galleries were jacked up and new foundations placed under the supports, also sections of the foundations of building were renewed.

On Oct 9 '19 a small fire took place on the roof of the College. The cause was burning suit from the chimney connected with the oil burning range of the kitchen. The alarm given, the boys foiled out into the yard some of the old of whom with two of the brothers did good work in helping to extinguish some of the several small smoldering fires in shingles. The first department responded promptly: but were very slow in getting into action. The fire took place about 10 o'clock, the pupils were dismissed with the understanding that school would be resumed in the after-noon. All reported for the afternoon session. Damages were small all covered by insurance.

During the vacation of 1920 our dear Brother Vivian was transferred to St. Peters as Director of that Community. Brother George who had charge of the Business Class in this College for the past year was made Director to succeed Brother Vivian. December 1921, Brother George was appointed pro Director of the Sacred Heart College, and Brother Vellesian from St. Vincents became Director of the College in Sacramento.

(editor's note: the next entry is 1935, in Brother V. Ambrose ii's hand.)

*B. Raphael*  
9 Feb 1970