The Catholic Press in New Jersey: Historical Overview From Retrospective Titles to The Recorder

Alan B Delozier
Message From the Chairman

Back in 1976, the United States had many grand celebrations to commemorate the bicentennial of our country. There were parades and fireworks and all kinds of ceremonies to mark this great anniversary.

That same year, the bishops of the United States issued a document commemorating this anniversary and strongly suggesting that each diocese should establish an archives as well as appoint an archivist. Here in New Jersey, the bishops of our state went even further. They established a commission under the chairmanship of Bishop John J. Dougherty to research and produce histories of the Catholic Church in New Jersey. It was composed of a representative from each of our dioceses and some historical scholars also became members.

This group is now known as the New Jersey Catholic Historical Commission. Down through the years it has been meeting at regular intervals and has discussed various ways to make our Catholic history better known to our fellow Jerseyites. This commission has produced many study days to help parishes write their histories, and several of our dioceses have published their own histories with its assistance. Very early on, it also published a newsletter under the direction of the late Professor Joseph Mahoney. He was able to get many articles about our history and present them to its readers.

Of late, this newsletter has not been published as regularly as we wished. However, we hope to get back on track with this issue of this publication, which we are calling \textit{The Recorder}. This current issue has stories about our several dioceses that should be of interest to everyone, including one article about the diary of our first bishop, Bishop James Roosevelt Bayley; a history of the progress of Catholic publications from the time of Gutenberg to the present; and other items of interest. I urge all of you to read this issue and if you have any comments or helpful suggestions, please feel free to contact us.

Rev. Msgr. Francis R. Seymour, KHS
Chairman of the New Jersey Catholic Historical Commission

The Catholic Press in New Jersey: Historical Overview from Retrospective Titles to \textit{The Recorder}
by Alan Delozier, Executive Director

With the re-launch of \textit{The Recorder}, the Commission is once again following in a long and specialized informational lineage of Catholic-focused gazettes that have aided scores of readers and researchers on a wide range of Church issues over the last few centuries. The starting point for all typed print can be traced to the Catholic Johannes Gensfleisch zur Laden zum Gutenberg (1398-1468), who invented mechanical metal type which revolutionized the art of communication and the publishing industry. From the time that the printing press was proven functional, the first rudimentary news bulletins made their way into the public sphere around 1493. From initial success in Germany, the appeal of published works expanded across the globe, but it would be years before regular and high-quality texts could be accessible to the masses. Not only mainstream news, but articles about religion and history also became popular reading options and were present from the first. (continued on page 4)
A Priestly Ministry That Began 100 Years Ago
by Rev. James Bartoloma

All Saints’ Day 2014 was the 100th anniversary of something that Catholics in the Diocese of Camden should be aware of and grateful for: the priestly ordination of the diocese’s first bishop, Bartholomew J. Eustace. He was ordained a priest for the Archdiocese of New York on November 1, 1914. The ceremony took place in Rome where he had completed his seminary training and theological studies.

Our first bishop, even as a young student and priest, was brilliant and greatly respected for his dedication to the Church. After he completed a doctorate in sacred theology, at the age of 27, Father Eustace returned to his diocese to begin a priestly ministry which would affect a great many people, first in New York and then in Southern New Jersey where, in 1938, he was officially installed as a newly consecrated bishop for a newly established diocese. Bishop Eustace led the Diocese of Camden for 18 years until his death in 1956.

Before he was the bishop of Camden, Father Eustace was an assistant priest at Blessed Sacrament Church in New Rochelle, NY, for just one year before he was sent to teach seminarians at St. Joseph’s Seminary in Dunwoodie, NY. When he began teaching, many of his students would have only been slightly younger than he was, but after ordination they would go on to be faithful priests and continue the saving mission of Jesus Christ in their priestly work.

Some of Father Eustace’s students even went on to become renowned leaders within the Church, including a future archbishop of Los Angeles, James Cardinal McIntyre. When Bishop Eustace died in 1956, Cardinal McIntyre traveled by train from the west coast to be present in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception here in Camden for the funeral ceremonies of his former seminary professor, brother bishop, and friend.

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Celebrating 90 Years: Trenton Diocesan Council of Parent Teacher Associations
by Terry Zimecki

This September, the Trenton Diocesan Council of Parent Teacher Associations will celebrate its 90th Anniversary. Approximately a year and half ago the Historical Committee came together for the purpose of completing an historical account of the oldest Parent Teacher Association in the country. Our committee is made up of past Diocesan Presidents and our past Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent. During our attempt to find a “home,” Sr. Dorothy Payne invited us to come to Trenton Catholic Academy.

Fortunately, our founding members had the foresight to realize that it would be necessary to keep records. To that end we have a “yearbook” for every year from 1925. The early books were small 6-page, 3”x5” books. As more schools became part of the Council the need for a constitution and by-laws increased. The Council also started to assess each unit a per capita tax for members. The number of schools and their enrollment was important information. The yearbook was their tool for dispersing this type of data to all units. All yearbooks have been microfilmed and the complete set will be part of the data we are preserving.

One thing we have noticed was the failure to date and identify notes and pictures. The long-time involvement of our committee members in PTA has helped with our ability to identify people in pictures. As our work will continue after our celebration, we continue to remind our current members to date and identify everything.

We continue to delve into minutes, notes, publications, and convention books, as well as to consult with our oldest living member, who is 95, and we hope to have our project completed by June 2015. We also interviewed former members with the intent of completing a short video.
Priestly Ministry That Began 100 Years Ago
(continued from page 2)

Father Eustace was fluent in French and Italian and was also a gifted Latinist. He was a recognized liturgical scholar and in 1935 published a book, “Ritual for Small Churches,” which became a standard reference and ceremonial guide that churches used when planning Masses and ceremonies throughout the liturgical year.

In 1937, Father Eustace returned to the parish which was his first assignment, but this time as pastor. He served as pastor for just one year before he was appointed, consecrated, and then installed as the first bishop of Camden in 1938.

As the first bishop of our diocese, Bishop Eustace devoted himself to shepherding the people of the Church in Camden and working to build up many of the parishes, Catholic institutions, and programs which have helped the people of the diocese grow closer to the Lord for almost 77 years now.

Bishop Eustace ordained 85 men who went on to minister as priests within the diocese. One of the priests whom he ordained in 1949, Msgr. Eugene Kernan, remembers how close his family was to Bishop Eustace because his father was the bishop’s driver. When he and his brother were teenagers, Msgr. Kernan and his brother would sometimes be able to ride along as their father drove the first bishop of Camden to visit seminarians who were gathered together during the summer for their time off from studies.

Another priest, Father Alfred Hewett, who was in the last class of priests that Bishop Eustace ordained in 1956, recalls that Bishop Eustace was kind and intelligent, always thoughtful of people and dedicated to the diocese. Father Hewett remembers how Bishop Eustace was determined to build up Catholic health care in the diocese through the construction of Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital in Camden, and also how in the Marian Year, 1954, the first bishop of Camden presided over a great pilgrimage and procession in honor of the Blessed Mother which took place in Atlantic City.

The Diocese of Camden is very different from how it was during the lifetime of our first bishop. The mission of the Church is always the same, though, and the important ministry of dedicated priests is as important and needed as ever. Just as our first bishop said “Yes” to the Lord 100 years ago and his life was changed forever as he was ordained a priest, God still needs men and women to say “Yes” to what he calls them to do. There is as great a need as ever, here and now, for young men to give themselves to God and serve as priests.

(This article is excerpted and reprinted from the October 30, 2014 Catholic Star Herald.)

Bishop Eustace in 1914, before his ordination. (Photo courtesy of the Catholic Star Herald.)
The Catholic Press in New Jersey (continued from page 1)

According to the Catholic Encyclopedia (1911), with respect to the evolution of the Universal Church in print circles: “The broadsides were later succeeded by the ‘relations’ and the title of the Jesuit ‘Relations,’ which has become almost a household word in American history, shows how early the Church authorities appreciated the possibilities of this new kind of periodical publication.” This foundation led to further evolution over the years as information was transmitted in print form from village to village in such strongly Catholic nations such as France and Spain beyond the fifteenth century. These early examples typically featured strictly religious topics and almost always involved ecclesiastical sanction before release to the world.

The lineal start of American Catholic publishing was on August 31, 1809 when the first faith-based newspaper printed in the United States was promulgated from the Detroit area (Springwells) under the title The Michigan Essay (or Impartial Observer), which was printed half in English and half in French on various topics of note to the burgeoning Catholic community of Michigan at the time. The inaugural Catholic magazine, christened The Metropolitan (or Catholic Monthly Magazine), emanating from the first American See at Baltimore, came out in January of 1830 and lasted a single year.

The next and closest parochial press effort to New Jersey came through New York City, where the first Catholic weekly entitled The Shamrock (or Hibernian Chronicle) commenced publication on December 10, 1810, and from here lasted seven years under its adopted titles. In the metropolitan area, it ushered in a number of other newspapers such as The Truth Teller (first issue in 1825), and throughout the American Catholic landscape expanding with Irish and German immigration, it helped to build upon a solid native readership for clergy and laity alike.

“The latter nineteenth and early twentieth century was a time when many Catholic newspapers and journals were born, many having short to mid-range runs.”

The latter nineteenth and early twentieth century was a time when many Catholic newspapers and journals were born, many having short to mid-range runs. These were printed either in or near the largest urban areas of the Garden State. Many ranged from 4-20 pages and cost ranged from a quarter to $2.00 per subscription. The center of Catholic leadership in New Jersey has remained Newark, the largest city in the state. Various publications featured such titles as The Catholic Citizen (changed to The Irish Citizen, 1873-76), Catholic Ledger (1893-1904), Newark Ledger (1898-1913), Catholic Messenger (1889-90), New Jersey Catholic News (1887-1952), and the popular Monitor during the early 1900s. The most detailed examples beyond the city limits of Newark featured among others: Sacred Heart Union (1880-1960), Camden Church Appeal (1866), Prejaciels Ludu - Gazeta Niedzielna (People’s Friend - Sunday Paper) (Camden, 1885-1934), Catholic Messenger (Elizabeth, 1898-1906), St. Mary’s Messenger (New Brunswick, 1883-98), Catholic Press (Jersey City, 1894-98), New Jersey Revue (German) (Jersey City, 1879-92), The Orphan’s Messenger and Working Girl’s Friend (Jersey City, 1898-99), New Jersey Catholic (Long Branch, 1897-1901), The Sentinel and Bayley School Messenger (Morristown, 1894-89), St. Mary’s Messenger (Hopewell, 1883-98), New Jersey Catholic Journal (Trenton, 1886-95), and The Sacred Heart Columbian (Vineland, 1891-94).

By the mid-latter part of the last century, the number of Catholic publications thinned out as competition from newspapers, periodicals, radio, television, and other media outlets made news more immediate. Otherwise, focus on local information was created and survived in parochial school newspapers and the diocesan press on a larger scale. The New Jersey edition of The Catholic News of New York City (and to a lesser extent the Catholic Standard & Times of Philadelphia) became the de facto official organ of the reconstituted Archdiocese of Newark, Diocese of Trenton, and the new Sees of Paterson and Camden during the early-mid twentieth century. However, it was not until the early 1950s that the Catholic publishing industry became very active. This new age began with the Catholic Star Herald (Diocese of Camden) which commenced with its maiden issue on May 11, 1951. This tabloid was followed by the Catholic Advocate of Newark (which also served Paterson for 16 years) in December of that year and The Monitor of Trenton on February 5, 1954. Later, the Catholic Beacon became the printed voice for the Diocese of Paterson in 1967, and the Metuchen-sponsored Catholic Spirit began publication in 1996. (continued on page 5)
The Catholic Press in New Jersey  
(continued from page 4)

The question of creation and subsistence was recorded on page one in the inaugural issue of The Monitor and is part of a thread expressed in various ways throughout each of the presses statewide to its readership.

The first edition of the diocese weekly newspaper... appears today in thousands of homes...after long study and careful preparation. It appears in response to what is a closely established and urgent need...there long has been a conviction that the best interests of the Church and Its people required the establishment of a publication through which the cause of religion generally and the particular interests of the Church’s many institutions could be advanced more effectively...In consequence, the production...in all respects a professional operation, marked by a high degree of competence and with legitimate claims upon the respectful attention of readers.

The Recorder was published in 2008 and 2009 through the efforts of editor G. Greg Tobin. This publication followed in the tradition of the first Commission newsletter, entitled the New Jersey Catholic Records Newsletter quarterly, which began during the fall of 1979 and continued publication under the guidance of professor and scholar, the late Joseph F. Mahoney, Ph.D., a founding member and first director of the then New Jersey Catholic Historical Records Commission. More information on content and full-text versions of our past newsletters can be found here: http://blogs.shu.edu/njchc/works-and-activities/newsletters/, and more information can be found here: http://blogs.shu.edu/njchc/the-recorder/.

This is an excerpt from the full article, which can be found here: http://blogs.shu.edu/njchc/the-recorder/
Sacred Heart Parish Celebrates 200 Years
by Reverend Ed Jawidzik

2014 was a very special year for the parish of the Sacred Heart in Trenton, New Jersey. At a jubilee Mass celebrated by Bishop David M. O’Connell, CM, on October 12, the faith community celebrated 200 years since its founding in 1814 — the same year Francis Scott Key penned the words to what would become our National Anthem!

In 1729, a Jesuit priest, Rev. Joseph Greaton, SJ, arrived in Philadelphia, where he built a chapel, Old Saint Joseph’s on Willings Alley in about 1732. He took charge of the West Jersey mission extending from Trenton to Cape May.

Although the date of the first Mass celebrated in Trenton is uncertain, by about 1797, priests from Philadelphia were attending to the Catholics in Trenton. From 1811 to 1814, Mass was celebrated at the home of Giovanni Battisti Sartori, first U.S. consul to the Papal States and later Papal consul to the United States. The Most Reverend Michael Egan, bishop of Philadelphia, conducted a dedication ceremony on June 12, 1814, and named the Church of Saint John the Baptist after Mr. Sartori.

The Jesuits of Old Saint Joseph’s in Philadelphia cared for the parish from 1833 until 1837, when Rev. Daniel Magorien became the first resident pastor. Rev. John P. Mackin, appointed pastor in 1844, erected a larger Saint John’s Church. The Most Rev. Francis P. Kenrick, bishop of Philadelphia, laid the cornerstone on June 27, 1847. The church was open for Mass on Christmas 1847 and dedicated on August 17, 1848.

* Sacred Heart Parish, Trenton, had its genesis in the same year as did “The Star-Spangled Banner.” *

In 1851, the older church building was sold to Mr. Peter A. Hargous, son of Captain John Hargous, who with Mr. Sartori was instrumental in building old Saint John’s. This became the German Catholics’ place of worship, Saint Francis of Assisi Church.

Rev. Anthony Smith became pastor in 1861 and opened an asylum for orphaned children, who were cared for by the Sisters of Charity of Convent Station, then part of Madison. In 1866, Father Smith planned for a mission to Saint John’s in northern Trenton, Saint Mary’s of the Assumption. It became a parish in 1871 and Father Smith moved in and became the first pastor of what would be selected as the Cathedral Church of the new Diocese of Trenton upon its establishment in 1881.

On Sunday evening, September 30, 1883, a devastating fire destroyed the newer Saint John’s. Rev. Thaddeus Hogan erected in its place the parish’s third church, renamed by Father Hogan Sacred Heart Church, perhaps because a personal devotion Father Hogan may have had to the Sacred Heart, or because of the approximate 200th anniversary of the apparitions of Jesus to Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque. The Church was dedicated on June 30, 1889 by the Most Rev. Michael J. O’Farrell, first Bishop of Trenton.

In 1854, Rev. John P. Mackin (see above) opened Saint John’s Catholic School. In 1874, Rev. Patrick Byrne built a new school building and in 1924, Rev. Peter J. Hart built another school building and a convent. The Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth from Convent Station have taught in the school since 1864. In 2003, after 149 years, Sacred Heart School closed its doors due to rising costs of education and declining enrollment.

Today, Sacred Heart Parish is a thriving faith community of 800 families with a vibrant worship life and excellent ministries to the greater Trenton community, under the devoted leadership of Father Dennis A. Apoldite, the parish’s nineteenth pastor. Happy 200th, Sacred Heart Parish!
A Look Toward New Initiatives: Felician College Library Archive by Angelica Diggs, Archival Associate

The archive at Felician College was first established in 1998 and managed by Sister Mary Victoria Olender, who worked within the Office of the Executive Vice President for Administration and Finance. Similar to many archivists beginning a new project, Sister Victoria transformed hundreds, if not thousands, of documents into a functioning college archive, and Felician’s archive now stores over 600 boxes of flat file materials documenting the college’s functions and history, over 500 photographs, newspapers, books, audio cassette tapes, slides, and more. In 2002, Sister Victoria commissioned a Caucus Archival Projects Evaluation Service (CAPES) report completed through the New Jersey Historical Commission that outlined the steps needed for a successful archive collection, all of which was executed during her tenure. In 2013 Sister Victoria retired from her position, and the administration of the archive at Felician College shifted so that it is now under the supervision of Library Services, creating new opportunities in archival management and collaboration.

“While records management and a look towards digitization opportunities are vital to the success of the archive, we have begun to ask ourselves how to promote intellectual discovery of the material and integration into the curriculum.”

The archive is now managed by Archival Associate Angelica Diggs. In January 2015 the archive commissioned a second CAPES report, documenting the achievements made by Sister Victoria and prioritizing next steps. Important conversations have begun around records management, digitization, relevance to the college and outside researchers, and academic engagement. One priority is to revise a records management policy to ensure the transfer of materials to the archive and make available all finding aids and metadata on the archive webpage. As the amount of digital materials transferred to the archive has grown, the overall goal is to maintain and develop a digital storage plan and to begin to digitize parts of the existing collection. With the help of student workers, a photograph collection was digitized and organized into an online gallery in early 2015. Projects such as these will be completed over time, but the goal is to partner with funding organizations in the future to ensure the digital preservation of the material, create a dynamic online gallery, and strengthen research opportunities.

A new initiative for the library and archive is the development of a digital repository. Faculty, undergraduate-level, and graduate-level student work will be presented and downloadable. The repository reinforces the importance of archiving college scholarship of both students and faculty. While records management and a look towards digitization opportunities are vital to the success of the archive, we have begun to ask ourselves how to promote intellectual discovery of the material and integration into the curriculum. The archive is to become a part of this success by creating academic opportunities and partnerships within the college and inter-institutionally. These collaborations will shift the archive from serving solely as a repository to providing primary material for courses. The first step in this vision is to work with Felician College’s Library Committee and begin the conversations on what is possible. While these goals outlined will take time, the prospect of what can be achieved is exciting for the archive at Felician College. The archive is embracing changes in management and mission, confident that these changes will make an impact.
The Bayley Diary: Notes From the First Years of the Archdiocese
By Deacon Al Frank

On becoming the first bishop of Newark, James Roosevelt Bayley began maintaining a record of his ministry in a diocese that then encompassed all of New Jersey.

He documented not only his comings and goings but also passing comments on current events between 1853 and 1872, when he was appointed Archbishop of Baltimore.

The existence of the 358-page, leather-bound notebook in the archdiocesan archives at Seton Hall University has been no secret. The late Father Edwin Vose O’Sullivan, a sociology professor at Seton Hall University, transcribed it 60 years ago for his doctoral dissertation.

But access was limited to those who made a trip to the South Orange campus and the New Jersey Catholic Historical Commission decided such a prominent document should be disseminated more widely. After a more rigorous editing than Father O’Sullivan could provide, the Commission hopes to soon publish the diary.

The effort has taken 15 years and involved commission members Alan Delozier, Peter Wosh, Fernanda Perrone, Carl Ganz, Passionist Father Rob Carbonneau and Benedictine Father Augustine Curley.

“You have to get used to his handwriting, although it’s actually pretty good,” says Father Augustine, who also updated the 134 pages of explanatory notes. “Certainly, as a major document in New Jersey and national Catholic history, it’s a phenomenal resource,” says Father Augustine, a Ph.D. who serves as prior and archivist at Newark Abbey and chaplain of St. Benedict’s Prep in Newark. “This is not a personal diary, although it obviously has personal comments,” Father Augustine says. The last diary with such extras was written by Winand Michael Wigger, Newark’s third bishop from 1881 to 1901. Those who followed left behind daybook-like listings of appointments, Father Augustine says.

Bishop Bayley’s Diary
Notes from Newark’s first years as a diocese

1853

About himself

_In being named the first Bishop of Newark, Bishop Bayley traced his ancestry and recounted that he briefly studied to be a doctor, and for the Episcopal priesthood, before converting to Catholicism._

I was born the 23rd Aug. 1814. The oldest son of Guy Carleton Bayley M.D. and Grace Roosevelt, my father’s family was English from Norfolkshire, my Great Grandfather William Bayley, came from near Lynn Regis, in that county before the Revolutionary War….My grandfather Richard Bayley was a distinguished Surgeon and Physician….My father married Grace Roosevelt, the daughter of James Roosevelt Esq. descended from a family who came to New York in 1693; He was a Physician….I was educated at Mount Pleasant school near Amherst Mass. graduated at Washington (afterwards Trinity Coll.) at Hartford Conn. 1835. Studied medicine one year & then theology for ministry of the Episcopal Ch…. Resigned in the fall of 1841 & went to Rome, where I was received into the Catholic Church…. Studied at St. Sulpice, Paris — was ordained Priest March 2nd, 1844 by Bp. Hughes (of New York)….Pastor of Staten Island till Dec. 8/46. Secretary to Bp. Hughes until 1853.

About the then-Diocese of Newark

The Bull of his Holiness (Pius IX) creating Newark into a Diocese is dated 29. July 1853, was received at New York 13. Sep. ’53; I was consecrated in St. Patrick’s Cathedral, New York, Oct 30th, by Monsig.Cajetan Bedini, Nuncio and took possession of my diocese on the Tuesday following being All Saints day.

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The ceremony at (old) St. Patrick’s Cathedral on Mulberry Street also saw the consecration of Bishops Loughlin (for Brooklyn) and De Goesbriand (for Burlington, Vermont). Bedini, returned to Rome three months later and died as a cardinal in 1864.

Newark was now the diocese of all of New Jersey, which was originally divided between the Philadelphia and New York dioceses, Bishop Bayley’s diary documents the shepherding of his far-flung parishes, including those now included in the Camden, Metuchen, and Paterson dioceses. There were blessings for corner stones for new parishes, the appointments of pastors, confirmations, dispensations for mixed marriages and presiding at Mass in churches throughout the state. He frequently remarked how he preached to “to a very large & attentive Congregation.”

The cathedral at the time was St. Patrick on Washington Street in Newark (now the Pro, or first cathedral) and the diary notes how he crossed the Hudson to attend the cornerstone laying of the cornerstone for the “new” St. Patrick on Fifth Avenue in Manhattan on August 15, 1858:

An immense crowd, at least 60 to 80,000 permanent & 40 or 50,000 going and coming. I never saw such a concourse of people. Weather intensely hot.

Five months later, Bishop Bayley took the first steps toward building a new cathedral for Newark although it would not be until 1870 that he launched an appeal for construction of “a Mother Church for the Diocese of Newark.”

The Bayley Diary (continued from page 8)

Seton Hall

1854 Purchased the Chegaray Farm at Madison for $8000

With this brief entry, Bishop Bayley notes the beginning of Seton Hall College with the purchase of the “Seminary for Young Ladies,” formerly conducted by a Madame Chegaray. Here Seton Hall would be founded two years later; after moving to South Orange in 1860, the site would become the College of Saint Elizabeth.

Bishop Bayley was the nephew of Mother Elizabeth Ann Bayley Seton, who founded the Sisters of Charity and for whom he named Seton Hall. She died 33 years before he became bishop and the diary mentions her just once in a reference to the translation into French of an English biography of her life. But his regard for her may be inferred from this entry:

1859 Yesterday (Wedn. 24th Fest. St. Joann. Bap.) we held the first commencement of Seton Hall College, if it may be called by so dignified a name.

1863 Blessed the corner stone of the new college building at South-Orange. Large number of people present — made an address.

This article is reprinted from the April 2015 issue of New Jersey Catholic. The full article and images can be found here: http://blogs.shu.edu/njchc/the-recorder/
Reverend Joseph Flynn

The Catholic Church in New Jersey

Reverend Joseph Flynn’s The Catholic Church in New Jersey recently reached 110 years since its original publication. In recognition of this milestone, The Recorder will, over the next several issues, reprint seminal passages from this book. We hope that you will enjoy this foray into New Jersey Catholic historical inquiry of the early twentieth century.

The region between the Hudson and the Delaware rivers, of which little was known beyond the few hamlets near Manhattan, was called "Albania." It offered the greatest attraction to emigrants, because it was "the most improveable part of the province, in respect not only to the land, but to the sea-coast and the Delaware River, the fertility of the soil, the neighborhood of Hudson's river, and, lastly, the fair hopes of rich mines."

Charles II issued a patent to his brother, the Duke of York, in which were included among other lands the provinces of New York and New Jersey. The Dutch, totally unsuspicuous and unprepared for war, capitulated to Sir Robert Carre, after articles of agreement had been mutually accepted which secured them in the possession of their property and in the practice of their religion. The Duke of York on his part, thus having secured possession of this vast territory, in consideration of a competent sum of money, granted and conveyed unto Lord Berkeley, baron of Stratton, and Sir George Carteret, of Saltrum, "all that tract of land to the west of Manhattan Island and Long Island, and bounded on the east part by the main sea, and part by Hudson's river, and hath upon the west Delaware bay or river, and extendeth southward to the main ocean as far as Cape May, and to the northward as far as the northermost branch of the said bay or river of Delaware, and crosseth over thence in a straight line to Hudson's river, which said tract of land is hereafter to be called Nova Caesarea, or New Jersey."

This document bears the date of June 23d and 24th, 1664. Berkeley and Carteret, being now sole proprietors of New Jersey, agreed upon a constitution, which by its broad liberality, especially in the matter of religion, was calculated to attract settlers. Article seventh declares: No person qualified, as aforesaid, shall at any time be molested, punished, disquieted, or called in question, for any difference in opinion or practice in matters of religious concernment; but that all and every such person and persons may, from time to time, and at all times, freely and fully have and enjoy his and their judgments and consciences, in matters of religion, throughout the said province, etc., etc.

While the Dutch were in power in New York, no laws adverse to Catholics were enacted, the bigotry afterward dominant being of English origin. The laws promulgated by the Duke of York in 1664 required the establishment of a church in each parish. This was interpreted by Governor Andros and his council as requiring all persons to contribute, whether belonging to the congregation or not, and he asserted that this was not an infringement of the liberty of conscience, "as some pretend." This last was aimed at the Dutch, in the minority in some parishes, who complained that the articles of capitulation, August 7th, 1664, guaranteeing to the Dutch "liberty of their consciences in divine worship and church discipline," were thereby violated.

Colonel Dongan, a Catholic, afterward Earl of Limerick, succeeded Andros in 1683. One of his first acts was to summon a provincial assembly, thus giving to the people of the colony what they had not hitherto enjoyed, a voice in the framing of the laws and the administration of the government. This was the concession of a Catholic proprietor, and was carried into effect by a Catholic governor, at the very time when the colonists of New England were deprived of their charter. The first act of the first assembly of New York was the "charter of libertys," passed October 30th, 1683, and reads as follows: That no person or persons which profess faith in God by Jesus Christ shall, at any time, be any ways molested, punished, disquieted, or called in question for any difference of opinion, or matter of religious concernment, who do not actually disturb the civil peace of the province, but that all and every such person or p'ssons may, from time to time, and at all times, freely have and fully enjoy, his or their judgements or consciences in matters of religions throughout all the province, they behaving themselves peacefully and quietly, and not using this liberty to licentiousness, nor to the civil injury or outward disturbance of others." Another provision was, that whereas all the Christian churches then in the province seemed to be privileged churches, they were thereby secured in their property and discipline, and the like privileges were guaranteed to other Christian churches coming into the province, in regard to divine worship and church discipline.
News and Notes from the Commission

- At the American Catholic Historical Conference from January 2 through January 5, 2015, in Manhattan, Commission Executive Director Alan Delozier gave a talk, as did former Commission members Peter Wosh and Thomas Rzeznik. Members Carl Ganz and Rev. Robert Carbonneau were in attendance. Member Fernanda Perrone, who is on the ACHA Executive Council, also attended this meeting and served as the chair of a session of the ACHA spring meeting in Notre Dame, Indiana.

- On April 22, 2015, the Commission co-sponsored a program entitled The 50th Anniversary of the Voting Rights Act: The Roles of Religion & Labor. This event, held at the American Labor Museum in Haledon, included talks by Rabbi Israel S. Dresner, Rev. Monsignor John J. Gilchrist, Imam Abdul A. Muhammad, Rev. Louis Richardson, and Alan Delozier.

- On May 9, the Commission participated in Spirit of the Jerseys – 2015, the annual New Jersey state history fair, which was held at Monmouth Battlefield State Park in Manalapan. Commission members Rev. Augustine Curley, Carl Ganz, Rev. Michael Krull and others were present to distribute information about the NJCHC.

- Caldwell University recently celebrated its 75th anniversary. The events are detailed on this website: http://www.caldwell.edu/caldwell75. One of the events to mark this milestone was “The College on the Hill” exhibition of historical photos celebrating the 75-year history Caldwell University. This exhibition was on display at the Jennings Library on the Caldwell University campus during September of 2014 and in the Caldwell Public Library in October of 2014. An opening reception was held in early October at the Caldwell Public Library and featured a panel discussion regarding the importance of Caldwell University’s founding and the relationship between Caldwell University for Women, the Sisters of St. Dominic and the township of Caldwell. The celebration was aided in part by the Commission and through direct collaboration with members of the Caldwell community including Commission Member Sister Patricia McKearney; Rebecca Driscoll, Reference Services and Archives Librarian; and Assistant Vice President for Development and Alumni Affairs Beth S. Kornstein at the University.

- The Commission has partnered with the Seton Hall University Department of Catholic Studies and co-sponsored various events throughout the 2014-2015 academic year. Founded at Seton Hall University in 1997, The Center for Catholic Studies is dedicated to fostering a dialogue between the Catholic intellectual tradition and all areas of study and contemporary culture through scholarly research and publications and ongoing programs for faculty, students, and the general public. In 2001, the Center conducted the annual faculty summer seminar, “The Core of the Core,” which originated the present University Core Curriculum. The Center also developed the undergraduate degree program in Catholic Studies with its major, minor and certificate, and in 2012 the Department of Catholic Studies was formed. The Center continues to support the Department with scholarship aid and its ongoing program of co-curricular activities. For more information about their activities, please visit https://www.shu.edu/academics/artsci/catholic-studies-department/.
Dear members and friends of the NJCHC,

I’m honored to be serving as the editor of The Recorder and to be managing social media for this great organization. I hope that my work as an English teacher, editor, and writer; interest in New Jersey history; and love of the Church will help me to do my work for the Commission well. I am thankful to Monsignor Seymour and Alan Delozier for inviting me to help spread the news about the Commission’s activities and plans. Please feel free to contact me at harrington.mauragrace@gmail.com with article and photo submissions, as well as with questions and recommendations for the newsletter and our social media. I look forward to collaborating with you!

Sincerely,

Maura Grace Harrington