



THE HISTORY OF MAINE IN THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

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CHAPTER TWELVE: State Deputy 1908-1910

Our tenth State Deputy was Richard J. McGarrigle who was born at Milltown, New Brunswick on October 22, 1857. His father evidently emigrated from Ireland since he graduated from the Dublin University and Theological Seminary, but later decided that he did not have a vocation for the priesthood. Richard attended public school until he was twelve years old after which his father tutored him privately. He covered practically the whole university course and was a great student in law, Latin and mathematics. He passed the State Bar examination and was admitted to the Maine Bar in 1883. He was regarded as a very successful criminal lawyer.

Richard married Lottie E. Hanscom on June 20, 1882 and they had five sons and two daughters. A namesake and grandson, Reverend Richard M. McGarrigle, served as a parish priest at Pleasant Point Indian Reservation. Richard J. McGarrigle was a charter member of the Calais Council in 1896. He served as Grand Knight in 1897 - 1898 and again from 1904 - 1906. It is believed that he served as District Deputy from 1906 - 1908, and again from 1931 - 1934. He was State Advocate for two years from 1896 - 1898. This was the first year that he joined the Order and of the years that he was Grand Knight. He was elected State Deputy in 1908 when the convention was held at Ellsworth and served two years. While State Deputy he organized the North Whitefield Council # 1423. He died on July 29, 1941 and is buried in the Catholic Cemetery at Milltown, New Brunswick.

STATE CHAPLAIN 1907 - 1910

Father Matthew E. Curran was born at Bangor, Maine on April 30, 1870. He attended St. Mary's College at Van Buren, Maine and later Holy Cross College at Worcester, Mass. He studied both his Philosophy and Theology at the Grand Seminary in Montreal and at St. Sulpice, Paris, France, where he was a classmate of Most Rev. Joseph E. McCarthy, Bishop of the Diocese of Portland, Maine. He served as assistant at St. Francis in Belfast: St. Mary's in Bath: St. Mary's in Augusta: St. Dominics in Portland and was appointed pastor at St. James in Kingman in 1908. In 1910 he was transferred to St. Sebastian Parish in Madison where he stayed until 1918. While there he built a new chapel in Bingham in 1916, which was a mission of Madison.

In 1918 Father Curran went to the Sacred Heart Church in Waterville, where he stayed until 1933 at which time he became permanent Rector at St. Patrick's in Lewiston. He became the third pastor of St. Patrick's and managed the affairs of the parish so well that at the end of each year he always had a substantial cash balance after all bills had been paid. Father Curran celebrated his Golden Jubilee on July 12, 1953 very quietly because of his ill health. He died at St. Mary's Hospital on June 2, 1954 at the age of 84. He was at that time the oldest priest in the diocese.

Father Curran was appointed the eighth State Chaplain of the Knights of Columbus in 1907 and continued until 1910. Father Curran was buried at Bangor.

STATE CONVENTIONS 1908 - 1909 - 1910

The State Convention for 1908 was held at Ellsworth on May 12, 1908. The State Convention for 1909 was held at Bangor on May 11, 1909 the State Convention for 1910 was held at Biddeford on May 10, 1910.

