

THE LATE DEAN CASSIDY

Biographical Sketch of the Late Pastor of St. Helen's.

HIS PERSONAL AND MENTAL CHARACTERISTICS.

In our last issue we gave a brief notice of the death and funeral obsequies of the Very Rev. Dean Cassidy, P. P. of St. Helen's Church Brockton. The following is a more extended biographical sketch:



The Very Rev. Edward Cassidy, Dean of Toronto, and Rector of St. Helen's Church, though not quite fifty years of age at the time of his lamented demise, is worthy of an honorable place among the devoted priests who have labored to sustain the standard of the Catholic Church in this city and Province, and to keep her escutcheon stainless before the people.

He was born in Toronto, October 4th, 1845, and with the exception of three years spent in the theological seminary at Montreal, all his life was passed in the Province. His father Mr. James Cassidy of 310 Church St., Toronto, was born at Maguire's Bridge, County Fermanagh, Ireland, and emigrated to Toronto in 1838. Dean Cassidy's mother (nee Margaret Foley) was born in Ballincolig, County Cork, Ireland, and brought to Canada when a child by her parents, who after some years spent in farming in the township of Ennismore, County Peterboro, finally decided to settle in Toronto in 1837. It was in this city that she met and married Mr. Cassidy, and as their marriage occurred on July, 1841, they celebrated their golden wedding here in 1891. Early in their married life Mr. and Mrs. Cassidy determined to devote one of their sons to the service of the church. There had been relatives in Mrs. Cassidy's family who were priests, and a first cousin of Mr. Cassidy, Rev. Charles Cassidy, had died parish priest of Garrison, in the County Fermanagh, Ireland. In 1848 they moved to their present dwelling at 310 Church St., one of the principal reasons for choosing that locality being its proximity to St. Michael's Cathedral, which was shortly afterwards consecrated and opened for divine service.

Dean Cassidy's school life began in 1850 with the Christian Brothers, who in that year opened their first school in this city. When he left their school in 1860 he was considered one of its brightest pupils, showing particular talent for mathematics.

He then entered St. Michael's College and went through the usual curriculum, showing special aptitude for mathematics and logic. Having found that he had a vocation for the priesthood he began the study of theo-

logy at St. Michael's College in 1861, and continued it at the Grand Seminary at Montreal. He was ordained priest by the late Archbishop Lynch in St. Michael's Cathedral, October 4th, 1868, his birthday.

After serving as curate in Brock and St. Catharines his first parish was Thornhill to which he was appointed in 1870. He remained there three years and afterwards had charge for a short time of Pickering.

He then took charge of Dixie and remained ten years. He was made Archdeacon of the diocese by Archbishop Lynch. He built churches at Port Credit, Lambton Mills and one on the 5th line, Chinguacousy township. From Dixie he went to Adjala. During his stay in Adjala he enlarged the presbytery and built one of the finest churches in the diocese, St. James', which was dedicated in 1889.

While at Adjala he was on the point of death through typhoid fever, complicated with pneumonia and from the effects of that illness he never quite recovered. He remained at Adjala about three years, being promoted from that parish to the deanery at Barrie, in January, 1890, but only remained there a short time.

In 1891 he succeeded Vicar General McCann at St. Helen's church, Brockton, and was appointed Dean of Toronto by his Grace Archbishop Walsh. He was elected a member of the city S. S. Board and served on it for three years. In 1893 he was elected President of Branch 111, C.M. B.A., and in 1894 acted as delegate to the meeting of the Grand Council at St. John, N.B.

October 4th, 1893, Dean Cassidy celebrated his Silver Jubilee at St. Helen's, Brockton. Everything possible was done to make it an occasion worthy of the event it was intended to celebrate. High Mass was celebrated in the presence of Archbishop Walsh and many of the diocesan clergy, addresses were presented by the clergy and the laity of the parish accompanied by many valuable gifts.

The clergy and some members of his own family were subsequently entertained by Dean Cassidy at a banquet in an upper room of the new school house which was tastefully arranged and decorated with appropriate mottoes.

Even then, however, his friends remarked that Dean Cassidy did not look well. Never of a florid complexion, he had become distinctly pale, his hair had become blackened, and he was troubled with a cough. Yet he had not lost flesh and one would scarcely say that in one year and five months Dean Cassidy's requiem would be sung in the church in which his praises had just been spoken by both priest and layman.

And yet, so it was; after an illness of about fifteen months, borne with much patience and resignation, he expired at 5 a.m., Sunday, March 3rd, 1895.

Dean Cassidy was a thorough priest, devoted to his calling for which he had a true vocation, and finding his pleasure principally in the society of his brother priests. He was deeply religious. His uprightness and integrity in secular matters, as well as his zeal in the cause of Catholic education, and the advancement of the Catholic religion were well known and appreciated by his own people as well as by those of other denominations.

In his various missions he established the most friendly relations, not only with the members of his own church but also with the ministers and people of different Protestant denominations with whom he was thrown in contact. So much so indeed that although a man of strong individuality of character he made warm friends wherever he went. Yet so modest were his disposition and behaviour, that he did not excite envy, but preserved unbroken the love and admiration of all who knew him.

A FAMOUS JESUIT.

Death of Rev. Joseph Stevenson, Convert and Controversialist.

ORDAINED AT SIXTY-SIX.

There died recently in England a member of the society of Jesus who had just entered upon his eighty-ninth year. For more than half a century his name had been a familiar one to students of certain historical epochs, for to the collection and arrangement of materials for research he had given the whole of his energy.

He was born November 27th 1806, almost with the birth of the century. Few indeed of the notabilities of his generation remain. For more than half of his life he was a Protestant. In 1831 he married and in 1840 became one of a commission appointed to collect and tabulate the enormous quantities of state papers which were to be of use in clearing up the disputed periods of England history. The shelves of the British Museum contain forty-six volumes of his works. In 1849, being then an Anglican clergyman he received a parish which he held for some years.

In the beginning of 1862, however, the bent of his studies had brought him very close to the knowledge of the true Church and in June of that year he became a Catholic. The conversion of his wife followed in February 1865. Thereafter he lived with a religious order at their Monastery and she, until her death in 1869, in a convent.

He then, although sixty-three years of age began his studies for the priesthood and was ordained in 1872 by Bishop Ullathorne.

His work of historical research then went steadily on. In 1883 he published a "History of Mary Stewart," in 1885, "The truth about John Wyclif," and in 1886, "The First Eighteen years of Mary Stewart." In the controversy which has raged fiercely concerning the life and character of the hapless queen his was one of the foremost names. He strove to remove from her good name the aspersions that had been cast upon it by creatures of prejudice. The coincidence has been noticed that his death occurred on the anniversary of the day she preferred death to the denial of her faith.

In his latter years, the venerable scholar, too feeble for much personal labor, became the guide and director of a number of more youthful students who are energetically working in fields he had made his own.

Hamilton.

Last Sunday evening in St. Mary's Cathedral Rev. Father McBrady, of Toronto addressed a larger congregation than has been in that spacious edifice for a long time. Seldom have the Catholics had the pleasure of listening to so eloquent and impressive a speaker. Not a word was lost. His subject was "Christian Womanhood." He described the position woman occupied in the time of Christ and contrasted it with the position held by woman now. She is the greatest factor in the formation of society. With her rest the morals of the young. She it is who instils into the heart of the child the principles which make the man and the woman of to-morrow. He beautifully illustrated how Christian woman are the most earnest workers in virtue and charity, and concluded by asking the question, "What are you doing on these lines?"

The collection taken up which will be given to the Ladies Benevolent Society amounted to over \$80.

Bishop Dowling will preach in St. Patrick's at high mass on the 17th. All the Catholic societies will be present.

HOW TO CURE HEADACHE.—Some people suffer untold misery day after day with Headache. There is rest neither day or night until the nerves are all unstrung. Parmelee's Vegetable Pills, contain Mandrake and Dandelion. Mr. Finlay Wark, Lyander, P. P. writes: "I find Parmelee's Pills a first class article for Bilious Headache."



Dr. H. F. Merrill.

No Other Medicine

SO THOROUGH AS

AYER'S Sarsaparilla

Statement of a Well Known Doctor

"No other blood medicine that I have ever used, and I have tried them all is so thorough in its action, and effects so many permanent cures as Ayer's Sarsaparilla."—Dr. H. F. MERRILL, Augusta, Me.

Ayer's The Only Sarsaparilla

Admitted at the World's Fair.

Ayer's Pills for liver and bowels.



ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE OF CANADA.

Information for Candidates.

THE ANNUAL EXAMINATIONS for Cadetships in the Royal Military College will take place at the Head Quarters of the several Military Districts in which candidates reside, in June each year.

In addition to the facilities the College affords for an education in Military Subjects, the course of instruction is such as to afford a thoroughly practical, scientific and sound training in all departments which are essential to a high and general modern education.

The Civil Engineering Course is complete and thorough in all branches. Architecture forms a separate subject.

The Course of Physics and Chemistry is such as to lead towards Electrical Engineering, Meteorological Service, and other departments of applied science.

The obligatory Course of Surveying includes what is laid down as necessary for the profession of Dominion Land Surveyor. The Voluntary Course comprises the higher subjects required for the degree of Dominion Topographical Surveyor. Hydrographic Surveying is also taught.

Length of Course four years. Four Commissions in the Imperial Regular Army are awarded annually.

Board and instruction \$200, for each term, consisting of ten month's residence.

For further information apply to the Adjutant General of Militia, Ottawa, before 15th May.

Department of Militia and Defence.

The Catholic Almanac for Ontario is now to be had from the Office of the Catholic Register, mailed on receipt of price, 25 cents.

50c. Bargains in Bulbs and Plants

- The Maximum of Worth at Minimum of Cost
- No. B—15 Gladioli, finest assorted, for 50c.
- " I—6 Dahlias, select show varieties " 50c.
- " G—8 Montbretias, handsome " 50c.
- " O—6 Roses, ever-bloom'g beauties " 50c.
- " F—(Window Collection, 1 each, Fuchsia, Dbl. Fl. Musk, Ivy and Sweet Sc't'd Geranium, Manetta Vine, Tropaeolum, Mex. Primrose & Heliotrope) 50c.
- " E—8 Geraniums, finest assorted " 50c.
- " R—12 Coleus, fine assorted colors " 50c.
- " S—5 Iris, finest varieties " 50c.

Any 5 collections for \$2.50; 3 for \$1.50; or 8 for \$4. By Mail, post-paid, our selection. A Soap!

Catalogue Free.

THE STEELE, BRIDGES, MARCONI & CO. LTD.

Toronto, Ont.

DUNN'S BAKING POWDER

THE COOK'S BEST FRIEND
LARGEST SALE IN CANADA.