



SHERBROOKE, EASTERN TOWNSHIPS, DIOCESE OF QUEBEC.

obtained no ordinary schoolmaster. The school rapidly filled up. In 1861 it was removed from the old buildings in the village, now become quite inadequate, to a large handsome new school erected on the College grounds. And in 1863, when the rector was called to a higher office, the school was filled to overflowing with 150 boys. These were days to which all the old Lennoxville boys, who are fortunate enough to date within the period, look back with peculiar pride and affection; and a permanent memorial of the great services then rendered to the Lennoxville school by its head master is now being erected in the "Bishop Williams wing."

In January, 1863, Bishop Mountain died, and the Synod was called together to elect a successor. Two names were put forward, those of the Rev. Armine Mountain and Bishop Anderson, of Rupert's Land. But when after many ballots it seemed that neither could be elected, ballots for Mr. Williams began to be cast by those who knew his worth, and grew rapidly until on the evening of the first day's balloting he obtained the required two thirds majority, whereupon his election was made unanimous.

The administration of the Diocese under Bishop Williams has been eminently successful, and its progress in all that outwardly indicates prosperity remarkable. The Diocese, though enormous in extent, has a very limited English speaking population, and of them only about 25,000 belong to the Church of England. During the twenty-five years under review, the Diocese has lost largely by emigration, and the city of Quebec, the only place of any wealth in the diocese, has been, especially its Church population, very materially weakened in numbers and in wealth. At the beginning of this period, the diocese had only just seriously entered upon the arduous work of learning to support itself, having hitherto depended almost exclusively upon outside aid. There was not one self-supporting parish. Bishop Mountain had been rector of Quebec, and spent the whole of his salary as rector, some \$3,000, in augmenting the

incomes of the city clergy. Thus by his death the city parishes lost and had to make good to the clergy at once, \$3,000 a year. Outside the city of Quebec there were then 34 missions, the clergy of which did not receive on an average a hundred dollars a year from their own people, the bulk of their income, in many cases their entire salary, being derived from the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. The admirable organization now known

everywhere as The Quebec System had been devised, and a canon embodying it enacted by the Synod immediately preceding Bishop Mountain's death. The main features of that system are these: An equitable assessment, graded according to means, of the amount to be paid by each mission towards the stipend of its clergyman; the payment of this assessment not direct to the clergyman, but to the Diocesan Board of Missions, a simple but effectual means of enforcing its regular and punctual payment, and the payment of the entire salary of the missionary by the Diocesan Board. Of these main features, the principle of assessment according to means was contributed by Archdeacon Roe; the details of the scheme for enforcing its punctual payment were worked out by the Rev. C., now Bishop Hamilton, who was for many years the secretary of the Board, and to whom more than to anyone else its brilliant success is due; but the most valuable feature of all, that of Parish assessments paid into and salaries paid in full out of the Central Treasury was due to the wisdom and foresight of Bishop, then Mr. Williams.

Under this organization, while the diocese has, at least in the city, declined in wealth, and while the grant from the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel has been reduced one-half, from \$10,000 to \$5,000 thirteen of the thirty-four missions have become self-supporting parishes, and eleven new missions have been established. Perhaps the most satisfactory feature of this rapid growth is that under it the salaries of the clergy, not promised but paid, have increased from a dead level of one hundred pounds sterling, to a scale of from \$600 to \$850 per annum, graded according to term of service. Forty-eight new churches and twenty-seven new parsonages have been built. Local endowments for thirty-five parishes, which now amount to upwards of \$90,000, have been founded. A Pension Fund for aged and infirm clergy, founded twenty years ago, on the 25th anniversary of the Church Society, at Bishop Williams suggestion, as a thank offering for the many blessings which had accrued to the Diocese through