

REV. HENRY SCADDING, D.D.

TO all intelligent, Toronto people this is a name familiar as a household word, and to many outside of Toronto, it is full of interest; for Dr. Scadding was pre-eminently a lovable character, and one to whom nothing of value to the well-being of his fellow men was a matter of indifference. Especially do his fellow-citizens and fellow-countrymen owe it in a very large measure that Toronto has a history fairly well preserved, and possesses a reputation for intelligence, which has greatly helped it to become what it is, the educational centre of Ontario. Henry Scadding was English by birth, but brought up in Canada from early years. He was one of the first pupils of Upper Canada College, and at the age of seventeen distinguished himself as head boy. The writer has a letter from his father, then an M.P.P., at Toronto, in which he speaks of the recitation of a prize poem by the head boy, named Scadding. It was a great pleasure to the writer, only a very few years ago, to read this letter to the York Pioneers, and to be able to point to their venerable and beloved president, in the chair, after an interval of sixty years, as the "boy" spoken of. After his residence and graduation at Cambridge, and after his return to Toronto, Henry Scadding, having been ordained deacon and priest, became a classical master in Upper Canada College, where he continued some twenty-five years. During part of that time, and after retiring from Upper Canada College, he was rector of the Church of the Holy Trinity, which post he held for about thirty years. How he discharged the duties of that office can no doubt be witnessed by many survivors and descendants of those who were then his parishioners. The church full of people at his simple and yet reverent and stately funeral,

was evidence of the hold which his name and his works had given him over all classes of his fellow-citizens. Though for some years previous to his death he had lived in retirement, and latterly almost in complete seclusion, he was held by all, up to the last, in reverential esteem. His failing eyesight for the last few years deprived him of much of the literary occupation in which he had always delighted. If he could not see the features of his old friends, he enjoyed recognizing them by their voice, and was always glad to meet them. As far back as 1845, and probably earlier, he was one of the Bishop's chaplains, and a leading clergyman of the diocese, though happily never in any party or polemical sense. When Bishop Strachan was rector, and Mr. Grassett and Mr. Scadding were assistant curates, there was only one other parochial clergyman in Toronto, the beloved Mr. Ripley. In 1849, Mr. Scadding became incumbent of the new free church of the Holy Trinity, and continued in charge until he gave up active parochial duty. As to his position as a literary man, Dr. Scadding's works speak for themselves. Antiquarian, topographical, biographical researches he was quite at home in, and, not merely his "Toronto of Old," but numerous other works testify to his zeal and industry and learning. It goes without saying that he was an accurate and elegant classical scholar; and the York Pioneers, of whom for many years he has been the head and front, and almost the idol, know right well how much their society owes to his painstaking earnestness in the investigation of whatever related to the earlier annals of York, now Toronto. As a citizen of York, and as a native of Devonshire, the memory of Governor Simcoe was dear to him; and one of his most earnest de-