

Right Rev. F. X. Brunet, '90



WAVE of joy passed through the University on receiving the news that one of its alumni was named bishop of the new diocese of Mont Laurier. The Rt. Rev. Francois Xavier Brunet, a native of the little village of St. André, Argenteuil, Que., was the son of Francois Brunet (a carriage-maker), and of Léocadie Jaly.

When the child was almost five years old, his parents left St. André, and came to live in the city of Ottawa. He received his early education at the Brother's school, which was at that time under the directorship of Rev. Brother André, who left some grand souvenirs in this city.

At the age of fourteen, the boy entered Ottawa University, in order to finish his commercial course and to procure his diploma. The following year he commenced his classical course and finished in the year 1890, carrying away the title of B.A. In fact it may be interesting to note that Bishop Brunet was the first to graduate after the college received its charter, giving it the title of a Catholic University.

During his term at the university, his course was brilliant, and he left his Alma Mater with an enviable record. His professors have only one voice to proclaim the piety and assiduity with which the newly-elected bishop devoted himself to his studies as long as they knew him at the University.

His classical studies having been completed, he entered the Grand Seminary at Ottawa the following year, and Rev. Father Langevin, today Bishop Langevin was his director. He received the tonsure in 1891, and the minor orders in 1892, being made deacon in 1893. In the month of August of the same year, he was made deacon and ordained priest in September.

Accordingly Archbishop Duhamel called him to take the charge of master of ceremonies at the Cathedral. From there he was sent to occupy the temporary position of curate at Masson and Thurso.

In the month of November, 1894, he was named curate at Aylmer, a position which he occupied till the month of May, 1895, when he was named parish priest of St. Malachy in Mayo, not far from Buckingham. And, in spite of the fact that his health was