

PREFACE

IN the Jubilee year of the Diocese of Montreal, A.D. 1900, I was requested by several prominent persons, both Clerical and Lay, to write an historical sketch of the Diocese for the past 50 years.

What I did write then was printed in one or two of the Montreal newspapers.

In this Jubilee Year, 1909, of The Synod of Montreal, which was founded and opened on the 7th day of June, 1859, I was again asked to extend and elaborate what I had then written, and thus make it a volume which could be kept as a "Vade Mecum" and Book of Reference for succeeding generations.

As there was then, however, on the "tapis" some idea of the Diocesan Authorities issuing such a work, I refrained from attempting anything.

However, after some time, being given to understand that no person or Committee intended doing so, I began my work, preparing the incidents of this history.

It may have happened that some one of the very early Clergy and Laity has been overlooked in the long list of our Sacred Dead, because it is now almost impossible or very difficult to ascertain their immediate descendants—or having ascertained them, to secure the facts required of them, either from their inability to do so or some other cause, but I trust that the number may be few.