

directly my thanks for the gratification which I had derived from the perusal of it. It is always most gratifying to me to find others sympathizing with me in my feelings for Poland, and that sympathy is still more grateful when it comes from men of reflection, of learning and of talent; and I can add most sincerely that I am never more gratified than when it comes from members of that sacred profession to which you belong. \* \* \*

It gives me the liveliest pleasure to find that that great cause has in you a friend who appreciates its merits so fully, and who expresses them so felicitously." Among other of his poetical pieces which I have always admired are the well known lines on the "*Heroine of Vercheres*," and the poem in blank verse, "*Zenobia*."

It ought here to be stated that Dr. Dawson had the honor of writing the first book ever issued from the press in Ottawa: and that he was one of the first, in the lecture field, to call attention to the resources and capabilities of the great North-West, a country with whose history and development two other members of his his family have been closely identified. I find also that in a lecture on China, delivered in 1861, he predicted the establishment of steam communication between Canada and the far East, and that, in another lecture, in 1865, he urged the appointment in the British metropolis of a permanent resident representative of Canada. What chiefly marked his lectures, like his other literary productions, was the extraordinary research and depth of learning he brought to bear on his subjects. On one occasion, when lecturing on the Catacombs of Rome, the late Mr. James Stevenson, general manager of the Quebec Bank, was one of his hearers. He took an especial interest in the subject, having personally explored the Catacombs some time before, and at the close of the lecture was anxious to know when Dr. Dawson had last visited the interesting scenes he had so eloquently described. When informed that Dr. Dawson had never been to Rome at all, and that all his information on the subject was derived from books, Mr. S. exclaimed: "Oh! it isn't possible; why, he knows more about the Catacombs than I do."

As a preacher he took exceptionally high

rank, and his gifts of oratory, especially in his earlier days, when serving under the Bishops of Edinburgh and Southwark, were such as to draw forth very marked encomiums from those entitled to speak in that connexion. His funeral sermons on Father O'Boyle, Mayor Friel, Rev. Dr. O'Connor and the Hon. T. D. McGee have been printed in pamphlet form, as well as his discourse on the occasion of his golden jubilee. Needless to say, had our venerable townsman not been tempted to take up his lot in Canada, he would very many years ago have been advanced to the Episcopate in his native country. He would have been Archbishop of Edinburgh, in succession to Dr. Gillis, and who shall say that the exalted office would have lost in talent, strength or dignity by his elevation.

In the character and habits of Dr. Dawson the results of early home influences were largely discovered. He was a true Scot, and a loyal, brave, good man, loving life well, as Daniel did of old, but loving God better. Above all he could claim the grand old name of gentleman, because with manhood and gentleness, he possessed that frank and winning courtesy which seems to have been inborn in the men of his day and generation. To the learning of a Whewell he united the simplicity of a child—but undoubtedly his greatest charm in the society in which he lived and moved with such singular ease and grace, was his entertaining conversational powers. "We have missed making £500 a piece," said an Englishman to me as recently as in November last, after meeting Dr. Dawson at luncheon. "How's that?" I asked. "By not having a shorthand writer with us yesterday," he replied, "to take down Father Dawson's talks. His recollections of Canning and Wellington, of Grey and Peel, the Manning family, Cardinal Wiseman, the agitation for the Corn Laws, the passing of the first Reform Bill, the Emancipation Act, and all the other matters he touched upon, would, if put together, form one of the most interesting volumes ever issued from the press." Dear, leal-hearted and devoted friend! How little we thought, as we sat chatting and gossiping over the walnuts on that bright Sunday afternoon, that even as we laughed