

OBITUARY.

Joseph Francis McBride.

JOSEPH FRANCIS MCBRIDE was born in Glasgow, Scotland, in 1855. His father died in 1860, and his mother shortly afterwards came to Canada, and took up her residence at Wilkesport, Ontario. After attending school at Wilkesport, the subject of this sketch was advanced to the Streetsville High School, where he studied Classics for some time under J. J. Wadsworth, M.A., M.B.

In speaking of his education there, Dr. Wadsworth says that "He was a clever, studious boy, to whom it was an easy task to impart knowledge. His mind was lighted up by a steady glow of enthusiasm, to which the average school-boy is a stranger. He could easily excel in any branch, but was best at Classics and English. He read authors in Latin, not on any curriculum for matriculation, for his own pleasure. His was, indeed, a very superior mind."

He left Streetsville to study for the Church, attended Niagara University and Laval University, and, completing his theology in the Grand Seminary, Montreal, was ordained by the late Archbishop Lynch in 1878. His first charge was at St. Michael's Cathedral; his second, St. Paul's Church, Toronto, whence he was removed to Penetanguishene, in connection with the Reformatory. While there he made systematic surveys of the neighbouring counties, being particularly interested in this class of practical astronomical work.

Subsequently Father McBride was pastor of the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes, and acted as Secretary to Archbishop Lynch.

His last charge was at Brockton, where he was curate to the Very Rev. Dean Cassidy. While at Brockton he became associated with The Astronomical and Physical Society of Toronto, and his genial companionship was enjoyed by many of its members.

The kindly priest, active in mind, varied in talent, a master student in theology, science, literature, and music, was still not physically very strong, and his health having been seriously undermined during the summer of 1893, he succumbed to a severe attack of Bright's disease on August 20th, at St. Michael's Hospital.

A most lovable feature in the character of Father McBride was his life-long tender devotion to his aunt, who had the care of his early training, his mother having entered a religious community shortly after coming to Canada.

These relatives and many friends mourn the loss of one whose life was a lesson in kindly love to all men.