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## HISTORICAL SKETCHES.

No. 44—DEAN CARMICHAEL.

BY THE EDITOR.

**S**HORTLY after the formation of the Diocese of Huron in 1857, Bishop Cronyn, the first Bishop of that Diocese, sent to Ireland to procure young men for the mission stations and posts of duty in the

large tract of country (then increasing rapidly in population) placed under his care. Among these came three young men whose names have since become well known in the Church of England in Canada, —Edward Sullivan, James Carmichael and J. Philip Du-Moulin. The portrait and some account of the first named of these three (the present Bishop of Algoma) has already appeared in this Magazine, and we now present our readers with a portrait of the second named, the present Dean of Montreal, and a brief account of his life and career in Canada. He was educated at Trinity College School, Dublin, and after passing the ordination examinations of Bishop Cronyn, was admitted to Holy Orders by that prelate and sent to Clinton, then a flourishing village on the old Buffalo & Lake Huron Railway, since absorbed into the Grand Trunk. From the first he manifested great powers as a popular preacher, the style being impassioned and of a nature appealing strongly to the emotions. Clinton was but a small country place, possessed of an old, barn-like country church, but the eloquence of the young Irish clergyman soon gathered together a number of

people zealous of good works, and a new church was built. It occupied a commanding position on a hill, overlooking the village, and was regarded with much pride by the congregation,—the old church being relegated to Sunday school and entertainment purposes.

But this neat and creditable building was no sooner erected and opened for divine service, than it was destroyed by fire. It was burnt in the dead

hours of a Saturday night, while the villagers were all asleep, and many of the church people knew nothing of the loss that had befallen them till they were on their way to church for the morning service. Then, instead of their beautiful church, they beheld a heap of ashes. It was a scene of great solemnity when the young incumbent and his flock gathered round this heap of ashes, on a winter's morning, and joined in the church service, their little Zion lying in ruins at their feet, and when Mr. Carmichael addressed them all in feeling terms upon their loss and disappointment—but he dwelt upon the love and goodness of God, and expressed



VERY REV. JAMES CARMICHAEL, M.A., D.C.L.,  
Dean of Montreal.

the conviction that He would yet give beauty for ashes and restore the building that had been taken from them. The hearts of all were touched, and a subscription list was soon opened with good results for re-building the church. But it was evident that some extraordinary effort had to be made, for the congregation were but a "feeble folk" and had already been taxed heavily to build the church thus suddenly taken from them, and to meet this exigency Mr. Carmichael started off upon a tour to some of the cities and chief towns of