

tinued his studies in England, and took the degree of B.A. at Trinity College, Cambridge. Almost immediately afterwards he returned to Canada, and assisted his father as secretary until he was ordained priest in 1816. From this date forward the steps of his advancement were rapid. In 1817 he became rector of Quebec, and in 1821 Archdeacon of Lower Canada. Fifteen years later he was consecrated Bishop of Montreal, the ceremony being performed at Lambeth.

Dr. Mountain's connection with McGill cannot justly be called one of the main incidents of his life. The college was then in its infancy. We may even say that it had hardly begun to exist. Dr. Jacob Mountain was among the first to apprehend the importance of James McGill's bequest, and he drew up a plan for the establishment of a university, which was first approved by the Duke of Richmond and then by Lord Dalhousie. In 1821 a charter arrived at Montreal, but the founder's will was contested, and some delay ensued. However, before the end of 1823 it became necessary to take definite action. Professors must be appointed even though they did not teach, and there must be a principal even though there were no students. Under these circumstances, Archdeacon Mountain was named Honorary Professor of Divinity and Principal of McGill College.

Although Bishop Mountain, the elder, had much to do with the nomination of principal and professors, he cannot be charged with nepotism. His son, the Archdeacon, gave no lectures, but it is also true that he drew little or no salary. His sole function seems to have been the preservation of those forms which the terms of the will required. In later years he devoted much attention to the affairs of the College, but he was then acting as a governor rather than as Principal. He ceased to be the nominal head of the institution in 1835, a year before he was made coadjutor of Dr. James Stewart, Bishop of Quebec, and became thereby Bishop of Montreal.

During the *régime* of Principal Mountain, 1823-35, McGill was a medical school and nothing more. In forecasting the creation of an Arts' Faculty, the first Bishop Mountain had felt bound to project its framework "in a manner consistent with the English National Establishment." Nevertheless, he wished that students of all denominations should attend the classes, and proposed that professorships should be tenable by graduates of the Scottish universities. On these lines McGill began its course, but it was not reserved for Dr. G. J. Mountain,