

and pastor — it may be well here to preserve the first sermon preached by him on the assumption of his onerous office as parish priest of St. Patrick's.

He said : —

You are aware brethren that the Superior of the Seminary has appointed a successor to the deeply lamented father whom God has called to his well-earned repose. It has pleased His Grace the Archbishop of Montreal to confirm this appointment, so that now, such as he is you have a pastor duly appointed and commissioned by lawful authority. It is not for me to appreciate the wisdom or unwisdom of this choice. Neither my advice nor my consent was asked for in the matter. All I had to do with it was to bow to the will of my superiors, to incline my shoulders and receive the heavy burden they have placed upon me. I can say with truth, and as I hope without any show of false humility, that I feel myself altogether unequal to such a task. Men in every way my superiors could sincerely say as much.

You all knew Father Dowd too well and valued him too highly not to feel that our generation at least need never hope to see his like again. Father Dowd was a man who was cast in a rare mould. He was one of those few whom God sends at rare intervals to fulfil some special mission ; for those who are familiar with the details of his long and remarkable career cannot doubt that he fulfilled a providential mission in this city of Montreal, in this parish of St. Patrick's. You all know with what fidelity he clung to this mission, and that neither the highest ecclesiastical honors, nor the great and numberless difficulties that beset his path could either turn him or frighten him from the course God had marked out for him. Through good report and evil report he was faithful to the end to his beloved people of St. Patrick's. Father Dowd combined in himself two qualities which are rarely associated in the same person,