

"How many Students do you want to make a beginning?" he laughingly replied, "Twelve."
 "You shall have them," was the reply, and Father Glowacki, making a round among the best families of his flock, soon had the required number and the "College" was opened.

A Log House of ample proportions, situated near the Village of St. Agatha was procured and, in September, 1865, St. Jerome's College, bearing the name of the Superior of the Order to which the Fathers belonged, was inaugurated with twelve Students. With no Text-books and no Money for their purchase, Father Funcken used his own set, and dictated the various Lessons to the Students. Among the number was the present Rector of St. Mary's Church, Berlin, the Reverend William Kloepfer.

One year in the Log House was enough. The first Bishop of Hamilton, the Right Reverend Doctor Farrell advised the Fathers to transfer the College to Berlin, and, in 1866, Classes were opened there in a residential Building, from which the present College has developed. In the same year, St. Jerome's College was incorporated. The Reverend Doctor Louis Elena, the Reverend David Fennessy and Mr. Carl Lanz now belonged to the teaching staff.

In 1870, there was an attendance of about twenty-five Students. The prevailing language at that time was German. Father Funcken educated his future staff. In the year 1878, the Reverend Theobald Spetz and the Reverend William Kloepfer returned from completing their studies in Rome, Italy, and became identified with the College. A Classical Course of six years and a Commercial Course was maintained from the year 1870. Gradually the language of the Country was adopted in all the Classes, and Canadian and American Students of other nationalities were enrolled.

After the death of Father Louis in 1890, the Reverend Theo. Spetz became Rector, and the Staff was now reinforced by several other prominent Graduates of the College, all of whom completed their course in the University of Rome.

Since then the College has carried on its work faithfully, and with extraordinary results. Among its Graduates are over one hundred Priests. In fact nearly all the Clergy of Hamilton Diocese are Alumni of St. Jerome's. In the secular ranks, many of the leading lights in the learned professions, both in Canada and in the United States, are pointed out as Graduates.

In 1901, the Reverend John Fehrenbach was appointed President. Steadily, improvements are being added, and the present Buildings, a staff of fifteen Teachers, eighty Students following the Classical studies, well equipped Laboratories, a Monthly Periodical, "The Bee," published by the Students, all, particulars of which appear in the Annual Catalogue, give evidence of the prosperity and growth of St. Jerome's College. Divine Providence has, from the humblest beginning, fashioned an Institution, worthy of taking part in the great work of education in the Province of Ontario, and an ornament to the prosperous and growing city of Berlin, Waterloo County.