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GEORGE MERCER DAWSON.

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The widespread expressions of deep regret and personal loss following the death of Dr. G. M. Dawson show that his was no ordinary life. Called away while in his prime, and with a past which gave promise of great achievements yet to come, he has left a blank which will not soon be filled.

Dr. Dawson was the second son of the late Sir J. W. Dawson, and was born on the 1st of August, 1849, in Pictou, Nova Scotia. In 1855 his father, who had for some years been acting as Superintendent of Education for Nova Scotia, received the appointment of principal of McGill University, Montreal, and with his family took up his residence there. Instead of the magnificent structures of to-day, there were then on the college grounds only two "unfinished and partly ruinous buildings, standing amid a wilderness of excavators' and masons' rubbish, overgrown with weeds and bushes. The grounds were unfenced and pastured at will by herds of cattle, which not only cropped the

* Fifty years of work in Canada—Autobiographical notes by Sir William Dawson, p. 98.