

consented to his education. This sense, by reason to attend more a point of duty ass-books to the complete retirement, and in the of classics and entering May—himself necessarily not long, however in the family perary, and by his studies; as we learn, America and the occurrence rent, he would y—for it was their consent of Mooncoin, in the study v. Dr. Marm, of and pursue the impression should be the uined.

ed departure grow that one nt and child, some future nds and rela- perhaps could er could not and a home less than five through love npanied him Patrick and after bidding

2. sorrowful farewell to one whom they esteemed so much. His brother accompanied him to Dublin, whence Patrick determined to set sail for America. It so happened that the first ship that was to put to sea was bound for Boston, and he without further delay took passage in her. On his arrival in Boston, he placed himself under the guardianship of Cardinal Cheverus, who, at that time, was Bishop of Boston. The Rev. William Taylor, of Boston, who had charge of transmitting to Montreal a copy of Patrick's *Exeat*, informs us, in his letter of the 6th May, 1825, that "on his arrival at Boston, he presented himself to Bishop Cheverus, and was canonically adopted as a child of the Diocese of Boston." Here I take the liberty of furnishing some interesting extracts from the letters of character, which Patrick either brought with him, or which were forwarded to Boston after his departure from Ireland. That extract from the letter of the Rev. Edward Walsh, P. P., of Ballyragget, and signed by a number of clergymen as well as of many of the laity of the Town of Freshford, which I have already furnished, ought to suffice to make known his character and worth, but others under whose care he was fostered, looked upon it also as a pleasing duty to publish his virtuous life. The Right Rev. Kyran Marum, Bishop of Ossory, in *furnish* his *Exeat*, the 27th of April, 1821, speaks admirably of him, and certifies to his "probity and prudence," and ends by saying "integer—*rima vita aliisque eximiis cordis et ingenii dotibus commendamus.*" The Rev. Patrick McGrath, P. P., De Ooning, Diocese of Ossory, in a letter, dated the 24th April, 1821, certifies to his being two years in that Parish, "and of good irreproachable morals—pious and honest." The Rev. N. Carroll, P. P. of Mooncoin, in the same Diocese, in furnishing a certificate of character, the 21st April 1821, says: "Patrick Phelan is of honest, industrious, and truly religious parents—his family in general were well instructed. His conduct at all times has been uniformly good; his attention to his studies and religious duties unremitting; and I have no doubt on my mind that, if circumstances may allow his perfecting a course of studies, of his becoming a respectable priest."

Having remained at Boston for three months, he was sent by Bishop Cheverus to the Seminary of Montreal to pursue his ecclesiastical studies. From his former conduct, we cannot but infer that these studies were scrupulously attended to, and that the three years which were to prepare him immediately for the Holy Ministry, found him giving his undivided attention to the sublime subjects which were propounded to him. On the 26th day of September, 1825, in the thirty-first year of his age, he received the Holy Order of Priesthood at the hands of Bishop Lartigue, first Bishop of Montreal. He was the first Priest ordained in the late Cathedral of St. James, Montreal—two days after its consecration—and the one thousand one hundred and sixty-first Priest whom Providence designed to labor in the Holy Ministry in Canada. His wishes were now fulfilled, and that long-desired moment arrived which was to render him capable of effecting