

comrade punished than for his own humiliation. He pleaded so hard for his pardon that the Master, finding himself conquered, exclaimed with emotion: « Well, let him stay; but only on account of Bourget. »

Such was the behavior of the youth, who in after years was to become the second Bishop of Montreal. And yet, the many acts of virtue that drew upon him, the esteem and admiration of all, no matter how beautiful in themselves, were but the prelude of future deeds of greatness.



At nineteen years of age, Ignace Bourget made his choice of a state of life and vowed himself to the service of God in the sanctuary. After a stay of some months at the Grand Seminary, he was sent to the College of Nicolet as professor regent. Fresh from his *Alma Mater* the young ecclesiastic appeared as a chosen Levite, rich in promise for the future, a fruitful branch of the sacerdotal tree from which Christ looked for abundant fruit. Occasion very shortly proved his rare merit.

In 1821, the illustrious Archbishop of Quebec, the Most Reverend Joseph Plessis, obtained the partition of his vast diocese. Upon the Right Reverend John James Lartigue, a