

Presbyterian minstry for three years previously, and had completed my first year in the Divinity Hall, having delivered a homily (as my certificate states) "with much acceptability"—and was employed as a catechist in the neighborhood of Chateauguay under the direction of the Rev. Donald Fraser, then the leading minister of the Free Kirk in Montreal, and afterwards minister of the first Presbyterian Church in London, England. Here I became known to, and was honored by the friendship of Dr. Leach, Rector of St. George's and Vice-Principal and Prof. of Ethics and Moral Philosophy, of McGill College. Through his instrumentality I was led to study the questions at issue between the Church of England and the various denominations, more especially the Presbyterians, with the result that I offered myself, after some months of careful study, and many anxious days and sleepless nights, to the Bishop of Montreal as a candidate for Confirmation. I cannot look back to that period of my life even now after the lapse of so many years without the most profound emotion. It is hard to understand in these days of liberal thought the bitterness of feeling which prevailed against the Church in the minds of those belonging to the straitest sect of Presbyterians.

I was confirmed by Bishop Fulford in the autumn at Lachine : walking in-to Montreal from that service. From that time for many years I was regarded as an outcast and renegade by my own kith and kin, as much so as if I had renounced Christianity altogether and become a Mohammedan or a Hindoo. But I thank God, that from the time I felt the Bishop's hand upon my head, till the present hour I have never had a single moment's regret or a single misgiving as to the rightness of the step I had taken.

It may interest some of you if I mention the names of some of the books that I studied and which helped me in my difficulties. They were Potter on Church Govt., Percival's