

Rev. D. J. Gregory McDonald

One generation of students follows another in rapid succession, giving institutions that are of comparatively recent foundation an air of antiquity. The younger generation to-day looks upon St. Dunstan's as a very old institution, but this impression becomes qualified when we find among us some of those students who were enrolled on its roster the first year of its existence. These are, however, rapidly passing away, and one of the last survivors of this band and he who was the Benejamin of it, passed from this life to the other on the 17th of last October in the person of Rev. D. J. Gregory McDonald.

He was only in his tenth year when he entered St. Dunstan's, and he remained there for seven years. He then went to the College of the Propaganda, Rome, where he completed his humanities. The foundation of his education was carefully laid under the guidance and inspiration of Father Angus, the first rector of St. Dunstan's. Father Gregory sat under distinguished masters when completing his humanities and pursuing his philosophical and theological courses, but the contact with these great minds served only to heighten his admiration and esteem for the man, who as St. Dunstan's first rector made the institution revered at home and respected abroad.

Father Gregory was a splendid classical scholar. At an early age his mind was opened to the beauties of the Classics. He had untiring industry and great capacity for taking pains and was unremitting in mastering even the smallest details. His course embraced the necessary leisure for rounding it out, and its completion was happily placed in the Eternal City, the home of the Classics and Fine Arts, whose very air was impregnated with them. It had a marked influence in moulding the mind of the young student, giving him that refinement of character, elegance and grace of diction and a love of the beautiful in literature and art which were so characteristic in him.

His constitution, always delicate, became impaired under the heavy strain of study and hemorrhage of the lungs seized him, forcing him to abandon his studies for a while and seek health at home. However after a winter spent in Barbadoes, he was able to complete his theolog-

ical course at Montreal and was ordained priest Oct. 18th. 1871.

He was named assistant at Rustico, then at the Cathedral and after a year was appointed pastor of St. Columba and St. Margaret's in which place he labored for eighteen years. During the next ten years he was pastor of Summerside, and the last twenty years of his ministry were given to the parish of St. George's when he retired from active ministry and devoted the evening of life as an immediate preparation for entering into the larger life.

Father Gregory had a very high ideal of the priesthood and faithfully lived up to it. His life was spent in the service of others. The sick had special claims upon his sympathies. He like to the Master attended first to their spiritual wants and then like Him also had compassion on the multitude, and by his intimate knowledge of diseases and of the remedies that were suitable, frequently assuaged the sufferings of the sick. Now he is gone to where death and sickness is unknown, where, we may hope, that his kindly ministration in the spiritual and temporal will merit for him a full measure of the Beatific Vision. Eternal rest grant him O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him.



'Tis easier for the generous to forgive,
Than for offence to ask it.—*Thomson.*

A little fire is quickly trodden out;
Which, being suffered, rivers cannot quench.—*Shakespeare*

God never imposes a duty without giving the time to do it.—*Ruskin.*

Dignity consists not in possessing honors, but in deserving them.—*Aristotle.*

Education is the cheap defence of nations.—*Burke.*