

**HISTORY OF THE
DIOCESE OF
MONTREAL, 1850-1910**

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History of the diocese of Montreal, 1850-1910 by J. Douglas Borthwick

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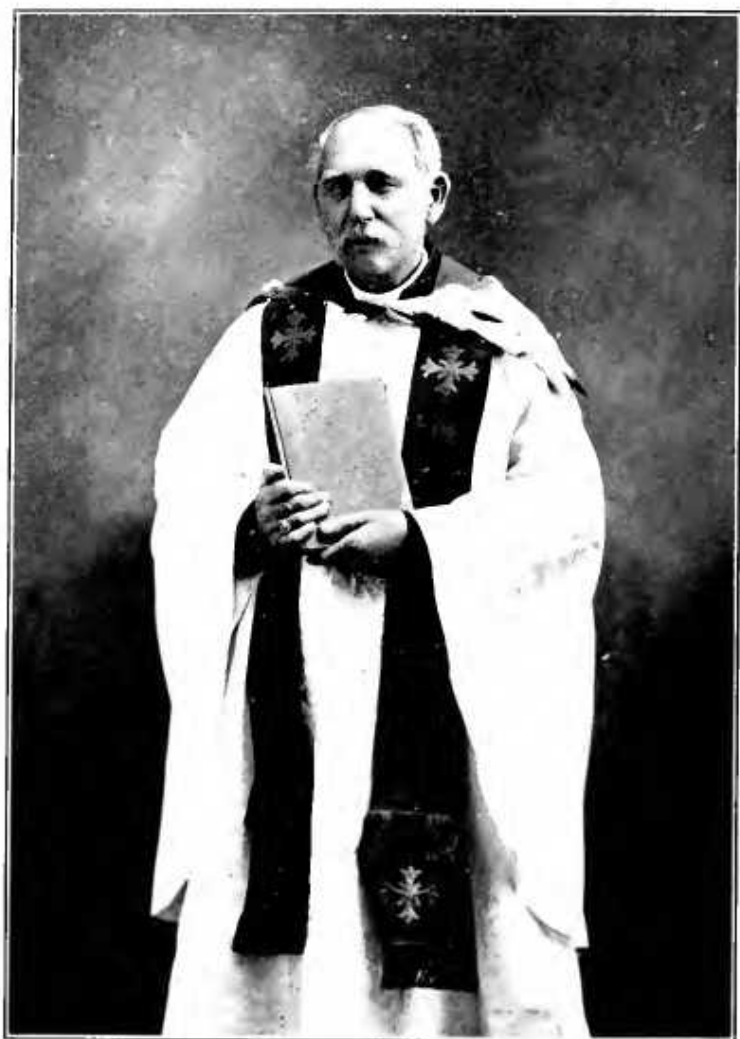
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J. DOUGLAS BORTHWICK

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DIOCESE OF
MONTREAL, 1850-1910**



REV. J. DOUGLAS BORTHWICK, LL.D.

History of the Diocese of Montreal

1850-1910

BY

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DEDICATION

To The Right Reverend John Cragg Farthing, D.D.,
Lord Bishop of Montreal

MY LORD

It gives me much pleasure to dedicate this important work, "The History of the Diocese of Montreal," to your Lordship.

Your election and elevation to the highest office of the Church in this Diocese, is a proof of the estimation in which your Lordship is held by both your Clergy and Laity.

May an even greater prosperity attend your oversight of the spiritual and temporal affairs of the Diocese under your guidance, and that it will advance as rapidly in the future as it has done in the past, is my earnest prayer.

Praying that your Lordship may long be spared to be our Bishop,

I remain

Your sincere Presbyter,

J. DOUGLAS BORTHWICK, LL.D.

PREFACE

IN the Jubilee year of the Diocese of Montreal, A.D. 1900, I was requested by several prominent persons, both Clerical and Lay, to write an historical sketch of the Diocese for the past 50 years.

What I did write then was printed in one or two of the Montreal newspapers.

In this Jubilee Year, 1909, of The Synod of Montreal, which was founded and opened on the 7th day of June, 1859, I was again asked to extend and elaborate what I had then written, and thus make it a volume which could be kept as a "Vade Mecum" and Book of Reference for succeeding generations.

As there was then, however, on the "tapis" some idea of the Diocesan Authorities issuing such a work, I refrained from attempting anything.

However, after some time, being given to understand that no person or Committee intended doing so, I began my work, preparing the incidents of this history.

It may have happened that some one of the very early Clergy and Laity has been overlooked in the long list of our Sacred Dead, because it is now almost impossible or very difficult to ascertain their immediate descendants—or having ascertained them, to secure the facts required of them, either from their inability to do so or some other cause, but I trust that the number may be few.

The mantle of Elijah has fallen on the shoulders of their successors—younger men, energetic and full of Christian life, now, almost over all the Diocese, supply their places.

Nothing struck me more than this, at the last meeting of the Synod in February, 1909, when I scanned the members of the Synod, Clerical and Lay Delegates, I saw so few white haired men present.

My eye rested then on a host of young athletic Clergy and Laymen "all eager for the fray"—and to them now is left, under the ægis of their own energetic and beloved Bishop, to;

"Stand up—stand up for Jesus,
The trumpet call obey;
Forth to the mighty conflict,
In this His Glorious Day.

In reading over many of the sketches in this volume, I doubt not but many a tear will be shed over the name and remembrance of some saintly old warrior who now "rests from his labors."

No Clergyman is now alive, so far as I know, who was present when Bishop Fulford arrived in Montreal, and only one now alive, who was at the opening of the first Synod of the Diocese in 1859, though a very few are still to the fore in the earlier years of the sixties—the author being one of them.

I must here record my most grateful thanks to all those who have taken such an interest in the work, but especially to the widows of our oldest Clergy, and who have so helped me in my labors, by sending me copious notes and clippings, relative to their husbands, and their work in the Diocese. It has enabled me to place before the present generation, facts and figures so astounding, as well as interesting, as will make them say: "How our