

BOOK II.

CHAPTER I.—A BRIEF SKETCH OF THE PRESENT BISHOP OF HAMILTON, THE RIGHT REV. THOMAS JOSEPH DOWLING, D.D.

The Right Rev. Thomas Joseph Dowling, D.D., saw the light of day on February 28th, 1840, in the County of Limerick, Ireland. At the age of eleven years he came to Hamilton with his father, Martin, where he received his elementary education in a select school.

In 1855 he entered St. Michael's College, where he distinguished himself by industry, conduct and progress during the seven years of his course. In his last year at college he was Professor of Classics. In 1862 he went to The Grand Seminary of Montreal, where he made his Theological studies, after which he was ordained priest on August 7th, 1864, by Bishop Farrell in St. Mary's Cathedral, Hamilton.

On October the 5th of the same year he was appointed pastor of Paris and Galt, with the missions of Burford, North and South Dumfries, the Villages of Ayr, Glenmorris, and Harrisburg, and for a time, the Villages of Hespeler and Preston. He completed and beautified the Paris church at an outlay of about \$20,000.00, and collected a large amount of this money by lecturing and preaching abroad, the parish being neither large nor wealthy. He also supervised the erection of the present fine church in Galt. In Paris he also secured land and buildings for a Separate School and Convent for the Sisters. On the occasion of the dedication of the Paris church Bishop Crinnon appointed Father Dowling his Vicar-General, February 6th, 1881. On May 1st, 1887, he was consecrated Bishop of Peterborough in St. Mary's Cathedral, Hamilton. On January 11th, 1889, he was transferred to the See of Hamilton.

As Bishop of Hamilton his administration shows an uninterrupted course of marvellous success and progress throughout the extensive Diocese.

In 1877 Father Dowling had accompanied the Canadian pilgrims to Rome, where he assisted at the golden jubilee of Pope Pius IX., and presented an offering to the Pope on behalf of the clergy and laity of the Diocese of Hamilton. In 1913 he visited Rome and the Holy Land in company with his secretary, Mgr. McEvay, and Father Wm. Kloefer, C.R., D.D., and participated in the golden jubilee of Pope Leo XIII., when he obtained distinguished honors for three of his worthy priests: Father Bardou becoming Doctor of Divinity; Mgr. McEvay a Roman Prelate, and Vicar-General Heenan a Monsignor of the first grade, with the title of Protonotary Apostolic.

The year of 1906 marked the anniversary of the erection of the Diocese of Hamilton. The event was celebrated with great eclat in the City of Hamilton, and was attended by all the clergy of the Diocese and by numerous delegates from every parish and Mission of the Diocese. His Excellency the Most Rev. Mgr. Donato Sbaretti, Apostolic Delegate to Canada, honored the occasion by his presence in company with his secretary, the present Right Rev. A. A. Sinnot, D.D., Bishop of Winnipeg. Other prelates present were the Most Rev. Denis O'Connor, Archbishop of Toronto; the Most Rev. C. H. Gauthier, Archbishop of Kingston, the Right Rev. F. P. McEvay, Bishop of London; the Right

Rev. D. J. Scollard, Bishop of Sault Ste. Marie, and the Right Rev. R. O'Connor, Bishop of Peterborough.

The solemn festivities began on May the 19th, with the canonical reception of His Excellency, the Apostolic Delegate, at the Cathedral. The next day the Bishop of London consecrated the Cathedral, which had been previously decorated and otherwise greatly improved at great expense, while the spiritual side of the Cathedral congregation had been brought into a festive disposition by a solemn Tridium.

On the 21st of May a Pontifical Requiem High Mass was celebrated in the Cathedral. On May 22nd a Pontifical High Mass of Thanksgiving was celebrated. The Catholic institutions of the city vied with each other in honoring the occasion.

On May 24th the Sisters of St. Joseph also celebrated the golden jubilee of their coming to Hamilton. The evening before the distinguished guests attended a grand concert given by the pupils of the Loretto Convent. St. Ann's Church had been dedicated by the Ordinary on Sunday, May 13th, 1906, as a Votive Church in memory of the golden jubilee of the Diocese. The contributions from the various parishes, priests and laymen to the Jubilee presents to His Lordship amounted to nearly \$10,000.00, which His Lordship generously turned over to the Votive Church, besides giving \$2,630.00 to various poor churches, schools, and charitable institutions of the Diocese.

The year 1912 gave the clergy and laity of the Diocese another welcome opportunity of showing their respect and love to their beloved Bishop by celebrating his Silver Jubilee as Bishop. The year 1914 gave them another occasion for expressing their heartfelt joy to the Right Rev. Bishop Dowling, on the 50th anniversary of his ordination to the Holy Priesthood.

His Lordship Bishop Dowling, though now the Dean of the Canadian Episcopate, is still as hearty, active and amiable as ever. In spite of his years and several very serious illnesses, he is still able to make his official visits in double quick time throughout his extensive Diocese without the least sign of fatigue or weakness.

May God keep and preserve him in health and vigor for many years to come is the fervent and constant prayer of all the priests and lay people of the Diocese.

This is the summary of the Diocesan standing according to the Catholic Directory for 1916:

Bishop	1	Academies	4
Diocesan Priests	47	Parochial Schools	40
Priests of Religious Orders	16	Convents	20
Churches with Resident Priests	46	Separate School Pupils	7000
Missions with Churches	14	Hospitals	2
Theological Students	15	Orphan Asylums	2
High Schools	4	Houses of Providence	2
College	1	Catholic Population	62000

During the administration of Bishop Dowling the number of new, substantial churches, schools, rectories built, enlarged and decorated throughout the Diocese is indeed marvellous, and the process is still going on with regularity and dispatch.

Old Missions are developing into parishes, Stations into important Missions; the number of schools is steadily growing; a number of Missions could now become parishes with resident priests but for the want of them which is still great.



RT. REV. THOMAS JOSEPH DOWLING, D.D., 4TH BISHOP OF HAMILTON

CHAPTER II.—RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES IN THE DIOCESE OF HAMILTON.

A history of the county and the summary history of the Diocese would be incomplete without a brief account of the Religious Communities that are laboring in it.

Of male Communities there are only three, the Jesuits, the Congregation of the Resurrection and that of St. Basil's. The former had its chief field of labor in the Counties of Waterloo and Wellington, the second in Waterloo, and the latter in the Counties of Grey and parts of Bruce.

The Fathers of the Resurrection began their work here in 1857 and continued it ever since with increasing numbers. Of them enough has been said in the course of the history of the parishes of Waterloo County to show the good work done by them.

The Basilians began their labors in the Diocese in 1863, when they took charge of the scattered missions, which they attended from Owen Sound with signal success, so that quite a number of the missions were gradually organized and built up and passed into the hands of the Diocesan clergy.

The Jesuits came into Waterloo County in 1847, and left it for Guelph in 1852-58, where they have remained ever since.

Of the female Religious Communities a little more should be said. The Communities are the Sisters of St. Joseph, a Diocesan Order; the Sisters of Loretto, and the Sisters of Notre Dame.

CHAPTER III.—THE SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH.

The first to be introduced into the Diocese were the St. Joseph Sisters, who came from Toronto at the request of the Vicar-General, Father Gordon, with the consent of Bishop De Charbonnel.

The first undertaking was the establishment of the Hamilton Orphan Asylum in 1852. In the following year they began to teach in the Separate School and formed Catechetical classes at the Cathedral and in what became later St. Patrick's Parish. They also visited the sick and the poor throughout the city.

When the cholera broke out with such virulence in Hamilton during the year 1854, the Sisters there did heroic work in caring for the stricken ones, and cared for the many orphans left behind by the victims of the dread disease. A number of immigrants also brought the typhus fever into the city and gave the Sisters a great deal of extra work and care.

In 1856 the first Separate Schools were opened by the Sisters in the Parishes of St. Mary's and St. Patrick's.

The first school opened by them outside of Hamilton was at Paris in 1858 at the request of Father Bissey, then pastor there. The other foundations were in the order of time: Brantford in 1860; Arthur in 1873; Guelph in 1861, where they opened a hospital on November 22nd; St. Joseph's Hospital, Hamilton, 1890; The Dundas House of Providence was opened by the Sisters in 1878 through the generosity of Father McNulty. This institution was totally destroyed by fire on Oct. 4th, 1900, but was at once rebuilt more substantially and much larger.

In September, 1886, they took charge of the Owen Sound Separate School, and remained there till 1909. They went to Mount Forest in August, 1908.

CHAPTER IV.—THE SISTERS OF LORETTO.

The Sisters of Loretto came to the Diocese shortly after those of St. Joseph.

Rev. Father Ryan had requested the Sister Superior of Toronto for a band of her Sisters for Brantford. They came in August of 1853, and opened an academy, for which the times and the people were scarcely prepared. Hence the Sisters gave up their plan and returned to Toronto, soon after to make the beginning at Guelph. Father Holzer had requested them to open an academy in the Town of Guelph. This they did in June of 1856, at first taking charge of the Separate School for the girls with signal success. The academy also prospered marvellously and soon began to furnish many recruits for the Order.

The Loretto Sisters also founded an academy in Hamilton at the request of Bishop Farrell, in September, 1885, and here, also, the institution has flourished exceedingly. Here they also teach in the Separate Schools.

CHAPTER V.—THE SISTERS OF NOTRE DAME.

The Sisters of Notre Dame were the latest coming to the Diocese. Rev. Eugene Funcken had found it necessary to open an Orphan Asylum in St. Agatha in the late fifties, which he entrusted to some pious girls of the parish. Desiring to make the foundation permanent, he induced the School Sisters of Notre Dame of Milwaukee, originating from Munich, Bavaria, to take charge of the Orphanage. This they did in the year 1871, and also took over the Separate School there.

In 1872 they opened an academy at Formosa, magnanimously offered them by Mr. F. X. Messner, merchant, of that place. They also taught the Separate School there.

In 1874 they came to Berlin to teach the Separate School.

In 1876 they took over the Separate School of St. Clement's; in 1879, that of Walkerton; in the same year that of Deemerton; in 1882, that of Mildmay; in the same year that of New Germany; in 1891, that of Waterloo; in 1913, that of Owen Sound and that of Preston.

In 1907 they opened St. Ann's School for training their own candidates up to the Normal School Course.

The success of these Sisterhoods is indeed marvellous. God only knows what amount of good they have done and are doing with increased numbers and greater energy, by their piety, their self-sacrificing efforts and their devotion to the work of education and charity.

May God bless and prosper them for the good of humanity, of religion, and for their own sanctification.