

# Prospectus

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## HISTORICAL SKETCH

**S**T. JEROME'S COLLEGE was founded by the Very Rev. Louis Funcken, C.R., D.D., who shortly after, his ordination in 1862, entered the Congregation of the Resurrection and joined his fellow brethren of the Congregation that had been called by Bishop Charbonnel of Toronto to conduct the missionary work of Waterloo County. As Father Funcken was by his scholarly attainment and natural disposition eminently qualified for teaching, one of his associates suggested that he should found a college. "A college," he exclaimed, "with no students, no buildings, no money?" When assured that twelve students could be assembled, a log-house near the church in St. Agatha was rented and Father Louis' life-work began. Two years later, 1866, Bishop Farrell, of the then newly established diocese of Hamilton, induced the Fathers to transfer their little college to Berlin (now Kitchener).

The first quarters used in Kitchener were of humble proportions, but the religious zeal and the reputation of the Very Rev. Founder and his colleagues as educators, soon spread and students from various parts of Canada and the United States presented themselves in such numbers that, in 1881, another storey was added to the building, then in use and the large three storey wing was erected. In 1888—89 the beautiful and commodious four storey structure — the lecture halls — was built. The following year the property now used as the parochial residence was transferred to the College. Not only were new buildings constructed during these years, but the athletic grounds were enlarged, lawns were beautified and an extensive park was designed, cultivated and thrown open for the pleasures of the students.

In 1907 the massive buildings then constituting St. Jerome's College were again found inadequate to accommodate the number of students who, coming from all parts of North America, sought admission to the College. A large up-to-date