

The Late Metropolitan of Canada.

The Executive Committee of the Diocese of Montreal has adopted the following resolutions as to the late Most Rev. John Medley, D.D., Lord Bishop of Fredericton, and Metropolitan of Canada.

The current year will be memorable in our Canadian Ecclesiastical Annals, as peculiarly an obituary year among the prelates of the English Church of the Dominion.

Already have we recorded in the minutes of our Executive Committee mementoes of the late Bishops Oxenden and Williams; and to-day we enter a similar memorial of the death of the late Bishop Medley of Fredericton and Metropolitan of the Province of Canada.

Other pens and other tongues have already borne testimony to the man of noted qualities, clerical, literary and artistic, which pre-eminently distinguished the deceased prelate.

His own cathedral at Fredericton, the pride of New Brunswick, and regarded as a gem of architectural beauty throughout the Dominion, will ever remain, among the religious fanes of our land, an enduring monument of his exquisite taste, for it was his own creation.

And, at the same time, its walls have oft-times resounded with solemn chant and with inspiring anthem, composed by himself, aids to the service of song in God's holy temple, which have since become the property of the Church at large, and been incorporated, as much-prized treasures, in many of their sacred musical collections.

Fittingly, therefore, as the founder of its fabric, and as the author of many of its sacred songs, was he laid to rest in his moss-lined grave by many of his sorrowing clergy and laity immediately contiguous to his own beautiful cathedral.

And now, though not of his Fredericton diocese, yet as members of his metropolitical province, would we add our own humble tribute of respect to his memory.

It is but to state a fact of admitted and of universal recognition, that Bishop Medley, as Metropolitan, always presided over the general councils of our Church, and ever exercised his unofficial sway over our different dioceses, with conspicuous ability, dignity, wisdom, and impartiality.

And when, at length, called to go the way of all the earth, freighted with his own more than fourscore years, and with his strength, "then," in the words of the psalmist, "but labor and sorrow," added to those family bereavements, and to those earthly severances common to life's troubled, specially lengthened pilgrimages, it is a noteworthy fact, that the aged Metropolitan traversed those sands of time which are marked by no returning footsteps, with his latest thoughts, and his latest plans directed to our city, to our diocese, to our Christ Church cathedral of Montreal.

He himself it was, as authoritatively announced, who arranged that the consecration of Bishop Dunn to the Episcopate of Quebec, that latest addition to our Canadian bench of

bishops, should be conducted among us in our own beautiful Christ Church cathedral, thus affording to the members coming from afar, of both houses of the Provincial Synod, together with the Church people of this city and neighborhood, an opportunity of witnessing a ceremonial of more than ordinary significance, which most of them would not otherwise have possessed.

It is true, indeed, that another prelate occupied his seat, another bishop administered the oath of metropolitical obedience, belonging to himself, yet surely the whole historic scene should not be allowed to pass into oblivion without the Executive Committee of the diocese of Montreal, representing, for the time at least, the members of the whole diocese, entering permanently of record in their minutes, and publishing to the Church abroad their sincere, however feeble, tribute of respect, honor and regard to the memory of Dr. John Medley, late Lord Bishop of Fredericton and Metropolitan of the Province of Canada.

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