

for him a patient hearing, and what assistance you can give for the prosecution of the work.

Since our last meeting, there have been not a few changes amongst the clergy, of whom several have gone to other Canadian Dioceses, to the United States and to England, others being received in their places; some have migrated from one parish in the Diocese to another; while three have finished their work in the Church here below and have passed into the Paradise of God. The Parish of New Ross was the first to be thus bereft of its faithful and hardworking Priest. Rev. W. H. Groser was ill when I was passing down the Western Shore in the winter of 1888-9, and no candidates for Confirmation were ready, so that I did not turn inland from Chester to go there. I was much shocked some while afterwards to hear that death had come, for I had not supposed that he was in a critical condition; neither was word conveyed to me until after his burial, so that I was prevented from going, as I was willing to do, to his funeral. Mr. Groser was the only one of the clergy whom I had not met, but those of you who knew him and his work can bear witness to his fervent zeal and constant labor.

The venerable rector of St. James' Church, Mahone Bay, was one of the oldest of the Nova Scotia clergy, of a type that I fear is gradually disappearing. He was a zealous, faithful, energetic, spiritually-minded man, desirous of promoting the cause of the Church, while endeavoring to live in friendly neighborliness with all: a peaceable man, yet withal bearing himself courageously in disputes, being confident that victory would light upon his banners. Struggling against the creeping infirmity induced by age, and seeking to do what little he could while life should last, he yet bowed in lowly submission to the chastening of the Lord, and humbly accepted his enforced withdrawal from the active life to which he had so long been accustomed. A strong, forceful nature, was that of the Rev. W. H. Snyder, and I am sorry to think that I shall not again be welcomed by him, nor be able to learn from him more lessons, of faith, and resignation to the perfect will of God.

The death of the Rev. James Arminius Richey, Rector of Seaforth, came to us all with startling suddenness. Only about a week before, I met him in Halifax, and he seemed then in his usual health; it was therefore with great surprise that I learned of his serious illness, followed almost immediately with the news of his demise. He has left a record of diligent work, conscientious teaching, able and convincing preaching, which we may hope will tell upon the people to whom he ministered, and which is a precious legacy to his children. I bespeak for them your cordial sympathy, and beg of you that you will endeavor to keep them in mind and further them in life, remembering that while the Lord says, "Leave thy fatherless children, I will preserve them alive, and let thy widows trust in Me," He provides for their necessities by calling upon those of His people who have means and influence to use them for such as these. Do not forget the declaration of the inspired brother of the Lord, "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world."

What should be our thought as we now turn to the duties of this Synod? Surely, that those duties are important, for they concern the interests of "the Kingdom of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ." Before us lies a great opportunity, if only our eyes are open to see it.