

ARCHBISHOP BENSON AND THE POPE

The following letter has been addressed to the editor of the Times.

Sir—I venture to enclose for publication some paragraphs written by my father, the late Archbishop of Canterbury, very shortly before his death. On Saturday, the 10th of October, the day following his passage from Ireland, he traveled with my mother from Carlisle to Chester on his way to Hawarden. In the train he wrote the first draft of the document. My mother copied it out for him, and on the Sunday morning, after the early service, he put his last corrections to it, shortly after which he left the house to walk to the morning service. It is possible that later additions and corrections were to have been made; but I have felt it a duty to publish, exactly as it was left, the last public pronouncement that came from his pen.

I beg to remain very faithfully yours,

ARTHUR C. BENSON

Addington-park, Crofton, Oct. 23

"Some letters which I receive expect (I believe mistakenly) that positiveness of assertion may still have an effect on some who mistake the kindness of a personage for the thawing of the frozen church policy to which he is committed. If there remain any such, after the strong disavowals that have been made, they ought not to be thrown over, they are the very persons to be treated with tenderness.

"I write these to say that a statement will shortly appear which may, I hope, comfort any who think it is required. Infallibility has, happily, this time ventured on reasons. But the subject of orders, as needful to a perfectly constituted church, has been as jealously scrutinized in England as by Rome, and with much more knowledge of facts. Authorities of theirs have till lately, at any rate, taught mere ludicrous fables about English orders, and the late Papal document exhibits ignorances of which their own scholars and critics are as well aware as we. The result of scrutiny with that fuller knowledge was, and is, to establish that our Holy Orders are identical with those of the whole Catholic church. They are in origin, continuity, matter, form, intention, and all that belongs to them, identical accordingly with those of the Church of Rome except in the one modern point of subjection to the Pope, on which point at the Reformation we deliberately resumed our ancient concurrence with the whole Catholic world besides. There is not a break anywhere in our orders, sacraments, creeds, scriptures, spiritual gifts, in all that compacts and forms the 'holiness' of the 'one Catholic Apostolic Church' of the ages.

"And, as it would be an evil unfaithfulness to saddle with foreign allegiance the gifts that we derive from Christ, so now this remarkable challenge, with its accompanying offers, undoubtedly moves Churchmen

to consider what we are exposed to through our unworthy separations, to be really in love with unity at home as well as abroad, not to be deceived by pretensions to unity and assertions which have historically created the wildest and deepest of all separations, but to draw closer together in faith, firmness and forebearance."

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE NOTES

Church Society.—The following are the officers of the society for this academic year:—

President, Mr. S. G. Chambers, '97; 1st vice-president, Mr. E. R. Bartlett, '98; 2nd vice-president, Mr. S. Collins, '98; secretary, Mr. S. Ryall, '98.

The regular weekly devotional services are being held, and are being very fairly attended.

A farewell address to the society was delivered by the Bishop of Qu'Appelle just prior to his departure for England. A special service was held, the president officiating. His Lordship's words were attentively listened to, and the members of the society feel that they have been greatly benefited by his counsels and good advice. Canons O'Meara and Matheson also spoke of the Bishop's work in the college and in connection with the Church Society especially, during the time he has been connected with this diocese of Rupert's Land.

Archdeacon Fortin, rector of Holy Trinity church has commenced a series of lectures on elocution. They are intended specially for the theological students, who already are taking a great interest in them. The want of lectures of this kind has been long felt, and it is to be hoped that this essential feature of a theological students' training will, in the future, form part of his college course.

Rev. E. W. R. Beal, an alumnus of the college, is leaving next week for the Diocese of Calgary and Saskatchewan. He has been appointed to the parish of Battleford.

The college branch of the student volunteer movement for foreign missions, has commenced its series of meetings. The readings for this term are being taken from a collection of finished biographies, entitled "The Knights of the Labarum."

NEWS FROM THE WESTERN DIOCESES.

DIOCESE OF RUPERTSLAND.

All Saints' Church, Winnipeg.

All Saints' Day was observed as the Dedication Festival of this church. This year is the twelfth anniversary of the festival, as the church was opened for worship in February, 1911. The first rector, the Rev. C. Arthur Lane, was instituted in July of that

year; and at the first Dedication Festival on All Saints' Day the preacher was the Bishop of Rupertsland. This year the special preacher at Evening was the Rev. McAdam Harding, rector of St. Matthew's, Brandon. He took for his text, "Blessed are the dead, which die in the Lord; yea, saith the Spirit, for they rest from their labors, and their works do follow them," and delivered a deeply interesting discourse on the condition of the faithful departed. He showed how they were at rest in the intermediate state between death and judgment, which was variously called in Holy Scripture, Paradise, Abraham's bosom, or Hades, the word which is translated in the Apostle's Creed as "Hell," whither our Lord went between His death and resurrection. He considered the case of those who died neither good nor altogether bad. For instance, those who were converted at the end of life, or those who while their lives were righteous, had never heard the gospel. These, the preacher said, would continue their work of repentance, or would learn those gospel tidings which did not come to them on earth. Of the impenitent, who wilfully rejected the gospel, there was nothing in Scripture which would lead us to expect that they would have another chance. The preacher, in conclusion, spoke of the dedication festival, and hoped that his hearers would follow in their daily lives the example of God's saints.

The services throughout the day were well attended and the music was beautiful and reverent. There were two celebrations of Holy Communion at 8.30, and at the 11 o'clock service. The second celebration was fully choral, the music being Marbecke, with Kyrie and Benedictus from Bonnod's 'Messe Solenne'. In the evening the special music included Dr. Garrett's Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, and Sir John Stainer's anthem for All Saints' Day, "Who are these that are arrayed in white robes?" The collection in the evening was for the choir music fund, and amounted to \$24. In the afternoon a children's festival service was held, the feature of which was a procession of the children round the church with cross and banner, singing the hymn 'Onward, Christian Soldiers.' This gave great pleasure to both children and parents who were present, and was a very pretty and impressive sight. Altogether, it was quite a memorable festival.

DIOCESE OF QU'APPELLE.

We give below a part of a very interesting letter from Rev. C. F. Lallmand, Gordon schools, Touchwood Hills, respecting the really excellent work that is going on there:

"We have 32 boarders, some are non-treaty half-breeds, they are almost more care than the treaty children, as no one looks after them, and they are growing up in ignorance and vice. For these children we get no permanent grant. The children are beginning to sing very nicely, both in Cree and in English. We have no organ in the school and only a broken one in the church, so all they have to sing to is a poor fiddle badly played by me. I do wish I could get an organ, \$50