

Nor can we fail, at this our first meeting, to call to mind with much sadness of heart, the severe loss with which it has pleased God to visit us by the removal from among us of one who had taken a lively interest in the erection of this Diocese, and who had strenuously laboured to bring about this event. The late Dr. Evans, who had been a faithful missionary in this country for over 30 years, was just spared to see his long cherished hope of an increase of the Episcopate in Upper Canada realized, when it pleased the Great Head of the Church to call him from the trials and the warfare of the Church Militant here below to a participation in the joys of the Church Triumphant above.

While we who were privileged to enjoy his acquaintance, and to partake of Communion with a Christian Brother of such sincere and unaffected piety, and of such enlarged experience in the things of God, must ever mourn his loss, still, we submit, without repining, to the dispensation which has deprived us of the presence of one we so much loved, being assured that he who ordereth all things in the Church cannot err, and that to our dear Brother to depart and be with Christ was far better than to remain with the tried and tempted children of men here below. To us who were his cotemporaries or his seniors, his removal cannot fail to suggest a striking warning to work while it is called to-day, for the night cometh when no man can work. His widow and his orphans are amongst us, and I feel assured that those who knew, and so highly valued our departed brother, need not to be reminded of the duty which rests upon them to watch over, with paternal solicitude, those objects of his fondest earthly love, and above all, continually to bear them upon their hearts at a throne of grace, that the Father of the fatherless, and the friend of the widow may be their God and guide, their sun and their shield, that he may give them grace here and glory hereafter, for Christ's sake.

I have deferred calling you together, my Reverend Brethren, until I should have had the opportunity of becoming