

EXTRACTS FROM THE BISHOP'S CHARGE.

I may preface this, my first address to you in Synod, with a word of personal reference. The work given to me, as your Bishop, is a work that I feel to be both honourable and difficult. The difficulty arises partly from the nature of the Diocese, its wide area and sparsely scattered population, and partly from my own inexperience. In meeting these difficulties there are two thoughts that give me confidence; a confidence that will be needed and tried as the years go on. These are :—(1) The ready and generous welcome and sympathy I have already met with both from clergy and laity. Such sympathy is a thing we may have to do without in the path of duty, but it will always make the task infinitely harder, and I can here but thank you from my heart for according it so freely to me, coming as a stranger amongst you. (2) The character of my predecessor, Bishop Anson, first Bishop of the Diocese. I will not stay to recall the story of his first coming to this part of what was called, more aptly then even than now, the great lone land, or review the work of his eight years' episcopate. I would only say that a great responsibility lies on us here, from our having had as our Diocesan one of such a character. His single-hearted devotion to Christ and His Church, his humility and generosity, are known most to those who knew him best. They call for our thanksgiving to God for His gift to us, and lay upon us—on you and me—a great responsibility, that the fruits of his work and example be not lost through our unfaithfulness. You know the condition of the Diocese as he found it and as he left it. The organisation of the Diocese into parishes; the creation of this Synod; the making of canons; the provision for the temporal needs of the Diocese; and especially the provision of an episcopal endowment fund; the character of the clergy he gathered round him; these all make the work of the Diocese to us a very different thing to what it was ten years ago, and the stamp of reality and thoroughness which marked the work of laying the foundations can inspire us with confidence as we go forth to meet the needs of these days in which we are called to work.

The past year has been a year of Synods.

I. The first that calls for our notice is the meeting, for the first time, of a *General Synod* for the whole Anglican Church in the dominion of Canada. The gathering of this Synod, which met in September of last year, in Toronto, we must feel marks an epoch in the history of the Church. Hitherto we have been divided into Provinces and independent Dioceses; now, while the Provincial and Diocesan rights are safeguarded we have one central Synod which can speak with