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OR CHURCH REGISTER FOR THE DIOCESES OF QUEBEC, MONTREAL, TORONTO AND HURON.

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TORONTO, DECEMBER 2, 1861.

No. 23.

TRINITY COLLEGE.

We are requested to inform our readers that the annual meeting of the Convocation of the University of Trinity College, for conferring Degrees, will be held in the College Hall, on Thursday, December 19th, at 1 o'clock, p. m.

**Ecclesiastical Intelligence.**

DIOCESE OF TORONTO.

(CIRCULAR.)

TORONTO, November, 1861.

To the Churchwardens and Lay Delegates of the several Congregations in the Diocese of Toronto.

GENTLEMEN,—

I feel that I must no longer delay bringing again under your notice the Resolution of Synod passed in the month of June, 1860, recommending—

“That the entire sum collected at the Offertory on Christmas Day in each year, in all churches, chapels, and stations in the diocese, shall be given directly to the incumbent of the church as a free-will offering, and a token of love and respect for their pastor, irrespective of, and in addition to, his ordinary salary or stipend.”

I have been exceedingly gratified by the result of the appeal made at this period of the preceding year, in correspondence with the above resolution. The very considerable sum that was so freely given, and the seasonable relief afforded by it to a large body of deserving men, is very satisfactory; while the pleasure is even greater of seeing attested in this manner the kindly feeling of parishioners towards their clergymen. Where there is this mutual love and confidence, the church must prosper, and true religion be advanced.

I have, therefore, to express my earnest desire that you will bring this subject again before the congregations which you respectively represent, so that they may be prepared to contribute this appropriate gift on the approaching Christmas Day, and I trust the result will be fully as gratifying as it was at our last celebration of this holy festival.

I have the honour to remain,

Gentlemen,

Yours very faithfully,

JOHN TORONTO.

TESTIMONIAL FROM THE LADIES OF THE CONGREGATION OF ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH, TO REV. DR. LETT.

On Friday afternoon, a number of the ladies of the congregation of St. George's Church, assembled in the Parochial School-house attached to the church, for the purpose of offering to the Rev. Dr. Lett, their late minister, a testimonial of esteem and affection on his departure from

Toronto, to take up his residence in another part of Upper Canada.

Hon. J. H. Cameron, one of the churchwardens of the parish, on behalf of the ladies, presented Dr. Lett with a purse containing \$240, and read to him the following—

ADDRESS:

To the Reverend Stephen Lett, LL.D.

REV. AND DEAR SIR,—

The Ladies of the Congregation of St. George's Church, among whom your ministrations have been performed for a period of upwards of thirteen years, beg leave to offer to you a testimonial of esteem and affection from the congregation on your departure from Toronto.

During the period that has elapsed since you entered on your mission here, great changes have taken place. The churches of St. Stephen and St. John have sprung up within the old boundaries of St. George. The number of church people in the western portion of the City has greatly increased, and although our own congregation has been in some measure diminished, we have abundant cause for thankfulness, in the knowledge that those members have withdrawn from us because they have found church accommodation at their very doors, and that the united congregations of the three churches are now nearly three times as numerous as the congregation of St. George in the early days of your Incumbency.

The time that you have been among us counts almost as a generation in the rapid and varied changes of a new country; you have stood by the cradle of the infants to whom your assistance has been afterwards given in preparing for the rite of confirmation. You have seen the children of the first days of your ministration stand before you as man and wife at the altar. You have offered the consolations of religion to the dying. You have spoken the last beautiful prayers of the church over the dead, and the living among us, and the dead who have gone before have partaken in communion with you at the altar. The blessed sacrament of the body and blood of Christ, and in our remembrance of all these things, it is impossible to think of the past without emotion, or to part with you without regret.

Your connexion with us as Pastor and people is at an end, but we shall ever feel a deep interest in your well being wherever you are placed, and shall pray that God's blessing may rest upon you and yours through time and eternity.

MARY ANN GODSON,  
MRS. W. H. JACKSON,  
SOPHIA PERKINS,  
MARY A. MURRAY,  
SARAH A. HEATH,  
MARGARET BUCHANAN.

Toronto, 22nd November. 1861.

To which the reverend gentlemen, in the most feeling manner and apparently much affected, replied as follows:—

To the Ladies of St. George's Church, Toronto.

My dearly beloved friends and sisters in the Lord. My heart would, indeed, be seared and callous

were I not deeply sensible of, and did I not duly appreciate the eloquent but too eulogistic address which my good friend Mr. Cameron has just read in your behalf.

Most warmly do I thank you for the expressions of kindly feeling conveyed therein—but I assure you that it required no such address to convince me that such were your sentiments, and of the congregation generally. During the period of my ministration amongst you I have had many unmistakable proofs of your sympathies; when the all-wise disposer of events deemed it well to send death and woe into the bosom of my family, then I found that trouble was alleviated when shared in by others; and, again, when through the clouds the sun burst upon me and mine, then my beloved people flocked around their pastor and made his joy doubly grateful by their participation therein.

When first, at the direction of my valuable diocesan I came amongst you, the affairs of the parish seemed almost beyond recovery, others to whom the cure was offered shrank from the task of encountering the vast difficulties which would render success hopeless, but, providentially, being a total stranger in the city, I was unacquainted with the state of affairs, and so undertook the cure.

By God's good hand upon us the mountains became as nothing—I received encouragement, support and assistance from all quarters. Christian friends, some of these long since gone to their reward in the church triumphant above—some of them removed to other localities, and some still remaining amongst us, seconded me in every good word and work; till at length the auspicious day arrived that saw our edifice consecrated by the venerable head of Christ's church in this part of the Lord's vineyard—and had it not an untoward and unforeseen circumstance, arising in a quarter extreme from the parish, interfered with the well planned and well digested arrangements of our financial officers, I believe that St. George's would now be held up as an example of “faithful perseverance overcoming difficulty.”

Beloved, I now take my leave of you formally, as my excellent wife and I have already done privately, in your respective homes—had we been aware how painful and bitter would have been the separation, I almost think that we would not have ventured to carry it into effect, however, the step has now been taken—but though removed from you by distance, I must ever continue to present in the army of faith to the throne of Grace the very many dear and kind friends, gentle and simple, old and young, in whose affection and prayers I know I obtain a lasting abiding place. My connexion with you will ever be a bright spot in memory's *vista*; and to hear of your success in matters temporal and spiritual, will ever give me unfeigned pleasure.

Thanking you for your valuable gift, the offering as I am sure of loving and willing hearts, and reciprocating your good wishes, committing you to the good shepherd's care I bid you the filial word—“farewell, be perfect, be of good comfort,