

knowledge than in the Parish of St. Luke and the Cathedral Church, where we have had the great benefit of your sound teaching and exemplary life.

We have deeply sympathized with your Lordship in the many troubles and difficulties which have attended the discharge of your arduous and responsible duties, and the Christian kindness and forbearance in which they have been endured and overcome have served more and more to deepen our affection and to strengthen our confidence in your administration of the Diocese.

We shall earnestly pray to Jesus Christ the Great and Good Shepherd, that by his Holy Spirit He will prosper your consultations for the welfare of His Church and the promotion of His Glory; and that, guarded by His special Providence, you may return in peace and safety to your Diocese, and to a loyal clergy and faithful laity, prepared to give you a cordial welcome and to hold up your hands.

REPLY.

TO THE CLERGY, OFFICERS, AND MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATION OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. LUKE.

May it please your Excellency:

My Rev. Brethren and Brethren of the Laity:

I thank you very sincerely for this affectionate Address, and for the assurance of your esteem and love, of which, however, no verbal declaration was needed, for deeds are more eloquent than words, and you have manifested a disposition to co-operate with me in my endeavors to promote the welfare of the Church of which we are members, and the glory of God.

It is not easy to collect one's thoughts amidst the hurry and bustle of preparations for a distant journey and a long absence from home so as to give an adequate reply to this Address, but you will doubtless kindly excuse me, especially as I have already this morning from the pulpit spoken upon some of the topics to which you allude.

Since this has been constituted the Cathedral Church, I have recognized you as peculiarly my charge, and I have endeavored from time to time, by God's help, to give you wholesome instruction, such as appeared to be most beneficial for you; and I trust that the words which I have been enabled to speak to you in the name of the Lord have not been altogether in vain. It is my hearty desire and prayer that this church and people may be a bright example and a centre whence light may radiate and life and earnestness may be diffused throughout the Diocese.

The belief that through all the troubles and difficulties to which you refer you sympathized with me has been a source of comfort and support. It is to me extremely painful to have any impediment to free intercourse and communion between myself and any of those over whom I am appointed overseer, for it is my earnest desire to labour heartily with and for them all. We must, however, expect trials, remembering that the servant is not greater than his Lord. Let us pray that God will overrule all to His own glory, and that when the clouds have passed away our prospects may be brighter and more satisfactory than before.

I thank you for the assurance that you will do your part towards the success of the Conference which I am preparing to attend, by earnest prayer on our behalf, and that I shall have a place in your supplications. If the Good Shepherd has more work for me to do in this Diocese—if I may be an instrument in His hands for furthering His purposes of mercy—He will bring me back in safety; and I beseech you to pray that, if I thus return unto you, I may come in the fulness of the blessing of the Gospel of Christ. Although I hope to derive much benefit from my visit to our mother country, and from my intercourse with many able and pious members of the Church of England, I shall anxiously expect tidings of my own flock by every mail, and shall very cheerfully return, if it be the Lord's will, when the period for which I must necessarily for various reasons be absent from you shall have elapsed.