

A CHARGE,

&c., &c.

MY REVEREND BRETHREN,

I feel deeply, more deeply than I can express, the solemn position which I occupy when in the discharge of my duty as a chief minister in the Church of God, I am called to counsel you upon subjects of the deepest interest and of vital importance. I would therefore seek an interest in your prayers, that the Great Head of the Church may be with me by His Spirit on this trying occasion, and may enable me to discharge this duty to the glory of His name and to the good of His Church.

When addressing you for the first time as your Diocesan, my mind naturally reverts to my predecessor in the Episcopal office—to him who, for so many years, presided over the Diocese of Toronto before its division. We who have long known him, and have learned to entertain for him a strong filial affection, must rejoice that, though this part of the Diocese has been removed from under his wise and energetic government, he still continues in the full enjoyment of his mental and bodily powers, to preside over that portion of the Diocese of Toronto which still remains under his Episcopal jurisdiction. We trust and pray that he may be long spared to discharge the duties of his office with the energy and firmness which have always characterized him, and that when his appointed time here is spent, and the silver cord is loosed, he may be found prepared, through the merits of Christ, to partake, with all the redeemed of God, of that Crown of Righteousness which the Lord the righteous judge will bestow upon all them that love his appearing.