

you do not require any further proofs that however much I may fail, through infirmity or errors of judgment, the great object of my life is to perform the duties devolving upon me so that the Church may not suffer loss, and that my administration of this diocese may redound to the glory of God, and conduce to your welfare and happiness.

In conclusion, permit me to commend to your notice, the advice of the Bishop of Vermont to the Clergy of the Church in the then United States: "Believe that he (your Bishop) cannot possibly have any interest in opposition to your own; that it is his earnest desire and prayer to see you all prosper in your labours, and that his highest earthly happiness must be found in your fraternal unity and concord. Advise and counsel him if you have occasion, and doubt not that he will receive it kindly, when it is done as it ought to be done, with the spirit of Christian tenderness. Strengthen his hands by your faithful support. Give no encouragement to party spirit nor to party movements. And you may rely on it, as a general rule, that your Bishop will respond with joy to your efforts; that in proportion as you desire to do nothing without his approbation, it will be his wish to do nothing without yours, and that you will realize in feeling and in fact the true design of that beautiful system, which is too often held, in our degenerate day, as an impracticable theory."