

cannot refrain from the pleasing duty of expressing to your Lordship the very cordial feelings of veneration and regard which we entertain for your Lordship personally, and also our grateful remembrance of the mild, considerate, and paternal manner in which you have exercised your Episcopal office among us.

While it is a subject of deep gratitude to Almighty God that the rapid growth of the Church in the Diocese of Toronto called for the extension of the Episcopate and the erection of a new Diocese; and while it must be gratifying to your Lordship, as it is to ourselves, to witness the success which has crowned your Episcopal labours, we are not insensible to the loss we sustain in being officially severed from your Lordship, and from our brethren of the clergy, with whom we have enjoyed fraternal intercourse for many years.

This feeling of regret is also somewhat deepened by the reflection that we parted at a time when the hands of the Bishop required all the strengthening and encouragement which a loyal, faithful, and affectionate clergy could impart.

Our earnest prayer is, that whatever may have recently cast a shadow on the Diocese may now for ever pass away, and that the declining years of your long, laborious and valuable life may be cheered by the happy spectacle of a united body of clergy and laity, forgetful of past dissensions, and all ready and desirous to labour together in harmony for the Church's good.

We rejoice in the consideration that the Diocese we represent is so closely united geographically, to the Diocese of Toronto, that we are not beyond the reach of personal intercourse and the interchange of acts of Christian sympathy - that the parent may witness the daughter's future happiness and prosperity, and the daughter feel that she can revisit the parental roof, and renew those feelings of attachment and veneration which no mere earthly claims can ever entirely exclude.

With earnest prayers for your Lordship's continued health and happiness, we remain your Lordship's faithful and affectionate servants.

(Signed) T. B. NIAGARA.

(Signed) D. I. F. MACLEOD, M.A., *Honorary Clerical Secretary.*

F. W. GATES, *Honorary Lay Secretary.*

The Lord Bishop replied in the following terms :—

"*My Dear Brethren*,—I receive with great pleasure the kind address which at your first meeting in Synod you decided upon presenting to me. The warmest words from me would fail to convey to you the sentiments of gratitude by which I am affected in receiving from you so affectionate a testimony to the happy relationship which subsisted between us for so many years.

"It is with deep regret that I have become separated from so many that have proved themselves wise counsellors and faithful friends; and I shall always remember with thankfulness their cordial sympathy with my efforts to promote the extension and prosperity of God's Church in the Diocese, the oversight of which, by His providence, was assigned to me.

"You allude, with a regret in which the Church at large will share, to the shadow upon our prospects which recent agitations have induced. I am reluctant to impute wilful blame to any; but believe it to be part of God's way to keep the Church on the one hand free from error and irregularity, and on the other to preserve it from lethargy and inaction. It is wise to accept and profit by admonition; and so, with a firm adherence to what we believe to be the general principles and incontrovertible claims of our beloved Church, let us endeavour to think charitably and speak kindly of those who may differ from us. This will best ensure the unity in purpose and concert in work which is the desire and prayer of us all.

"In regard to the ordinary dispensations of God's providence. I cannot expect to be spared many years longer for the exercise of an oversight which I have desired should be just as well as gentle and paternal; but declining years shall never, I trust, be allowed to impair my firm defence of the great truths which the Church of England maintains, nor restrain me from the honest proclamation of what I believe to be its spirit and its teaching.

"Nor shall the weakness or weariness consequent upon advancing age ever wilfully dim or diminish the ardour of the love I bear to the whole flock of Christ in