

First, the progress made towards the Division of the Diocese.

On the 16th January, 1856, assuming the certainty that such division must soon take place, I published a pastoral letter, recommending the establishment of an Episcopal Fund, and stating that the amount contributed within the limits of each See ought to form the endowment of its Bishop. The advantage of having commenced this fund at so early a period in facilitating our objects, is manifest from Sir William Molesworth's letter of 4th October, 1855, which is in a measure predicated on the fact that some such endowment would be forthcoming, of which he had perhaps learned something from his correspondence with the Provincial Government. He says:—"I am myself strongly of opinion that the desire of freedom of action, and self-government on behalf of the Church of England in Canada is just and reasonable, and as it appears to me, the division of the Diocese of Toronto is so much desired, that it may be very inconvenient to postpone it. I have to inform you that Her Majesty's Government are prepared to take the necessary steps for this purpose whenever required to do so, and that they will recommend to Her Majesty for appointment to the new Bishopric, such clergyman as you may designate to them after consulting the Bishop and such authorities of the Church of England in the colony as you may think advisable, and taking such precautions as to the sufficiency of the endowment as you may judge necessary." At first great exertions were made in both the proposed Dioceses in collecting their endowments. Yet even in London the spirit flagged a little for a time, owing to the delay of the Government in pronouncing definitely on the division of the Diocese, but it was revived with redoubled ardor on the receipt of Sir William Molesworth's encouraging despatch, and had amounted in December last to nearly £10,000, and by a recent report to £10,500 currency, well secured, and which the Governor-General has accepted in the meantime as sufficient to enable him to recommend a clergyman for appointment to the See, but with the clear and distinct understanding that it should, as soon as practicable, be increased to £12,500 currency, and if possible to £12,500 sterling; and I have little doubt but that in a short time this maximum in so rich a Diocese will be obtained and a suitable residence or see-house for the Bishop be erected.