

Taking as his text the 16th Verse of the 10th Chapter of S. Luke, Dr. Dumbell dealt with the subject of the Priesthood of the Church, and the injunction of obedience on the part of the people to their Pastors in all things spiritual. He said that often people regard too much the person of the Priest, and make too little of the Person of Christ, whom he represents. This is a mistake that has been made, by some, from the beginning, and it is referred to and rebuked by S. Paul. We hear, sometimes, of persons so weak and foolish as to abstain from the Sacraments, because they happen to have lost the presence or guidance of one whom they had esteemed, and of others who, on account of some trifling difference with their Pastor, have almost given up the practical duties of their religion. All this is building on a foundation other than Christ : it is not acting up to what we profess with our lips as to the perpetuity of His priesthood.

Then, referring to the special event of the evening, Dr. Dumbell said : "Dear people of S. Matthew's, it seems to me that you cannot thus look at things without deriving comfort, hope, and courage in circumstances such as those in which you find yourselves placed to-day. You are met here to receive and welcome a new Ruler (for that is the meaning of the word Rector) one in whom you have already learned to put trust and confidence ; for he is not a stranger to you : he has purchased to himself a good degree, and has shewn boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus." I congratulate you, therefore, with all my heart, and I am sure that we have all joined, and will persevere, in praying that God will work, and through this His Priest, that which is well-pleasing in His sight : that He will fill His servant's memory with the words of His law : that He will enlighten his understanding with the illumination of the Holy Ghost ; and that all the wishes and desires of his will may

centre in what the Lord his Master has commanded. Thus will he prove instrumental in promoting the Glory of God, and the welfare of the souls now committed to his charge.

Still, dear people of S. Matthew's, it would be worse than affectation were I to speak to you as though there were not another side ! Before the wise appointment that has been made could take place, you had to suffer a heavy loss : I might use the word *bereavement* ; but, was there not a cause ?

Yes : when it became necessary to nominate and elect a Rector, and to appoint a Dean of the Cathedral Church of this See City, the heart of the Diocese throbbed with anxiety. In more places than one the Holy Sacrifice was offered with the special intention of entreating Almighty God to guide, and fill with His grace, the minds of those with whom lay the huge responsibility of choice, above all, His Servant, our Chief Pastor. Always a firm believer in the efficacy of prayer, I am sure that the Lord has heard us now. The choice of Rector and Dean might have fallen upon some one else, under whose *régime* there might have been a partial (and that perhaps but temporary) revival and improvement, but there was no other man, in my humble judgement, who could have effected what I verily believe your late Pastor will be able to accomplish, with the result,—the happy blessed result,—of uniting all the Church-people in this ancient City.

By the ordering of God's Providence, by the voice of his Bishop, by the hidden movement of his own heart, and after seeking the direction and counsel of saintly men, your Pastor felt himself called to the work he is now about to take in hand. Were he a stranger, we might fear that he did not realize all the difficulties of that which he has undertaken ; but he well knows them all ! He can understand, better than any other living man, the exact position, and how