



Written for
THE CANADIAN MESSENGER.

A SHEPHERD OF SOULS.

NYBYGAMBA Diocese, always a difficult one to fill without giving offence either to the "Catholic" or to the Protestant party, was again about to become vacant ; and the Bishops of Gippsland, anxious to avoid an unseemly dispute, with all its attendant witnesses and sins against Christian charity, had decided to ask His Grace of Canterbury to nominate a man from "home," which was, for them, an easy and graceful way of evading a difficulty, but rather "rough," as the school-boys say, on the unfortunate primate, since, from whatever "school" he might select his nominee, he was infallibly certain to antagonize the adherents of every other.

As it happened, His Grace had had considerable experience of "schools of thought," and of the ways of those who belong to them. The best man, on this occasion, was, as it seemed to him, a man who belonged to no "particular school," but who might be fairly supposed to be favorable—or indifferent to each and all of them ; an episcopal Gallio, in fact. Not being able to find just such a man, he asked the one who seemed to come nearest to his ideal. The only question was, could he be induced to accept the honor offered to him.

The individual in question, the Reverend Theodore Johnson, was, at the time, Principal of Cranmer Hall, in the University of South Wales ; from which it might be that he