



AN ONTARIO FARM.

and the younger man, and this indeed continued till they both reached old age.

Great agitation continued in the whole colony regarding the Clergy Reserves, and the Archdeacon took a prominent part in it. The Government finally agreed to set apart a gross sum of £188,342 sterling for the benefit of those clergymen, who by their action were deprived of their livings. The clergy, to their lasting honor, consented to hand this over to the Church as an endowment for ever. This is what is known as the Commutation Fund,

and from the interest on it, of course, they received their accustomed stipend during their lives.

In 1857 the Diocese of Huron was set apart from Toronto, Dr. Bethune, and Dr. Cronyn, rector of London, being the clergymen designated by their respective friends for the position. The vote showed an almost equal clerical strength for each, but the lay vote gave a large preponderance in favor of Dr. Cronyn, who accordingly became first Bishop of Huron. The Diocese of Ontario was then formed and Dr. Lewis elected bishop. So matters continued till 1866 when the veteran first Bishop of Toronto became too feeble for his work and asked for a coadjutor. The Synod acceded to his request, though they had some difficulty in selecting the man for the position. The clergy were largely in favor of Provost Whitaker, of Trinity College, but the lay vote continued, ballot after ballot, adverse to him, till finally, through the Provost's own graceful request that no further votes should be cast for him, the Venerable Archdeacon Bethune was duly elected to the position. It was fitting in every respect that the pupil and life long friend and upholder of Bishop Strachan, should be his coadjutor in the Episcopate and probably there would have been but little hesitation on the part of the clergy were it not from the feeling that if elected coadjutor he would himself, being then sixty-six years of age, soon be too feeble to perform the hard work connected with such a diocese as that of Toronto. In the next year

Bishop Strachan was called to his rest and Dr. Bethune became Bishop of Toronto, a post which he held for about thirteen years. He attended the Pan-Anglican Synod at Lambeth in 1867, and again in 1878, but soon afterwards on February 3rd, 1879, passed quietly away, leaving the see of Toronto once more vacant.

A more gentle and quiet disposition could not well be found than that of the late Bishop Bethune. His life was that of the holiest and the best, and the constant scenes of strife and agitation through