

I am now able to look back upon the long term of thirty years spent amongst you. So lengthened a course of service must of necessity present much to depress as well as to gladden in the retrospect; but with such changing aspects in the long relationship between us, it is a ground for great thankfulness that you can address me as you have done this day: and that I can say that my own best wish and hope is, that this our relationship may long continue on unbroken and unimpaired.

In perfect sincerity I can assure you, that whatever deliberation or action for the general good of God's Church, in this land, may have arisen, and whatever changes affecting myself might follow from them, the thought and apprehension of being in consequence severed from you—from you, with whose spiritual interests I have been for a generation bound up,—was amongst the saddest and most trying to me.

But as I hold myself to be the public servant of the Church, as well as your devoted pastor, I must, when called upon by its deliberate voice to adopt a more enlarged, though it may be less congenial sphere of duty, relinquish even these endearing ties to fulfil that higher obligation.

Yet these are things hidden in God's providence; and meanwhile we must labour, mutually and faithfully, in what is plain and manifest as a duty. Earnestly do I trust that we may proceed henceforward with the peace, and be blessed with the prosperity which has hitherto marked our course; and that we may always be able, as we are now doing, to assure one another of our mutual love and confidence.

All blessings, my brethren, be with you and yours; and my prayer is, as my effort shall be, that, at the last day, you may be my "joy and crown of rejoicing."

A. N. BETHUNE.

Rectory, Cobourg.

A GRATIFYING TESTIMONIAL.

(From the Hamilton Banner.)

The Rev. Dr. McMurray, at present Rector of Niagara, and formerly of Dundas, was yesterday presented by his fellow townsmen in the latter place, with a very handsome service of plate, which was imported from England for the purpose, at a cost of some \$300. The interesting ceremony took place at Riley's Hotel, where several of the leading members of the Church had assembled to do honour to their late pastor. The following is the address accompanying the testimonial, and the Rev. Dr.'s reply will be found appended also:—

ADDRESS.

To the Rev. Dr. McMurray, D.D., & D.C.L.

REVEREND SIR,—On your removal to Niagara, in January last, a few of your friends have determined to mark the occasion by presenting you with a *souvenir* in testimony of the respect they entertained for you as a townsman, and of their deep regret at the severance of a daily intercourse extending with many of them over a period of nineteen years. For that purpose, Rev. Sir, we have invited you to meet us to-day—a re-union, brief though it will necessarily be, which we will look back upon with pleasure, as affording us the opportunity of cementing yet closer our ancient friendship, and of your name and your lengthened residence amongst us by a tangible memorial of our high regard.

In presenting you, then, Rev. Sir, with the Silver Tea Service now before us—the spontaneous gift of a few of your townsmen—permit us

to hope that, in the new field to which you have been called, in the new circle by which you are surrounded, and amidst the new friendships which your amiability and worth will doubtless create; that this, our offering, may occasionally recall to your memory pleasurable associations connected with your residence in Dundas, and the many warm admirers you have still there. Nor would we, in presenting you with this tribute of our esteem and regard, forget your amiable lady and family; the former endeared to us by her generous hospitality, the latter by being "to the manor born." May an allwise Providence long spare you to each other, and may happiness and contentment attend you ever.

Dundas, 26th August, 1857.

REPLY.

MY DEAR FRIENDS AND LATE FELLOW TOWNSMEN,—I thank you most heartily for the kind expression of regard contained in the too flattering address which you have just presented to me; and, also, for the elegant and costly service of plate with which it is accompanied.

It did not, I assure you, require any testimonial to keep alive in my remembrance the kindly feelings, which, I am fully sensible, you have invariably entertained towards me; for, I can safely say, that from the day I became a resident of your beautifully situated and thriving town, now more than thirteen years ago, to the day I left it, I have received nothing at your hands but the most marked and friendly consideration, both in health and in sickness, in joy and sorrow.

The severance of the daily intercourse between us, to which you have so indulgently alluded, and which I fear you have placed too high an estimate, so far as I am concerned, has not taken place without corresponding emotions of regret on my part; for had mine own inclinations been consulted, and my reasonable expectations been realized, that intercourse would still have been maintained, and would only have terminated when "the silver cord shall be loosed"—when the "golden bond shall be broken," and when "the dust shall return to the earth as it was, and the spirit unto that God who gave it."

You may rest assured, my dear friends, that whatever changes are before me—for this is at best a world of change and separation—that wherever my lot shall be cast, to whatever new field of labour in the Lord's vineyard I may hereafter, in the good providence of God, be called, neither you nor yours shall be forgotten, nor shall the recollection of the many hours and days and years, which we have passed so harmoniously together, and which have constituted the most pleasant period of my life, be ever obliterated from my mind. Your kind remembrance of Mrs. McMurray, and our family, who share most cordially with me in the sentiments I have ventured so freely to express, is particularly grateful, and will, I can assure you, more than compensate me for any little hospitality she may have had the privilege of extending to those for whom she entertains so high a regard.

May an all-bountiful Providence, my dear friends, reward you for the many acts of kindness and attention you have bestowed upon us, "seven fold into your own bosoms." May He shower down upon you and your families His choicest and richest blessings, both spiritual and temporal, and when the days of your sojourn here are over, when your probation has been brought to a close, when all our earthly labours, and cares, and joys, and sorrows shall cease, may He receive you into the outstretched arms of His mercy, for the sake of, and through the merits of Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God, who alone taketh away the sins of the world, is, and will continue to be,

the heartfelt and unfeigned prayer of, my dear friends.

Your sincere well-wisher,
And late fellow-townsman,
W. McMURRAY, D.D., & D.C.L.,
Rector of Niagara.

Dundas, August 26th, 1857.

THE APPOINTMENT OF BISHOP CRONYN.

(Scottish Ecclesiastical Journal.)

The appointment of a Bishop by the Clergy and Laity of a Synod, and not by a Minister of the Crown, is an important fact in the history of the Anglican Establishment and its Colonial branches. To what future results, with regard to the election of Bishops in England, it may pave the way, it is impossible for us to determine. It looks indeed like the dawn of a better day, and with the very first streak of light in the horizon we begin to lift up our heads, and to shake off the depression and the fears which have lain upon us in the darkness. But whatever, through the mercy of God, may be in store for the English Church, the fact of Dr. Cronyn's election to the See of Huron has a special bearing on our own position in Scotland, and may furnish an answer of no ordinary weight to the objections of those who put forward the non-appointment of our Bishops by the Crown as an insufferable obstacle to the recognition by the State of our full communion with the Established Church of England.

The tendencies of the English mind at the present day are essentially Erastian. The power of the State, and its paramount authority, have been pushed to an extreme which has almost destroyed the discipline, and threatens even now the very existence of the Church. The best remedy to apply in this case would undoubtedly be to put the appointment of Bishops on a more satisfactory footing. Prime Ministers are not the persons to advise the Sovereign in such a case. And now that the Confirmations at Bow Church have been proved to be a mere empty formality, it becomes more and more the duty of faithful Christians to pray and to labour that the power which the Ministry of the Crown has usurped may be wrested out of its hands. We look upon this as the very first step to be taken in order to reconstruct the relations of Church and State, which cannot long remain as they are. An important blow has been struck at this stronghold of Erastianism by the nomination of Dr. Cronyn in a free Synod to the Episcopate, and the subsequent confirmation of his election on the part of the Crown. May the day soon come when this mode of procedure, either in the vacancy of a See, or in the formation of a new Diocese, may be the rule and not the exception. In the meantime let Scotch Churchmen recognize and be thankful for the acquisition of this new argument in favour of the perfect compatibility of our unfettered Episcopal elections with the recognition of us by the Crown. Both the Church of England and our own Church will thus be gainers by this important precedent. It may be worthy of remark that this advantage has been secured to the new Diocese mainly through the exertions and influence of a Scotchman, the present Bishop of Toronto. It may thus be that the Scottish Church, whose example his Lordship cannot fail to have had before his mind, has in one sense been instrumental in bringing about this happy result: and that to her faithful witness to the Truth may, in part at least, be attributed the inauguration of a new era in the Ecclesiastical History of Anglicanism, even as it was to her that North America owed her first Apostle.