

THE ARCHDEACON'S REPLY,

MY DEAR FRIENDS,

That my heart should be full on this interesting occasion is natural.

Such a memorial of your affection and respect brings back in a stream of joy the days of your education at Cornwall; a period, doubtless, of great anxiety, but, from the large promise which you then exhibited, of far greater satisfaction.

The feelings of ardent friendship which you manifested for one another when about to separate, and which produced a solemn pledge of your determination to apply the knowledge and high principles which you had acquired in promoting the good of society, come forcibly to my mind at this happy moment, when, I can most truly affirm, that the pledge so nobly given has been more than redeemed.

As you never ceased, during the long period which has elapsed since our relation of Teacher and Scholar was dissolved, frequent as it has been with so many vicissitudes, to reflect with gratitude on my humble endeavours to cultivate your minds, strengthen your understandings, and implant in your heart those principles which alone can make us good Christians, faithful subjects, and upright members of society; I may with honest pride declare, that during the same period my happiness has been greatly increased by witnessing from year to year the pleasing and encouraging results which attended your progress in the busy world.

Have I not beheld you rising to eminence in your several professions, gaining the confidence of all around you, looked up to in the societies in which you move, and quoted as examples to the rising generation? In this province you are filling the highest situations with an advantage to the community, which is universally acknowledged. In Lower Canada, in England, and wherever you have gone, you have won the highest favour and distinction.

Surely I have great cause to bless that kind Providence which, notwithstanding my numerous deficiencies, has graciously made me the instrument of planting those sentiments and virtues in your bosoms which, fostered by your diligent care, are now yielding fruits so precious and abundant.

That I should cherish a deep and unwearied interest, not only in your advancement in learning and science, but in all that concerned your happiness, and could effect your future prospects in life, was certainly to be expected, for I was strongly impressed