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Ecclesiastical Intelligence.

CANADA

DIOCESE OF TORONTO.

THE CHURCH UNIVERSITY OF CANADA WEST.

A meeting of the Corporation of Trinity College was held on Wednesday, August 8th, 1860. Present.—The Hon. and Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Toronto, the Hon. Sir John Beverley Robinson, Bart., Chancellor of the University; the Rev. the Provost of Trinity College; Professor Bovell, M.D.; the Ven. A. N. Bethune, D.D., D.C.L., Archdeacon of York; the Hon. G. W. Allan; Lewis Moffat, Esq.; the Hon. Mr. Vice-Chancellor Spragge; James M. Strachan, Esq.; the Hon. Sir Allan Napier MacNab, Bart.; Samuel Beckerton Harman, B.C.L.; the Hon. John Hillyard Cameron, D.C.L.; the Rev. T. B. Fuller, D.D., D.C.L.; the Rev. S. Givens.

The following minute was unanimously adopted.—The Corporation of Trinity College have had their attention directed to a Pastoral, addressed by the Lord Bishop of Huron, to the clergy and laity of his diocese, in reply to a statement put forth by them, bearing date June 20th, 1860.

In this Pastoral, the Bishop of Huron asserts that the Corporation have made "many mis-statements" in the document put forth by them.

He first says, "no report of resolutions of committee was transmitted to me," intending, as it would seem, to impugn the assertion of the Corporation that the statute, which the Bishop of Huron publicly objected in his Synod, was transmitted to him "with the rest of the report of the committee." The Corporation see no cause to retract their assertion that this report was transmitted to the Bishop of Huron. Not only was it the avowed determination of the Corporation to send the document to his Lordship, but the Corporation is satisfied that it was sent, although they admit that the transmission of the document does not necessarily imply its reception by His Lordship, if indeed this be the fact he intends to deny, when he says that "no report of resolutions of committee was transmitted to him." The simple question is, Did the Bishop of Huron, or did he not, receive, some days before the meeting, a paper containing a report of the committee on the statutes which were proposed and adopted at the meeting. If not, where did he procure the copy which he used at the meeting of the Corporation? The Corporation put this enquiry deliberately and advisedly.

The Bishop of Huron next states that, being thus in the dark as to the important business which was to be transacted, and being naturally anxious to be informed on so grave a subject, he "enquired of the Rev. H. J. Grasett what the business was." The official summons from the Bursar was, according to the Bishop's statement, the only invitation which he received to be present at Toronto on the 24th of February. He has evidently overlooked the following letter, addressed to him, on the 18th, by the Bishop of Toronto:—

TORONTO, 18th February, 1859.

MY DEAR LORD,—We have been attempting for some time to make such modifications in the rules and regulations for the government of Trinity College, as your Lordship's accession to a share in the management would seem to require. But the difficulty of getting a full meeting of the Corporation, owing to the frequent absence of the Chancellor, Sir John B. Robinson, and the Hon. John Hillyard Cameron, has occasioned unavoidable delay.

We have now, however, agreed to a draft of the few changes that are thought necessary, and we propose to assemble in the council chamber of Trinity, on Thursday, the 24th instant, at three o'clock, p.m., for their final consideration in view to their adoption.

In requesting your Lordship to take your place in the Corporation on this occasion, I may truthfully observe that Trinity College is, and was from the first, intended by all parties favourable to its establishment, to be the Church University of the Province of Upper Canada. Hence the provision in the charter, enabling the Bishops to meet for the management of its concerns, on the footing of perfect equality.

To secure this important object, we obtained the munificent patronage of the Society P. G. F. P., a permanent endowment,

and frequent pecuniary donations. To the same cause we owe likewise the liberal grants of the Society P. C. K., and the cordial support of the members of our beloved Church, not only in England, but likewise throughout the Province and in the United States.

I still hope to see the three Bishops in their seats as heads and conservators of the institution, and working cordially together in promoting its effectiveness, and extending its blessings through the colony.

If not inconvenient to your Lordship, I would respectfully suggest that it might be of advantage for us to meet the Chancellor, Sir John B. Robinson, Bart., and the Hon. John Hillyard Cameron, in his office, at ten or eleven o'clock, a.m., on Thursday the 24th, the day of meeting, to talk over the business to come before the Corporation in the afternoon, and should any amendments occur they may still be adopted, and thus secure a pleasant unity in our proceedings.—I remain, my dear Lord, yours faithfully,

JOHN TORONTO.

THE RIGHT REV. THE LORD BISHOP OF HURON.

Of this letter his Lordship says nothing; yet, strange to say, on arriving in Toronto he acted upon it. He did, at the time appointed, present himself at Mr. Cameron's office, and thence go to the residence of the Bishop of Toronto. After consulting with him, he returned to Mr. Cameron and informed him that, having soon the Bishop of Toronto, he had agreed with him respecting the Report of the Committee on Statutes, except in a few unimportant particulars, which he thought would create no difficulty at the meeting.

The Corporation cannot conceive that this understanding with the Bishop of Toronto could have been arrived at, in the absence of any written document in the hand of either party, or at a casual meeting which might properly be described in the terms which the Bishop of Huron employs when he says—"I saw the Bishop of Toronto only for a few minutes that morning."

The Bishop of Huron next demurs to the assertion that "he accompanied the Bishop of Toronto to the meeting of the Corporation." If these words necessarily imply more than that the Bishops presented themselves to the meeting together, the Corporation willingly withdraw them, together with any imputation which the Bishop of Huron may suppose them to convey.

At the opening of the business of the meeting the Bishop of Toronto spoke to this effect.—"I am happy to inform the gentlemen present that the Bishop of Huron and myself are of one mind respecting the statutes now to be proposed for adoption; the Bishop has one or two unimportant amendments to suggest, which I trust the Corporation will adopt." The Bishop of Huron sat by and assented to this statement. The Corporation consider it impossible that, if some new statute, of which the Bishop of Huron had never heard, had been brought forward for adoption, and brought forward as forming a part of the body of the statutes respecting which he had consulted with the Bishop of Toronto, (and in this way they affirm that it must have been brought forward, if it was brought forward at all), he should not have uttered one single syllable of remonstrance or surprise.

As for the opposition offered to the statute at the time, not as introduced by surprise, but on its proper merits, the recollection of all present would show that the Bishop of Huron took no exception against the vesting of a discretionary power in the Chancellor, but merely offered some suggestions respecting details, which he by no means pressed, and that he certainly left on the minds of all present an impression as to his feeling respecting the statute, directly opposed to that which his Pastoral Letter would convey.

The Corporation would desire to make every reasonable allowance for the imperfect recollection of circumstances long past, of which no written record remains, but they owe it to themselves to declare that they see no reason to retract any assertion which they have put forth, and that they believe that if the Bishop of Huron had fairly availed himself of the proper means of recalling the occurrences of that time, he could not have impugned their assertions as he has thought proper to do.

The Corporation, however, proceed to notice one or two statements of the Bishop of Huron, which they confess have greatly surprised them; and though, in any personal controversy, they would gladly have foreborne to point out so particularly, as they will now proceed to do, the just grounds of their surprise; yet in vindicating an important institution, in which the Church of Eng-