

## THE BISHOP'S TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY.

At a meeting of the Sidesmen, and such other members of the Congregation as could be reached by a very short verbal notice, and very well attended, it was decided to present the Bishop with an address on the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of his consecration as Bishop of Toronto; and it was also determined to mark the occasion by a gift from the Congregation to the Cathedral Chapter of a portrait of his Lordship. A committee was named to carry the decision of the meeting into effect.

Sunday 1st May being the date of the Anniversary, the Bishop preached in the morning, describing the great progress the Church in this Diocese has made during the past quarter of a century, and shewing the present satisfactory state of the Church as compared with the unhappy conditions which prevailed twenty-five years ago, the tone of the sermon being one of thankfulness to God for the blessings which He has bestowed upon the Church and Diocese. In the evening Canon Macnab preached, choosing his text from the lesson for the day, Zech. iv., 8, 9, pointing out the remarkable similarity between the experience of Zerubbabel in building the Temple at Jerusalem and that of the Bishop in building a Diocesan Cathedral. At the close of the evening service, the Sidesmen, accompanied by such of the lay members of the Chapter as were present, went to the gates of the Sanctuary and there presented the following address, which was read by Mr. Hall.

### Cathedral of St. Alban the Martyr, Toronto.

Festival of S. Philip and S. James, 1904.

To the Right Reverend Father in God, Arthur Lord Bishop of Toronto.

MY LORD:

This day being the twenty-fifth anniversary of your Lordship's consecration as Bishop of the Diocese of Toronto, we the congregation of worshippers in this Cathedral desire to present to your Lordship our hearty felicitations on the occasion, for it is not given to many men to bear the burdens of so onerous a position, and with unabated zeal to fulfil the responsibilities of so exalted an office, for such a long period as that which this day completes. Nevertheless the day is not yet spent, and we feel that there is good reason to warrant our offering to your Lordship the assurance of our hope that you may continue in that High and Holy Office for many years to come.

Our hearts are full of thankfulness to Almighty God for the prosperity and progress of the Church in this Diocese during the past twenty-five years, and of prayer that God may be pleased to further bless and prosper His Holy Church under a continuance of your Lordship's administration.

We are fully aware that this administration has been, and is, no easy matter, and we understand something of the trials and difficulties which you have been called upon to meet in carrying on the work of the Diocese, and more particularly in the founding of this Cathedral of S. Alban the Martyr for the furtherance of Christ's Kingdom, and the better equipment of His Church, and we fully appreciate the steadfastness of purpose with which you have maintained this great undertaking in spite of discouragements and disappointments by which it would have been overwhelmed had it not been undertaken with the full conviction that it is a work for the Glory of God, and the advancement of His Church, and had it not been carried on with the courage and determination inspired by such conviction.

For ourselves we desire to express our appreciation of the great privilege which we enjoy in participating in the services regularly held in this House of Worship, beautiful as they are in their rendering and devotional in their spirit, notwithstanding the narrow limits which are unavoidably caused by the incompleteness of the edifice.

Some of us can look back to the day when those services were begun in the side aisle of the Crypt, while others had part in the next stage of their development; both of these now unite with those who have joined us in later periods, and all thankfully note the happy relations which from those early days have without interruption subsisted between Your Lordship and us who have been more immediately under your Ministry than any other body of worshippers in this Diocese, and we earnestly pray that the same may be of long continuance.

Permit us to extend to Mrs. Sweetman also an expression of the high esteem in which she is held by the members of this Congregation, and our best wishes for her happiness during the years to come.

It is our desire to mark this occasion by the gift to the Cathedral Chapter of a portrait of your Lordship in Episcopal robes, to be placed in the Chapter House.

Concluding with prayers to the Great Shepherd and Bishop of our Souls for the spiritual and temporal welfare of your Lordship, and those who are dear to you.

The Bishop in his reply, explained the reasons why he had felt it to be his duty to the Church to prosecute the work contemplated by his predecessors, of building and establishing a Cathedral, and briefly spoke of the encouragement and support which his plans had at first received, and the great difficulties which had subsequently arisen. Reference was made to some things in which the experience of the years now past fully justified his anticipations, which had seemed to be in advance of opinions generally entertained, and also to some of his plans which, in spite of hindrances, had realised some measure of success.

On Monday 2nd May, the Masters and pupils of the Cathedral School presented an address to the Bishop, who in replying stated the School was a part of the Cathedral scheme especially dear to him, and the success of which afforded him the utmost gratification.

The Bishop has received, from a number of laymen of Toronto, the gift of a costly and valuable gold watch, presented to him at the Synod Office by the donors, headed by the Hon. S. H. Blake. The contributions sent in for this gift reached so large a sum (of which the excess was handed to his Lordship) that it might well have been described as the gift of a substantial purse accompanied by a gold watch.

The Bishop, at Easter, on a request from the Sidesmen, appointed three more members of that body.

It is with much regret that we note the departure from Toronto of Mr. Stanger, who has been one of the Sidesmen and a useful and valued worker in the congregation.

### CALENDAR.

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| May | 1.        | Sunday, 4th after Easter<br><i>Ss. Philip and James, Apostles and Martyrs</i> |
|     | 8.        | Sunday, 5th after Easter  |
|     | 12.       | Thursday, Ascension Day   |
|     | 15.       | Sunday after Ascension  |
|     | 22.       | Sunday, Whitsun Day   |
|     | 23.       | Whit-Monday   |
|     | 24.       | Whit-Tuesday  |
|     | 25 to 28. | Ember Days  |
|     | 29.       | Trinity Sunday  |