

THE IRISH CHURCH.

DUBLIN, TUESDAY, NOV. 2.—To-day his Grace the Archbishop of Dublin held a visitation of the clergy of the Diocese of Dublin, in Christ Church Cathedral. The visitation was preceded by Divine service.

The following members of the Chapter were present in their surplices :—The Archdeacon of Dublin, the Archdeacon of Glendalough, Rev. Canon Ryder, sub-dean ; Rev. Dr. Monahan, precentor ; Rev. Dr. Marrable, treasurer ; Rev. Cannons Greene, Hamilton, Galbraith, Wynne, Bagot, Morgan, Jellet, Russell, and Staveley. There was a large attendance of the general clergy. After Divine service,

HIS GRACE delivered a charge, in which he said—Reverend and dear brethren, in prospect of the delivery of my present address, I have considered it my duty to study carefully the charges delivered by my honored and beloved predecessor during his lengthened episcopate. And deeply thankful do I feel that I undertook the task. The retrospect presented by that interval of dangerous transition, when, amid painful anxieties, restless misgivings, and heated controversies, order was seen gradually emerging out of chaos, furnished in itself a study full of interest and suggestive of lessons too. The feature in this record of the past which, as I studied my predecessor's charges, impressed itself most strongly upon my mind, and which I desire especially to mention this day, was the noble bearing of the late Archbishop in the midst of those perilous and troublous times.

DANGERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

Brethren, a time may be coming when the love which each one of us bears to our Church may be put to the test. It is true, as I have said, that, from the special dangers which threatened us during the last fifteen years of my predecessor's episcopate, we are now comparatively safe ; but an ordeal of an entirely different character may be before us in the future, and it is well that we should contemplate such a possibility, and prepare to meet it. The ordeal of the past consisted in a subversal of the external constitution of our Church. Her outward fabric was laid suddenly in ruins, and we had to build it up anew. Christian fidelity was needed, in order that we might not, while so doing, endanger her essential foundations, or allow the superstructure to deviate from the ancient model. Christian unity was needed, in order that we might not, in the hour of disheartenment and confusion, break away one from another, and form separate camps. Through God's mercy, our fidelity and our unity stood the test, and as regards soundness in the faith and unity amongst ourselves, our Church may now, thank God, compare, as I verily believe, with any Church in Christendom. But the ordeal that may possibly await us in the future differs, as I have said, from that through which we have just passed. If it comes, it will meet us from without, rather than from within. It will threaten the political and social fabric of our country rather than the doctrine or the integrity of our Church. It is indeed well, when going forth to meet this danger,