

We would by no means presume to intrude on the sanctity of domestic sorrow, or to offer unavailing consolations under a grief, which He who has caused it can alone effectually alleviate; but we trust that we may be permitted to bear willing and grateful testimony to the estimable character of one who was known and honored far beyond the sphere of his private or parochial duties.

The official position of our lamented friend and brother gave him an influence which was steadily and zealously exerted for the general benefit of the Church, and more especially for the promotion of the objects of this Society; while his sound principles, his mature judgment, and his diligent research, enabled him to render most important service as a member of the deliberative assembly of the Diocese.

We are persuaded, moreover, that, in proportion as Mr. Blake was more intimately known, he was more highly appreciated; and that by none among us is his loss so keenly felt, and so justly deplored, as by the Clergy and Laity of the Home District.

Our recollection of the Christian virtues and eminent services of the departed, while it deepens our sense of the loss which we have sustained, must however console and cheer us when we think, not of ourselves, but of him. The Christian man, the Christian Minister, whose place is indeed felt to be void when he is taken from us, is one with whose memory we may most hopefully associate the noble confession of the blessed Apostle St. Paul. "To me to live is Christ, and to die is gain."

May Almighty God vouchsafe to those, whom this sorrow has touched more nearly, the Christian hope and fortitude which may enable them to utter from their hearts even now the solemn and consolatory words, in which we are taught to "bless God's Holy Name, for all His servants departed this life in His faith and fear," and may He give us all grace so to follow their good examples, that with them we may be partakers of His heavenly Kingdom.

Signed on behalf of the Society,

JOHN TORONTO.

The following note has been received from Mrs. Blake.

THORNHILL, July 22nd, 1859.

MR. LORD,—I have read with feelings of the deepest gratitude, the address presented to me by the members of the Church Society of this Diocese, and signed by your Lordship on their behalf.

Under the deep affliction with which it has pleased Almighty God to visit us, human help can avail little, but this address, so full of Christian kindness and sympathy, has been a great consolation to me, because knowing how my beloved husband strove to promote the interests of the Church Society, which he regarded as the interests of the Church, I feel sure that the affectionate remembrance of those with whom it was his privilege and pleasure to labour, was an object very dear to his heart.

We are enabled to believe that our loss is his great gain, for we humbly trust that he reposes even now on the bosom of his God through the merits of that Saviour, who loved him, and gave himself for him, and we pray earnestly that the Spirit of God, which alone can do it, may enable us all to bow with patient submission to his holy will.

I remain, my Lord, your Lordship's obliged and very grateful Servant,

LOUISA BLAKE.

The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Toronto.

TRINITY COLLEGE,

Toronto, July 2nd, 1859.

The Corporation of Trinity College, avail themselves of the occasion presented by their first meeting, since the melancholy event which occurred on Wednesday last, within the walls of the College, to express the warmest sympathy with the family of the late Rev. D. E. Blake, under the sudden and painful bereavement with which they have been visited.

The high esteem in which their lamented relative was held in his official character will be more appropriately and adequately recognized by those to whom he was so widely and so honourably known in the Dioceses of Toronto and Huron. The Corporation would rather restrict itself to an acknowledgment of his more private virtues, as a tried and valued friend, and to an avowal of the deep emotion which has necessarily been awakened within their minds by the circumstances under which it pleased Almighty God to call him to his rest.

THORNHILL, July 22nd, 1859.

SIR,—I have delayed too long to acknowledge the letter of condolence from the Corporation of Trinity College, which you were so good as to forward to me, but those who have so kindly remembered me in my affliction, will best know how to excuse my neglect.

Under such a trial, our consolation must come from above, but to know that the beloved Husband and Father whose loss we deplore lives in the memory of so many kind friends who sympathise with us for his sake, is a great alleviation of our misery, and we beg most gratefully to thank the Corporation of Trinity College for the kindness which prompted their address.

I remain Sir, your obliged and

Your obedient Servant,

LOUISA BLAKE.

To Charles Magrath, Esq., Bursar and Secretary, Trinity College.

In connexion with the above the following sketch will be read with interest.

The late lamented Rev. D. E. Blake, A.M., T. C. D., was son to the Rev. Dom. Edward Blake, Rector of the united parishes of Kiltogan and Kilianelagh, in the County of Wicklow and of Toughbrickland, in the County of Monaghan, Ireland. He received his early education at the select Classical School of the Rev. Joseph Townsend, County of Kilkenny. He lost his Father, a valued and distinguished Clergyman, at the early age of fifteen; he then removed with his mother and family to the City of Dublin, where he pursued his studies with an assiduity and demeanour becoming the sacred office to which he aspired. He matriculated in Trinity College in his seventeenth year, and through his university course enjoyed the special friendship of his distinguished Tutor, Dr. Singer, the present excellent and eminent Bishop of Meath. He obtained during his undergraduate course, collegiate honors both in Science and Classics, as also a theological prize. On reaching the prescribed age, three and twenty, he entered into Holy Orders, being ordained and presented with a curacy in the County of Mayo, by the Archbishop of Tuam. He married the daughter of Major Jones of the same County, and having exercised his ministry in Ireland about two years, he with his family, his valued mother, sisters, and only brother, the present Chancellor of Upper Canada, and some other connexions, emigrated to this colony. Immediately on arriving in the country, in the year 1832, he was appointed to the mission of Adelaide, by Dr. Stewart, then Bishop of Quebec. The section of country in which he was placed was newly opened for location, and his contemporaries

in the scenes and circumstances of that period, with many witnesses to the poverty and hardships endured by vast numbers of those amongst whom he ministered, can bear testimony to the offices of charity and devotion by which Mr. Blake was characterised. The writer of this brief sketch of his early ministrations remembers an instance of an individual in another parish who pleaded as a reason why it was not incumbent on him to contribute to the income of his Clergyman, that he had been to Adelaide, and that the Rev. Mr. Blake not only did not ask any thing from his people but that he was constantly contributing to their relief, and gratuitously distributing books and tracts amongst them. He continued in the mission of Adelaide for twelve years, when the present reverend and indefatigable Bishop of Toronto, transferred him to the rectory of Thornhill. Dr. Strachan, with his well understood knowledge of character, discerned in the deceased a man qualified to fill a more prominent situation, one whose clear perception on abstract subjects, and administrative ability in Ecclesiastical matters, claimed for him and for the Church's interests, a position close to the seat of authority, and the head quarter institutions of the Diocese. Those with whom he co-operated in the labours of the Church Society, as well as other business matters of the Diocese of Toronto, and more especially the Diocesan who presided over them, will remember the assiduity with which he gave himself to these works and labours of love, and the ability he displayed on various subjects and many occasions. Those who have heard and read his reports and addresses at meetings of his parochial Church Society, cannot readily forget the information they conveyed, and the impression they invariably produced. His productions indicated that with intellect in exercise, his heart felt the importance of the subjects before him, and by their publication at the time, many valuable documents are secured to his brethren and the Church Society.

Soon after his promotion to the rectory of Thornhill, he was appointed by the Lord Bishop of the Diocese, Rural Dean of the Home District. The clergy of the deanery cheerfully acknowledge the courtesy with which he conducted his official duties amongst them, and his Bishop, with a grace worthy of his high position, recognised the faithful services of a presbyter whom he honoured with his confidence.

It is without even a remote desire to invidious comparison that we name the circumstance that on the ballot for deputies to the provincial Synod at the late meeting of the Synod of Toronto, Mr. Blake obtained a majority of votes. This signal mark of the confidence of a whole diocese, furnishes ample testimony to the estimation in which he was held. The public are already in possession of the circumstances connected with Mr. Blake's lamented decease, its suddenness, its solemnity; but notwithstanding the grief it occasioned, to the honour of his memory, a reminiscence grateful to his friends, he died at his post! The eventful summons reached him as he stood pleading the interests of a noble cause, advocating a sacred object—the weal of our Church University.

COLLECTIONS UP TO JULY 23RD, 1859.

Collections appointed to be taken up in the several churches, chapels and missionary stations in the Diocese of Toronto, in the month of July, in behalf of the Mission Fund of the Church Society.

MISSION FUND.

Previously announced \$ 20.12