

money so greatly prevails in the churches and in the world.—*Presbyterian of the West.*

Ecclesiastical.

DIOCESE OF MONTREAL.

ORDINATION.—On Sunday 17th April, the Lord Bishop of Montreal held an Ordination in Christ's Church Cathedral, when the Rev. John Alexander Morris, Assistant Minister in the Cathedral, was admitted to the Holy Order of Priesthood—and Frederick Wilson and James Alexander McLeod, Divinity Students of Bishop's College, Lennoxville, were admitted to the Holy Order of Deacon. The prayers were said by the Rector of Montreal; the lessons were read by the Rev. W. T. Leach, D. C. L.; and an excellent sermon was preached by the Rev. James Reid, Rector of St. Armand East. The Rev. Principal Nicolls, of Bishop's College, Lennoxville, and the Rev. J. Irwin, incumbent of St. Thomas' District in this Parish, also took a part in the solemn services.

The Lord Bishop has been pleased to appoint the Rev. John Bethune, D. D., Rector of Montreal, to be his Commissary, to transact any necessary official business during his Lordship's absence from his Diocese. A large number of gentlemen were in attendance, at the Lachine Railway Depot, on Monday, to bid his Lordship farewell, before starting on his journey to England. His Lordship and family embarked at New York on the 20th April.

After the meeting of the Central Board, the following Address was presented to the Lord Bishop, from the Clergy.

To the Right Reverend Francis Fulford, D. D., Lord Bishop of Montreal.

We, the Clergy of the Diocese of Montreal, cannot allow your Lordship to part from us for a season without offering to you, as our venerated Diocesan, the expression of our deep sense of the invaluable service the Church under your episcopal charge has derived from your unwearied diligence, sound judgment, and gentle but firm exercise of a Godly and wholesome discipline.

When your Lordship, in the gracious Providence of God, came amongst us, we were deeply conscious that, owing to a peculiar combination of circumstances, the charge committed to your superintendence was one of no ordinary delicacy and responsibility; and although we are sensible that much of the difficulty of your position may be traced to ourselves, encompassed as we are with infirmities of one kind or another, we trust that your Lordship has experienced at our hands generally, apart from our due allegiance to the authority of your office, that deference and co-operation which your mild rule, Christian toleration, and zealous activity demanded at our hands, and which we dutifully tendered on your arrival in the Diocese.

We beg to assure your Lordship that, so far as is consistent with an enlightened conscience, and with that independence of thought and action (within its proper limits) which we believe to be the inalienable privilege of every faithful Minister of the Church of Christ, our earnest effort and desire have been to meet your wishes as our Diocesan, and to promote such measures as your wisdom and experience have presented for our consideration.

We congratulate your Lordship on the manifestly improved tone of feeling amongst the Members of the Church in the Diocese, and we cannot but trace this, under God, in a great measure to that toleration of opinion and urbanity of manner evidenced by your Lordship on all occasions, giving us thus an example of that temper so conspicuous in the Great Apostle of the Gentiles, who while uncompromising in the maintenance of "the truth as it is in Jesus," became "in all matters of comparative indifference, all things to all men if by any means he might win" some precious souls to Christ.

With this expression of our dutiful respect to your Lordship, we would with the utmost deference tender to Mrs. Fulford our grateful thanks for that winning kindness and liberal hospitality we have so uniformly received from her.

And now, my Lord, in the prospect of this temporary separation, be asured, that our feeble but earnest prayers, shall continually ascend to the Great Shepherd of the Sheep and Bishop of the Church, that he may be your "Sun and Shield" and that His Gracious presence may accompany you and yours in all places whithersoever you go;—May a large effusion of the Holy Spirit be vouchsafed unto you in these Councils for the welfare of the Colonial Church in which you will be called on to take a part—May the result of those deliberations prove that God has indeed been present;—and may He graciously restore you to us, renewed in bodily vigour, refreshed in spirit, and strengthened mightily in the inner man, to meet those trials which the "signs of the times" indicate that the Ministers of Christ at large, but especially the leaders in the armies of Israel, will have shortly to undergo, and to achieve those triumphs assuredly promised to the faithful Soldiers of the Cross.

JOHN BETHUNE, D. D.,
Rector of Montreal,
and 43 others.

[REPLY.]

REV. AND DEAR BRETHREN,—I beg to assure you that I am most grateful for the expression of kind feelings contained in the address you have presented to me from the Clergy of this Diocese.

It has been my earnest desire, since I came to this country (imperfectly as any have succeeded,) to discharge faithfully the duties of the High Office to which it has pleased God to call me. But respecting the state and prospects of the Church, I will not at present detain you with any detailed remark, as I have taken occasion to enter upon that subject more fully than I could conveniently do now, in a Pastoral letter, which I hope to send to all the clergy previously to my leaving Montreal for England.

I cannot, however, have been resident amongst you for nearly three years without having become fully alive to all the difficulties that surround us in the discharge of our several duties, or without being convinced how important it is, that we should, as Ministers of Christ, be found faithful, and stand steadfast in one spirit and one mind, striving together for the faith of the Gospel.

That we may be enabled to act more consistently and heartily as Members of the same Spiritual Body, it has been as you well know, my anxious desire that the Church should be provided with some effectual means for the administration of her Internal System. While, under existing circumstances, so much has been left to the individual discretion and judgement of the Bishop, I trust that I have never wished to interfere with that true "independence of thought and action, which every faithful Minister of the Church of Christ may justly claim as his inalienable privilege." But I shall always require (to quote the words of the Minutes of Conference of Bishops at Quebec) that while we acknowledge it to be the bounden duty of ourselves and our Clergy, by God's Grace assisting us, in our several stations "to do the work of good Evangelists," yet, we must remember that we have most solemnly pledged ourselves to fulfil this duty of our Ministry according to the Doctrine and discipline of the Church of England.

If we all bear this in mind, and, faithful to these convictions, strive in a simple and childlike spirit to fulfil these our obligations with charity and forbearance amongst ourselves and towards those that are without, then may we expect that a blessing will rest upon our Zion: that out of weakness it shall be made strong, and we ourselves, "giving no offence in any thing, that the Ministry be not blamed," may hope that in us after our measure shall be fulfilled the words of St. Paul,—"in all things approving ourselves as the ministers of God; by honor and dishonor, by evil report and good report, as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing, as poor, yet making many rich, as having nothing, and yet possessing all things." I will only express my sincere thanks for the personal respect and attention which I have so largely experienced from my clergy; and also for your kind mention of Mrs. Fulford, who has always been anxious, as far as she was able, to identify herself with everything that could conduce to the well being of the church, or promote the interests of the clergy. In conclusion, I commend you, and all belonging to you, to God's gracious keeping. Though for a short space absent in body, I shall, I trust, be ever present with you in spirit; and hope soon, if it be God's will, to be restored to you, to resume my duties as Chief Pastor of the Church in this Diocese, and to unite in all those good works for the promotion of His glory and the salvation of men which He "shall have prepared for us to walk in."

I remain, my dear brethren,
Your faithful servant in Christ,
F. MONTREAL.

Previously to his Lordship's leaving Montreal an Address was also presented by the laity of the Church in that city.

DIVISION OF THE DIOCESE.

We have been long expecting to hear of some decided action being taken on this most loudly called for measure. If, as we believe it to be, Episcopacy be of Divine institution, it must be essential to the well being of our Church that the principle be fully carried out. This cannot be done unless each Diocese be small enough to allow its Bishop to exercise his office in every parish, in such a manner as must convince all that Episcopacy is a real, vital, effective, and beneficial institution. This would require probably four Bishops in Canada West. With the funds that there is any probability of being able to procure for this purpose, the income of each Bishop would have to be limited to £600 per annum. This would be sufficient however for men who were willing to undertake the office as one of great spiritual responsibility rather than of temporal aggrandizement. In order strongly to mark this distinction, we should be glad if all future Colonial Bishops would decline the empty, and in this country, inconsistent, absurd and mischievous title of Lord. A lordly title seems to involve the necessity of a lordly income, and thus we lose the benefit of the spiritual office, for want of a sufficient number of Bishops. Our venerable and indefatigable Diocesan brought the absolute necessity of a division of this Diocese before the authorities some time ago, but with apparently no effect. We are glad to see that he has again pressed a subject of such vital importance in the following powerfully argued letter, addressed to the Rev. E. Hawkins, B. D.—*Port Hope Echo.*

Toronto, Canada, 5th February, 1853.

Rev. Sir:—On the 5th of October, 1850, I had the honour to address a memorial through you, to the most Reverend and Right Reverend, the Archbishops and Bishops forming the Council appointed to arrange measures in concert with Her Majesty's Government for the erection and endowment of additional Bishops. Not being aware that any proceedings have been taken towards the accomplishment of the object prayed

for in the memorial, I feel it my duty to bring it again with renewed earnestness under the notice of the Council, and this more especially, because I see from late papers that measures are about to be adopted to divide the Diocese of Cape Town. It will not therefore, I trust, be deemed unreasonable in me to submit the propriety of my claim in this behalf to favourable consideration.

In regard to the erection of New Colonial Dioceses, I am very willing to acquiesce, but when the question is raised as to their division, I desire most respectfully to be heard.

By measures now in progress, which will open Lake Superior and the lands on its banks to navigation, commerce and settlement, this great Diocese will be at least doubled. It is true the lands on the North shore of that inland sea, 1500 miles in circumference, are not in general favourable to cultivation, but there are nevertheless many tracts on the banks of the rivers which will be found eligible for settlement. But what is already attracting inhabitants, and will continue to attract them in great numbers, are the rich mineral fields of copper and iron with which they abound.

Already much is doing in the former, and when the short canal of nearly a mile long has been completed to join Lake Superior to Lake Huron for a ship navigation, it will open to the ocean all those vast regions, though distant more than two thousand miles. Villages and settlements will spring up near every mine and on every good tract of land, and the people will require spiritual instruction. Moreover the many tribes of native Indians who wander in these distant countries will become more accessible to our missionaries, and much may be done to civilize them. Hence the great lakes of Canada and the territories around them, as I ventured to recommend in my memorial of the 5th of October 1850, as the future See of St. Mary, already requires far more attention than it is possible for the Bishop of Toronto to bestow.

In regard to this Diocese, exclusive of the Lake regions, it may be right to remark that by the last census the members of the Church of England are returned at 223,190, and knowing, as we do, the pains taken by the persons who register the numbers, to diminish them, being always chosen from our enemies, we have good reason to believe that our people are not fewer than 250,000, or one quarter of a million.

This fact suggests some inferences worthy of notice.

First:—the gross population of Upper Canada or the Diocese of Toronto is returned by the census at 952,004, not quite a million, so that our communion embraces very nearly one fourth of the whole.

Second:—That there are a greater number of members of the Church of England in the Diocese of Toronto, than in the other five British North American Provinces or Colonies taken together.

Church of England population in Lower Canada, per the census	45,602
The gross population of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland, is, from the best and most recent accounts within my reach, 632,595, and assuming one-fourth to belong to the Church of England, as in the Diocese of Toronto, we have	158,148

Total members of the Church in the 5 Colonies	203,750
In Upper Canada or Diocese of Toronto as per census	223,190

In favour of the Diocese of Toronto . . . 19,440 or assuming 250,000 Church members for Upper Canada or the Diocese of Toronto, which we believe more correct, our Church population will exceed that of the five other Colonies by rather more than forty-eight thousand.

Third:—The members of the Church of England in all the British Colonies and foreign dependencies, are not supposed to exceed one million, of these it appears that the single Diocese of Toronto claims one-fourth.

Fourth:—From the January number of the Church Review, an American publication of great respectability, published quarterly at New Haven, Connecticut, the members of the Episcopal Church of the United States are reckoned, at page 495, to be one million,—hence the Church members of the Diocese of Toronto are one-fourth the number of our Brethren in the United States of North America.

Fifth:—The same writer assumes the population of the United States to be 25,000,000, of which only one million, or one in 25 belong to the Church, while in this Diocese we have one in four, or a proportion six times larger.

These statistics are curious, and prove that Upper Canada, or the Diocese of Toronto, if duly cared for, will continue the stronghold of our beloved Church in North America.

On the whole I most respectfully submit, that no other branch of the Colonial Church can present so strong a claim for additional Bishops as the Diocese of Toronto.

Add to all this; the age of the present Incumbent, who will if it please God, celebrate his seventy-fifth birthday on the 12th of April next.

I have the honour to be,
Reverend Sir,
Your Obedient Humble Servt.
JOHN TORONTO.

REV. ERNEST HAWKINS, B. D.
Secretary to the Council for the erection and endowment of additional Bishops in the Colonies, &c. &c.