

think it better to mention those facts to you, Beloved People, that the history of this event may not be forgotten. We feel all the weight of the burthen and responsibility, alas! too great for Our weakness. Our hope is in the mercy of God, who chooses the weak things of this world, that His own power may be the more manifest to all. Our hope again is in His holy and immaculate Mother, who protected us from our youth. We hope in the intercession and guardianship of St. Michael the Archangel—the glorious Pastor of the diocese; in St. Joseph, the chosen one of God, to be on earth the guardian of His Son, and Spouse of Mary His Mother. We hope in the intercession of the first Bishop of Toronto, the martyr of charity, Monseigneur Power; and We hope too in the prayers, Masses and good works of Our Saintly predecessor Monseigneur De Charbonnel, who, the more securely to save his own soul, and to avoid responsibility, has taken the solemn vows under the austere Order of St. Francis, of the Capuchin branch, where he leads a most holy and useful life. It was to us a great consolation and honor to have received the Pallium on the festival of the Blessed Virgin, and to be assisted by our beloved and venerable predecessor who consecrated us Bishop, and who had the honor to be consecrated himself by the Holy Father. We felt truly that Monseigneur De Charbonnel should be in our place, for his labors and success in the diocese merited the honor; and that We should be in his place. However, it is now the holy will of God that We should bear the burthen, and We have no doubt of the good will of our dear Children in Christ to help us to bear it. Our good priests will offer with more fervor their prayers at the holy Sacrifice of the Mass, and the good Religious, and devout People will offer their communions and rosaries for us.

How beautiful, how strong, how singularly united is the grand Hierarchy of the Church! How like the vine tree and its branches, as expressed by our Lord Jesus Christ. The body of the tree is Christ, "I am the vine," the Pope is the successor of the first branch, "you are the branches," the Primates or Patriarchs, as they are called in the language of the Eastern Church succeed next. The Archbishops, Bishops, Priests and Clerics next, then the faithful Children of the Church, all drawing spiritual life from the sap of the tree, which is Christ. The Pope and the Prelates thus form one body—the Church—of which Christ is the head and the life. Christ himself depicts the fate of those who will not remain united to Him. "If any one remaineth not in me, he shall be cast forth as a branch, and shall wither, and they shall gather him up, and cast him into the fire, and he burneth." John, xv. 6.