

and ascertain what they are disposed to contribute, after explaining the great object sought to be attained. I have already said that to some this may appear very troublesome work; but it is wisely ordered that nothing truly valuable can be effected in this world without much and continued exertion.

Such a thorough canvas of every township of the Diocese, if conducted in the spirit of prayer, and in humble dependence on Divine assistance, can scarcely fail of being eminently successful; but, should we come somewhat short of our object, still our progress will be sufficient to encourage us, after a little time, to renewed exertions for its full attainment. It is the work of God, and to try our faith He may permit impediments and causes of delay, but we firmly believe that the issue will in due time be prosperous.

Such is the general outline which I now submit to your consideration, for the division of Western Canada into four Bishoprics. It is surely an enterprise of deep interest and surpassing usefulness, and will be highly creditable to the Diocese of Toronto, so recently established, and yet struggling with many serious difficulties. The boldness of the conception, which has few equals in the history of the church of God, will, I trust, be sustained by the vigor which we shall employ in its realization, nor can it fail to attract the good will and sympathy of the whole of our own communion, for it is indeed worthy of the blessings and prayers of all who desire the extension of our Lord's kingdom.

In conclusion, my brethren, let us remember that this Diocese has spoken through her Synod for the first time, and requires of us certain services, which all admit are essential to the well being and progress of the Church; we are, therefore, on our trial; and on our obedient and vigorous action her rise or decline in a great measure depends. If we labor with hearty good will, then will she flourish and extend on every side, but if we become lukewarm and remiss, and if we remain apathetic instead of being active, our Church will be thrown from the high position which she now occupies. Our responsibility is fearfully great; but make it a labor of love, springing from true faith in our Saviour, and we have nothing to fear.

I remain,

My dear brethren,

Your affectionate Diocesan,

JOHN TORONTO.

Toronto, 16th January, 1854.