

indebted for manifold and constant evidences of goodwill and kindness. To the members of our own flock we wish to express our grateful and paternal appreciation of their prompt and generous devotedness to respond to every just call made upon them, and to co-operate to the full extent of their ability and influence, with their Bishop and clergy, in promoting the interest of religion—of religious education, of works of charity and moral usefulness, according as occasion presented. To the devoted Religious, whom the Paternal Providence of God inspired to come to our new and poor Diocese to perform the works of mercy and piety, in nursing the sick, educating the young, and glorifying God by their holy lives of prayer and good works, we owe an especial debt of grateful paternal and affectionate thanks! To our beloved and venerable fellow laborers of the clergy—some of them our seniors in the ministry, others advanced to the holy Priesthood under our own administration, we offer our affectionate fraternal thanks for their fidelity and devotedness to the all-important but laborious work of their clerical and pastoral duties. We thank them for the docility, fraternal charity, and enlightened zeal which we have ever witnessed in them. With paternal earnestness we pray God to bless them and their labors and all who come under their ministry.

*Pax et Benedictio Dei*—May the Peace and Benediction of God descend on you all and remain with you always!

*Given at Chatham, N. B., on the Feast of the Patronage of St. Joseph,  
Third Sunday after Easter, May 8th, 1881.*

†JAMES ROGERS,  
*Bishop of Chatham.*