

CHARGE OF THE RIGHT REV. THE LORD BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE.

DELIVERED AT THE SIXTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE
SYNOD, JUNE 3rd, 1919.

REV. BRETHREN AND BRETHREN OF THE LAITY:

"The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen."

It falls upon the day that is the 54th anniversary of the birth of our Sovereign, Lord King George, that we are met in the 67th Session of our Annual Diocesan Synod, and well may we pause and thank God that "for such a time as this" we have such a King as this. Visiting us as the Duke of York on October 11th, 1901, and winning for himself and the Duchess that esteem and affection, which was so soon after to ripen into loyalty and love for King and Queen. Ever since his accession on May 6th, 1910, no portion of the Empire has been more devoted to their Majesties than has this Dominion and Province, and no Community more emphatic in its expression of devotion than this in which we live, and we would fain send to him on this his natal day, through His Excellency, the Governor-General as his Representative in our midst, heartiest congratulations on this his 55th birthday, with the assurance of our unfaltering loyalty to his Throne and Person, together with that of our prayers to Almighty God that he may be blessed and preserved from all evil, and spared for many happy, peaceful and prosperous years "long to reign over us." With heart and voice we pray

"God save the King."

After four years, three months and one week of the World's greatest War the most supremely important event of the Armistice took place on the 11th of last November at 11 o'clock in the morning, relieving the tension and the strain of suffering mankind. Once more God and the right triumphed over the incarnate powers of darkness and evil, and the world acclaims Him King, and accords to Him all the glory.

Six months, three weeks and three days of extended armistice has passed, and still Peace is not yet signed. Thank God, however, the yearning desire for the close of the war, so strongly felt at our last Session, has been realized. The hateful horror is over, the ghastly carnage is past, and the War itself is becoming a perspective of the background for scenes indescribable and inefaceable in the minds of those who were compelled to take their part in them.

Now appalling has been the calamity appears from the published statements which the two great branches of the Anglo-Saxon race have issued in this connection. The loss of over nine millions of lives in all armies, the maiming of over eleven millions more, the withdrawal of thirty millions for four years from productive occupations to serve in the World's armies; the outpouring of one hundred and ninety-seven