

January, 1852, fifteen pupils were transferred from the institution at Cobourg to Trinity College, Toronto, and are included in the sixty-two above mentioned. Among those ordained from the institution of Cobourg are several of the most useful and zealous clergymen now labouring in the diocese, and I believe they look back with interest and affection to the place in which they received their instruction and preparation for holy orders. Let the Bishop of Huron go and do likewise, and having a Theological Seminary of his own, he will have no cause to meddle with ours.

The Bishop of Huron complains that he had expressed an opinion to me on the teaching of Trinity College, of which I have taken no notice. He seems to have forgotten that in my letter of the 26th of April, just quoted, I refer him to the College Council as the proper place for entertaining any objections to the teaching of the College, and where they can be discussed in a kindly spirit, and so modified or disposed of as to satisfy all concerned. Yet as I proceed in this line of argument I feel more and more convinced that it is not a friendly discussion, which is all that we can have at the corporation board, but a radical change of Church principles that our opponents labour for and desire.

The teaching of Trinity College we are told is dangerous to the young men educated there. Now this charge we know to be destitute of all truth. If it were otherwise, surely some of those students who had been erroneously instructed could be brought forward, but none such are to be found. Again, it was publicly stated by the Bishop of Huron in Synod, that he would not, on any consideration, encourage parties to send their sons to Trinity College, or send to it a son of his own. Now if such be the opinion of the Bishop of Huron, I am very sorry that it should be so, and still more sorry that he has not scrupled to act upon it. He prefers sending his son to a college which makes no provision for public worship, while he disparages Trinity College, in which divine service is celebrated twice every day, according to the forms of the Church of England, to which we are all bound by the most solemn engagements. It is true the Bishop of Huron says in another place that for his opinion he is accountable to no men: if this be one of them we may, without farther remark, leave him to its enjoyment. But at the same time observing, that he who holds it, justly disqualifies himself from exercising any authority in a Theological College professedly in strict communion with the Church of England.

In regard to the violence of the attack of the Bishop of Huron on Trinity College, and the nature of the evidence by which it is attempted to be justified, there can be but one opinion, after the Provost's triumphant exposition; nevertheless great anxiety prevailed that the breach might, if possible, be made up, because it was generating much evil, and could produce no good. The first move in this desirable direction was made by the Reverend Rural Dean Palmer, Rector of Guelph, a gentleman of great experience and much beloved by the clergy, among whom he has exercised for very many years a most salutary influence—possessing frank and engaging manners and a kind and benevolent disposition, he is ready for every good work. From him I received the following letter, dated the 21st August, 1860, and although, owing to the absence of the Provost and other causes it fell through, I give the two first letters in *extenso*, and the substance of the whole negotiation.

"GUELPH, August 21st, 1860.

"MY LORD,

"I trust your Lordship will receive with indul-

gence the few lines which I am about to write to you on a very painful subject, and one which has caused much grief and sorrow of heart to every sincere and attached member of our Church. I allude to the existing and most unhappy dissention and controversy between the corporation of Trinity College and the Bishop of Huron, a controversy which is to be especially deplored, inasmuch as it presents your Lordship on one side, and the Bishop of Huron on the other, the two Bishops of our struggling Upper Canadian Church as publicly arrayed against each other. It is true your Lordship's name appears only as President of the Corporation, but there are comparatively few who will draw this distinction.

"Before I state the object of my letter, I must pray your Lordship not to mistake the feeling with which I write, in reference to this unhappy business. I disapprove of the manner in which the Bishop addressed the Synod in reference to Trinity College. I am of opinion that it was his Lordship's duty to take his place in the corporation, and if he saw just ground of objection against any thing connected with the University, to state his objections to the council with the view of their being rectified, and generally to endeavour to render the College as effective as possible, as the chief seminary of our Church. And when I heard the Bishop's address I expressed to him my regret that he had delivered it. Since then I have not had any communication with him personally or by letter.

"But the dispute has now grown to such proportions, and is producing so much evil, and affording such a handle to scoffing and irreligious men, that I feel constrained to present myself to your Lordship, and to say, that if I can be in the humblest degree instrumental in healing this breach and in undoing to a small extent the evil that has been done, I shall be most willing to be employed in so good a work, and, if your Lordship is pleased to suggest to me any course likely to accomplish the object, which is so much and so generally desired, I hope that my being an old friend of the Bishop of Huron may give me some advantage in acting the part of a peacemaker.

"I have the honour to be, &c., &c.,

(Signed,) "ARTHUR PALMER."

"TORONTO, 28th August, 1860.

"MY REVEREND AND DEAR SIR,—I thank you very cordially for your letter of the 21st ult., and appreciate deeply the kind motives which induce you to offer your mediation between the Bishop of Huron and the Corporation of Trinity College.

"I wish with all my heart that we were in a position to accept it, but the difference since its commencement has assumed a gravity which cannot be overlooked, and in my humble opinion no move in that direction can, with any prospect of success, be entertained, till the Bishop of Huron withdraws and disavows the unfounded accusations he has made against Trinity College, in a way as public as he has announced them to his Synod. That they are unfounded we are ready to prove to the full satisfaction of every reasonable mind, and were the Bishop of Huron candidly to enquire he would arrive at the same conclusion. It would then become his duty, and I trust his pleasure as a Christian, to acknowledge his mistake, and then a reconciliation agreeable to all parties would immediately take place. I can think of no other way of accomplishing our object, and if you agree with me let this be the mode of your proceeding.

"I have the honour to be, &c., &c.

To this letter the Rev. Dean Palmer replied on the 31st August, stating, that feeling it his duty to do all that in him lay to prevent the injury to the Church which the prosecution of the controversy can hardly fail to occasion, and proceeds as

follows.—"I went over to London on Monday, 3rd September, in the hope of discovering some way by which this sad dispute might be brought to a termination, without further disputation in the public prints. I did not succeed in the object of my visit, as the Bishop of Huron informed me, that he deemed it his duty to publish a statement of the grounds on which he considered the theological teachings of Trinity College dangerous, and that such a statement was then ready for the press."

Any further correspondence now seemed useless. Yet the Rev. Dean Palmer was bent upon succeeding, if possible, and finding that my letter of the 28th August had not reached the Bishop of Huron, he presented it to him, but at the same time earnestly entreating him not to proceed farther, until by private enquiry from proper authority he ascertained that the teaching was such as he supposed, for that at present he had no sufficient evidence, as the authority of the document on which he chiefly rested was altogether denied. The Bishop of Huron then offered the following arrangement.—"If the Provost could satisfy me by laying his notes before me and an indifferent party, say the Bishop of Rupert's Land, who will be in Toronto on Saturday next, 1st September, that the teaching is not such as I have been led to believe from examination of the graduates of the college, and from documents I possess, then I will at the meeting of Synod next week, state my change of opinion, adding, that the examination could take place without publicity being given to it till after the decision had been arrived at." "If the Provost agrees to this investigation," writes the Bishop of Huron, "I shall be in town on Saturday, and the meeting may take place on Monday or Tuesday." As the Provost did not return in time, I was unable to refer to him; but I should not have been justified in advising him to accept this reference, because it would have been a tacit confession, that we are unable to settle our differences among ourselves, and this I could by no means admit.

Moreover the Bishop of Rupert's Land was in Toronto merely by accident, and however estimable, was quite a stranger among us. It would therefore, as it seemed to me, have been very indelicate to entangle him in our difficulties, and perhaps give offence.

If a reference be found necessary or expedient we need not go abroad for the proper officer, and indeed, the only one we can legally apply to is the Bishop of Montreal, our Metropolitan. Now, the Metropolitan, the right authority, is still within our reach, and the ventilation which has taken place by the publication of the Bishop of Huron's statements, the Provost's reply, with the various floating surreptitious effusions which have made their appearance, might be found useful towards a more correct elucidation and review of the controversy. And more so because the attempt of the Lord Bishop of Huron to meet the demand of the corporation for his proof and evidence, if unsatisfactory, will still enable him to supply deficiencies and to marshal his charges in a regular order under their respective heads, and to bring forward his living witnesses in person to prove them.

Should this be his wish, no obstacle will be thrown by the authorities of Trinity College in the way of the most rigid investigation, for they desire most earnestly a fair opportunity of refuting the unfounded and bitter aspersions which have been spread abroad against their institution.

It would indeed seem from the secret and garbled manner in which the accusations against Trinity College have been brought forward, that there was no desire on the part of the witnesses