

in the sacred ministry in the Niagara District formed themselves into an Association, called the "Clerical Association of the Niagara Rural Deanery;" and in the forefront of its constitution it gave emphasis to two of the most essential elements in clerical life, namely, personal holiness and ministerial efficiency. These were based on two other principles—prayer and the study of the Word of God.

Five decades make a big gap in the continuity of ministerial life, and little more than the names, most of them long since forgotten, remain to us of those who considered prayer and the study of the Word of God to be the two pillars of the Temple upon which personal holiness and ministerial efficiency depend. These elder fathers of the Church surely fulfilled the Divine injunction, bringing "pure oil olive for the light to burn always."

For forty years the Diocesan lamp has been burning, "shining more and more unto the perfect day." For three times forty the Anglican Church has existed in the Niagara Peninsula, but whether or not she has reached the full measure of her opportunities, we are not at present considering. Her State connection, and the traditional bondage which it imposed, have been a serious handicap to the unrestrained freedom claimed as a right by a growing ecclesiastical democracy. But in Canada she is rapidly adjusting herself to Canadian conditions; and even in the Homeland itself the Anglican Church is throbbing with a new life. Ere another decade shall have run its course we may reasonably expect that she will come forth like a giant refreshed with new wine. "The King's daughter is all glorious within: her clothing is of wrought gold. She shall be brought unto the king in raiment of needlework: the virgins that be her fellows shall bear her company, and shall be brought unto thee. With joy and gladness shall they be brought, and shall enter into the King's palace."

As we are all aware, this Diocese was formally constituted in the year 1875, and the first few years were necessarily formative. Mr. Bliss published a third edi-