

Hawkins, and Mr. Howarth, to upwards of three hundred of the Bishop's friends.

(From the Montreal Herald, 14th. Sept.)

Yesterday, pursuant to the Resolutions passed at a meeting of the members of the Church of England Congregations of this city, held on the 28th ultimo, a large and highly respectable deputation waited on the Lord Bishop of Montreal, at Hall's Ottawa Hotel, Great St. James Street, and presented the following address. The Address was read by S. Gerrard, Esq., the Chairman of the above mentioned meeting:—

To the Right Reverend Father in God, Francis, Lord Bishop of Montreal.

We, the Lay Members of the United Church of England and Ireland, residing in the Parish of Montreal, in public meeting assembled, beg leave to approach your Lordship to congratulate you on your safe arrival within your Diocese, and assure you of a hearty welcome on the assumption of the duties of your high office.

Our earnest desire and prayer is for the efficiency and prosperity of the Church of which we are members, and we regard the division of this extensive Province into two Dioceses as conducive to these objects.

As Laymen, we do not presume to enter into your Lordship's councils, but, sensible of the great benefit which must result from combined action and a good understanding between the Clergy and Laity, we respectfully tender you our cordial co-operation in all matters in which your Lordship may be pleased to require our services for the prosperity of the Church.

May the Almighty bless and prosper your Lordship in the holy and important trust confided to your care.

S. GERRARD,

Chairman.

E. L. MONTIZAMBERT,

Secretary.

After which, His Lordship read the following reply:—

MR. GERRARD.—The address which you have now presented to me on behalf of the Laity of the Parish of Montreal, upon my arrival amongst you as the first Bishop of this newly constituted Diocese, is one which it is peculiarly gratifying to me to receive. I can assure you that I have for many years taken a deep interest in the concerns of our Colonial Church, not only in these Provinces, but in all parts of the world; and I have watched its progress and growing importance with sincere satisfaction and thankfulness. Humble and inadequate to its duties as its condition still continues to be, yet, when we look back through the last twenty years and compare the past with the existing state of the Colonial Church, I confidently assert that, considering all circumstances, it presents the most encouraging page in the present ecclesiastical history of England. The appointment of a Bishop for the separate District of Montreal, is but one amongst many similar advances which have been made towards the fuller development of the organization of the Church and the furtherance of the cause of true religion. I trust that, by God's blessing, this measure may be productive of those benefits in this Diocese which you have anticipated from it.

The attachment of such an influential body of the Laity of this great city and neighborhood, while it testifies to the past labours of the Clergy in the discharge of their pastoral duties, and the careful superintendence of your late esteemed Diocesan, gives also the surest promise of still further growth and increase. The assurance you have given me of your cordial co-operation with me is a great encouragement to me at the commencement of my administration of the affairs of this extensive Diocese—it will be to you, gentlemen, that I shall look with hope and confidence. I feel that, coming amongst you as a stranger, I shall have much to learn before I shall be fully acquainted with all the details of your social condition—your habits of life and thought—the actual state of my Diocese—its wants, and the best advised and most practicable means of supplying them. I rely upon your bearing with me whilst I

am endeavouring to identify myself with you in all the relations of life, that you will give me credit for an anxious desire to do that which is right and just, and support me in the discharge of my arduous duties. And if we be not wanting to ourselves, I confidently anticipate that the increasing life and energy which always accompanies the full development of the Divine institutions, will be so manifested amongst us, that the Church will be enabled, year by year, to occupy a more fixed and substantive position—one more commensurate with the requirements of so large and important a Diocese.

Certainly we cannot, in any more fitting way, do our duty to God, and evince our gratitude for the munificence of those friends in England, who have provided the means for endowing this newly-constituted See of Montreal, than by endeavouring that the seed thus sown, may, by God's blessing, produce the proper fruit.

While, however, we are all bound to seek to provide for the wants of our own people, and I must ever remember my duty to the Church of which I have been appointed a chief Pastor and Overseer, yet still I hope always to be able to cultivate a spirit of charity toward all around me; and if there be any rivalry with any of those who are members of other communions, I trust it will be only such a rivalry as shall lead each of us to strive, who can most humbly and faithfully devote himself to the work of his ministry, seeking to cherish in the hearts of all who are under our care, the purest principles of truth and piety.

The following addresses have also been presented to the Lord Bishop of Montreal since his arrival:

To the Right Rev. Father in God, Francis, Lord Bishop of Montreal—

We, the Clergy of the newly constituted Diocese of Montreal, take the earliest opportunity of offering to your Lordship our hearty congratulations and welcome on your arrival.

We regard the division of the very extensive Diocese of Quebec, as a measure eminently calculated to promote the diffusion of pure religion and the knowledge of Divine truth, in this portion of the Lord's Vineyard, and we beg to assure you of our hearty desire to co-operate earnestly and faithfully with Your Lordship in your labours for the spread of the Gospel, and the interests of the Church of God.

That Your Lordship may be encouraged and strengthened by the Holy Spirit in the discharge of your important duties, and that the fruit thereof may be "unto holiness, and the end everlasting life," is the earnest prayer of Your Lordship's faithful servants in Christ.

To which his Lordship returned the following answer:—

DR. BETHUNE.—I receive with sincere thanks the kind welcome and hearty congratulations expressed in the address which you have now presented to me in the name of the Clergy of the Diocese of Montreal, on this my first arrival. I esteem myself most fortunate in having been called to preside over a Diocese which has so long enjoyed the able superintendence of your late respected Diocesan, and in which I shall find so large a body of Clergy devoting themselves, as I have good reason for believing is the case, with zeal and single-heartedness to the work of the ministry. I trust that the measure now completed—whereby you have been provided with a Bishop for the separate District of Montreal, by enabling your Diocesan to be brought into more frequent communication with all his Clergy, to make more regular visitations throughout the several parishes, and give more distinct and careful attention to the various details which may be brought under his notice—will be productive of all that benefit to the Church which we have been led to anticipate.

But when I contemplate the wide and arduous field of duty that is opened before me, and remember my own insufficiencies and weakness, I do, indeed, look with strong confidence and hope to your assurance of your hearty desire to co-operate earnestly and faithfully with me in my labours for the spread of the Gospel and the interests of the Church of God; and, above all, I rely upon your continuing to offer up constant prayers that I may be en-