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Primary Charge

DELIVERED BY THE BISHOP OF QUEBEC, AT
HIS VISITATION, HELD AT BISHOP'S COLLEGE,
LENNOXVILLE, SEPTEMBER 5TH, 1894.

It is a holy pleasure, my reverend Brethren,
to be permitted to revive these Bishop's
College gatherings, which have been, as I un-
derstand, in abeyance for several years.

And first of all, let me say what an inspira-
tion it must be to many of you, that this
gathering should take place here in Bishop's
College Chapel, and that our Conferences
should be held within the precincts of that
glorious Memorial—the Bishop Williams Hall.
Many have been the expressions of affection
and devotion, which have been uttered with
regard to your late revered Bishop, but here at
Bishop's College, where he was so successful a
Rector and Administrator of the School, that
he was called by acclamation to rule over the
Diocese of Quebec, the old ties are naturally
closest and tenderest of all. Long, long may
the traditions handed down by Bishop Williams
for the University here and for the Diocese at
large, be upheld and maintained.

Long may Bishop and Clergy, Professors and
Students, remember his holy example, his
wise policy and his weighty words!

Yea! even on the threshold of the great sub-
ject, which I propose to bring before you for
your consideration to-day, viz: "the Holy
Communion of the Body and Blood of Christ our

Lord," I cannot do better than read to you the
wonderfully prophetic words of your late Bishop,
spoken twenty-six years ago, on a similar
occasion, here at Bishop's College, when he was
about to dwell upon the same holy theme, at
a time, when, upon this matter, there was in
England much party strife.

"The great danger," said Bishop Williams,
"that we are in by reason of our unhappy di-
visions, comes, as it seems to me, out of the
obstinate assumption, by individuals and
schools, of their own infallibility; and out of
their determination to hear, in the authoritative
voice of the Church, only the echoes of their
own private opinions. The dangers it may be
thought, do not affect us; our peace has not been
disturbed; our house is at unity with itself.
Yes! our house, God be thanked, is at unity
with itself. But it would be unwise to suppose
that the waves of the storm, which now agitates
the Mother Church, will not reach our shores.
The channels of opinion are open. The com-
munications of sympathy are swift and subtle,
and minds removed are in contact still. It is
to be assumed therefore, that we are or shall be
asking ourselves the questions which now stir
men's minds in the great centres of theological
thought."

These, I say, my reverend Brethren, were
marvellously prophetic words; for now with a
quarter of a century passed over our heads,
there is considerable inquiry here in the Dio-
cese of Quebec, with regard to the very same
matter, which were agitating men's minds in