

## MONTREAL.

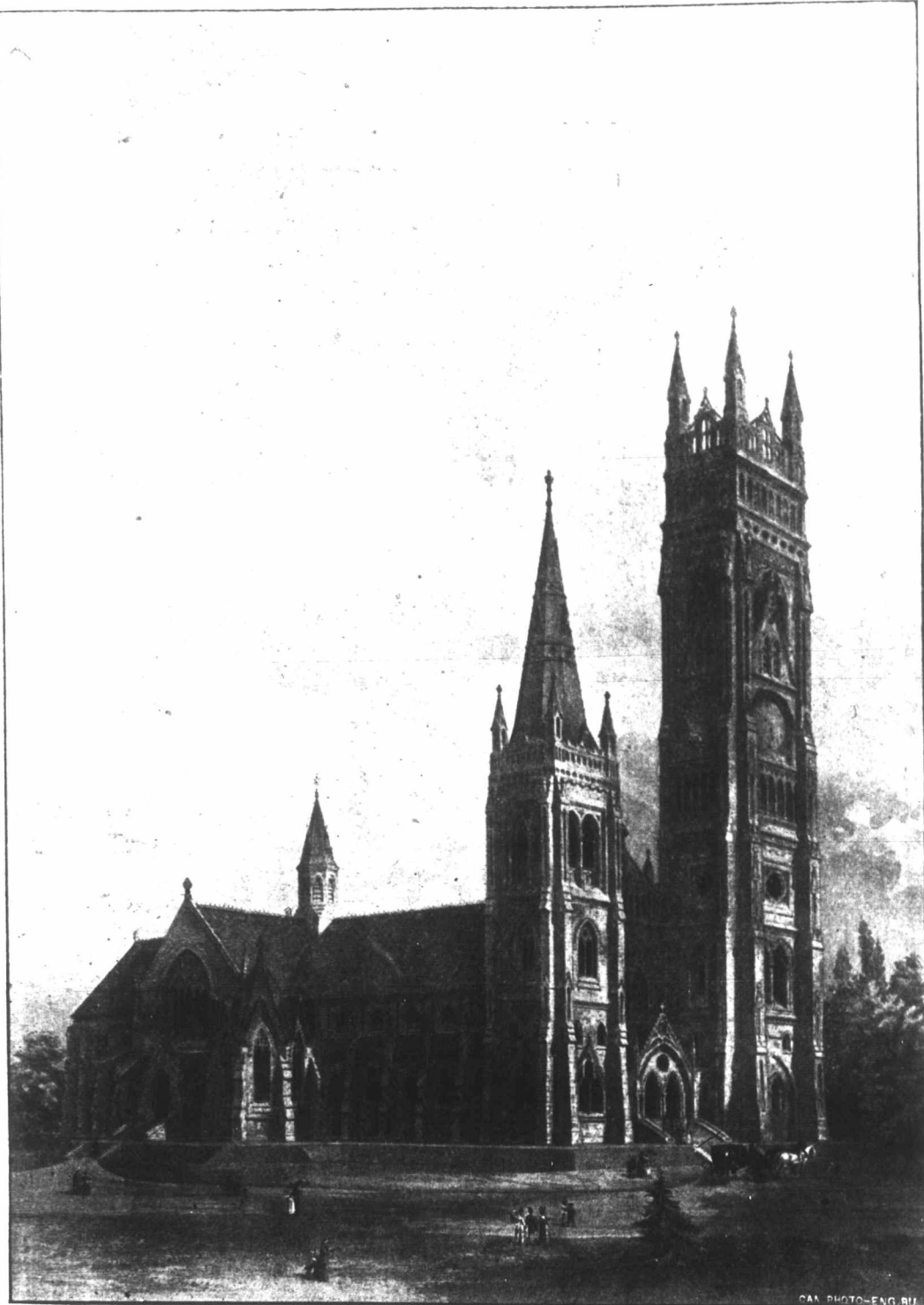
WILLIAM B. BOND, D.D., BISHOP, MONTREAL.

MONTREAL.—The Diocesan Synod met in session for the thirty-seventh time, Tuesday, January 21st, when the proceedings opened with the celebration of the Holy Communion and the charge of His Lordship Bishop Bond.

After devotional exercises, which were conducted by Rev. Dean Naylor, the Rev. Mr. Smith, Ven. Archdeacon Lindsay, and Rev. W. A. Kaneen, His Lordship rose to deliver his annual charge. He took as his text Romans xiii. chapter and 14th verse, "Put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ." He said: "The Apostle Paul here exhorts the Christians, who dwelt in the city of Rome, to 'put on' Christ. They were to be clothed with His likeness, as men wrap garments around them; they were to clothe themselves with His virtues, habits, manner of thought and speech, so that they might realize in themselves, and show to other men, the dignity, truth and usefulness of the Christlike character. The context teaches us definitely what manner of garments these Christian garments are. These are garments of spiritual beauty, purity, simplicity. They transform the man by the renewing of the mind. He becomes a new creature in Christ Jesus, and proves in himself what is that good, acceptable and perfect will of God. Very practical is this renewing of the mind. As seen in the 12th and 13th chapters, it requires a daily, constant watchfulness of thought and action, in little things and in great. Religion is not one thing and business another where the Christian character is concerned. There is to be humility, but not meanness; strength and power combined with patience, love and helpfulness, cheerfulness and hope, in company with sympathy and self-restraint.

"The Christian character is to be honourable in the sight of all men, peaceable, forgiving, law-abiding, honest and highly moral. No man can read these chapters and doubt what the Apostle meant; that the believer should aim to possess the mental and spiritual characteristics of the Lord Jesus, when he wrote, 'Put on Christ.' While I never dissociate the laity and clergy as complementary, the one to the other, in the Church body, in every work touching Christian character and usefulness, the circumstances of the occasion require me for a few moments to dwell upon the education and character of our clergy in particular. It is the bounden duty of men to be prepared, and prepare themselves for their chosen occupation and profession in life, and this is peculiarly necessary in the case of those who aspire to be leaders and teachers of the Christian community; I feel, therefore, in announcing to this Synod the munificent gift to the Church, in the Diocese of Montreal, of complete college buildings with a very handsome partial endowment of the college (the gift of my dear, valued and life-long friend, Mr. A. F. Gault), I feel (in making the announcement) that there is in each heart full and deep gratitude to Mr. Gault, but I feel, also, that there must be with the Church a sense of responsibility and obligation, which the gift entails, and which ought not—must not be lost to sight either by laity or clergy. In a few months the handsome college, thoroughly equipped for all the demands of an efficient Theological College (including chapel and principal's residence) will be ready to receive the company of young men gathered together in this city for special theological instruction, and study in the doctrines and ritual of the Church of England. What sort of men should they be whom you send and we receive for this dignified and high profession? Of course, young men who already show mental aptitude for learning, but, also, without any doubt, men, who, in their youthful thought and habit, already make an effort to 'put on the Lord Jesus Christ,' to clothe themselves with that likeness to Christ, the work of the Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit working with our honest endeavour and desire. Confidence and strength belong to honourable and earnest youth. We, who are older, must look, we ought to look, with great affection and hope upon our students and younger clergy." After referring to the early life of Christ, and the lessons to be drawn from His earnestness, His Lordship said:

"I am an old man, but, by the mercy of God, I have not lost touch and interest with the generations coming after me. I hope I may be permitted to see this college building opened for God's service, and the students at their work therein—these buildings, which are to be the 'Alma Mater' of the future clergy of our Church. We, who in the past have wrestled, and struggled, to obtain what little learning was possible to us in our youth, stand astonished at the privileges and opportunities of the present day. In the Montreal Diocesan Theological College there is made ready for the students a comfortable, liberal Christian home, with leisure and quiet, such as students need, side by side with the lively variety of McGill, its scientific and classical learning, so that the man of God may be thoroughly furnished in all those things which belong alike to his own peace, and the peace and usefulness of the Church. I find plenty of matter for reflection and argument so far as the clergy are concerned, but I find myself unable to express the feeling of gratitude which dwells in me, as I consider what Mr. Gault has done for the Church. I know he will not value high laudation. I know his dislike thereof, and I know also that he



ST. ALBAN'S CATHEDRAL, TORONTO (WHEN COMPLETE).

will believe in the depth and warmth of my personal gratitude; but I am not myself content with the silence which oppresses me. I offer him the thanks and blessing of his aged bishop, and I fervently pray that the good God and Father of all may ratify these prayers and make them valuable to the comfort and peace of his own soul. It is right that I should point out to you that the great generosity of Mr. Gault does not absolve the Church from doing its utmost to make the college fully representative of our body in all that pertains to varied religious learning and Christian culture. The institution will need a considerable amount of annual subscriptions and donations, with a view to further development, and to keep pace with the anticipated efficiency of the commodious buildings. On the 6th of March, 1895, I appealed to the Churchmen and Churchwomen of our diocese to provide \$40,000 more in order to complete the Endowment Fund of the college. Among the benefactors were Mr. Hague, Mr. Garth, Mr. A. P. Willis, Mr. G. F. C. Smith, Mr. R. R. Stevenson and Mr. R. L. Gault, whose sudden and untimely loss his family and the Church still mourn. I have reason to believe, if only in appreciation of that

which is already accomplished, you will give willingly to the promotion of the growth of this great work. This duty is laid upon both clergy and laity. I do expect that all will show their warm sympathy by being present at the formal opening, D.V., in September next. I venture to suggest that a good picture of the new college, with the inscription as found on the building, should form the frontispiece of the Synod report for 1896. Before I leave the subject of the benefactions and benefactors of the Church, I must inform you of the great and useful charities which have come to us by the will of our late fellow-citizen, Henry Ogden Andrews. Through his trustees and executors, Colonel Forsyth, A. F. Gault and F. Wolferstan Thomas, acting with me—kindly aiding and advising me, with much time and painstaking, these gentlemen have, with your bishop, established two separate and distinct charities; one for emigrants and kindred uses, and one for aged ladies in reduced circumstances. I ought, perhaps, not to say that this last charity has been established. It has been partially endowed, and established, in that sense of the word, after forty years of struggle and vicissitude. It is an institution with whose history you are already acquainted, and I need not occupy the short time at my disposal with more than a few words on the subject. Provision has been made for freeing the property from debt, and permanently endowing the institution with an income of about \$1,500, at most. It leaves, therefore, something for the Church yet to do for our aged friends; it leaves room for the gifts and comforts which they naturally require, and I hope you will continue to the Church Home the loving and warm assistance which you have been wont to bestow. Since our charities (like our churches) are dedicated to the glory of God, we should not grudge them something of the beauty and liberality with which we adorn and make personally comfortable our places of worship. Church restoration has been a feature of the religious work of the present century; purely philanthropic work should follow, and does follow almost as a matter of course." His Lordship also referred to the Robert Jones' Convalescent Home, which was most beneficent in design, seeking to benefit the sick children of the poor.

"Too much cannot be said in praise of the Ladies' Committee who administer it, with unremitting attention, and with the wisdom and tenderness of their sex, dealing with the troubles and weaknesses of convalescent infancy and childhood." His Lordship regretted that the contributions to the Mission Fund had not been more generally liberal. Continuing, he said, "I have read, with deep concern, the report of the state of the Church," signed by the convener, presented to the Provincial Synod at its last meeting. If the state of the Church, generally, is as there represented, I can only say it is most deplorable, and a fit subject for humiliation on the part, both of laity and clergy. But I hope better things. So far as the Diocese of Montreal is concerned, error has crept into the report, and I cannot forbear to express surprise that our own delegates allowed it to pass unchallenged. I find no way to verify the statistics.

Our diocesan reports since 1890-91 follow the calendar year, and we have, therefore, no published reports to correspond with dates selected for comparison. Going over our Synod reports for a period covering six years, (that is, for a period contained between three meetings of Provincial Synod, ending 1895), I have satisfied myself that steady reasonable progress has been made in every branch, and all branches, of our Church work capable of tabulation, or report of any kind. I cannot discover how the Provincial Committee arrived at its conclusions, so far as this diocese is concerned. It seems to me that, before figures so important are circulated throughout the length and breadth of the Dominion, care should be taken to have them exact and authentic; these are not. The other matters to which the same report adverts fill me with astonishment. I cannot help hoping that general error has crept in here also. Certainly we cannot plead guilty, in this diocese, to the inertness and incapacity with which the whole Church in the province is charged. We have no difficulty in gathering in our humbler brethren of the laity. Our mission churches and school-rooms bear testimony to a most hearty appreciation of our

efforts  
God as  
ly testi  
poor a  
ties, se  
tions o  
abunde  
that su  
time.

Depa  
ments  
Rev. W  
Mr. R  
Throu  
God, I  
service  
since  
males  
have b  
ing gr  
and on  
with tl  
vidual  
Christ

The  
an exc  
began  
showe  
were  
took p  
Canon  
clerica  
and 2  
Synod  
were s  
"It be  
cate, I  
positic  
ance o  
and st  
the la  
follow  
House  
reques  
cese o  
has r  
some  
vincia  
prayer  
made  
vincia  
Provir  
appoint  
morial  
Stanb  
clergy  
forth  
clergy  
to tal  
This  
dersor  
mittee  
observ  
ment  
ton, I  
good  
Thom  
was d  
Parlia  
God-f  
Gover  
the q  
the p  
with  
is, the  
and h  
port c  
to do  
tion c  
read  
mitte  
flour  
the C  
mitte  
instit  
ance.  
by Re  
Scho  
41 da  
high  
of th  
it was  
both  
given  
school  
tors  
show  
erally  
amon  
Provi  
be do  
Rev.  
Coun  
ety,  
ence