

ADDRESS

OF

BISHOP LYMAN

TO THE

ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

DIOCESE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

1892.

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ADDRESS OF THE BISHOP.

Dear Brethren of the Clergy and Laity:

Once more we are summoned to meet in annual Convention, that we may review the past and take counsel for the future.

Since our last meeting we have been called to mourn the loss of no less than four Bishops of our Church, viz.: Bishop Knight of Milwaukee, Bishop Boone of China, Bishop Galleher of Louisiana, and Bishop Bedell, the late Bishop of Ohio. All were zealous workers in the Master's vineyard, and have left behind them a record of marked activity and faithfulness in the discharge of their responsible duties. With the exception of Bishop Bedell, the Episcopate of each was comparatively a short one. It is an unusual occurrence that so many should be called away in less than a single year. May we all profit by the sacred lesson, that in "an hour when we think not, the Son of Man cometh." In our own Diocese, we have quite recently lost the most aged of any of our clergy, the Rev. Aristides S. Smith, D.D. He was well known and highly respected by us all. It was only within the last year or two that his health and vigor began to fail him. But he still struggled on amid serious bodily infirmities, and to the last seemed most unwilling to give up active work. The last time that I met him, only one week before his death, and when his eye-sight was becoming quite dim, I found him bending over his table, re-writing, in a bolder hand, a sermon which he hoped to preach. A more faithful worker I never knew,

and very few were better equipped for the work of the ministry in both classical and theological learning. He wrote in a very clear and instructive style, and many of his sermons were admirably suited for use as tracts for general circulation. Long will he be held in affectionate remembrance for his high and sterling qualities, and his many amiable and attractive characteristics.

During the past year I have been interrupted, at intervals, by impaired health in the discharge of public duties; but I am glad to say that I have been able to get through with a much longer schedule of appointments than, at one time, I thought it would be possible for me to undertake.

My first official act was in Trinity Church, Asheville, on the evening of Thursday, May 14th, when, after Evening Prayer, I confirmed thirteen persons and addressed them.

On the next day, in the same Parish, I confirmed, in private, a sick woman and her brother.

After the close of our Convention, I went the next day to Marion, where, on Whitsunday, May 17th, I consecrated St. John's Church, preached and administered the Holy Communion. The deed of donation and the sentence of consecration were both read by Rev. C. T. Bland. Rev. Dr. Buxton and Rev. J. W. Murphy were present and assisting in the services. The church is a very pretty one, and in excellent taste. Very much of the finer work was done by Mr. Bland, and it was his skill and energy and perseverance to which we are chiefly indebted for a building so attractive in itself, and so much needed.

Monday, May 18th, in Grace Church, Morganton, I admitted to the Priesthood, Rev. Charles L. Hoffman, Deacon, in charge of the Parish. He was presented by Rev. Dr. Buxton, who, with Rev. Walter J. Smith, united in the laying on of hands. I also preached and administered the Holy Communion, assisted in the services by

the clergy present. Left the same evening for Raleigh, arriving early Tuesday morning.

Proceeded in the afternoon to Pittsboro, and at 8 P. M., in St. James' Chapel, after Evening Prayer by Rev. Messrs. Walker and Bush, I preached, confirmed seven persons, and addressed them.

Wednesday, May 20th, in St. Bartholomew's Church, Pittsboro, after Evening Prayer by Messrs. Bush and Walker, I preached, confirmed four persons, and addressed them.

Trinity Sunday, May 24th, in the Church of the Holy Innocents, Henderson, after Morning Prayer by Rev. Messrs. A. B. Hunter and Wm. Walker, I preached and ordained to the Priesthood Rev. Junius Moore Horner, Deacon, on presentation by Rev. J. E. Ingle. In the Communion office, Rev. W. W. Walker, of Oxford, and Rev. J. E. Ingle, took part, and all the clergy present united in the laying on of hands. The next day, Tuesday, May 26th, I preached at St. Peter's Church, Stovall, and administered the Holy Communion, assisted in the services by Rev. W. W. Walker and Rev. J. M. Horner.

First Sunday after Trinity, May 31, in St. Timothy's Church, Wilson, after Morning Prayer by Rev. J. M. Horner, I preached and ordained to the Diaconate, Mr. Fenner S. Stickney, on presentation by Rev. B. S. Bronson. I also administered the Holy Communion, assisted by Messrs. Bronson and Horner.

At night, after a sermon by Rev. Mr. Horner, I confirmed two persons, and addressed them. This Parish was for some time without a Rector, and was only supplied the latter part of the summer. Left next day on my return to Raleigh. Mr. Stickney, immediately after his ordination, entered upon an extensive missionary field in Stokes and Rockingham Counties, where he has been doing an encouraging and successful work. Recently he has added to his

labors by taking charge also of the promising Mission in South Greensboro.

Wednesday, June 3d, left for New York to attend meetings of Committees to which I belonged.

Friday, June 5th, at the Rectory of Calvary Church, New York, I attended a meeting of the Committee of the General Convention on Colored Work.

Tuesday, June 9th, at the Bible House, New York, I attended the monthly meeting of the Board of Managers of the Missionary Work of the Church. During my visit to New York, and for some time previous, I suffered greatly from insomnia, and was much weakened by it. I did not derive the benefit which I had hoped from the journey. Wednesday, June 17th, I left New York on my return to Raleigh.

The next day, Thursday, June 18th, I stopped at Warrenton, and at night, in Emmanuel Church, I held a service for the colored people, confirmed eight, and addressed them.

Fifth Sunday after Trinity, June 28th, in the Church of the Good Shepherd, Raleigh, I assisted in the Morning Service.

Sixth Sunday after Trinity, July 5th, in Christ Church, Raleigh, preached and administered the Holy Communion, assisted by Rev. Dr. Marshall.

Sunday, July 12th, in St. Matthew's Church, Hillsboro, I assisted Rev. Mr. Ingle in the service, and administered the Holy Communion.

Saturday, July 18th, baptized a sick child in private at Hillsboro.

Sunday, July 19th, in St. Matthew's Church, I conducted the service and preached.

July 20th, buried an infant.

Sunday, July 26th, in St. Athanasius' Church, Burling-

ton, after Morning Prayer by Rev. R. J. Walker, I preached, confirmed five persons, and addressed them.

Friday, July 31st, left for my summer visitation in the mountains.

Sunday, August 2d, at Old Fort, preached to a large congregation in the Presbyterian church, Rev. C. T. Bland conducting the service. Left Monday for Asheville, and same day baptized an infant at a private house, who was not well enough to be taken to church.

Thursday, August 6th, in St. Andrew's Church, near Asheville, after Morning Prayer by Rev. Messrs. Barrows and Postell, I preached and administered the Holy Communion.

Sunday, August 9th, in St. John's Church, Hot Springs, Mr. Barrows read Morning Prayer. I confirmed one person after the Second Lesson, preached and administered Holy Communion. In the evening I held a short service in the parlor of the hotel.

Tuesday, August 11th, in Trinity Church, Asheville, I confirmed a lady about leaving the city.

At 4 P. M. in the Chapel at Haw Creek, I preached, confirmed five persons and addressed them, Messrs. Barrows, Rice and Bell assisting in the service.

Thursday, August 13th, at Beaver Dam Chapel, two miles north of Asheville, Rev. Messrs. Rice and Barrows conducted the service. I baptized an infant after the Second Lesson, preached, confirmed nine persons and addressed them. I was pleased to find a very large congregation present, and an increasing interest in the work of the Church. I made an address to the congregation on the importance of securing a Parsonage as speedily as possible for the accommodation of the Missionary, whose residence is many miles away. I am pleased to say that the proposal met with great favor, and with some outside help a very neat and comfortable home is now provided.

Sunday, August 16th, was the day for my visitation to Trinity Church, Asheville. The church was much crowded. I took part in the morning service and preached. At night, after Evening Prayer by Rev. Messrs. DuBose and Porter, I confirmed eleven persons and addressed them. I found Trinity Church in a very prosperous condition, but there is very great need of increased church accommodation in the city. I trust no long time will elapse before another strong congregation will be established there.

Wednesday, August 19th, in Grace Church, Waynesville, I preached, confirmed ten persons, addressed them, and administered the Holy Communion, assisted in the services by Rev. Dr. Buel and Rev. Messrs. DuBose, Barrows and Greaves.

Thursday, August 20th, I consecrated St. Mary's Church, Mica Dale, three miles from Waynesville. The request for consecration was read by Rev. W. S. Barrows and the sentence of consecration by Rev. Dr. Buel, who had been so largely instrumental in the erection of the church. I confirmed one person, after the Second Lesson, preached, and administered the Holy Communion. Rev. Mr. DuBose and Rev. Mr. Brown, of Florida, also took part in the service.

Friday, August 21st, in the Academy at Sylva, near Webster, after a brief evening service, I confirmed one person and preached to a large congregation. Drove eight miles to Cullowhee after the service.

Sunday, August 23d, in St. David's Church, Cullowhee, after Morning Prayer by Rev. Messrs. Barrows and Barker, I preached and administered the Holy Communion, assisted by Rev. Dr. Buel.

On Monday, August 24th, went to Cashier's Valley over a very rough mountain road.

The next day, Tuesday, August 25th, I had the great pleasure of consecrating the new and attractive church in

that valley, for which we are so largely indebted to the generosity and the zealous efforts of the Hampton family, and I was specially gratified by the presence of so many representatives of the family on this interesting occasion. The deed of donation and request for consecration was read by Mr. John Barbee, and the sentence of consecration by Rev. W. S. Barrows. The sermon was preached by me. I also confirmed seven persons, addressed them, and administered the Holy Communion.

A successful Parochial School is carried on in connection with the church by Mr. Samuel Rhodes, who has been acting for two years as Lay Reader.

Later in the season I admitted Mr. Rhodes to Deacons Orders in Asheville, so that he has since been better able to carry on a successful missionary work in connection with his Parochial School.

The day following the consecration was quite misty and threatening, so that we feared a very unpleasant journey on our return to Cullowhee, but later the clouds dispersed, and we found our descent of the mountains much more comfortable than the ascent two days before.

Thursday, August 27th, we returned to Asheville.

Saturday, I left for Flat Rock, and on Sunday, August 30th, I officiated in St. John's Church, preached and administered the Holy Communion, assisted in the services by Rev. Scott B. Rathbun, the new Rector of the Parish.

The former Rector, Rev. J. G. Drayton, had held the charge in connection with regular parochial work in the Diocese of South Carolina, so that the church was only left open during the summer months. But after his protracted illness and death, last spring, the Vestry communicated with me, and proposed a different arrangement. They also desired me to commend to them some suitable clergyman to reside at Flat Rock and keep up the services during the entire year. Upon my recommendation, Mr. Rathbun

was chosen to the Rectorship, and has been most kindly and cordially welcomed among them. At my request, the Vestry consented that during the past winter Mr. Rathbun should give a part of each Sunday to St. James' Church, Hendersonville, and in this way that church has since been regularly supplied, much to the comfort and satisfaction of the congregation. I could wish that this most fortunate arrangement might be permitted to continue, at least until some other clergyman can be procured to carry on the work at Hendersonville.

Sunday, P. M., at Hendersonville, I preached and confirmed four persons.

Monday, August 31st, I went to Saluda, which is quite a summer resort, near the summit of the Blue Ridge, and which is frequented largely by families from South Carolina. The Bishop of that Diocese has a summer residence there, and Rev. Dr. McCullough has also made that place his summer home for many years past. Chiefly through the active agency of Dr. McCullough a very neat Chapel has been built at Saluda, and as that place is in our Diocese, I was cordially invited to take the building under my spiritual jurisdiction, and consecrate it, under the name of the Church of the Transfiguration.

Tuesday, September 1st, was the day which I appointed for that service. I was made the welcome guest of the Bishop of South Carolina, together with two of the estimable clergy of his own Diocese. We proceeded to the church, and at the appointed hour the solemn consecration service was begun, Bishop Howe and a number of the clergy uniting in the service. The deed of donation and request for consecration was read by R. W. Shand, Esq., and the sentence of consecration by the Rev. Dr. McCullough. Morning Prayer was read by Rev. Mr. DuBose, of Asheville, and Rev. Messrs. Allston and Kershaw, of South Carolina. Bishop Howe commenced the communion office

and read the Epistle. I read the Gospel, preached the sermon, and also administered the Holy Communion, assisted by Bishop Howe, Rev. Dr. Johnson, of Charleston, and Rev. T. D. Bratton, of Spartanburg.

The service was one of deep interest, and afforded much gratification, especially to that faithful band who had labored so zealously to bring this good work to a successful issue. I only hope that arrangements can be made to secure regular services, at least during the summer months.

I left on the evening train for Tryon City, and only regretted that this very pleasant intercommunion had so soon to be interrupted.

Wednesday, September 2d, in the Church of the Holy Cross, Tryon City, I conducted the service, preached and administered the Holy Communion. In the afternoon, in a building which had been purchased for the colored people, I held service, baptized an adult, confirmed five persons and addressed them.

The next day I returned to Hendersonville, where I spent the night, and the following day, Friday, September 4th, I drove out to St. Paul's Church, Henderson County, accompanied by Rev. S. B. Rathbun. After Morning Prayer by Mr. Rathbun, I preached to quite a large congregation, although the day was very threatening, with frequent heavy showers. Returned in the afternoon to Hendersonville, and went at once to the railway station and proceeded to Fletcher Station. From there I was driven to the delightful and hospitable mansion of Rugby Grange.

Sunday, September 6th, in Calvary Church, after Morning Prayer by Rev. Alban Greaves, I preached, confirmed two persons, and administered the Holy Communion.

Left on Tuesday for Asheville, and on Wednesday, in Trinity Chapel, after Evening Prayer by Rev. H. S. McDuffey, I preached, confirmed nine persons and addressed them.

I regret to add that not long after this visitation Mr. McDuffey's health was much impaired, and to the great regret of the congregation he felt it necessary to give up the charge and remove to South Carolina. His place I was able almost immediately to supply with the services of Rev. Freeman W. Dunn, who had been educated and ordained in this Diocese, but who had been officiating for some time in the Diocese of Georgia.

I left Asheville Friday Sept. 11th, for Hickory, and the same evening, in the Church of the Ascension, I preached to a large congregation. I was assisted in the service by Rev. C. L. Hoffman, of Morganton, who had been holding occasional services in the vacancy of the Rectorship. Rev. J. A. Weston, who had resigned this charge and gone on a visit to Europe, had recently returned, and at a meeting of the Vestry, shortly after my visit, he was recalled to the Rectorship, and is now again in charge of the Parish.

The next morning I was sent for to baptize a sick child, and administered the ordinance just before its death. Shortly afterwards I confirmed in private a sick person.

The same day, Saturday, Sept. 12th, I took the train for Lenoir, and on arrival was driven to the Rectory, where I was warmly welcomed by Rev. Dr. Buxton and family. It was a great satisfaction to me to find this Parish and its adjacent Missions in such faithful hands, and to learn that everything was going on in the most encouraging way. The lessened cares and responsibilities in this smaller field has proved a great relief to Dr. Buxton, and his health seems to be much improved. I trust that many years of useful labors may yet be granted him.

On Sunday, September 13th, in St. James' Church, I preached to an unusually large and attentive congregation, assisted in the services by Dr. Buxton. Shortly after the service, we left for Yadkin Valley, seven miles away, and at 4 P. M., in the beautiful Chapel of Rest, after Evening

Prayer and an adult baptism by Dr. Buxton, I preached and confirmed one person.

In addition to the duties now devolved upon Dr. Buxton, I am anxious to place our Missions in Watauga County under his special supervision, so soon as I can find some zealous young clergyman to be associated with him in this work. It is a field well known to him, in which he feels a deep interest, and where his presence will always be cordially welcomed.

I spent the night at the pleasant and hospitable home of Mr. Patterson, and left the next morning for Lenoir to take the train for Hickory and Statesville. On reaching Lenoir I learned that a change of schedule had just taken place, so that there would be no afternoon train to Hickory. I secured a carriage at once and drove to Hickory, whence I proceeded by train to Statesville.

Nearly the whole of the next day was occupied in bringing up arrears of correspondence.

Wednesday, Sept. 16th, in Trinity Church, Statesville, after Morning Prayer by Rev. E. A. Osborne, I preached, confirmed three persons, addressed them, and administered the Holy Communion.

I left the same evening for Hillsboro, arriving there the next day.

Sunday, Sept. 20th, in St. Matthew's Church, I took part in the service and preached. The Rector, Rev. J. W. Murphy, had not yet returned from his trip to Europe. Later I learned that he was visited with extreme illness before his return, and when he reached Hillsboro he found himself in a very weak and shattered condition. He soon became convinced that he would not be able to carry on his work, and therefore, to the deep regret of the congregation, he resigned his charge, to take effect at Easter. He has been one of our most faithful and efficient workers, and

his removal is a great loss, not only to his Parish, but to the whole Diocese.

I left Hillsboro the middle of the week, to continue on with my visitation, and on Thursday, September 24th, held service in Cunningham's Chapel, Person County, baptized an adult and an infant, preached, confirmed two persons, addressed them, and administered the Holy Communion.

At night I held service and preached in the new church at Milton. We had very large congregations at both services. In these joint missions we have a noble opportunity for a most successful work, but I have not been able to find a suitable person to undertake the duty. The support, in the first instance, must necessarily be limited, but an active, energetic and judicious worker would soon build up two excellent congregations.

Sunday, September 27th, in St. Paul's Church, Winston, after Morning Prayer by Rev. Mr. Reaney, I preached, confirmed five persons, addressed them, and administered the Holy Communion. Preached again at the evening service. Winston is one of our most promising places, and the Church here is making a steady advance.

Tuesday, September 29th, in Christ Church, Walnut Cove, I was assisted in the services by Rev. F. S. Stickney, preached, confirmed ten persons, addressed them, and administered the Holy Communion. I found much to encourage in the work at this place. The interest in the Church and her services is steadily increasing and strengthening, and if only more frequent services could be provided, we should surely find a much larger measure of prosperity.

Wednesday, September 30th, in St. Philip's Church, Germanton; Rev. Mr. Stickney read the Morning Prayer. After the Second Lesson, I baptized one adult and one infant, preached, confirmed one person, and administered the Holy Communion.

Thursday, October 1st, I consecrated the new and very beautiful Church of St. John, at Madison, Rockingham county. The deed of donation, with request for consecration, was read by Col. John M. Galloway, and the sentence of consecration by Rev. N. B. Harris. I preached and administered the Holy Communion, assisted in the services by Rev. F. S. Stickney, the minister in charge, and Rev. Mr. Harris, of Reidsville. So graceful and attractive a church I was hardly prepared to find; and it reflects very great credit and honor upon the few who have labored so faithfully that they have been able to accomplish such a result.

In the same church, at 4 P. M., after Evening Prayer, I confirmed nine persons and addressed them. Large and interested congregations were present at both services.

I returned the next day to Walnut Cove, and on Saturday, October 3d, Rev. Mr. Stickney accompanied me to Mt. Airy. This thriving place I had never visited before, and found there much to cheer and encourage.

On Sunday, October 4th, a very large congregation assembled in the spacious Opera-House, which we had been kindly invited to occupy, and I preached both morning and evening, Rev. Mr. Stickney assisting in the services. At an earlier hour, in a private parlor at the hotel, I administered the Holy Communion to about fifteen communicants. At this important centre we are very anxious to erect a church so soon as the requisite funds can be secured. This place is within the circuit of Mr. Stickney's missions, and one in which he has been doing an excellent work; but unless I can secure some faithful helper for him, it will be impossible to gather in the fruits which now seem so promising.

The next day I went by rail to Wilkesboro, and it was a great relief to be able to reach that place without the long

and fatiguing drives which had been inseparable from all previous visitations.

Tuesday, October 6th, in St. Paul's Church, after Morning Prayer by Rev. R. W. Barber, I preached, confirmed two persons, addressed them, and administered the Holy Communion. Wilkesboro and the neighborhood showed signs of decided improvement, as the result of the railway facilities which are now enjoyed, and I trust that the Church may share in this general progress.

Wednesday, October 7th, I preached and administered the Holy Communion at Gwyn's Chapel, and in the afternoon returned by rail to Wilkesboro.

I left the next morning, by carriage, for Lenoir, and took the train the following morning to Lincolnton.

Friday, October 9th, in St. Luke's Church, after Evening Prayer by Rev. W. R. Wetmore, I preached, confirmed nine persons and addressed them.

On Saturday, I took the train to Shelby, and on Sunday, October 11th, in St. Thomas' Church, I was assisted in the service by Rev. Gerard W. Phelps, who has been officiating since that time at Shelby and Rutherfordton. I preached and administered the Holy Communion. By removals from the town, we have lost several attached members of the Church, so that the congregation has been much weakened.

Late in the afternoon, Mr. Phelps accompanied me to Rutherfordton, and at night, in St. John's Church, after Evening Prayer by him, I preached, confirmed four persons and addressed them. This congregation, too, has recently suffered serious loss by the removal to other places of some of our most devoted members. Mr. Phelps has been struggling on under many discouragements, but still hopes that a good work may be done in this field.

I left by rail next morning for Marion, and proceeded on to Morganton. At 8 P. M. I held a service in the church,

for colored people, and after Evening Prayer by Rev. Mr. Hoffman and Rev. Mr. McDuffey, I preached, confirmed eleven persons and addressed them. A very pretty church for the colored congregation has been built in Morganton, and by this time is, no doubt, entirely completed.

The next morning, Tuesday, October 13th, Mr. Hoffman conducted the service in Grace Church, and after the Second Lesson, I baptized an infant, preached, and administered the Holy Communion.

I left the next morning for Black Mountain, where I visited an attached member of the Church, and continued my journey the following day to Asheville.

Sunday, October 18th, in Trinity Church, I held a confirmation service, and confirmed eleven persons, making thirty-eight confirmed since last Convention. I then preached and admitted to Deacon's Orders Mr. Samuel Rhodes, on presentation by Dr. Buel. I also administered the Holy Communion, assisted by Dr. Buel, Mr. DuBose and Mr. Rhodes.

On Tuesday, I was driven from Asheville to Bowman's Bluff, and on Wednesday, October 21st, in Gethsemane Church, I was assisted in the services by Rev. Edward Bradley and Rev. S. B. Rathbun. I preached, confirmed two persons, and administered the Holy Communion.

In the afternoon, we drove on fifteen miles to Brevard.

Thursday, October 22d, I consecrated St. Philip's Church, which, although erected several years ago, had only been completed a few days before this visit. It is now a very tasteful and attractive church. The deed of donation and request for consecration were read by Rev. Edward Bradley, who had been officiating some months at Brevard, and the sentence of consecration by Rev. S. B. Rathbun, of Flat Rock. I preached, confirmed two persons, addressed them, and administered the Holy Communion.

I was sorry to learn that Mr. Bradley, whose services had

proved so very acceptable, would not be able to continue any longer in charge, and up to this time I have not been successful in making any satisfactory arrangements for a supply of services. It is a most interesting field, and one of no little promise.

Friday, October 23d, I was driven back to Asheville.

On Saturday, I left for Franklin, going by rail to Dillsboro, and thence twenty miles by carriage, arriving about 7 P. M.

Sunday, October 25th, in St. Agnes' Church, after Morning Prayer by Rev. J. A. Deal and Rev. George C. Whyte, I preached, confirmed two persons and administered the Holy Communion.

Mr. Whyte returned north shortly after my visit, and Rev. J. W. Barker, from Florida, has been assisting Mr. Deal in his extended missionary field.

The next day I left on my return to Asheville, and on Friday took the train for Raleigh.

Sunday, November 1st, in the Church of the Good Shepherd, I took part in the morning service, and administered the Holy Communion, assisted by Rev. Mr. Pittenger, who had entered upon his duties a few weeks before as Rector of the Parish.

Sunday, November 8th, I assisted in the services in Christ Church, Raleigh.

Sunday, November 15th, I preached in the Chapel of St. Mary's School.

First Sunday in Advent, November 29th, in Emmanuel Church, Warrenton, after Morning Prayer by Rev. Edward Benedict and Rev. B. S. Bronson, I confirmed three persons, preached and admitted to the Priesthood Rev. Edward P. Green and Rev. Fenner S. Stickney, Deacons, on presentation by Rev. B. S. Bronson, who, with Rev. Mr. Benedict, assisted in the laying on of hands. I also administered the Holy Communion.

Second Sunday in Advent, December 6th, in the Chapel of the Cross, Chapel Hill, after Morning Prayer by Rev. F. Towers, I confirmed one person, preached and administered the Holy Communion. Preached again at the evening service.

Sunday, December 13th, in Christ Church, Raleigh, I assisted in the service and preached.

Saturday, December 19th, being the fiftieth anniversary of my ordination to the Priesthood, special services were held in the Church of the Good Shepherd, Raleigh, under the direction of a committee appointed for that purpose at our last Convention. The choir, followed by the clergy and Bishop, entered the church singing a processional hymn. I then began the Communion office. The Epistle was read by Rev. Dr. Marshall and the Gospel was read by me, followed by the Nicene Creed. A very jubilant Te Deum was then sung by the united choirs of Christ Church and the Church of the Good Shepherd. I then delivered an extended address, reviewing the long period during which I had been permitted to officiate at the Holy Altar. Upon its conclusion I was addressed in a very kind and cordial way by Rev. Dr. Marshall, President of the Standing Committee and as the representative of the Diocese, and he concluded by presenting me with a beautiful Pastoral Staff as the expression of the sympathy and love of a kind and affectionate people. I was deeply touched by this unexpected gift, and in a few words sought to give utterance to my most grateful acknowledgments, not only for so appropriate and expressive a symbol, but for the tender and loving words by which this gift was accompanied. The Holy Communion was then administered.

The same evening the doors of my own residence were thrown open to all who might feel disposed to come, and several hundreds of friends met me, with kindest congratu-

lations and the most cordial good wishes. It was indeed a very happy and joyous reunion.

The next evening, Sunday, December 20th, the festal jubilee was continued in Christ Church. A procession of choristers and clergy entered the western door of the church, followed by the Bishop, who was immediately preceded by his appointed chaplain bearing the Pastoral Staff. The church was densely crowded, and a very deep interest was manifested. After Evening Prayer by Rev. Mr. Pittenger and Rev. William Walker, very valuable addresses were delivered by the Hon. Kemp P. Battle, Rev. J. B. Cheshire, Jr., D.D., and F. S. Spruill, Esq. I made a brief closing address, after which the joint choirs of Christ Church and the Good Shepherd rendered, with thrilling effect, that grand and impressive anthem, "How beautiful are the feet of the messengers who preach the gospel of peace." I then closed this jubilee service with some appropriate collects and the Apostolic Benediction.

In thus recalling this most interesting occasion, I should do great injustice to my own feelings did I not give utterance to my deep appreciation of all the sympathy and kindness which were so freely manifested, and of which I felt myself so unworthy. The one controlling desire of my heart was that, by God's gracious blessing upon me, the time which still remains for me may be passed in a spirit of increased devotion to the interests of the kingdom of Christ. To the dear people of my charge, I desire to devote whatever of strength and health and energy may still be granted me; and may we all be unitedly awakened to higher zeal and increased consecration to the great work which is here given us to do.

Only three days after this interesting jubilee I was seized by a very sharp attack of that singular and trying disease by which so many have suffered during the past winter. For three weeks I was closely confined to the house, but

through the skill of kind and sympathizing physicians, and by the blessing of God, I came out of the ordeal quite strong and sound, and with but very little of lingering weaknesses. Still, for greater security, I was advised to go, for a few weeks, to a milder climate, while escaping, at the same time, from the continuous labors which seem inseparable from remaining at home. Acting upon this advice, I arranged a programme for making several visits to valued friends in South Carolina and Georgia, where I shared the largest and most generous hospitality and derived the greatest enjoyment and benefit from the journey.

I went first to Charlotte, on my way to the South, in order to attend to an important duty there.

Before leaving home on Saturday, Jan. 24th, I preached in the Church of the Good Shepherd, Raleigh. I left on Monday, January 25th, and the next day, Tuesday, January 26th, in St. Michael's Church, Charlotte, I preached and admitted to the Priesthood Rev. Primus P. Alston, Deacon, the minister in charge, on presentation by Rev. E. A. Osborne, who, with Rev. C. N. F. Jeffery, united in the laying on of hands. I also administered the Holy Communion.

Early in the same afternoon I took the train for Columbia, where I passed a few days very pleasantly with kind and valued friends.

Sunday, January 31, I spent most agreeably at Union, S. C.; preached and administered the Holy Communion in the morning, and preached again at the evening service, Rev. B. S. Allston, Rector of the Parish, conducting the services.

I left on Monday for Charleston, and spent part of the week there and a part with friends residing some miles out of the city, and greatly enjoyed my visits.

Sunday, February 7th, I preached in St. Philip's Church, Charleston, in the morning, assisted in the services by the Rector, Rev. Dr. Johnson, and at night I preached to the

large colored congregation in St. Mark's Church. The following Sunday, February 14th, I preached in the Church of Prince George, Georgetown, S. C., and on February 21, I preached in St. Paul's Church, Augusta, Georgia.

On Tuesday I went to Atlanta, and on Wednesday, February 24th, in St. Luke's Cathedral, I took part in the interesting and impressive services in connection with the consecration of Rev. Cleland Kinloch Nelson, D.D., as Bishop of Georgia. I read the Epistle in the Communion Service, and as one of the co-Consecrators, united in the laying on of hands.

The next morning I left for Charlotte, arriving the same evening.

Friday, February 26th, I commenced my Spring visitation at St. Mark's Church, Mecklenburg County, and after Morning Prayer by Rev. J. B. Cheshire, Jr., D.D., and Rev. C. N. F. Jeffery, I preached, confirmed ten persons, addressed them and administered the Holy Communion. I was pleased to find this congregation in an increasingly prosperous condition, although there had been much serious sickness among them, and no little distress from the shortness of the crops. And as I continued my visitation later, in the more easterly district of the Diocese, it was truly painful to learn how very many of our people were greatly straitened through the comparative failure of the crops, and the low range of prices. Many find it extremely difficult to make their accustomed offerings for maintaining among them the ministrations of the sanctuary. Surely those who are more richly blessed should feel that it is specially incumbent upon them to contribute in much larger measure to our missionary offerings, so that we may be able to lend a helping hand to many of our clergy, who are sorely crippled by this wide-spread stringency. "Bear ye one another's burdens," saith the Apostle, "and so fulfil the law of Christ."

Sunday, February 28th, in St. Peter's Church, Charlotte, I preached and administered the Holy Communion, assisted in the services by the Rector.

At 4 P. M., in St. Michael's Church, after Evening Prayer by Rev. P. O. Alston, and a sermon by Dr. Cheshire, I confirmed ten persons and addressed them. At night I preached again in St. Peter's Church.

I left the next day for Monroe, and the same evening, in St. Paul's Church, after Evening Prayer by Rev. Messrs. Quin and Jeffery, I preached, confirmed eight persons and addressed them. The service awakened much interest, and the church was crowded to its utmost capacity. The prospects of the church at Monroe are most encouraging. Since my visit steps have been taken to erect, on the church lot, a suitable Parsonage. Monroe is an excellent centre for a large mission work, which I am most anxious should be promptly undertaken.

Tuesday, March 1st, I continued my journey to Laurel Hill and Malloy's Factory, where quite a considerable community is congregated. We have there the use of a commodious Chapel, and our services are much appreciated. In this Chapel on Ash Wednesday, March 2d, after Morning Prayer by Rev. William Walker, I preached, confirmed three persons and administered the Holy Communion. Shortly before the service I went with Mr. Walker to a private house in the neighborhood, where I confirmed a sick man who had long been confined to his bed.

I was much gratified to find at our Chapel service so large and attentive a congregation. It is very plain that old prejudices are rapidly passing away, and that the solemn and impressive services of the church, coupled with simple gospel teaching, are finding a wider and more general acceptance.

Soon after the services I took the train to Wadesboro, and on Thursday was driven to Ansonville.

Friday, March 4th, quite a large congregation assembled in the church, and after the Litany by Rev. Mr. Quin, I preached and administered the Holy Communion.

We held a service in the evening, when the church was entirely filled, many coming from a considerable distance. I preached and confirmed one person. One other candidate was not at all well during the service, and I confirmed him in private early the next morning.

In the afternoon I was driven back to Wadesboro, and delivered a lecture in Calvary Church in the evening.

Sunday, March 6th, in the same church, after Morning Prayer by Rev. Mr. Quin, I preached, confirmed seven persons, addressed them, and administered the Holy Communion. I preached again at the evening service.

A considerable amount has already been secured toward the erection of a new church in Wadesboro, and much anxiety is manifested to enter upon the work during the present season. Such a church is greatly needed, and I feel sure would do much to secure an increasing measure of progress and prosperity.

Monday, March 7th, I returned to Raleigh, after an absence of many weeks.

Thursday, March 10th, in Christ Church, after Evening Prayer by Rev. Dr. Marshall, I delivered a lecture, with special reference to the Lenten season.

Second Sunday in Lent, March 13th, in St. Philip's Church, Durham, I conducted the service, baptized three infants, preached and administered the Holy Communion.

The vigorous efforts of the Vestry to secure a Rector for this Parish have resulted in the election of the Rev. Stewart McQueen, who has accepted the charge and will enter upon his duties on the first day of June.

The following Sunday, March 20th, I visited St. Matthew's Church, Hillsboro. I found the Rector too unwell to take much part in the services. I preached, confirmed

seven persons and addressed them. I took part also in the evening service at five o'clock.

This interesting Parish I trust may not be long without a zealous and active Rector. Together with its two Mission Stations, it presents an encouraging field where much may be accomplished.

I returned the next day to Raleigh.

Saturday, March 26th, I left in the morning for Wilson, and the same evening, in St. Timothy's Church, I took part in the service.

Fourth Sunday in Lent, March 27th, in same church, after Morning Prayer by Rev. C. J. Wingate, I preached, confirmed seven persons and addressed them.

At night, in St. Mark's Church, after Evening Prayer by Rev. Mr. Perry, I preached, confirmed three persons and addressed them.

After more than a year's vacancy in the Rectorship of St. Timothy's, I was rejoiced to find the vacancy so happily supplied and everything connected with the Parish in so prosperous and encouraging a condition. A strong effort is in progress looking to the erection of a new and larger church edifice, now so imperatively demanded. Nothing, I am sure, but the general financial depression now so widely prevailing will prevent the completion of this work during the present year.

The next day, at noon, I took the train to Battleboro, and at night, in St. John's Church, now nearly completed, I conducted the services and preached. As this mission has been almost entirely without services for the past year, I was glad to find that the interest in the work seemed unabated, while all were most anxious for renewed ministerial services.

Tuesday, March 29th, in the Church of the Good Shepherd, Rocky Mount, I conducted the services, preached and administered the Holy Communion. Here, too, there has

been a long vacancy in the Rectorship, although the most vigorous efforts have been made for its supply. The mission at Battleboro is associated with the Parish at Rocky Mount, and so soon as the Parish can be supplied the mission will also be cared for. The field is a most encouraging and attractive one, and I am deeply concerned that it should so long be unsupplied.

I left the next day for Tarboro, and at night in St. Luke's Church, after Evening Prayer by Rev. Mr. Perry, I preached and confirmed one person.

Thursday, March 31, in Calvary Church, Tarboro, I celebrated the Holy Communion and made an address after the Gospel. At night, after Evening Prayer by Rev. Mr. Hebbard, I preached, confirmed twenty-four persons, and addressed them. A very important mission work is carried on in several districts by the labors of lay workers of the Parish, under the immediate direction of the Rector, and with the most encouraging results.

Friday, April 1, I was driven out to St. Mary's Chapel, Edgecombe County, one of the Missions of Calvary Church. After Morning Prayer by Rev. Messrs. Hebbard and Smith, I preached, confirmed five persons, addressed them and administered the Holy Communion. The same evening I was driven on to Scotland Neck.

Sunday, April 3d, in Trinity Church, after Morning Prayer by Rev. W. J. Smith, I preached, confirmed two persons, addressed them, and administered the Holy Communion. The large Church was entirely filled, and much interest was manifested in the services.

Tuesday, April 5th, in Church of the Advent, Enfield, I was assisted in the services by Rev. Mr. Mellichampe. I preached, confirmed five persons, addressed them, and administered the Holy Communion. Directly after the service, I went to the house of a member of the congregation who was seriously ill, and confirmed him and his wife.

In the afternoon I was driven to Ringwood, and the next day, in St. Clement's Church, after the Litany by Rev. Mr. Mellichampe, I preached and administered the Holy Communion, Rev. Dr. Smith, although quite feeble, assisted in the service. I believe this was his last official act before he was taken from us, only a little more than a week later. We greatly need at once a zealous and active clergyman to take charge of the two churches at Enfield and Ringwood.

Friday, April 8th, in St. Mark's Church, Halifax, after the Litany by Mr. Mellichampe, I preached and administered the Holy Communion.

At night, in Grace Church, Weldon, after Evening Prayer by Mr. Mellichampe, I preached, confirmed four persons and addressed them.

Sunday before Easter, April 10, in the Church of the Saviour, Jackson, Rev. Mr. Picard assisted in the service, I preached, confirmed three persons, and administered the Holy Communion.

At 5 P. M. I confirmed a lady at her own house, and at 5:30, in the Church, assisted at the evening service.

Tuesday, April 12th, I preached in St. Luke's Church, Gaston, assisted in the service by Rev. Edward Benedict, who has charge of that Mission.

Wednesday, April 12th, I crossed the Roanoke at an early hour to Gaston Station, where I took the morning train to Littleton, reaching there before 8 o'clock.

At 10:30 in the Chapel of the Cross, I found the largest congregation I had ever seen in Littleton; and after the Litany by Rev. Mr. Mellichampe, I preached, confirmed seven persons, and addressed them. With the very large field under the care of Mr. Mellichampe, he greatly needs an active helper to be associated with him. There is every promise of most encouraging results, but the labors are really beyond the strength of any one clergyman. Alas!

my dear brethren, on nearly every side we have abundant evidence of the lack of sufficient laborers for the work which needs to be done, and I see not how this want is to be supplied, unless every encouragement is given to devout and earnest young men to devote themselves to the work of the holy ministry. Our attention must be more turned to the young men of our own Diocese to supply these pressing needs.

Shortly after the close of the service at Littleton, I took the train for Ridgeway, and then was driven five miles into the country, to St. Luke's Church, Warren County, where we have a small colored congregation. Rev. Wm. Walker conducted the service, after which I made an address on the subject of confirmation; confirmed five persons and addressed them.

Thursday, April 14th, in the Church of the Good Shepherd, Ridgeway, after Morning Prayer by Rev. W. S. Pettigrew and Rev. Wm. Walker, I preached, confirmed two persons, and administered the Holy Communion.

Good Friday, April 15th, in the church at Middleburg, after Morning Prayer by Mr. Pettigrew, I preached and administered the Holy Communion.

Easter Day, April 17th, in St. John's Church, Williamsboro, a very large congregation assembled. I preached, confirmed one person, and administered the Holy Communion, assisted in the services by Rev. Mr. Pettigrew.

Tuesday, April 19th, was a day of marked interest. The graceful and attractive Church of the Holy Innocents, at Henderson, was then consecrated. Several of the clergy from a distance, and the choir of the Church of the Good Shepherd, Raleigh, came to take part in the sacred solemnity. At 11 o'clock the Bishop entered the Church and led the procession to the Chancel, reciting the opening Psalm of the Consecration Services. The deed of donation was read by the Senior Warden, Mr. G. C. Lamb, and

the sentence of consecration by the Rev. J. E. Ingle, Rector of the Parish. The Bishop continued the consecration office, and at its close Morning Prayer was read by Rev. J. M. Horner and Rev. M. T. Turner. In the Communion office the Epistle was read by Rev. F. L. Bush, and the Gospel by Rev. A. B. Hunter. The sermon was preached by the Bishop, who also administered the Holy Communion. Rev. C. C. Quin acted as Chaplain to the Bishop, carrying before him the Pastoral Staff. Rev. Mr. Pittenger, of Raleigh, was also present. A very large congregation was in attendance, and all seemed greatly to enjoy the impressive service.

I left the next morning for Oxford, and at night, in St. Stephen's Church, after Evening Prayer by Rev. Messrs. Horner and Quin, I preached, confirmed sixteen persons and addressed them. Rev. Wm. W. Walker, Rector of the Parish, took part in the service. This Parish is in a very prosperous condition, and greatly needs a new and larger Church edifice. A vigorous effort to this end is now in progress, and I trust it may be crowned with complete success.

Thursday, April 21, I visited St. Paul's Church, Goshen. Rev. Messrs. W. W. Walker and J. M. Horner accompanied me and took part in the service. I preached and administered the Holy Communion. Mr. Horner officiates here one Sunday in each month, and an increasing interest is manifested in the services. Mr. Walker remained with me until the next morning, and we then drove back to Oxford.

On Saturday I went to Kittrell, and on Sunday, April 24th, in St. James' Church, the Rector, Rev. M. T. Turner, assisted in the service. I preached and administered the Holy Communion. I took part also in the evening service. The next morning I went by the early train to Raleigh.

Sunday, May 1st, in Christ Church, Raleigh, after Morning Prayer by Rev. Dr. Marshall, I preached; confirmed a

class of twelve persons, addressed them and administered the Holy Communion.

At night, in St. Augustine's Church, after Evening Prayer by Rev. W. Walker and Rev. H. B. Delany, I preached, confirmed fourteen persons and addressed them. The church was more crowded than I have ever seen it, and a very unusual interest was manifested.

Monday, May 2d, I held an Ordination in the same church, and admitted to the Priesthood Rev. H. B. Delany, Deacon, who for some time has been assisting in the services at that church. Morning Prayer was read by Rev. Dr. Bennett Smedes and I. McK. Pittenger, the sermon was preached by Rev. A. B. Hunter, the candidate was presented by Rev. Dr. Marshall, and all the clergy present united in the laying on of hands. The Holy Communion was then administered. A large congregation was present.

Sunday, May 8th, in the Church of the Good Shepherd, Raleigh, after Morning Prayer by Rev. I. McK. Pittenger, I preached, confirmed fifteen persons, addressed them, and administered the Holy Communion.

Mr. Pittenger entered upon the Rectorship of this Parish last September, and has been very kindly and cordially received. The congregation has been steadily increasing, and a deepening interest seems to be manifested by the members of the congregation. The Rectory has been much improved and made a very comfortable home. A vested choir has been introduced, which meets with much favor, while the organ recess and the chancel have been enlarged and improved.

The evening of the same day I made my visitation to St. Mary's School. At 6 the pupils entered the Chapel, singing a processional hymn. After Evening Prayer by Rev. B. Smedes, I confirmed thirteen of the pupils of the school and addressed them. The Chapel was crowded, and the services were very beautiful and impressive.

I am pleased to add here that the School is in a more prosperous condition than for many years past, and is fully sustaining its high reputation for thorough scholarship and for that refined and elevated tone for which it has ever been distinguished. This next month will complete the half century since its establishment, and when we recall the widespread influence for good which has emanated from this noble institution, well may we rejoice in connection with its happy jubilee. May it long continue sending forth, as from a perennial fountain, those pure, and Christian, and ennobling influences which shall make it an enduring blessing to generations yet unborn.

And now, dear brethren of the Clergy and Laity, I have thus given you an outline of the duties which have been discharged by me since our last Convention. While deeply regretting that my health has been, at times, so much impaired as in some degree to interrupt my public duties, yet I am sure you will recognize the fact that quite a large amount of work has been accomplished, and you will also agree with me that we have great cause for encouragement. We have made several valuable accessions to the ranks of the clergy, and I do not remember any time since I first came among you when more interest was shown in the work of the Church or a readier disposition to stay up the hands and encourage the hearts of those who are ministering among you.

The following is a summary of duties discharged by me during the past year: I have baptized three adults and ten infants; have confirmed three hundred and eighty-one candidates; have preached one hundred and two sermons and delivered fifty addresses; have officiated at one funeral; have ordained six Priests and two Deacons; have consecrated seven Churches, and administered the Holy Communion on sixty-two occasions.

I have given Letters Dismissory and received notice of

acceptance in behalf of Rev. Milnor Jones, Deacon, to the Diocese of Oregon ; Rev. Arthur N. Wrixon, to the Diocese of Maine ; Rev. Charles L. Hoffman, to the Diocese of East Carolina ; Rev. Henry S. McDuffey, to the Diocese of South Carolina ; Rev. Charles F. Drake, M. D., to the Diocese of Springfield.

And by Letters Dismissory I have received the following : Rev. I. McK. Pittenger, from the Diocese of Long Island ; Rev. Gerard W. Phelps, from the Diocese of Virginia ; Rev. J. W. Barker, Deacon, from the Diocese of Florida ; Rev. Scott B. Rathbun, from the Diocese of Albany ; Rev. Charles Ferris, from the Diocese of Connecticut ; Rev. Freeman W. Dunn, Deacon, from the Diocese of Georgia, and Rev. Edward Benedict, from the Diocese of Newark.

Rev. Mr. Pittenger has charge of the Church of the Good Shepherd, Raleigh ; Rev. G. W. Phelps is officiating at Shelby and Rutherfordton ; Rev. J. W. Barker is assisting Rev. J. A. Deal in his large missionary district ; Rev. Charles Ferris has charge of the congregations at Lexington and High Point ; Rev. Mr. Rathbun has become Rector of St. John's Church in the Wilderness, at Flat Rock. Rev. Charles J. Wingate has resigned the Rectorship of St. Philip's Church, Durham, and has become Rector of St. Timothy's Church, Wilson. Rev. Edward Benedict has charge of the congregations at Warrenton, Jackson and Gaston. The Rev. Frederick Towers has resigned the charge of the congregations at Warrenton, Jackson and Gaston, and has become Rector of the Chapel of the Cross, Chapel Hill. The Rev. Joseph W. Murphy, in consequence of continued ill-health, resigned some months since the charge of St. Matthew's Church, Hillsboro, to take effect at Easter, and has removed to Washington City, D. C. Rev. Freeman W. Dunn has taken charge of Trinity Chapel, Asheville, made vacant by the removal of Rev. H. S. McDuffey to South Carolina.

Rev. Edward P. Green has accepted the Rectorship of Grace Church, Morganton, and has entered upon its duties. Rev. Charles T. Bland has resigned the missionary work at Marion and Old Fort, and has become Rector of St. Bartholomew's Church, Pittsboro.

The whole number of the Clergy now connected with the Diocese is sixty-four.

The candidates for Priests Orders are : Rev. William F. Rice, Deacon, and Messrs. Nathan A. Seagle, George V. Gilreath, St. Clair Hester, and J. D. Miller.

The candidates for Deacons Orders are : Messrs. S. A. B. Trott, Sidney S. Bost, H. M. Parker, Robert Bruce Owens, Gaston Battle and Abner Hill.

The Postulants are : Messrs. Edward L. Whitehead, John H. Gilreath, John Creighton Seagle, Alfred James Griffin, Thomas Cogdell Wetmore, John R. Brooks and Herbert B. Trussell.

I regret to add that there are still several important vacancies in the Diocese, and these, I trust, will soon be happily supplied.

In our extensive mission fields we greatly need several active and efficient clergymen. The prospects of growth and progress are every way most promising, but the insufficiency of our missionary funds renders it well-nigh impossible, at this time, to provide for these needs. And, my dear brethren, I feel it a great and imperative duty to urge again upon all our people a livelier and more intelligent interest in the extended missionary districts which are lying all around us. We are losing many noble opportunities where the fields are ripe for the harvest, and where the most cheering results could be accomplished if only we could sustain the laborers whom we may be able to procure. May God help us all duly to recognize both our opportunities and our obligations. May He inspire us with courage and faith and that holy kindling love which shall impel us

to seek first the kingdom of God and make it our meat and our drink to do His holy will. And may we all remember that gifts and sacrifices which are cheerfully made for the promotion of the glory of God will always be found laden with richer blessings to him who gives than to him who receives the gift. For there is no declaration of Divine wisdom which is more true than the language of that apparent paradox, "There is that scattereth and yet increaseth, and there is that withholdeth more than is meet but it tendeth to poverty."

Before concluding this address, permit me to say a few words in regard to the different institutions which hold a close relation to the Diocese.

The Ravenscroft High School for Boys has been increasingly prosperous during the past year, so that some provision will need very soon to be made for enlarging the accommodation for boarding pupils.

The Ravenscroft Theological Training School, which has its home in Schoenberger Hall, has been much hindered in its work during the past year, but we hope very soon to see it upon an improved basis, and carrying on successfully the important work for which it was established.

The Thompson Orphanage, under the judicious guidance of Rev. E. A. Osborne, is moving steadily onward in its important work of mercy and of charity, but much perplexity is often occasioned by the irregularity and uncertainty in the supply of those funds upon which it is so entirely dependent. The Orphanage greatly needs some fixed income upon which it can count with confidence for the supply of a part, at least, of its daily needs. Let us hope that, as the great benefits bestowed by this institution are better known and appreciated, there will be clearly manifested among our people an increasing disposition to devise more liberal things for the furtherance of so noble and necessary a work. I am glad to know that through the

generous bounty of one of its faithful friends, a convenient and attractive Chapel has been erected during the past year, which greatly adds to the convenience, the dignity and beauty of the daily worship, and of consequence increases the interest in that worship.

There are also, in connection with this Orphanage, other very urgent needs, the supply of which is indispensable for the successful prosecution of the work. Let us hope and pray that every liberal benefaction which is bestowed may prove a powerful stimulus to other kind and sympathizing hearts, encouraging such further generous gifts as will place this Orphanage upon a solid basis, and make it an increasing power for good.

Nor should I fail to remind you of the plan which has been, in part, inaugurated to establish near Salisbury a school for boys, where a sound, Christian education may be placed within the reach of very many who cannot afford the advantages of more costly schools. An excellent and valuable property has been secured, and a day school has been opened. But a considerable increase of funds is greatly needed, more fully to develop this important plan. The remaining debt upon the property should be cleared off as soon as it is possible; and further funds are also greatly needed to cover a part of the cost of carrying on the school. Would that an effort so praiseworthy as this might find many and generous supporters.

And now, with a few words of a more strictly personal character, I will not trespass longer upon your patience.

The occasional interruptions of my work during the past two years from impaired health, the result, perhaps, of too close and protracted attention to official duties, warns me of the necessity of somewhat lightening my public labors. And I think this can be accomplished without any material loss to the Diocese. Many of my most toilsome and exhausting visitations are to very feeble Missions, in remote

districts, where no serious hindrance would be sustained if the visits were less frequently made. By going only once in two years to many of these places, every needed purpose would be accomplished and I should thus find my duties materially lightened. If we can only provide a regular supply of services in all destitute parts of the Diocese, a little longer interval between the visits of the Bishop would prove no very serious discouragement. But we do need an increase of earnest, active missionaries, and for them let us not cease to pray.

And now, commending you all to the care and guidance of the Great Shepherd of the Sheep, let me invoke upon you His rich and abundant blessing.

THEODORE B. LYMAN,
Bishop of North Carolina.