

TEL. HINTLESHAM 238.

August 25<sup>th</sup> 1940

Hyntle Place,

Hintlesham,

Ipswich.

My dear Harold.

I was very pleased to receive your letter of July 14<sup>th</sup> and to get from it some account of Canadian conditions. There seems to be an admirable spirit in the Dominion, and it is difficult to over-state the value of its contribution to the Defence of the Empire at this dreadful juncture. The Prime Minister's last speech was magnificent. He is a Great Leader worthy of the Great People he is leading.

You may have heard that he has asked me to accept a Canony of Westminster, "as a piece of War work", and thus to return to the position to which I was appointed 40 years ago. We shall continue to make this our home, only going to the official house in Dean's Yard for the necessary period viz: ten weeks in the year of 'close residence', and attendance at Chapter Meetings and on occasions of special importance. The house which we shall occupy was built in Charles II's reign, & is a fine building, dignified & commodious. I allow myself to indulge the hope that, perhaps, when the War has

Ended, you & your family might visit us there. I should like to show Westminster Abbey to the young people. But I may be too sanguine, for I have told the Prime Minister that in no case, will I retain the canonry after I have reached the age of 80, and that will be in 1943.

It may be that the War will even then be proceeding; but I do not think so. My belief is that, when once his attack on Britain has been definitely defeated, he will tumble quickly. His loss of prestige will release into action the vast accumulated hatreds of his multiphase victims; & he will pass "as foam on the water".

Air-raids are frequent, but they do not effect much. So far from breaking the spirit of the people. they stiffen their resolution to fight on until a final end of Hitler and his gang of lying criminals have been swept from the earth. I never remember the people being so united and so determined.

I find great comfort in the Psalms, with their persistent note of faith in the Sovereignty of God, and in His justice. "Clouds & darkness are round about Him: righteousness & judgement are the habitation of His Seat."

It is a great thing to be on God's side in this War.

With kindest regards to your wife & family, I am  
always your affect<sup>o</sup>. Uncle.

H. Hensby Henson  
Bishop