

dential course of proceeding appears the more necessary when we consider the difficulties which have already occurred in impeding our progress.

After procuring the Royal assent to the Act of the 19th and 20th of her Majesty's reign, intitled, "An Act to enable the members of the United Church of England and Ireland to meet in Synod," we considered that all obstacles in the way of the free action of the Church were removed, and we proceeded in the diocese of Toronto with organizing our Synod, and taking such steps as would enable the Church to become more efficient, and to wait without any serious damage till the Provincial Synod was duly constituted; because to that regulating body we look forward to give uniformity to the proceedings of the Diocesan Synod, so that the Canadian branch of the Church may act with harmony as an united body, though embracing several Diocesan Synods.

The slight interruption to the following up of the course which occurred in the Diocese of Quebec has been happily removed by an explanatory act, which, though perhaps scarcely required, it was thought more expedient to procure than to leave anything in the form of an objection which might hereafter stand in the way of future accordance in the proceedings of the Diocesan Synod; and indeed this interruption has been, by a wise Providence, so far overruled for good that it would be ungracious now to complain. It could hardly be expected that the revival in the colonies of the inherent powers of the Church, which even in the mother country have been long in abeyance, could be attempted without some opposition, and many fears and anxieties. We have great reason therefore to be thankful to God, that they have been so easily appensed and done so little harm, and that all obstructions being now cleared away, the different dioceses may proceed with diligence in completing their own constitutions in such a way as to prepare for the efficient establishment of the Provincial Synod, which will be able, from its more grave composition and superintending powers, virtually to mould the Diocesan Synods into one harmonious whole.

It is with much pleasure that I have to announce that an act was passed during the late session of the Provincial Parliament, establishing a Church Society for the diocese of Huron, which I believe to be identical in its provisions with that which has been long so beneficially in operation in this diocese: it was cordially and energetically supported by the friends of the Church in both dioceses, and exhibited a concord of feeling and purpose most encouraging to all concerned.

The position of the Episcopal Fund for the proposed Diocese of Kingston is, perhaps, in a state as forward as could have been expected from the severe pressure of the times. The amount as certified by the Rev. Mr. Stewart, the Secretary, falls short of £7000, but as this does not include the £600 voted, though not paid over, by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, and several other items that are on hand or forthcoming, we assume the true amount at £8000 currency; and were this all so available as to be invested at eight per cent., it would accumulate soon to the minimum of £10,000; so that in this view it would only be a matter of two or three years, were no further efforts to be made. But I trust that now and urgent exertions will be adopted to complete the required amount in a much shorter period. First collections might be made throughout the proposed diocese from house to house, and the smallest donations thankfully received. Donations might also be solicited within the bounds of the dioceses of Toronto and Huron; it is for the same church and for promoting the glory of God. Although the sum so collected might not be large, it would still be a help and

step towards the completion of the endowment. Second, this being done, let the first subscribers be called upon to advance an addition of ten or twenty per cent. on their original subscriptions: many would doubtless do so willingly, and according to their ability to make up the deficiency; or let one hundred or more members within and without the diocese volunteer to make up what is wanting of the sum required. Such things are frequently done, and no one will repent making the effort. Third, in the meantime, let a few of our business men step forward and consolidate the notes of hand which constitute the bulk of the fund, which cannot, in their present state, be considered good security, and give a bond with mortgage for their amount. This was done in the diocese of Huron with the most happy effects, and so prevented a great and harassing delay. These steps or such of them as are deemed necessary may be taken, and, if judiciously and diligently followed up, need not occasion any great delay: indeed, if our hearts be in the right place this might be accomplished within one year from this time—a far shorter period than the naturally sanguine anticipated some months ago.

In regard to the Sustentation Fund, which I suggested and hoped long since to have made available, I have been dissuaded from carrying it out, because it was urged that it would materially interfere with the Episcopal endowment collections, but I now consider this objection in a great degree removed, and I feel that the cause of the Church and her extension will brook no further delay. It is therefore my intention to publish, soon after my return home, a pastoral letter on the subject, and to solicit action, as far as the Church may be able, on its suggestions. I am much encouraged in this by the deeper sense of its necessity which now pervades the whole of our people. They begin to be convinced that if they really love the Church they must contribute to her support, and they are daily becoming more alive to the actual discharge of this important duty.

It only remains to notice the amount of business likely to come before the Synod; and looking at the schedule of items, I must admit that it appears rather formidable; but there is nothing very pressing, except, perhaps, a measure of discipline; and if we content ourselves with this, or even a draft involving the general principles, to be matured at our next meeting, we might leave the reports, after due consideration (rejecting such as are evidently inexpedient), to be inserted in our minutes, that they may remain for a season before the Church for severe scrutiny and examination before they are taken up for discussion with a view of adopting them as rules of guidance. Our danger, at present, seems more likely to arise from doing too much than too little. The discussions which many of the subjects must undergo will put them in a better shape, and cause them to be more thoroughly understood. Moreover, some will be found premature, or exposed to difficulties which it might be imprudent for the present to encounter. On the whole, such a course of proceeding, as I have ventured to propose, would materially shorten the session, and yet do all that appears desirable to be accomplished at this time.

Permit me, in conclusion, to express my confident hope that while our discussions are allowed to proceed with ample freedom, they will at the same time be guided by that courtesy, deference, and mutual respect which have hitherto distinguished the meetings of this Synod.

ADMISSION TO SEATS IN THE SYNOD.

The Rev. Dr. PATTON moved and the Rev. Dr. ADAMSON seconded,

That the Rev. Messrs. Forrest, Flanigan, and

Ellegood, of the Diocese of Montreal, and the Rev. Mr. Burrage, of the Diocese of Quebec, being present, be requested to receive the courtesy of the Synod.—*Carried.*

The Rev. Mr. STEWART moved, and the Rev. Dr. FULLER seconded,

That inasmuch as the minutes of the last session have been printed and circulated among the clergy and the laity of the Diocese, the reading of the minutes be dispensed with.—*Carried.*

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES.

The Lord Bishop appointed Robert B. Denison one of the Executive Committee, a vacancy being found therein.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

The Venerable Archdeacon of York brought up the following recommendation of the Executive Committee:—

The Executive Committee recommend that the Synod do adjourn on its first day of meeting, at seven o'clock in the evening, and that, on the second day of meeting, and on each succeeding day there be Divine Service at nine o'clock in the forenoon, and that the Synod do meet for business at ten o'clock, and adjourn at half-past one o'clock in the afternoon, re-assemble at three o'clock, and adjourn at six o'clock in the afternoon; and that no evening session be held unless specially required and decided upon by the Synod.

The Ven. the ARCHDEACON of York proposed, and the Hon. J. H. CAMERON seconded,

That the recommendation of the Executive Committee now read, be adopted and acted on.—*Carried.*

The Rev. Dr. FULLER having obtained leave, brought up the report of the Committee on EXPENSES OF SYNOD AND PROVISION THEREFOR.

The Committee on Expenses of Synod and assessment therefor, beg leave respectfully to report

That, having examined the Treasurer's accounts that of the sum of £113 8s. 9d. assessed upon the parishes of the Diocese, before its late division, by resolution of Synod, the sum of £225 6s. 3d. only had been paid, previous to the 28th of last month; leaving a balance then due of £ 88 2s 6d; of which sum £127 7s. 6d. was due by parishes in this Diocese; and £65 15s. within the Diocese of Huron.

That the expenditure of Synod up to the close of the treasurer's books has been £209 19s. 9d. leaving a balance in his hand of £15 6s. 6d., whilst the Synod owes H. Rowsell, Esq., the respected bookseller and printer, the sum of £68 10s 7d., and to other parties £5 15s.

The Committee feel that it is due to those parishes, which have promptly met the assessment laid upon them, that every proper step should be taken to induce the parishes still in arrears, to meet their assessment.

With regard to the diocese of Huron, the Committee would recommend that, when its parishes shall have paid up the assessment, laid upon them by a resolution of the Synod, when they were represented therein, an estimate should be made of the excess of their payments over and above their fair proportion of the expenses incurred by the Synod, before their separation from us; and that the amount of such excess should be paid by our treasurer to the treasurer of their Synod.

The Committee trust, that on a full and fair representation to the parishes in arrears of their indebtedness, none will be found to repudiate their obligations; but that all will readily forward to our Treasurer the amounts laid upon them by a resolution of this Synod, in which all concurred. The Committee would, therefore, recommend that a circular should be addressed once more to the parishes of this Diocese, still in arrears, remind-