

being also present the Bishops of London, Winchester, St. David's, Oxford, Lincoln, Norwich, Salisbury, Gloucester and Bristol, Bangor, Llandaff and Lichfield.

UNION WITH THE CHURCH OF SWEDEN.

The Bishop of LICHFIELD presented a petition upon this subject from the clergy and laity of his diocese.

THE TWENTY-NINTH CANON.

The Archbishop of CANTERBURY said he had received a letter from the Archbishop of York, the president of the Northern Province, relative to the amended 29th Canon, which had not been communicated to that province.

The Bishop of OXFORD moved an amendment, which provided that no person should be a sponsor at baptism who had not received or was not competent to receive the Holy Communion by reason of age.

The Bishop of LONDON seconded the motion.

The Bishop of WINCHESTER said he was sorry that persons came to be sponsors who had not received the Holy Communion. At the same time he felt that if they refused non-communicants they would be compelled to exclude many children from baptism altogether. If they adhered to the old Canon they would be obliged to order that all children brought for baptism should be attended by god fathers and godmothers who were communicants; and within a few hundred yards of the place in which they were assembled, a portion of his own diocese, it would be impossible to find communicants as sponsors, and children must go unbaptized.

After a discussion, in which the Bishops of Salisbury, Gloucester and Bristol, Norwich, Lichfield, Lincoln, Llandaff, and Oxford took part, the Archbishop put the question to the meeting, and it was agreed to; immediately after which the Prolocutor of the Lower House was sent for, that he might take it down for consideration.

THE COLONIAL CHURCH.

Addresses from many Colonial Churches, in reference to the manner in which they might be affected by proposed legislation, which had been addressed to the Archbishop and many other prelates, were ordered to lie on the table.

The Bishop of Grafton and Armidale was present during a portion of the proceedings.

PROPOSED REVIVAL OF DIOCESAN SYNODS.

The Bishop of WINCHESTER said it would be in their lordships' recollection that in February last a Committee was appointed to consider the question of restoring or reviving Diocesan Synods. The Committee had drawn up a report, which they would now submit. In this Report the Committee came to the conclusion that the ancient Synods, in which decrees should be promulgated, would not be applicable to the present state of the Church. But Conferences of bishops, clergy, and laity, for considering matters relating to the well-being of the dioceses would be very useful. The bishops should be left to call them, and should preside over them. The question of representation would have to be considered. The clergy and laity should have equal votes, and it must be distinctly understood that such Conferences must not claim the authority to make decrees, as in the ancient Synods. Obviously there would be many suggestions which would arise out of these details, but he trusted that there was nothing in the report which would not commend itself to the favourable consideration of the House. He moved that the report be received.

The Bishop of OXFORD seconded the report.

After some discussion, it was arranged that the report should be printed, and considered on Friday.—*London (Eng.) Ecclesiastical Gazette.*