

St. John's Church Record, And Parish Notes.

EDITED BY THE RECTOR, ASSISTED BY MEMBERS OF THE
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NOTES FROM THE PROVINCIAL SYNOD.

The funeral of the Metropolitan made a sad and necessary change in the arrangements of the Fredericton delegates. It had been hoped that the opening service at Montreal might have been postponed, so as to permit of our attendance, and the fact that Bishop Kingdon was the appointed preacher seemed to furnish an argument of considerable force. But Synods are ruled by precedent, and it was found impossible to make any change. Bishop Baldwin preached an excellent sermon, which the delegates read in the evening paper as they approached Montreal on Wednesday evening, and the Synod was formally opened in the absence of representatives from our diocese. Fredericton was not forgotten however, and the nomination of Canon Brigstocke as Deputy-prolocutor in his absence, was a deserved compliment which all will appreciate.

But we must go back a little in our narrative. Of the funeral and its impressive surroundings, all will have been told to our readers. A large party left the cathedral city in the afternoon of Tuesday, bound for the Junction where the night was to be spent, in view of an early start next day by the C. P. R. express.

As accomodation at the Junction hotel is limited, some apprehension was felt as to our ultimate quarters, more especially when it was known that the Bishop of Nova Scotia, Dean Gilpin, Canon Partridge and his daughter, and the celebrated Father Benson of Cowley were among the number, as well as the Rector and Mr. Jarvis. The writer of these notes had taken the precaution of writing in advance for a bed, but others had been earlier in the field, so when Mrs. Shehan of the American House was surrounded by anxious enquirers, it appeared that a division sum of beds and guests was in process of calculation, in which the latter somewhat outnumbered the former. The decree went forth at first that the writer was to share a room (and a bed!) with a lay delegate of formidable proportions. But diplomacy was exerted not in vain; and the present writer finally was granted a room in a neighbor's house, and all adjourned to the tea table, where the genial bishop of Nova Scotia was soon the life and soul of the party.

Next morning a very early start was the order of the day, and there was as much anxious competition for seats in the sleeping car as before for beds. All ended happily and the train bore us onwards, reaching our destination at half-past

eight in the evening. The writer was welcomed by his host, Mr. Troop, and heard of the doings of the day, and the prospects of the coming day. The weather was delightfully cool, no small benefit at Montreal, as recollections of a sultry September in 1889 testified, and the mountain loomed out in deep green above the stately city of the St. Lawrence.

Old friends and well known faces were to be welcomed at the synod hall, and all were glad to see the genial face of Dean Carichael on the platform in his new position of Prolocutor. The morning's business was chiefly formal and not interesting. Much needless time (it seemed) was taken up by the discussion of an accident by which Archdeacon Bedford Jones had lost his place which his substitute now desired to resign in his favor. Our lawyers rushed *con amore* into the fray, anxious orators pleaded almost tearfully against the creation of new precedents, and after an hour's warm controversy, things were left as they were!

By this time the hour was reached for the reception of the American delegates, who were introduced to the platform, accompanied by the acting Metropolitan, Bishop Lewis.

The first speaker was Bishop Leonard of Ohio, who (something to the astonishment of his hearers, though perhaps to their benefit) read his speech entirely from a manuscript, it was a forcible plea for union, and was entirely free from the exuberant tone of mutual admiration usually prevalent on such occasions. The Bishop of Milwaukee followed with what he called a "postscript" to the letter of his predecessor; and it turned out that the postscript was very much longer than the letter itself. This time the speech was extempore, with the merits and defects of that method, and was considered by most of the hearers to be good, but quite long enough. Dr. Elliott of Washington followed in a speech delivered without notes, but evidently most carefully prepared. It formed an effective contrast to the conversational fluency of his predecessor and also of Dr. Carey who followed. On the whole the verdict seemed to be that the eloquence of the deputation was not equal to that of 1889, when Bishops Doane and Dudley were our visitors.

The next question was the proposal to invite the Upper House to join in open conference with the delegates for the discussion of the great question of Consolidation. This was moved by Mr. Jenkins of Petrolia, one of the most striking personalities in the whole synod. A solid sturdy figure, a face beaming with intelligence and humour, and a method of speaking direct, simple and forcible—no one possesses more thoroughly the secret of gaining and holding the ear of the synod.

The proposal was not destined to pass without question, and Canon Brigstocke pleaded that many speakers might suffer from diffidence in the episcopal presence. The alarm did not seem to be very general, and the writer of these notes re-assured the synod with his belief that his eminent colleague's possible "diffidence" in the presence of the bishops would not be very lasting, and need not debar them from the privilege of welcoming the bishops in their midst, and receiving their great help in the debate. Canon Brigstocke's

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