

tion, that body declared that it was lawful for Her Gracious Majesty the Queen to assent to the Bill, and it was done accordingly. It is intituled, "An Act to enable the members of the United "Church of England and Ireland, in Canada, to meet in Synod." It was laid before the Queen in Council, on the sixth day of May last, and having received the Royal assent, it came out to Canada, and was published by proclamation by His Excellency the Governor-General, on the twenty-eighth day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven, and in the twentieth year of Her Majesty's reign.

The object of this Act, as set forth in the preamble, is to confer on the members of the Church of England and Ireland, in Canada, the power of regulating the affairs of their Church, in matters relating to discipline, and necessary order and good government, and to exercise the same rights of self-government that are enjoyed by other religious communities.

The statute contains two enacting clauses. The first confers power to hold Diocesan Synods, to frame constitutions, and make regulations for enforcing discipline in the Church, for the appointment, deposition, deprivation, or removal of any person bearing office therein, of whatever order or degree, "any rights of the Crown to the contrary notwithstanding;" and for the convenient and orderly management of the property, affairs, and interests of the Church, in matters relating to or affecting only the said Church, and the officers and members thereof, and not in any way interfering with the rights, privileges, or interests of other religious communities, or of any person or persons not being a member or members of the said United Church of England and Ireland: provided always that such constitutions and regulations shall apply only to the Diocese or Dioceses adopting the same. Now, it may be seen that this measure is very comprehensive in its provisions, and gives ample powers to meet all the probable requirements of the Church; and yet the Royal Prerogative is sufficiently guarded, and our connexion with the Mother Church through its head distinctly preserved. 1st. The power of choosing our bishops is substantially but not directly conferred; the sanction of Her Majesty, through her Secretary of State, to the person chosen, is required, and in an extreme case may be withheld, but if ever withheld, it will be

*This right is now given up.*