

Firstly, we have a Diocesan Synod with representation from both Clergy and Laity presided over by the Bishop. Then we have a higher Court, a Provincial Synod, consisting of delegates partly clerical and partly lay, chosen by the Diocesan Synod, with an Upper House of Bishops.

I ask any candid person or friend to Episcopal government—whether any human organization can be made more perfect for legislative purposes and the settlement of difficulties. The blending with the Clergy of a selection from the Laity, chosen, we must suppose, from their qualifications in education and devotion to the Church, seems the happiest way of obtaining that free and intelligent government of the Church, which will secure her from extreme and sudden changes, and will at the same time keep her alive to the necessities peculiar to each age and country. Then again, for executive purposes, we have the organization of the Church Society, the 25th Anniversary of which we are here met to celebrate this evening. The Church Society with its various Boards is the means by which all the real work of the Church is done. She is the true executive, and by her District Associations she ought to administer fully to the wants of the Diocese.

I am glad to find that some misconceptions as to her position and duties seem to be giving way, and I hope to find throughout the Diocese such an organization of District Associations of the Church Society as will enable her fully to meet the wants of the whole community.