

divisions against which we feel it a duty to pray. There is something terrible, we must affirm, in such an inconsistency.

If, in the early ages of the Church, nothing was done without the Bishop, much less, in these later days, should aught affecting the work and welfare of the Church in this Diocese be taken in hand without reference to that legislative and executive organization, through which the Bishop seeks the counsel and co-operation alike of the clergy and the laity, in the prosecution of those important objects in which we all have common interest.

No thoughtful and reasonable man can question that the establishment of a fund for sustaining missions within the Diocese, administered by members of the Church, independently of this Synod, cannot but be, in theory, an infringement on the functions of the Synod; and, practically, a most serious obstacle to the effectual discharge of those functions. Such a proceeding may justly call for a solemn protest, on the part of that body, against the inevitable damage which must be occasioned by divided counsels, and by diversion of the offerings of members of our Church into channels other than those provided by the Church, and over which the Church, in her collective capacity, has no control.

The establishment of a Theological School by the same Association from which this mission fund has originated, does not, indeed, so directly infringe on the province of the Synod: inasmuch as the College which the Church has established mainly for the education of candidates for Holy Orders was founded before Synodical action was introduced among us, and cannot, without material changes in its constitution, by no means easy to effect, be placed under the direct control of the Synod of the Diocese.

Yet I feel that I may appeal, with all confidence, to the members of this Synod, both lay and clerical, for their moral support in the course which I have felt myself compelled to adopt in respect of the proposed Theological School.

The Bishops of the Province of Ontario are *ex officio* members of the governing body of Trinity College. They possess and exercise the right of nominating, from their own Dioceses, members—both lay and clerical—of that governing body: and thus every security has been given that the college shall be under the control of those who are most nearly concerned in the faithful and efficient fulfilment of the purposes for which it was primarily established.

Having myself no ground whatever to distrust the administration of Trinity College, I hold myself to be most strongly bound to vindicate its character and to promote its efficiency; and I conceive that both the one and the other must be most injuriously affected should I recognize another institution established for the same purpose within this Diocese, and, indeed, in this city itself. Accordingly I have felt it to be my solemn duty to withhold a recognition which, if granted, must inevitably foster miserable divisions amongst us, and do a grievous wrong to Trinity College, commended, as this is to my cordial sympathies, both by the memory of the past and the experience of the present.

I contend, at the outset, that such a school is unnecessary. The staff of our Church University is quite sufficient, or can be made sufficient for every branch of theological instruction. We certainly do not need a second school for Hebrew, the Greek Testament, Biblical History, the Evidences of Christianity, the Book of Common Prayer, or for Ecclesiastical History. If it be judged desirable to have some further or distinct teaching on Christian doctrine, it would not be impossible to have this supplied within the University itself in a manner that would meet the views of the most tender in conscience. The past history of Trinity College abundantly testifies that even on these delicate points, there has been no check to freedom of thought. Many of its alumni have shown themselves to be of the Evangelical school; and as a rule they have worked harmoniously and kindly with those of their brother clergymen with whom, on some doctrinal points, they differed.

I can well foresee what will be the influence of the rival school; now ushered into life, upon the peace and welfare of the Church in this Diocese. By the acts of an opposing power within us, divisions in this Diocese have reached already a painful extent; and every independent organization that this power begets and fosters, must deepen and widen the division. And the conflicts that follow, as experience