

formularies of the Mother Church and its Authorised Version, but leaves itself at liberty to accept or decline any future alteration made by the Church at home.

This General Synod will depute its powers to diocesan Synods (\*) and local vestries, still holding and exercising a supervision over all, and a power of revoking abused authority. As far as can be judged from the unanimity that prevailed throughout the first session, we augur good results for its working. In countries where the Voluntary system prevails, nothing short of the co-operation of all orders will seem to meet its difficulties and dangers. We have the more confidence of this result when we see that the plan devised is in such full accordance with the principles of the Primitive Church, and with the theory, at least, of our own English branch of the Church Universal.

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(From the *Sherbrooke Times*, January 6, 1859.)

One of the great doctrines of Christianity is "Peace on Earth, good will towards men," and happy would it be if the practice of Christians were at all in accordance with the doctrine. But unfortunately this divine precept, so often enunciated, would seem to bear a different interpretation from the literal one, if we may judge by the discord which but too often prevails in every branch of the Church.

How is it that amongst christians so much strife and opposition, so much bickering, so much envy, hatred and malice should be apparent to every eye. It is not merely that sect is so frequently arrayed against sect, but the evil displays itself still more forcibly amongst the followers of the same creed. Surely strife is not a necessary ingredient of the Christian character, for "Peace on earth, good will towards men" was heralded forth as the result of the coming of the Saviour. No! the evil is in ourselves. If every christian were in his own person to endeavor to heal wounds and reconcile difficulties, rather than by obstinate adhesion to his own views, to create trouble, and widen the gulf between himself and others, whose main objects are after all identical with his own, but who

(\*) "The constitution of *Diocesan Synods* to be similar to that of the general Synod: but the question of an appeal to the general Synod from the veto of any one order to rest with each Diocese to decide for itself." 5th Resolution.