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presence of members from a distance, and as the conference on the confederation of the Church meets on Friday afternoon, it has not been practicable to have this year the profitable meetings of last year.

The address of the last Provincial Synod to Her Most Gracious Majesty, the Queen, on the occasion of Her Majesty attaining the fiftieth year of her reign, was transmitted by me to Her Majesty through our Primate. The Archbishop sent me a letter from the Home Secretary, in which he informed His Grace that Her Majesty was pleased to receive the same very graciously.

I lost no time in bringing before the Primate the resolution of the synod forming the diocese of Calgary out of the diocese of Saskatchewan, to be for the present still under the care of the Bishop of Saskatchewan. The Archbishop was from the first very friendly to the proposal, but difficulties were started by his vicar-general. However, after some correspondence, the way was seen out of these, and the wishes of the synod were carried out. The Bishop of Saskatchewan, as advised, resigned the portion of his diocese formed into the diocese of Calgary, and then he was nominated by the Primate, Bishop of Calgary. He will accordingly have charge of both sees, till a separate endowment is secured for the see of Calgary, when he will resign which-ever of the sees he prefers to resign. The arrangement has been a great gain to the Church. It is now practicable to bring together the clergy and lay delegates of each diocese together in synod—a measure absolutely necessary when self support has to be brought out and encouraged. I had the great pleasure of preaching the sermon at the opening of the first synod of Calgary.

The committee on restrictions on colonial clergy in England prepared a report which, at their request, I placed before the Archbishop of Canterbury. The feeling entertained by many at the time was very frankly set forth both in the report and my letter or strictures, as the Archbishop termed it.

The correspondence brought out a very full and valuable letter from the Archbishop. Your committee will present their report. But I may say for myself that the letter of His Grace convinced me that there was the kindest intention with regard to the clergy in the colonies, and that, though the regulations may sometimes cause inconvenience to worthy clergymen, and as regards visiting clergymen might with advantage be simplified, they are rendered absolutely necessary from the great extent of the colonial church and the great number of applications for the license of the archbishops in order to prevent the officiating of unworthy persons.

The Bishop of Athabasca has given notice for the Bishop of McKenzie river and for himself of an important motion for the further subdivision of the diocese of McKenzie river. The district which it is proposed to form into a new diocese is said to contain about 200,000 square miles, or to be about as large as the Diocese of Rupert's Land. It lies on the west side of the mountainous range that divides the basin of the McKenzie river from the waters of the Youcon. The Bishop of McKenzie river has from the first advocated the formation of this diocese, but for years, owing to the small number of clergy and inhabitants, I did not see my way to support the proposal. However the Bishop has failed in his endeavour to cross the mountains to this district, and has made it clear to the satisfaction of the C. M. S. and myself that the country and distances are so vast that the Bishop in one part of the McKenzie River Diocese must be entirely separated for a very long period from all practical superintendence of the other. The Church Missionary Society under those circumstances is prepared with that great generosity which has marked its treatment of our poor Indian people, to give its assistance in securing adequate Episcopal supervision for its missions in that distant district. It is a district where the presence of a resident bishop may be made any day of great moment to the Church and to Christian work by extensive mining operations. I would, therefore, express the hope that the synod may approve of the proposed division of the diocese. Bishop Bompas, with his usual disinterestedness, leaves it to others to say which See he should keep. From his last letter I expect him to be here in September. He was unfortunately prevented from leaving in time to be with us in synod.

Certain proposed amendments of sections vi. and ix. of the constitution have been brought before your notice. These amendments, beyond prescribing certain oaths and declarations before consecration, which are at present simply enforced by an order of the House of Bishops, only make the procedure clearer than under the present working of the sections. Amendments of the constitution made by the last synod, unless adopted by the present, fall to the ground. I would remind the synod that any amendment to the constitution must be approved of by a two-third majority of each order.

A most important question for our consideration will be that of taking part in the proposed conference for the confederation of the Church, which has been

called for the afternoon of Friday, August 15th. I feel that it is necessary for me to say a few words on this subject. The Provincial Synod of Canada appointed in 1886 a committee to consider among other things the necessary legislation in the various dioceses for bringing about a confederation of the Church in British North America. It was also resolved that your Metropolitan should be informed of the desire to establish closer relations with us, but the Venerable Metropolitan of Canada by an oversight neglected to do this. However, the subject was brought forward in my address to the provincial synod in 1887, and a committee was appointed by the Lower House with the Rev. Edwyn Pentreath the mover or convener. When Mr. Pentreath communicated with members of the other committee, he found that they did not consider that they had any authority to enter on the question with our committee. Any joint action was thus prevented. Last year the Provincial Synod of Canada appointed another committee and further passed a resolution calling a conference of delegates from all the dioceses of British North America to meet in Winnipeg. This was done without any reference to our provincial synod, though meeting in the following August. There could be no objection to the provincial synod of Canada inviting a conference of delegates from its own dioceses and the independent dioceses; but it was surely a breach of ecclesiastical order to invite the synod of another province without a previous consultation with the provincial synod of that province. The committee met before the provincial synod broke up and obtained leave to inform us of the proposed conference. Accordingly the secretary of the synod, the Dean of Quebec, wrote to me in my capacity of Metropolitan and president of this synod. In reply I asked him whether I was to understand that the committee would communicate with our dioceses till it had the sanction of this synod at the present meeting. To this letter no reply was received. Meanwhile the diocesan synods of Rupert's Land and Saskatchewan having met, unanimously resolved that the question was one for the action of the provincial synod. Nothing further took place till in the middle of March I received a letter signed by Messrs. Jenkins and Walkem, as secretaries, announcing a conference, in Winnipeg, on September 18th. There was still not the least reference to our provincial synod. A similar intimation was sent to the other bishops of this province. I considered it my duty, as Metropolitan, to object to the procedure adopted. I find that similar objection was taken by the Bishops of Saskatchewan and McKenzie River. They considered that such communication with our diocese should only have followed the sanction of this synod. The position of the case was now this: The dioceses of Rupert's Land and Saskatchewan had referred the matter to this synod. It was not possible in the time allowed for the Bishops of Athabasca, McKenzie River and Moosonee to call meetings of their synods. Having every desire to promote the proposed conference, I suggested that it should be called for August 15th, when it would be in the power of this synod to appoint a committee to confer with the delegates from various dioceses. I believe the Bishop of Saskatchewan made a similar suggestion. This course has been followed. I have referred so fully to this matter because we are only at the beginning of negotiations, and it seems desirable that such a mistake, as I cannot but regard it, should in future be avoided. Probably it is the desire of every member of our synod that there should be a general synod for the whole of British North America, or at least, for the Dominion of Canada, to speak for the whole Church. I desire to express my full adhesion to that view. As regards the mode of carrying out such a confederation, I do not propose, as Metropolitan, to say anything. A desire was expressed by some of the delegates of the Diocese of Rupert's Land that I should give them my views on the subject. The paper which I read at a meeting for this purpose, has been printed at the request of those present and has been placed in your hands. In that I express simply my individual views. I may mention that up to the present I have not placed the matter before our Primate, but I have no doubt that he will be only too glad to support whatever may seem for the good of the Church. I would express the hope that this important conference may be guided to what is most for the good of our branch of Christ's Church and for the advantage of the Kingdom of Christ.

And now, reverend brethren and brethren of the laity, I would ask you to appoint your prolocutor, and I would name as your temporary president the Very Reverend the Dean of Rupert's Land.

The bishops then retired, Dean Grisdale taking the chair as provisional prolocutor.

The Rev. Canon Matheson was re-elected secretary of the Synod, on motion of Rev. Mr. Pentreath, seconded by Rev. Mr. Sargent.

Very Rev. Dean Grisdale was elected prolocutor, and was conducted to the House of Bishops. Upon

his return he briefly thanked the House for the confidence reposed in him by the election.

It was moved by Rev. W. A. Burman, seconded by Mr. Fonseca, that the following gentlemen, whom we have the honour to have with us to day, be asked to take seats on the floor of the house: Ven. Archdeacon Dixon, Rev. Rural Dean Langtry, D.D., Prolocutor of the Provincial Synod of Canada, Rev. Canon White, Rev. Mr. Jukes, Mr. Walkem, Q.C., Mr. C. Jenkins, Mr. W. J. Imlach. This being carried, the gentlemen took seats with the other delegates, Rev. Dr. Langtry taking a seat on the right of the prolocutor.

Rev. Dr. Langtry and Mr. Walkem, on behalf of the eastern delegates, returned thanks for the honour done them and expressed their pleasure at being present.

Rev. Canon O'Meara was appointed assistant prolocutor.

Mr. J. Taylor was elected lay secretary; Messrs. Bedson and Gilroy, auditors, and Rev. Mr. Sargent, messenger.

The roll was called by the clerical secretary and the following answered present: Clerical—Dean Grisdale, Canon Matheson, Canon O'Meara, Rev. E. S. Pentreath, Rev. W. A. Burman, Rev. Canon Coombes, Rev. A. L. Fortin, Arch. Geo. McKay, Canon Flett, Rev. E. K. Matheson, Rev. A. H. Wright, Archdeacon Phair, Rev. G. Holmes, Rev. W. Sargent, Rev. W. E. Brown, Rev. F. Baker, Rev. A. Krauss, Rev. L. Dawson, Rev. H. B. Cartwright, Rev. A. E. Cowley, Rev. T. W. Tims, Rev. A. W. F. Cooper, Rev. A. F. Pritchard. Lay—Sheriff Inkster, Col. Bedson, W. G. Fonseca, J. Wrigley, James Taylor, T. Gilroy, W. J. Melrose, J. Sumne, J. P. J. Jephson. After adopting the minutes of the last meeting, the synod adjourned until 2.30.

AFTERNOON SITTING.—The business of the synod was resumed at 2.30 p. m.

After the calling of the roll the following reports were submitted:

*Metropolitan See.*—The committee on the Metropolitan See recommend to the adoption of the synod the proposition made to the last diocesan synod of Rupert's Land by the committee of that diocese, excepting that they recommend two names instead of three. The proposition is then as follows: Two names to be chosen by the synod of the diocese of Rupert's Land, of whom the House of Bishops must select one to be both Bishop of Rupert's Land and Metropolitan of Rupert's Land.

*Committee on Statistics.*—The committee on statistics met three times and adopted blank forms for receiving the required information. They found that the preparation of a special map would be too costly, amounting to \$250. They therefore ordered 500 copies of the C. M. S. map showing the dioceses of this ecclesiastical province, for which £3 18s was paid, the account of which was sent to the finance committee.

The secretary sent the blank forms to each bishop, and returns have been received from all but one.

The committee would recommend that for the present these returns be filed and that similar returns be required before each meeting of the Provincial Synod, and that as the maps are on hand, they may be bound with the next synod report, and, if possible, be altered to show the latest changes.

*Report on Closer Union.*—Submitted by Rev. Mr. Pentreath.

*Committee on Canons.*—Submitted by Canon Matheson.

The committee on canons sent out a draft of canons prepared by the Metropolitan for the purpose of enabling the Synod to pass canons on the subjects if this seemed desirable. They now beg to recommend the first and the third of these canons for adoption at the present synod, and to ask that the committee on this subject be continued.

*Colonial Clergy in England.*—Submitted by Rev. W. A. Burman.

*Indian Mission Work.*—Submitted by Rev. W. A. Burman.

The committee on Indian mission work beg to report that the convener sent out a circular on the 1st of January last to every Indian missionary, requesting information on various points, the answers to be returned to the Rev. W. A. Burman, the secretary of the committee. Valuable information has been received from a number of the missionaries, but many have not complied. The committee recommend that the reports be filed, and that similar information should be sought every three years before the meeting of the Provincial Synod. The compilation of this information is so important that the committee hope that the authorities of the several dioceses will use their best endeavour to secure returns from the various missionaries.

The report of the committee of the Metropolitan See was at this stage taken up and adopted on motion of Mr. Wrigley, seconded by Mr. Fonseca. An amendment was proposed by Rev. Leonard Dawson and seconded by Rev. F. V. Baker, that when a vacancy occurs in the office of the Metropolitan the house of bishops shall, after the See of Rupert's Land is filled, elect one of their number as Metro-