

by the Church Act, the joint consent of Bishop, Clergy, and Laity, being required to give validity to the sale of any Church property.

The advocates of Synods may refer with satisfaction to late proceedings in Canada and England in proof of the soundness of their principles, for upon the passing of a Bill, to remove all doubts concerning their legality, by the Canadian Legislature, the question was fully argued before the Privy Council, and Her Majesty's sanction was accorded. And it is to be observed that the Bill does not imply that without such an enactment Synods are illegal, but professes to be designed to remove doubts, existing in the minds of some persons, whether the Members of the Church of England and Ireland, resident in Canada, have the power of regulating the affairs of their Church; and the Colonial Secretary stated in his despatch, that "Her Majesty's Government were not satisfied that any statutable aid was necessary." The assent to this Bill was followed by the acceptance of the nominee of the Synod as the Bishop of the new Diocese of Huron, thus introducing a new system into our Church, whether for good or evil: and being in England I was called upon to officiate at its inauguration, the Consecration of the Bishop at Lambeth, about this time last year.

What will be the effect of the election of Bishops by the Synods, experience alone can inform us, and I must confess that I feel somewhat doubtful, judging from the history of former times. We trust however that the electors will never be influenced by such unworthy motives as the cotemporaries of St. Chrysostom, who, after mentioning that an election to a Bishopric caused great divisions amongst the Presbyters, assigns as the reason that "they do not regard that one qualification which alone ought to be regarded, spiritual excellence, but the introduction to this honor, depends upon other causes. One says this man should be elected because he is of illustrious descent, another is in favor of that man because he is wealthy, and will not require an income from the revenues of the Church, another is supported because he has joined us from the ranks of our enemies; this man wishes to honor the man who is friendly to himself, that his relative, another prefers the skilful flatterer, but no one chooses to consider whether he is a suitable person, nor to enquire about his mental qualifications." I cannot allow that the experience of the United States proves

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