

read by the Rev. E. C. Parkin, and the Rev. J. Kemp; and an address delivered by the Rev. R. Walker. The discussion chiefly turned on systematic teaching in the Sunday school, and systematic teaching in the pulpit. In connection with the latter it was unanimously agreed, that where the Church is dogmatic, duty requires that the teaching of the Clergy should also be dogmatic; but that on those points on which the Church is either silent, or has abstained from every formal definition, the Clergy should be careful to avoid even the appearance of claiming for private opinions the obedience due only to the authoritative decisions of the Church. Subsequently the Bishop, at the request of the Clergy, nominated a Committee for the purpose of drawing up a Catechetical Manual on the basis of the Church Catechism, which shall contain a complete system of instruction for the upper classes in our schools, and our candidates for confirmation, together with prayers for various occasions. A Committee of three besides the Bishop was also appointed to revise and edit the manual. It was also resolved that the librarian of the Diocesan library, which owes its existence mainly to the liberality and pastoral exertions of the Bishop, should be elected from time to time by the Clergy assembled at this visitation; and that the Rev. G. M. Innes should be librarian for the ensuing period. At the close of the proceedings, the Rev. J. Torrance, at the request of the Clergy, expressed to the Bishop their hearty appreciation of the motives which had induced his Lordship to gather his Clergy around him, as well as their confident belief in the good which had, and they doubted not, would attend these periodical reunions. The Bishop having kindly responded, the Conference terminated with the Apostolic blessing.

We fear we have left ourselves but little space in which to advert to current events elsewhere. The first despatch of the Duke of Buckingham to the Governor of Natal, stating that Her Majesty's Government looked "with great apprehension and regret" on the intention of "some Colonial Bishop to consecrate a Bishop to take charge of the Diocese of Natal, on the assumption that Dr. Colenso had been deposed, and directing the Governor to "use all the influence which legitimately belonged to him to prevent it," can only be regarded as a personal disgrace to the Colonial Secretary, which necessarily reflects more or less disgrace on the Government of which he is a member. His Grace's subsequent despatch, by which time he had become aware of what was known to all the world—his Grace excepted—that it was not intended by the Bishop of Capetown and those who might outwit him, to interfere with Dr. Colenso's legal rights; and in which, as the *Guardian* says, the directions of the last despatch are "cancelled, and that very frankly and unreservedly"

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