

many ballots before a satisfactory result can be obtained. Thus when my much regretted and intimate friend Bishop Wainwright was elected, nine ballots were required. At the first ballot, thirteen candidates for the Bishopric were named, although several of them had only one supporter. As the balloting proceeded some of the candidates were dropped, and again the number and distribution of the votes continually varied, so that no two ballots were alike, as regarded either persons or votes. At length it became evident that the real contest was confined to two of the candidates, the Rev. Dr. Wainwright and the Rev. Dr. Vincent—and the casting of the votes between these two at the different ballots is not without instruction: on the first ballot Dr. Wainwright had only 24 out of 185 clerical votes, and 31 out of 169 lay votes; in all 55—while Dr. Vincent had 62 clerical and 44 lay votes, in all 96, being nearly double. During the seven succeeding ballots Dr. Vincent's votes varied each time; but on the whole increased. On the other hand, Dr. Wainwright's votes improved in number at every ballot. At the ninth or decisive ballot Dr. Wainwright had 101 clerical votes, having gained 80 over his first ballot, and he likewise gained 63 lay votes over his first ballot. Dr. Vincent's last ballot was five votes below the first, being 91 to 96, the final ballot gave Dr. Wainwright a majority of 107 votes over every other candidate, and he was accordingly declared duly elected. From this detailed account it appears that during the last ballot eighty clergymen and forty-six lay members changed in favour of Dr. Wainwright; from which it is inferred, that although the voters came all forward at first prepared in their own minds to vote for a particular person, yet finding it impossible from the result of the first ballot to elect their favourite, they voted for another candidate at the second ballot, and indeed such changes multiplied in behalf of the candidate who seemed from the results of the ballots, as they proceeded, to be rising in estimation, till at length Dr. Wainwright's majority became overwhelming and triumphant. During this remarkable contest there was much excitement, but yet under proper control all went on in peace and harmony; and what was very beautiful and edifying, the Rev. Dr. Vincent was the first to congratulate the successful candidate, and to move that he be declared duly elected. Permit me for one moment to draw your attention to the primary convention of Western New York, called for the election of their first Bishop, because it resembles in its meeting and object this present Synod. This Convention met on the 1st of November, 1838, and having disposed of some preliminary business, proceeded to elect their Bishop. A few moments were first spent in secret devotion. The convention then united with the presiding Bishop in appropriate prayers from the Liturgy, and these ended, the house proceeded to the election of their Bishop, the Chair appointed two clergymen and one layman tellers to receive the votes of the Clergy. The Clergy having deposited their votes, the Chair appointed two laymen and one clergyman tellers, to receive the votes of the laity; whereupon the parishes deposited their votes, in a few minutes the tellers announced that, having counted the votes, a majority of both orders concurred in the election of the Rev. William Heathcote DeLancey, D. D. of the diocese of Pennsylvania. Thus a clergyman was selected from another diocese, the convention acknowledging by their votes that they preferred him to any one from among themselves. I have given these two instances to illustrate the working of the rule for the election of Bishops in the State of New York, and which we have adopted with a slight modification. To behold it in actual operation brings before us its great simplicity, and proves that the judicious introduc-

tion of the lay element does not of itself tend to disorder, but, on the contrary, strengthens and completes the salutary working of the Church, while it is a return, but in a more orderly form, to primitive usage, when the laity were generally present, signified, in some way, their assent or disapprobation, it is, indeed well for us that we have the experience of our sister church to guide our proceedings and to supply precedents towards the solution of many important questions which will gradually come before us. ~~I am I hope you will permit me, while on this subject, to make an open acknowledgment of our great obligations to Henry Hoffman, Esq., for his able and lucid Treatise on the Law of the Episcopal Church of the United States, and to express my hope that he will soon favour us with his promised additional volume.~~ Having thus brought under your notice such remarks as appear to me not only useful but likewise necessary on the present occasion, for your direction in voting by ballot, it only remains to advert to the great object of the meeting of this Synod, the choice of your Bishops, and having already, in another place, touched upon the weighty responsibility which attaches to the vote of each individual, a responsibility so great and important that it cannot be exaggerated; and also on the danger incurred by those who come forward heedlessly or from selfish motives, and who have not carefully informed themselves as to the fitness of the person to be selected, and who do not act in the matter in strict accordance with the suggestions of an enlightened conscience. I have little to add, and shall therefore confine myself to a very few words. I have sometimes pondered, my brethren, on the proceedings of the small congregation of 120 which once met in an upper chamber in Jerusalem, to make the first election ever made of a minister in the Church of Christ. For although the choice expressly referred to the Lord himself, who had appointed all the other Apostles and willed the selection of Matthias, he nevertheless condescended to make use of human instruments in completing it. Only one restriction, or rather, perhaps, qualification was introduced; the vacant Apostleship or Bishopric must be filled by one who had accompanied our Lord all the time that he went in and out among his disciples, beginning from the baptism of John unto the same day he was taken to Heaven. Only such a disciple was eligible to be ordained an Apostle, and to be a witness with the eleven of our Lord's Resurrection, now simple and natural as this qualification appears, it was at this early commencement of the Church possessed by very few beyond the Apostles, and perhaps Matthias and Barrabas, who was surnamed Justus, were the only two in Jerusalem at that time, for it was a day of persecution. After prayer to the Lord, to show whom he had chosen, they gave out the lots, and the lot fell on Matthias and Barrabas was left. But both were tried and proved for the situation. And we find from history that Joseph was only rejected for a season, since he became in a few years not only an Apostle, but the fellow laborer and companion of St. Paul in preaching the Gospel. Now, my brethren, transport yourselves to the upper chamber in Jerusalem, and look at this humble congregation before you praying for light and direction in their choice; and do not merely look but make yourselves, each and every one of you, members of this holy society, and pray earnestly for the same light and direction in your choice on this solemn occasion; pray for the same purity of intention, for the same singleness of purpose and submission to the will of God. Proceed then, my brethren, in this holy state of mind and heart; and whatever partialities and differences may have been disturbing and thwarting your better resolutions up to this moment, let them be dismissed now and for ever,

and let your votes be like the votes of the 120 disciples, dictated by the Lord who bought you. His Lordship then adjourned the Synod until the next day at 10 o'clock.

THURSDAY, JULY 9th.

The Synod met, according to notice, at 10, a. m. The clergy took their seats on the right of the church, and the lay delegates upon the left—arranged according to their respective parishes. Prayers were then read by the Rev. Dr. Evans, of Simcoe, the lessons by the Rev. J. W. Marsh.

His Lordship having taken his seat, proceeded to state that the committee appointed to scrutinize the votes yesterday, would act as scrutineers of the election. He also stated that he had in his hand two papers, dissenting from the decision of the committee, with regard to the right of two of the clergy to vote. He was not surprised at having received these papers, but the question had been already decided. He admitted that some doubt existed as to the right of each of those clergymen, and it would have looked better and would have been a more delicate mode of proceeding, if these gentlemen had not come forward at all. However, they had the benefit of the doubt, and as it had been decided that they had a right to vote, they could not now proceed to a fresh investigation; and from information he had received, he did not think that their votes would have any effect upon the election. He trusted that the proceedings would be conducted in such a manner as to show that they all felt the solemnity of the occasion. He begged, therefore, that there might be no manifestation of feeling, and that all would pay due respect to the solemnity of the occasion, and to the sacred edifice in which they were assembled.

The rolls of the clergy and lay delegates were then called over.

At the request of his Lordship a moment was spent by each in private prayer, for divine assistance.

The balloting was then commenced—the votes of the clergy being first taken, then those of the lay delegates—each parish giving one vote—the lay members of the committee of scrutineers being stationed at the ballot-box devoted to the lay delegates, and the clerical members at the other. 42 clergymen voted, and 37 parishes. The proceedings were conducted with the utmost regularity and decorum. No names were mentioned. The Rev. gentlemen who were supposed to be the candidates, occupied their usual places. The delegates from the parish of Dereham and Norwich not being able to agree, no vote was given. About half-past 11 o'clock the ballot was closed, and the result being declared by his Lordship, it was found that of the clergy, 22 had voted for Dr. Cronyn, and 20 for Dr. Bethune. The vote of the laity was 10 for Dr. Bethune, and 23 for Dr. Cronyn.

The announcement of the result of the ballot was received with a vociferous cheer from the people in the galleries, which was immediately and sternly repressed by the Bishop.

The Rev. Mr. Dewar said, that with the consent of his Lordship, he had a resolution to put to the Synod which he thought would meet with their entire approval. They had been engaged in a contest new in itself, and attended with some circumstances which were not likely to occur again, and it would be strange if some things had not been done which had better have been left undone, and some things spoken which had better have been left unspoken. They would have been more or less than men if it had not been so. For himself, who had taken an active part in the election, and for those who acted with him, he had only to say, that his solemn had been to discharge what he believed to be his duty to the Church. His