

and hope; with humility, and with penitence for our own failures and shortcomings as we recall the great traditions of the past, the grave and careful learning, the courageous and patient reverence for truth, and the fervent devotion of those who were our fathers in the Faith; with hope, for we realise that the links which bind us to that historic past are not fetters upon the free and enterprising spirit which is essential to progress. We belong to a Church which, in the words of one of our number who has entered into rest, is the "Church of free men, educating them into a knowledge of the liberty wherewith Christ hath made them free."

The subjects proposed for consideration were first brought before us in Sessions of the whole Conference, lasting for six full days, from July 6 to July 11. Having been there set forth in outline, they were then referred to large and carefully chosen Committees; and the Reports of these Committees, with the Resolutions which they had prepared, were subsequently laid before the Conference, meeting again to consider them in full Session from July 27 to August 5. We trust that by this procedure a right use has been made of the opportunity of the past month, and that the outcome of our work, now proffered to Christ's people, represents at once that detailed study which is the special task of a committee, and that weight of judgment which belongs to the decisions of an assembly gathered from all parts of the world and bringing to the process of deliberation the manifold experience and knowledge acquired under widely different conditions in widely sundered fields of labour.

The judgment of the Conference is expressed in the Resolutions, seventy-eight in number, appended to this Letter. These, and these alone, are affirmed by the Conference. The Reports, which are also printed herewith, have been received by the Conference; and the Conference has directed that they