

pointed to confer with any similar Committees appointed to represent other Christian Bodies, for the purpose of ascertaining whether there is any possibility of honorable union with such Bodies, and that the Lower House of this Synod be invited to appoint a Committee to act jointly with the Committee of this House; the Joint Committee to report to the Synod at its next session. The Bishops of Toronto, Huron, Algoma and Niagara were appointed as this Committee."

It was resolved that the Prolocutor be requested to appoint a Committee in accordance with such message. The Prolocutor subsequently appointed the following Committee:—

*Clergy*—Revs. Canon Brock, D. C. Moore, Caswall, Dr. Hole, F. R. Murray, Dr. Roe, A. C. Scarth, M. M. Fothergill, Dr. Carry, J. Pearson, A. J. Broughall, J. Langtry (Prolocutor), Septimus Jones, Archdeacon Boddy, Provost Body, Canon Medley, Canon Brigstooke, J. M. Davenport, Dean Carmichael, Archdeacon Evans, Dr. Stone, F. Renaud, Canon Norman (Clerical Secretary), Canon Mills, O. P. Ford, Canon Innes, Canon Richardson, G. G. Ballard, G. C. Mackenzie, Archdeacon Dixon, Dr. Mockridge, W. J. Mackenzie, R. G. Sutherland, E. P. Crawford, J. Burke, A. Spencer. *Laity*—C. J. Harrington, Jas. Gossip, J. G. Foster, Dr. Heneker, Hon. Geo. Irvine, Jas. Dunbar, Q.C., Hon. G. W. Allan, Judge Benson, Clarkson Jones, Wm. Ince, Hon. Chief Justice Allen, Hon. D. L. Hannington, H. W. Frith, Chancellor Bethune, James Hutton, Chas. Garth, Geo. Macrae, Q.C., A. F. Gault, Dr. Davidson (Lay Secretary), Richard Bayley, Q.C., A. H. Dymond, V. Cronyn, Q.C., Geo. Elliott, Adam Brown, Hon. J. B. Plumb, Judge Meadows, R. V. Rogers, R. T. Walkem, Q.C.

The report of the Committee on the Constitution being taken up, Chief Justice Allen moved, seconded by Dr. Hemming, concurrence in the first suggestion to reduce the number of delegates to eight of each order. Canon Read, of Niagara Diocese, moved an amendment providing for representation according to the number of parishes or missions in each diocese, four of each order being allowed for the first fifty or less, and increasing one each for every ten additional parishes over fifty. Neither main motion nor amendment met with much favor, and both were almost unanimously rejected.

The second suggested change, viz., in the 4th Article of the Constitution, was concurred in, and the Article will now read.

"A general meeting of the Synod shall be held on the second Wednesday in September, in every third year hereafter, and extra or special sessions at the discretion of the Metropolitan, or on the requisition of any two Bishops, or of the Bishop and half the Delegates of each Order in any Diocese, and no business shall be transacted at any such extra or special meetings other than that for which such meeting is called, or business necessarily incident thereto or connected therewith, unless in the notice calling such meeting it shall be stated that the same is called for the transaction of general business."

The third proposal of the Committee was withdrawn.

It was also resolved that the 3rd Article of the Constitution, allowing twelve delegates of each order for each Diocese, should not apply to Missionary Dioceses.

In the course of the discussion on these amendments, a suggestion was made that the date of the meeting of Synod should be changed to the fourth Wednesday in September, when it would be much easier to provide hospitality for the Clerical and Lay delegates, as many of the Montreal Church people did not return to the city in time to allow of preparation for the second Wednesday. But as the late date would render the attendance of Lower Province delegates more difficult, if not impossible, it was resolved to leave the date unchanged.

The next question on the order paper was a motion in regard to a memorial received three years ago from the Diocese of Niagara in reference to Ritualistic practices and uniformity in worship. Dr. Davidson, Lay Secretary, read a memorial of still later date from the Synod of that Diocese asking that the former memorial might be withdrawn and the consideration of the matter referred to be abandoned; and it was moved that the request be complied with. A Committee of the House had reported on the first memorial at the 12th Session, that, having carefully considered the matter so referred to them, they are of opinion that the question of ritual covers so large a ground, and the means for the promotion of greater uniformity in public worship are surrounded by so many difficulties, that it is at present impossible to define in the dogmatic form of a Canon what should be considered legal or illegal in public and private ministrations of the ritual of the Church; therefore, they are unable to frame such a Canon as is called for by the memorial, but they would recommend that the Synod should urge upon all clergymen having care of souls within this Ecclesiastical Province the duty of submitting to the ruling of their Diocesan in all matters connected with the public services of the Church, as to the legality of which doubts are entertained or controversy shall have arisen. This report had not been acted on; and it was moved by Chief Justice Allen that it should be now adopted as a more satisfactory way of disposing of the question. Many members of the Synod seemed desirous to have this course adopted, and as a consequence to have the next two notices of motion in reference to the same matter dropped; but there being division of opinion, Mr. Elliott, of Guelph, moved as a second amendment the first of those, of which he had given notice, as follows:—

1. "That the report of the Committee to whom the memorial of the Diocese of Niagara was referred be referred back to the said Committee, with instructions to prepare a Canon forbidding certain ritual observances, as e.g., the elevation of the elements during the Holy Communion, the use of incense during Divine Service, and the mixing of water with the sacramental wine within the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada, in accordance with resolutions adopted by this Synod and the Upper House in the year 1838."

A long and lively debate followed conducted, however, for the most part with kindness and much forbearance one towards another, and in striking contrast to the course of action of previous Synods, when this vexed question was discussed. The arguments *pro and con* were old, and merit no particular notice. The main objection to the adoption of the report seemed to be that it left too much power in the hands of a diocesan, without regard to the general practice and voice of the Church at large. There seemed to be a *consensus* of opinion against the stiff, unbending, and in some respects slovenly service of past years, characterized by one speaker as "the ritual of cobweb windows and green baize communion cloths," and there also appeared to be a more generous recognition of the necessity for a more elaborate ritual in some cases, in order to meet the changed circumstances of the time, and of the beneficial results from the bright and more ornate services of late years. Still the desire to keep within the limits prescribed by the Prayer-book was general, and this was given expression to in the amendment moved at a late stage in the debate by Rev. Mr. Cayley, seconded by Rev. Dr. Roe, that the following words be added to the report of the committee: "Provided that it shall not interfere with anything in the Book of Common Prayer." This was adopted, and on the report as amended being put to the Synod it was carried by a large majority. The result was received with loud and continued applause.

At half-past five the mover and seconder of the resolution as of the presentation of address

to the Lord Bishop of Niagara, repaired to the Upper House and escorted His Lordship, in full Episcopal robes, to the Lower House, where he was received with applause and every manifestation of respect; the members rising and remaining standing during the presentation of address and the reply, and until His Lordship retired. On reaching the platform, after formal introduction to the Prolocutor, the Clerical Secretary read the following address:

*My Lord*,—We, the Prolocutor, Clergy and Laity of the Provincial Synod assembled, desire to express to your Lordship our feelings of pleasure and satisfaction upon the occasion of your elevation to the high and holy position to which you have been called in the Diocese of Niagara. Your high administrative abilities and your kindness and courtesy demonstrated as Clerical Secretary, and afterwards as Prolocutor of this house, will, we feel assured, be a blessing to the diocese over which you preside. We desire to wish you every blessing, and pray that under Divine guidance the Church in your Bishopric may prosper, and that you may be spared for many years to fill your high office. (Applause.)

The Bishop of Niagara replied:—

*Reverend Prolocutor, My Reverend Brethren, & My Brethren of the Laity*:—Your satisfaction and pleasure in welcoming me as a Bishop of the Church of God in this Ecclesiastical Province afford me under weighty responsibilities now laid upon me a measure of encouragement at once very needful and most precious to me.

I thank you with all my heart for your kind wishes for me personally and for your prayers for the diocese entrusted to my care. Permit me to assure you that I look back upon my position as Clerical Secretary and as Prolocutor of this august body with unalloyed satisfaction. The duties were always a delight to me both for love of the Church and for the sake of those who seemed in their generosity to bestow upon me not only their confidence but their affection. The experience which I gathered among you in many directions is invaluable to me in the discharge of many of the duties which devolve upon me now. Although no longer a member of this house I esteem very highly the opportunities of working together with you which still belongs to me, and the joy of meeting old friends and renewing old associations in Provincial Synod is to me most attractive.

EVENING SESSION.

The Lower House resumed business at 8 p.m., when the Rev. D. C. Moore, Rural Dean, presented the following Report from the Committee on the Centennial of the Colonial Episcopate:—

The Joint Committee appointed to suggest arrangements for the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Colonial Episcopate beg to report that a resolution of praise and thanksgiving be adopted as follows:—

First—Whereas the 12th day of August, 1887, is the 100th anniversary of the first establishment of the Colonial Episcopate by the consecration of the Right Reverend Charles Inglis, D.D., first Bishop of Nova Scotia, to whom was entrusted the episcopal oversight of the whole of the British possessions in North America; and whereas since the founding of the first Colonial Episcopate a most marvellous growth, especially during the last forty years, has marked that episcopate—the Church of England possessing to-day no less than eighty-two Colonial and Missionary Bishops.

*Resolved*—First—That the Provincial Synod of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada desires to record its deep sense of thankfulness to the great Head of the Church for the signal blessings conferred by Him on the English branch of His Church, by the great extension of her Colonial Episcopate, and the consequent enlargement of her borders.

Second—That a central commemoration be held at Halifax on or including August 12th,