

determined as similar questions with respect to the ministers and congregations of any other denomination would be determined.

The intention of this Act appears to be, to remedy a very inconvenient anomaly, and to place us *bona fide* in the same position as other denominations, and so far as it does this it is to be welcomed; but I fear that, in its present form, it would give occasion to many controversies, and perhaps lead to the litigation which it is intended to avert.*

We have now fresh occasion to congratulate the members of the Church in Canada upon their position, from which they can calmly look down upon us and others who are struggling with difficulties, being independent of Privy Council Judgments, and little affected even by the action of the Imperial Parliament. And we must the more regret the rejection, by our Provincial Legislature, of the Bill which, without interfering with any persons beyond our own pale, would have secured to us the privileges now enjoyed by our brethren.

Since my last Visitation, the Convocations of the two English Provinces have accomplished more than had been attempted for many years, having, with the sanction of the Crown, altered some of the Canons of 1603,† and the question arises, how far are we affected by these alterations? Since we do not belong to either Province, although we have been commonly supposed to be in the Province of Canterbury, I apprehend that, even if we may still be regarded as members of the United Church of England and Ireland, we cannot be bound by these new Canons unless we formally adopt them. You are probably acquainted with the alterations, to which I refer, and it will be for the Synod to determine whether we shall

* Since the delivery of this Charge, there has been a change of Government, and it is not probable that the attention of Parliament will be given to the Colonial Church, during its present Session.

† When the address to the Crown, embodying these new Canons, had passed the Lower House of the Convocation of Canterbury, the Prolocutor said, "I cannot allow anything further to be put to the House without first expressing my deep gratitude to Almighty God for his great goodness in permitting us to perform an act which I conceive to be one of the utmost importance to the interests of the Church of England. If I could tell the House the extreme anxiety which has been felt by our Most Reverend President upon this subject, I am sure they would sympathise both with him and with me upon the present occasion. I look upon this result as an answer to the fervent prayers which have gone up from faithful members of this House: 'Concede igitur ut Spiritus Tuus, qui concilio olim apostolico, huic nostro etiam nunc insident, ducaturque nos in omnem veritatem, quæ est secundum plebentem.'"