

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE SYNOD ESTABLISHED.

We congratulate our readers, and Churchmen, generally, upon the establishment of the Synod of the Anglican Church in this province.

A meeting of the clergy and lay delegates summoned by the Bishop to receive the report of a committee appointed at a meeting, last year, assembled in the Madras School room, Fredericton, at half-past nine on Thursday morning, 4th of July. The Holy Communion had been previously celebrated in the Cathedral at half-past seven. The chair was taken by his Lordship the Bishop, and the Rev. J. Pearson was appointed to act as Secretary. Thirty of the clergy were present, and twenty-four parishes were represented by delegates. Seventeen of the clergy who were absent were known to be in favor of Synodical action: and ten other parishes had elected delegates who from various causes were prevented from attending the meeting.

The following account of the meeting appeared in the *Morning Journal* of the 10th instant:—

The meeting was opened by appropriate prayers. The Bishop then stated the purposes for which it was called. In July of last year a meeting of clergy and lay delegates at St. John resolved that a Synod should be formed and appointed a Committee consisting of the Hon. Judge Weldon, Hon. Judge Allen, W. M. Jarvis, Esq., Rev. W. E. Scovil and Rev. J. Pearson to consult with the Bishop and prepare a scheme for its organization. The Committee had prepared their Report which had been printed and widely circulated throughout the diocese. A list of those parishes which had sent delegates to the present meeting would now be read.

The Bishop also alluded to Lord Carnarvon's despatch upon the case of St. George's Church, Carleton, in which it was stated that the Crown would be ready to transfer the right of patronage to "any body of persons qualified to represent the Bishop, clergy and laity of the Church," and read several interesting extracts, having a direct bearing upon the object of the meeting, from the speeches made in the debate in the House of Lords upon the Colonial Church, in March last, and also from the speeches of Mr. Gladstone and the Earl of Carnarvon at the anniversary meeting of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, in May.

The Minutes of the meeting of July 1866 having been read and confirmed, Mr. Jarvis was called upon by the Chairman to read the Report of the Committee, and it was on motion of the Rev. W. Scovil resolved that their Report be received, and the constitution proposed by them gone into section by section.

The declaration and constitution were then read and adopted with some slight alterations. It was decided for the present to hold the meetings of the Synod annually; each Parish having a Church or Chapel of ease to be entitled to one lay representative, and those in which there were more than forty qualified voters, to two. The constitution having thus been gone over in detail was then put as a whole to the meeting, and unanimously adopted.

The questions of the incorporation of the Synod and the powers it should possess were then referred to a Committee consisting of the same gentlemen who prepared the draft of the constitution. The question of church patronage was also referred to the same Committee, the reports in all cases to be made to a Synod to be summoned under the constitution in July, 1868, at Saint John.

THE DIOCESAN CHURCH SOCIETY.

We learn with feelings of the deepest regret that the spirit of opposition to this excellent institution should yet linger so strongly in the breasts of many in the good city of St. John who claim to be sound Churchmen. We fear that this Society, which is in reality the mainstay of the Church in this diocese, will suffer through the short-sightedness of those who now refuse to contribute to its funds. Why this should be, we know not. From one or two quarters, to be sure, we hear the narrow-minded cry that "it is not an Evangelical society" (i. e. a party affair)—that "the Bishop has the whole control of the Society,"—and much more to the same effect.