

another lady missionary, works there. She is a Presbyterian, and very kindly asked us to spend the night with them. As it was raining in the morning we did not get away as early as we expected to, but made a start at 7 a.m. It kept fine till we got to the top of the first mountain, when it began to rain again. As it was impossible to stay here, when we had finished lunch we continued our journey. It was rather dangerous, for she (Mrs. Kennedy) and her mother were being drawn in jirikishas and in a number of places the road was washed out. There were four men to each vehicle, two pushing and two pulling, and often I had to give a hand to help. My Japanese teacher was with me and made himself very useful. We got to the top of the second pass about 7 p.m., and it got very dark. I felt very nervous, for the road led down by the side of the mountain, and the least mistake on the part of the men would have thrown the jirikishas some thousands of feet down the side. I continually warned the men to be careful, and walked on the outside of Mrs. Rowe's jirikisha, whilst Okugawa Sam looked after her. In this way if the inner wheel caught in a stone I could keep the thing from tipping. We got along beautifully till we were near the bottom. As the road had become safe I walked ahead, when suddenly I heard a scuffle and scream, and when I turned I saw Mrs. Rowe going out headfirst. On crossing a small stone bridge the wheel had struck a stone and tipped the whole affair over. I was afraid she was killed, for she fell on her head in the water, which, fortunately, was only a few inches deep. But after a good deal of scrambling I got her on her feet; she was very much frightened and bruised. After another hour's ride on the level we arrived at our new home. I was very tired, for we had come over thirty five miles, and I had walked thirty. We expected to have a nice dinner waiting for us, for we had sent the cook on the day before. But what was our disappointment to find nothing to eat, for our goods had not arrived. We gathered together the few fragments of lunch that remained, and dividing it tried to make a meal. Our goods did not arrive for three days, and we lived on rice, Japanese bread and coffee, which Ito (their Japanese servant) managed to buy. You see, although this is a large city, yet they have not foreign food for sale in the shops. The first night we slept on the floor. After that I got the beds together, which had come from Nagano, with some quilts. We had no sheets, no table cloth, a spoon and some dishes we borrowed from Mr. Kakuzen, the Japanese deacon who lives here. I tell you what it is, if it were not for the 'Blessed News' we have come to tell—if it were not for our Master, we would feel dreadfully lonely. We seem further from our friends than ever, having those dreadful mountains between us and the railway, and being the only foreigners in the place. Our house is very small, it has seven rooms and a kitchen (this sounds big). But each room is only 9 x 12 and the ceiling only 6½ feet high. It is on the outskirts of the town and in a quiet place, houses on each side, but none at the back. We can look right over the rice fields to the mountains. In the front of the house, a few feet from the gate, is the outer moat of the castle. The old building is falling to pieces, only one tower being left, and this we can see from our upstairs' windows. But while these extracts from Mr. Kennedy's letter show that the missionary's life is not without its hardships, the following notice of his arrival in Matsumoto, translated from one of the local Japanese newspapers, indicates that they will be kindly received and welcomed in the city: "The Rev. F. W. Kennedy and family have arrived in town to live. He is from Toronto, Ontario, a graduate in divinity of Trinity University. He worked for a time at Bolton, and then came to Japan as a missionary the eleventh month of last year. Since then he has lived in Nagano. He has come now to work with Mr. Kakuzen of the Nihon Sei Kokwai (Japanese Holy Catholic Church), and as he has been in Japan only a few months converses very well."

#### THE GENERAL CONVENTION OF THE AMERICAN CHURCH.

##### PART III.

(From Our Own Correspondent).

On Monday, October 14th, the eleventh day of the Convention, a message was received in the Lower House from the House of Bishops concurring with them into erecting Northern Michigan as a new diocese. Another message received named as Church University Regents the Lord Bishops of Albany, Minnesota and Kentucky; the Revs. Morgan Dix, Greer, Huntington and Potter, and Messrs. Dresler, Garnet, George Vanderbiltdt, Spencer, Trask, and Silas McBee. On resolution of Rev. Dr. Rhodes, of Southern Ohio, a most cordial vote of thanks to the people of Faribault, and Bishops Whipple and Gilbert, together with Mr. Roswell Miller, President of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway, was

unanimously passed, for their kindness and courtesy in connection with the expedition taken part in by the members of the Convention on the previous Saturday. This was passed by a standing vote. Various matters were then discussed in connection with the revision of the Canons. Amongst other things, it was moved by Judge Prince that missionary districts should be represented on the floor of the House by properly accredited lay delegates, each missionary district to be represented by one lay delegate, and that these delegates should have all the privileges of the members of the Lower House except that of voting. This was carried after an amendment had been offered by Mr. Goddard, of Rhode Island, who asked in his amendment that the same privileges be accorded to representatives of the Church in Europe. It was decided, after some discussion, by a unanimous vote on the motion of Dr. Blanchard that the word "primate," in sec. 2 of message 9 from the Upper House, should be struck out, and the words, "presiding officer of the House of Bishops" be substituted therefor.

At the commencement of the afternoon session, Dr. Smith, of Baltimore, the venerable chairman of the committee on Church Unity of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, who had already been received and cordially welcomed by the Upper House in the morning, was given a similar welcome by the members of the Lower House and invited to a seat on the platform. The next matter of importance was the adoption of the entire two sections of the Constitutions 1 and 2, by an almost unanimous vote. The whole of the remainder of the day's session was taken up with discussing further amendments in the Constitution. The House then adjourned.

The first business introduced on Tuesday morning in the Lower House was the report of the trustees of the General Theological Seminary, which was presented by the Rev. Dr. Little of Delaware, who declared it to be the most encouraging which had ever been presented. A number of messages were received from the Upper House relating to various matters, some of which were concurred in by the Lower House, whilst others were referred to special committees to be dealt with. The adjourned debate upon the proposed amendments of the Constitution were then proceeded with. After some further debating Dr. Hoffman moved that the consideration of message 18 of the Upper House, together with its succeeding messages containing proposed amendments to the Constitution be deferred until the next General Convention. Mr. Packard moved that this same message 18, together with its succeeding messages, be referred to a committee of the Lower House consisting of six clergymen and six laymen, who should report at the next Convention, and that such report should be published at least six months prior to the meeting of the said Convention. Dr. Davenport moved in amendment, "That the House of Bishops concurring, all messages from the House of Bishops on the revision of the Constitution and Canons . . . be recommitted to the Joint Commission on Revision, which should report upon same at the next Convention." Dr. Hoffman's resolution was first put to the House and it was lost on a vote of 101 for to 190 against. Dr. Davenport's amendment was also lost. Dr. Parks, of Pennsylvania, then moved to amend Mr. Packard's resolution by inserting the words, "except message 19." In this form the motion was carried, as amended, by a vote of 187 to 90. A recess was then taken for lunch. When the Lower House reassembled the President announced as delegates to the Canadian Synod, the Revs. Dr. Green of Iowa, C. F. Sweet of Maine, and Messrs. Woolnooth of Nebraska, and Peter White of Northern Michigan. The House then went on to discuss the provincial system. The Rev. Dr. Hoffman gave an explanation of that which led to the action of the Joint Commission in introducing this question into the consideration of their report. This commission reported strongly in favour of the Church in America being divided up into provinces, for at the present time it was too unwieldy for one thing, and it would expedite Church matters greatly in America if the dioceses were divided up into smaller provinces. It would be a cause of strength to the Church and not a hindrance. The question of how the Church should be divided up into provinces led to three methods being suggested, viz., (1) That contiguous dioceses should organize themselves into a federated province. This plan had already been tried in New York, Pennsylvania and Illinois. It had proved a success in the latter State, where three dioceses had been federated into a province, but had not been at all satisfactory in the two former; (2) That the General Convention should unite dioceses in any single State into provinces. This might work well in large States like New York or Pennsylvania, but not in such States as Rhode Island; (3) That the General Convention should divide the Church into provinces some six, eight, ten or a dozen, as should seem fit, and that the boundaries of these provinces might be enlarged or changed from time to time, provided that there were not less than five dio-

ceses in a province. The conclusion definitely arrived at by the Joint Commission was that the General Convention should divide the Church, not compulsorily, but should so plan as to allow every diocese to come in or not as it sees fit. Mr. Nash, of New York, who was also a member of the Joint Commission, spoke at some length upon the matter. He had objected, and still did object strongly, to the plan of dividing the Church up into provinces, declaring that it was a pure experiment and nothing else but an experiment in ecclesiastical history. The Rev. Dr. Huntington argued in favour of the provincial lines being identical with the civil lines. Dr. Carey, of Albany, declared himself to be in favour of the provincial system as being one which is well adapted to the needs of the Church in America to-day. He said: "We must not be content with the past, but must adopt measures and methods which will promote the life of the Church in the present." He believed the great safeguard of the liberties of the Church was in the provincial system, because it distributed the power of the Church. Dr. Egg, of Central New York, Dr. Fulton and Dr. Morrison of Albany, also took part in the discussion. No definite action was taken by the House in the matter. A number of messages were received from the Upper House. On Wednesday, October 16, the thirteenth day of the Convention, the Rev. Dr. Hodges, of Maryland, and the Rev. Dr. Christian of Newark, presented reports concerning the General Theological Seminary and the regularity and validity of the Orders of the Church of Sweden respectively. The latter was the report of a Joint Committee of both Houses, and the resolution in substance submitted by them was to the effect that no minister of the Church of Sweden be permitted to officiate in any of the churches belonging to the American Church, until he shall first of all have received at the hands of a bishop the orders of a deacon—the third order of the ministry having been entirely rejected as a holy order in the Swedish Church. Reports were then presented dealing with the title of the Book of Common Prayer, both majority and minority. Further messages were received from the House of Bishops.

The consideration of the provincial system was then continued. Dr. Taylor of Springfield, and Dr. Spalding of San Francisco, made long speeches, both declaring their belief that the provincial system was needed. It was finally decided, on the motion of the Rev. Dr. McKim, that message 19, which dealt with this question, together with all proposed amendments thereto, be referred to the same committee to which all the other amendments relating to the Constitution had been referred. This motion carried *nem con*.

At the afternoon session the committee on the state of the Church recommended that the resolution of Mr. Sowden, of Mass., suggesting the appointing of an Office for Independence Day, be transmitted to the House of Bishops, asking at the same time that its prayer be endorsed. This resolution was adopted. The whole of the remainder of Wednesday's session, as well as that of Thursday, was taken up in discussing matters pertaining to the order and discipline of the Church and the reception of reports. The two Houses met in joint session to receive the reports, the first of which was on the subject of "Christian Education," and was presented by Bishop Gailor. It emphasized the importance of plainly asserting the principles of our historic faith and causing them to pervade the instructions of the children. The first recommendation contained in the report was for constant, systematic and enthusiastic work in the Sunday-schools. The report mentioned that there were six Church colleges and one Church university in the United States, all of which were doing a great and noble work. They were not behind any secular institutions in the gaining of honours, and their graduates were winning laurels in all departments of work all over the world.

The second report, from the Church University Board of Regents, was read by the Rev. Dr. Austice and it dealt with various educational matters. A resolution offered by the Rev. Dr. Fulton, that "This Board be requested to consider the expediency and feasibility of a union of the various divinity schools in an organization in connection with the General Theological Seminary," was carried, and the meeting adjourned.

A most important debate, which had been commenced prior to the entrance of the bishops, upon "Christian Unity," was then proceeded with, in which Dr. Jewell of Milwaukee, Dr. McKim of Pennsylvania, Dr. Christian and Dr. Huntington of New York, took part, together with two or three others. The debate occupied the entire afternoon's session.

On Friday, October 18th, a message was received from the House of Bishops at the morning session, dealing with the consecration of bishops. It was presented to the House by the Very Rev. Dr. Hoffman, and in it the Rev. P. T. Rowe, of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., was nominated to the See of Alaska. A report was presented by Dr. Nelson dealing with the Church Hymnal. Matters connected with the missionary council were discussed. Various canons, as amended, were discussed and passed. Others