

This is indeed a satisfactory result, especially, when it is remembered, that the Bishop has established with some of our active friends relations, which will, from time to time, bring him more and more of the help, that he so greatly needs.

PASTORAL LETTER

WHICH THE BISHOP DESIRES TO HAVE READ
IN ALL THE CHURCHES OF THE DIOCESE
WHERE THIS HAS NOT ALREADY BEEN
DONE. INDEED, THIS IS A DIRECTION
OF THE HOUSE OF BISHOPS OF THE
CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN
CANADA.

*To the Faithful in Christ Jesus, members of
The Church of England in Canada, greet-
ing:*

Your Chief Pastors hasten to make you partakers of their joy in the consolidation of our Church now happily completed.

Hitherto some of our Dioceses have had the opportunity of acting together in their Ecclesiastical Provinces of Canada and Rupert's Land. Others outside these two provinces have been standing alone, unable, by reason of their isolation, to receive or to impart that additional life and strength and energy which are found in union.

Now, from East to West—from the Atlantic to the Pacific—all are united in the General Synod, which, through the good hand of our God upon us, has been constituted with the hearty good will of all. In it and through it, all our Dioceses are so bound together that they can "take sweet counsel together" and speak with one voice.

Some thirty years ago the Civil Provinces of our country, so feeble in their isolation, were consolidated under the one Government of the Dominion of Canada.

The results of that union are familiar to us all. They foreshadow the advantages which we may look for from the union of all our Dioceses under the General Synod.

The life and rights and powers of our Dioceses will be just what they have been hitherto, except that a deeper meaning and fresh energy will be infused into them. For it is distinctly laid down as a fundamental principle that:

"The General Synod shall not take away from, or interfere with, any rights, powers or jurisdiction of any Diocesan Synod within its own territorial limits, as now held or exercised by such Synod."

Another fundamental principle is that the General Synod brings with it no change

in the existing system of Provincial Synods. The retention or the abolition of the Provincial Synods is left to each Province and the Dioceses therein.

The first act of the General Synod was to set forth the position of the Church of England in Canada in the one Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church: the foundations of her faith, her worship and her discipline, and her determination to maintain and transmit the same unimpaired. We repeat this solemn declaration to you to-day and desire you to store it up in your hearts and minds.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

We, the Bishops, together with the Delegates of the Clergy and Laity of the Church of England in the Dominion of Canada, now assembled in the First General Synod, hereby make the following solemn Declaration:

We declare this Church to be, and desire that it shall continue in full communion with The Church of England throughout the world, as an integral portion of the ONE Body of Christ, composed of Churches which—united under the ONE Divine Head, and in the fellowship of the ONE Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church—hold the ONE Faith revealed in Holy Writ, and defined in the Creeds as maintained by the undivided Primitive Church in the undisputed Ecumenical Councils: receive the same Canonical Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, as containing all things necessary to salvation; teach the same Word of God; partake of the same Divinely ordained Sacraments through the Ministry of the same Apostolic Orders, and worship One God and Father through the same Lord Jesus Christ, by the same Holy and Divine Spirit, who is given to them that believe to guide them into all truth. And we are determined by the help of God to hold and maintain the Doctrine, Sacraments and Discipline of Christ, as the Lord hath commanded in his Holy Word, and as the Church of England hath received and set forth in "The Book of Common Prayer and administration of the Sacraments and other Rites and Ceremonies of the Church, according to the use of the Church of England, together with the Psalter or Psalms of David, pointed as they are to be sung or said in Churches: and the Form and manner of making, ordaining and consecrating of Bishops, Priests and Deacons;" and in the "Thirty-nine Articles of Religion;" and to transmit the same unimpaired to our posterity.