

4. Upon the faith of this avowed and fundamental principle, the large income of 130,000*l.* to 150,000*l.* a year is contributed and is expended in supporting Christian teachers among the heathen and Mohammedan population in Her Majesty's colonial possessions, and in other territories.

5. The Committee find that the constitution and formularies of the Church of England, with such reasonable modifications as local circumstances necessarily require, afford ample scope and guidance for Missionary operations. This is especially seen in India, where more than half the Society's Missionaries are employed, where the work of evangelization has been most successful, and where the Society enjoys the full benefit of the ecclesiastical jurisdiction and co-operation of the Metropolitan of India and his suffragans.

6. The Committee are aware that the settlement of a Colonial Church involves greater difficulties, connected with the holding of property, and the enforcement of discipline, than are involved in Missionary operations. These peculiar difficulties in the settlement of the Colonial Church may be met by Colonial legislation or by trust deeds. The Committee have themselves proposed a trust deed for the settlement of the Native Church in Sierra Leone, which received the approval of the late Archbishop of Canterbury and the late Bishop of London. But the Committee conceive that all such legislation or trust obligations should be kept within the constitution of the Mother Church, and should be safeguards and securities for the maintenance of the Episcopal Church in any colony, as a part of the United Church of England and Ireland.

7. The Committee fear, however, that the action of the Synod in Ceylon has already overstepped the constitutional limits of the English Church, for it has adopted a new form of clerical Declaration and Subscription, which is to bind the bishop and clergy and their successors; and Her Majesty's Secretary for the Colonies is to be "moved to make any future appointment to any ecclesiastical office contingent upon the acceptance of the said Declaration, and upon an undertaking to sign it in Ceylon; and the Bishop of Colombo was requested "to require of all candidates for Holy Orders, and all applicants for ecclesiastical employment in the diocese, prior to their being ordained or licensed, the acceptance of and signature to the above Declaration, as an act of agreement or contract between the said applicants and the bishop for and on behalf of the Church of this diocese."

8. The Committee cannot but call attention to the fact, that this attempt on the part of the Diocesan Synod in Ceylon to impose a new Declaration and Subscription upon the clergy in that diocese is made at a time when the course of legislation in the Church at home is precisely in the opposite direction. Here a number of divers Declarations have been abolished and superseded by one simple uniform Declaration for the United Church of England and Ireland.

9. The Committee submit, that should the action of this Synod, and the adoption of this Declaration, be enjoined by Her Majesty's sanction upon all persons under the jurisdiction of the Bishop of Colombo, it would amount to a virtual separation of the Episcopal Church in Ceylon from the United Church of England and Ireland.

10. The Committee beg to refer to the recent decision of the Privy Council in the case of *Long v. Bishop of Cape Town* as describing the present position of all Clergymen of the United Church of England and Ireland, who do not voluntarily place themselves under other obligations, in the diocese of Cape Town, and, by parity of reason, in the Diocese of Ceylon; in which the Privy Council decided that a Synod summoned by the Bishop of Cape Town had no legal authority, and that one who had not voluntarily submitted to it was to be judged "with reference to the position in which he stood as a Clergyman of the Church of England towards a lawfully appointed Bishop of that Church, and to the authority known to belong to that office in England."

11. The Society desires to retain for its Missionaries and other agents the liberty of the position thus accorded by the Privy Council to all members of the Church of England in the Colonies; and they trust that Her Majesty's Government will not deprive them of this liberty in any future legislation which may be adopted.

12. The Committee therefore respectfully but earnestly request, that if any Imperial legislation for the Colonial Church, or Her Majesty's licence in Crown colonies, shall permit the adoption of new declarations, canons, or regulations, in any colonial diocese, such declarations, canons, or regulations may be binding only upon those who consent to the same; and that the liberty declared by the Privy Council now to exist, may be preserved, namely, that clergymen of the Church of England may exercise their ministry according to the principles and practice of the United Church of England and Ireland, without forfeiting episcopal jurisdiction, so that the Missionaries of the Society and the candidates for Holy Orders, presented by them, may not be required to enter into any subscriptions or obligations other than those of the United Church of England and Ireland.

We have, &c.,

CHICHESTER, President.

HENRY VENN, Hon. Cler. Secy.

APPENDIX.

Extracts from the Judgment of the Privy Council in the case of "*Long v. The Bishop of Capetown.*" [The quotations are from "*Judgments of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in Ecclesiastical Cases.*"—London, 1865.]

"We think that the acts of Mr. Long must be construed with reference to the position in which he stood as a clergyman of the Church of England towards a lawfully appointed bishop of that Church, and to the authority known to belong to that office in England." (p. 311.)

"The Letters Patent may be laid out of the case, for if the Bishop's whole contention in respect of these be conceded, they conferred on him no power of convening a meeting of the clergy and laity to