

be suited to the circumstances and exigencies of Missionary work, that it is scarcely possible for us to do anything else than pursue the action we have taken. On the other hand, it may be thought that union with Canada would beget greater sympathy with our work and bring out greater help. We know the efforts of other bodies in Canada on behalf of their members here, and we long for the Church in Canada showing a like interest in our country. But it would be strange if the Church in Canada, that has received and still receives so much from England, should see in the fact of our separate organization any reason for withholding or diminishing any help it can give. The fact is, that at present I fear we cannot look for much practical aid from Canada, and it will be wiser for us to consider how we can most strengthen our own life. On this I would place before you a few words from a letter that I lately received from Bishop Anderson, whose thoughts and best wishes are at this juncture most anxiously given to us:

"Your many points of difference indeed from Canada would constitute the necessity and reason for the formation of yourselves into a separate Provincial Synod. Our Church in Canada would always have enough to do in the way of self-expansion within herself, and can never give sufficient attention to the development of the wants of the Church in Manitoba and Rupert's Land. Far better to have in Manitoba a centre of fresh growth and life, which shall stretch forth her branches to the Northern Sea and her boughs to the Rivers. The action will be healthier and more rapid. There will be more of self-confidence and energetic effort."

In settling the Constitution, a most important point is the representation and voting of the Dioceses in the House of Delegates. It must be borne in mind that the object of the Provincial Synod is not to legislate for local matters, but for questions affecting the whole Province. The vast distances of our Dioceses introduce a great difficulty in our obtaining the expression of their mind, and though particularly from the desire of the Church Missionary Society to have from time to time Missionary Conferences, it will be practicable for representatives to meet; yet those from the farther Dioceses must necessarily be very few, and yet those Dioceses are equally interested in the Legislation. At the same time it seems very undesirable to reduce the representation of all the Dioceses to one or two representatives. The only way for at once securing sufficient representation of the nearer Dioceses, and giving due weight to the more distant, seems to be the adoption of voting by Dioceses, if required, as is allowed in the General Convention of the American Church.

Further, in view of the vastness of this country, there must be some preparation for the contingency of Dioceses not being represented at some meeting of the Provincial Synod. This has been provided for in the Province of South Africa by making the acts of such a Synod only provisional till sanctioned by the Diocesan Synods.