

the same to the Archbishops of Canterbury, York, Armagh and Dublin.

MESSAGE FROM THE UPPER HOUSE.

The Upper House concurred in the appointment of a joint committee (on the subject of an address to the S. P. G.), and named the Bishops of Montreal, Quebec and Huron as members of that committee.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION.

The Rev. H. HOLLAND moved, seconded by the Rev. Mr. ARMSTRONG,—that in order to bring the 20th Act of the constitution into agreement with the Synod Act, it be amended by the introduction of the words, "or appointment," after the word "election," at the beginning and end of the said article.

TOTAL ABSTINENCE.

The Rev. Dr. SHORT moved, seconded by the Rev. Mr. GIVINS,—that this Synod considers that the practice of total abstinence from the use of intoxicating liquors as an article of ordinary diet, or a means of hospitality, is one which deserves careful and conscientious consideration.

Rev. Mr. FOTHERGILL moved, seconded by the Rev. Mr. DARLING, that the House of Bishops be respectfully requested to revise the prayer appointed to be used during the meeting of this Synod, and that a copy of the prayer so revised be forwarded by the secretaries to each delegate, and also three copies to each clergyman in the several dioceses, in order to its being read in the churches on the two Sundays preceding the meeting and during the session of this Synod, and that the prayer for the Governor-General be likewise printed and forwarded in like manner.

CANON.

On motion of the Rev. HENRY HOLLAND, seconded by the Rev. Mr. DARLING, a canon providing for the obtaining, from time to time, of a full and accurate statistical view of the state of the church in this Province, was submitted to the Committee on Canons.

MESSAGE FROM THE UPPER HOUSE.

A message from the Upper House stated that the prayers for the Synod, the Governor-General, and the Provincial Parliament, had been received, and care would be taken to give effect to the same.

THANKS TO THE DEAN.

Rev. Dr. NICOLLS moved, seconded by the Rev. Mr. HOLLAND,—that the thanks of this House are hereby tendered to the Very Rev. the Dean, for his courtesy in allowing the Synod the use of the Cathedral; and that the treasurer be requested to defray any expenses arising out of the said use. Carried.

CLOSE OF THE SESSION.

There being no further business to bring before the House, the minutes of the day's proceedings were read, and approved after a few alterations had been made.

SYNOD PROROGUED.

The Rev. PROLOCUTOR then intimated that his Lordship the METROPOLITAN was prepared to prorogue the Synod. The members of the Lower House accordingly adjourned to the House of Bishops, when his Lordship the METROPOLITAN prorogued the Synod, having first read the following address, and schedule of acts passed during the session:

Reverend Brethren, and Brethren of the Laity.—After a long session and patient and able discussions on many most important questions, which have been brought before you, it is my duty

to declare the state, in which each matter now stands, which has been brought before this House, and to certify in writing, as to what business, having received the sanction of both Houses, has been passed by the Synod. Independently then of what may have been transacted separately by the Lower House, the business, which having been brought before the Upper House, and which having been concurred in by that and the Lower House, I hereby declare to have passed the Synod, is, as follows:

1. An Address to Her Majesty.
2. A Canon for the appointment of the Court of Appeal of the Metropolitan.
3. A form of petition to Her Majesty to be recommended for adoption by the Synods of the several dioceses of this province, to be used on the election of Bishops to any vacant sees in future.
4. A resolution declaring that the next regular Triennial Meeting of the Provincial Synod shall be reckoned from the date of this meeting and not from the first meeting held in September last year.
5. Amended forms of prayer for the Governor-General and Provincial Parliament.
6. A resolution respecting the future succession to the office of Metropolitan.
7. A petition to the Legislature respecting the attendance of witnesses at the Diocesan and Metropolitan Courts.
8. A resolution respecting the supply and selection of candidates for holy orders.
9. A resolution respecting a memorial to the S. P. G.
10. A resolution respecting the representation of the ecclesiastical provinces of the colonies in a general or imperial Synod.
11. A petition to the Legislature respecting the issue of marriage licenses.
12. A resolution respecting the contributions to the expenses of the Synod.

We have had a conference with a committee of the Lower House, respecting the discrepancies in the manner of performing Divine Service in this Province, and having received from them a list of several particular points in which such differences are alleged to exist, we shall give the matter our best consideration, and endeavour to make such provision for remedying these discrepancies, as we shall judge to be best for that purpose.

We have also received a memorial from the Lower House respecting the power vested in the bishop of any diocese to withdraw, at his discretion, any license granted by him to any clergyman within his jurisdiction, and praying that we will originate, or concur in, some canon to be proposed at the next session, for making some alteration in the law on this subject. We hope to give the memorial so presented our careful consideration.

The question as to the future succession to the office of Metropolitan is left still unsettled; but we may hope that the debates which have taken place, and the arrangements now agreed upon for the more complete solution of the difficulties attending this important matter, will have been very useful in preparing the way for the eventual adoption of such a plan, as shall be satisfactory to the several dioceses of the province, and beneficial for the church at large.

There is no unfinished business before us in the Upper House for me to report, as reserved to our next session; and it only remains for me to congratulate you on the termination of your labours, and to declare that this Synod is now prorogued.

(Signed,) F. MONTREAL, Metropolitan,

President.

His LORDSHIP then pronounced the apostolic benediction, and the meeting separated.

THE DIACONATE.

[The Archdeacon of Toronto has kindly responded to the request made in our last number, and sent us a summary of his speech on this question.]

Whatever may be the individual opinions in reference to the Report which has occasioned this discussion, the Synod, I am sure, will regard themselves as under a great obligation to the gentlemen who framed it. The Synod, I conceive, are bound to receive it with respect, and certainly not to reject it without the utmost caution and the most careful deliberation. They sanctioned the principle it involves in appointing the committee, and the result of the labours of that committee they are antecedently pledged to accept with deference and consideration.

I am strongly of this impression, and so am anxious that the embodiment of the thoughts and researches of the committee should not be lost to the Church at large. For though not prepared to accept the details of that report, I confess myself to accept heartily the principle it enunciates, and am unwilling that the Synod should testify by any act of theirs that they had changed their minds as to the importance of the Institution it recommends, or were indifferent about it.

The report sets out with a statement, the truth of which all must admit,—that the Church in this country is grievously in want of a large addition to her working ministerial body. It has been argued, however, in this debate that the remedy proposed will not meet this requirement,—that there will be the same difficulty in alluring men to the Diaconate as has been experienced in drawing them to the ministry generally. But create the demand, and you may find the supply. Tell the Church that you are prepared to admit into the ranks of her ministering servants those who, with anxiety to serve her in that capacity, have hitherto regarded themselves as excluded. Settle upon such an organization, establish such an institution, and you may soon discover how many hearts it will reach,—how many faithful and devoted men it will draw from their modest seclusion,—how many will throw off their long restraint, and press in to serve the church in the capacity of her ministers.

It by no means follows, as some have contended, that the men expected to compose the Diaconate will be of the uneducated classes,—such men as were so sarcastically alluded to by a speaker yesterday. On the contrary, were the institution properly carried out, it would acquire many men of high social position, of refined minds, and respectable acquirements. Many would argue that, as St. Paul worked with his own hands while he preached the gospel, so may they: they may pursue their usual employments for their maintenance; they may usefully serve the Church, and be at no cost or charge to her.

I quite agree, however, that we should act with caution, and select such as are engaged in occupations not inconsistent with the sacred profession. But there are many of respectable position whom our plan would enlist and need not exclude. Like St. Luke the beloved physician of old, the zealous companion of St. Paul in preaching the gospel, men of pious minds belonging to the medical profession would be found who would gladly apportion a share of their time to this duty. There are landed proprietors too, without much secular occupation, who would rejoice to do the same; and others anxious and prepared to retire from the active business of life, who would be too happy in the opportunity