

distinguished the deliberations of this body from its commencement to its close, could have come under the circumstances in which we have been placed, and with the exciting questions which have been before us, from no other source than the guidance and presiding influence of the Holy Ghost. For this precious gift and Grace of God let us render to Him all the praise and gratitude of which our poor hearts are capable. We humbly, thankfully, take it for an earnest that God will continue to be gracious to this branch of His Church, and designs her, small as she is, to exert a blessed influence in moulding the character and destiny of this new world in which our lot is cast. He will control and overrule the agitations and aberrations of the day to a greater good. They are but the signs and necessities of a more exuberant life. As that life expresses itself in one direction, all of us will agree to maintain all that truly tends to produce those two things which God has so emphatically consecrated in His public worship—glory and beauty—while we reject all that is tawdry, mean, and trifling, and as far as on either hand, this teeming life has degenerated into false doctrine and disloyalty. Men of mere subjective faith will go to their own place from this Church, following Newman and Manning on one hand, or Colenso and Baptist Noel on the other. Even so this will but purify and strengthen the Church. The most important and continuing subject for gratulation in this Church is the fidelity with which we have adhered to the Divinely given pattern of a Christian Council by making the laity an essential portion of such Council. Our more extended experience in the practical working of this Divine pattern enables us to say confidently to our brethren of the Church of England, and of the provinces of England, who are trying to bring their synodical organization to a higher standard, that the lay element in this body has at all times been at once progressive and eminently conservative, that it is an effectual preservation against class legislation, and, in my opinion, contributes largely to the dignity, courtesy, and high character of this Convention. The Church, I trust, rising to a higher estimation of her powers, and capabilities, will have each of her ministers not merely a workman, but the leader and guide of a body of working people which is the only way that this Church can fulfil her great mission in evangelizing this country. The laity, under the control of and with the assistance of their respective ministers, by lay reading, must occupy every accessible position wherever the Church may be planted.

BISHOP POTTER'S ADDRESS.

[Continued.]

WE CANNOT GO BACK SIXTY YEARS.

The answer to these questions will rise up before almost every mind so soon as they are stated. We cannot exclude all improvements within the limits of Law, if we would; and certainly we ought not, if we could. An attempt to keep all our churches and all our services forever conformed to the standard of what were the average forms sixty years ago would have been a monstrous absurdity, and it would have been just as impossible as to prevent