

meetings. The afternoon meeting was held in the Sheldonian Theatre, and was devoted to the general consideration of the prospects of the Church in America and the Colonies; that in the evening was in the Town-hall, and was intended to advocate the claims of the Society for the propagation of the Gospel in Foreign parts. The chair was taken by the Bishop of the diocese, and there were also present the Bishops of Ohio, Albany, Iowa, and North Carolina (Assist.); Fredericton, New Brunswick, and Niagara; Bombay and Colombo; Capetown, Bloemfontein, and the Falkland Islands.

The *Bishop of Ohio* (Dr. Bedell), who was very warmly received, moved the first resolution, namely:

"That the multiplication of religious divisions furnishes additional reason for Churchmen throughout the world to draw more closely the bonds of unity among themselves." He said:

"As to the resolution itself, the meeting did not need any argument to enforce it, and it was hardly possible to enter into any course of illustration, as that would be simply repeating the history of the Church from the beginning to the present day. It was a very singular fact that through the whole course of ecclesiastical history there had been divisions in Christendom. He need not run down the line through the ages but it was a fact existing at the present day of which they, in America, had very remarkable illustrations, for, if he was not mistaken, the statistics which their Government had collected at the last census showed that there were at least three hundred different sects among Christians, or those who called themselves Christians; so that they in America could understand something of the divisions of Christen-

dom, amidst which the Church was planted, at least in their own country, as a little body, obliged to contend with those on every side. And grieved he was to say that one of the latest exhibitions of this sect spirit had occurred within a certain portion of their own body, who called themselves "Reformed Episcopalians," who were a great deal more Protestant than Protestantism, and certainly very much less Episcopalian than the very lowest type of Episcopacy which had ever been seen in the Anglican Church. [Cheers.] These Reformed Episcopalians did not much disturb Churchmen in America, and he hoped they would not much disturb Churchmen in England. How singular it was that in the midst of the illumination of the nineteenth century, members of any Church which held the pure truths which had been handed down to them by the Church of England, should find it necessary to invent something more suitable!

There was already a sect within this new sect, and it was probable that in six or eight years there would be ten or twenty. It was not a sect of this kind that could ever have any real influence; but it illustrated the absolute necessity there was for those who loved the truth to know each other, to have their hearts bound together by love and charity, to pray more earnestly for the power of the Holy Ghost to keep them more close to the foundations of that Rock on which the Church was planted. It showed how necessary it was that they should work together in every part of the world for the extension of the true Gospel, which had been committed to them as a most holy trust. He looked upon the Church of England as the bulwark not only