

was the first step taken. Two years afterwards his Lordship went to England for the purpose of meeting the metropolitan of Australia (the Lord Bishop of Sydney,) to consult the highest authorities at home and to obtain power to act in the matter from the Imperial Parliament. Objections, however, arose in England as to the eligibility of that course of procedure, and it was afterward thought proper to apply to the Provincial Legislature. The act, to adopt which they had met, was the consequence of that application; it had received the sanction of royalty, and the power of Synodical action had thus been constituted. His Lordship said that the present meeting was not a synod, but simply a meeting to prepare the way for the formation of a synod; and in the furtherance of this object, he had availed himself of the assistance of several gentlemen to draw up certain resolutions, which would be submitted to the consideration of the meeting. The first resolution had merely reference to the adoption by this meeting of the Act of Parliament; the second was for the purpose of establishing the principle of representation in the synod when formed, and it was open to all persons, members of the church, to propose such alterations therein, and amendments thereto, as were consistent with the general principles which governed the church. He hoped and trusted that the consideration of the subject and the action taken upon it by this meeting would be such as would receive the approbation of the church, the clergy, and the laity of the Church of England, not only through all the places whose interests are identified in that action, but throughout the world; and that whatever discussion took place it would be marked by that cool and calm reflection, that christian candour and gentleness, corresponding with the importance of the subject, and not with minds clouded or prejudiced by personal ideas or considerations. His Lordship concluded by saying that they would now proceed to consider what that synodical action would be, without which they had done for sixty-five years; and he hoped that the first steps taken would be successful ones. Referring again to the fact that the movement originated with the bishops, and the feeling towards the laity manifested by their so doing, he sat down.

Rev. A. W. Mountain, was appointed Secretary to the meeting, and read the following Act of the Provincial Parliament authorizing Synodical Action :—

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