

EPISCOPAL ELECTIONS.

MY DEAR PROLOCUTOR,

Congratulations have been heaped upon the late Provincial Synod, on account of the good feeling which animated its members, and the readiness with which they adopted the Canon on the "Consecration of a Bishop." This harmony and the solution of a difficulty have been attributed to two causes. First.—The suggestion of Chancellor Bethune whereby a Canon on the "Consecration of a Bishop" was substituted for a Canon on the "Confirmation and Consecration of Bishops," and Secondly.—To the influence exercised by a pamphlet on "Episcopal Elections," written by Mr. S. Dawson, and circulated so short a time before the meeting of the Synod as to preclude the possibility of a reply in pamphlet form. As I was the author of the Canon on "Confirmation and Consecration" which was adopted by the House of Bishops, and moreover was the mover of the present Canon, I wish for the sake of consistency to explain that I was in no way influenced by Mr. Dawson's argument, nor by any supposed superiority of Chancellor Bethune's Canon, but by an earnest wish to avoid what seemed likely to be an acrimonious debate. The Chancellor's Canon is good so far as it goes, but I do not accept it as an equivalent for a Canon of "Confirmation of a Bishop." Mr. Dawson's pamphlet may have had some influence with members of the Synod, but certainly not with me, and I purpose devoting the following pages to an exposition of some Fallacies contained in it.

Mr. Dawson, referring to the Canon on "Confirmation of a Bishop," says, "And here it is well to note, that what is really claimed, under cover of the proposed Canon, is a new elective in the House of Bishops, over the Diocesan Synod." We have here an unpleasant insinuation and a misstatement. Mr. Dawson ought to know, that what was claimed was a right of veto to be exercised by a Majority of the House of Bishops, in the case of a Diocesan election. A veto power and an elective