

named to the important office of secretaries.

The Chairman having explained how the Province of Rupert's Land was represented in the Conference, and his own views on the question at issue, called on the Lord Bishop of Toronto, as Chairman of the Committee of the Province of Canada, to explain the steps taken by that committee, which had led to the gathering. His lordships statement was very clear and concise, and his remarks on the tremendous importance of the work before the Conference, were greatly appreciated. The Chairman then pointed out the three main subjects for the consideration of the Conference. A General Synod had been proposed: (1) What is the position and character of this General Synod? (2) What are to be its powers? (3) How is it to be composed? A very clear and helpful statement respecting the action of the Church in Australia was made by the Bishop, and the course pursued there seemed in many ways very suitable to our own case. The Bishop of Huron's motion that a committee be appointed to consider a form or draft of the proposed union within an hour was deemed to be a little premature. The first point to be settled was whether consolidation was deemed advisable or not.

An amendment was therefore moved by the Bishop of Qu'Appelle affirming the general principle, and looking to the erection of a single province for the whole Dominion. In a remarkably able and fervent speech the Bishop urged his views, which were supported by Archdeacon Lindsay and Dr. Davidson. The scheme proposed did not, however, seem to meet with very general approval.

The Bishop of Huron having withdrawn his motion Mr. Jenkins now moved an amendment which was practically a scheme for the formation, composition and work of a General Synod. Here again it was felt the Conference had not reached the proper time for discussing details, and the motion and amendment being laid aside for a time, the principal motion brought before the Conference was moved by Dr. Langtry, seconded by Dr. Heneker and carried unanimously. That motion deserves to be recorded here. A very simple motion it is, but yet one of vast importance. "This Conference is of opinion that it is expedient to unite and consolidate the various branches of the Church of England in British North America."

The Bishop of Qu'Appelle's motion was next considered. In his own province, however, his scheme was evidently not acceptable to the majority, and the representatives of his own diocese were divided on the subject. After a very animated discussion the motion was lost by a large majority, and the motion of the Bishop of Saskatchewan and Calgary affirming the necessity of the Provincial system was passed.

The time had now come for the discussion of a detailed scheme, but as it was near evening it was thought best to have a scheme formulated by a

committee, to be considered next day. The Conference therefore adjourned, and a committee, consisting of the Bishops of Rupert's Land and Toronto, Rev. Dr. Langtry, the Dean of Rupert's Land, Rev. Canon Partridge, Canon O'Meara, Mr. Jenkins, Dr. Heneker and Mr. Wrigley, proceeded to consider the draft scheme.

This was presented next day, and proved to be on the whole very acceptable. After being considered clause by clause the following provisional Constitution was ultimately adopted:—

1. **PROPOSED CONSTITUTION**—There shall be a general Synod consisting of the Bishops of the Church of England in the Dominion of Canada and the Diocese of Newfoundland, and of delegates chosen from the clergy and the laity.

The delegates shall be chosen by the several Diocesan Synods according to such rules as they may adopt, or, in a diocese which has no synodical organization, may be appointed by the Bishop. The representation shall be as follows: Dioceses having fewer than 25 licensed clergymen, one delegate from each order; dioceses having 25 and fewer than 50 licensed clergymen, two of each order; having 50 and fewer than 100, three of each order; dioceses having 100 licensed clergymen and upward, four of each order.

2. **Time and place of meeting.**—The Synod shall meet for the first time in the city of Toronto on the 2nd Wednesday of September, 1893, and shall be convened by the Metropolitan, senior by consecration.

3. The Synod shall consist of two Houses, the Bishops constituting the Upper and the clergy and laity together the Lower House.

The Houses shall sit separately, excepting at any time by the unanimous consent of both Houses.

4. The president of the General Synod, who shall be styled the Primate, shall be elected by the House of Bishops from among the Metropolitans.

The Primate shall hold office for life or so long as he is Bishop of any diocese of the General Synod; nevertheless he may resign at any time.

5. The General Synod shall have power to deal with all matters affecting in any way the general interests and well-being of the Church within its jurisdiction,—provided that no Canons or Resolutions of a coercive character or involving penalties or disabilities shall be operative in any Ecclesiastical Province or independent Diocese until accepted by the Synod of such province or diocese.

The following, or such like objects, may be suggested as properly coming within the jurisdiction of the General Synod:

- a. Matters of doctrine, worship and discipline.
- b. All agencies employed in the carrying on of the Church's work.
- c. The missionary and educational work of the Church.
- d. The adjustment of relations between dioceses in respect to clergy widows' and orphans' and superannuation funds.