

Quod Semper, quod  
Ubique, quod ab Omnibus  
Credendum est teneamus

Her Foundations are upon the Holy Hills.



In necessariis Unitas,  
In dubiis Libertas,  
In omnibus Caritas.

# THE CHURCHMAN'S FRIEND,

FOR THE DIFFUSION OF INFORMATION RELATIVE TO THE

United Church of England and Ireland Her Doctrine and Her Ordinances.

EDITED BY CLERGYMEN.

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## Church News.

CANADA.—We have much gratification in announcing that His Excellency the Governor General has consented to the organization of the new Western Diocese, and the election of a Bishop by the Clergy and Lay-Delegates, as soon as he is assured that the amount actually subscribed is securely invested in real property or provincial debentures. This will require some little time to effect, but still we have no doubt that within a period of three months our hopes will be realized.

In the meanwhile we call upon the clergy and lay-delegates, a large number of whom are among our readers, to reflect much and solemnly upon the importance of the action in which they will be called to bear a part, and the heavy weight of responsibility which is laid upon them. No British church for many, many centuries, has been called to the free and unfettered choice of its Bishop; let the world see that English churchmen are worthy of such a privilege, and able to make a wise and dispassionate choice. Who can tell what influence our example may have upon the course of future events in all the British dominions? Even now the Imperial Government is preparing to lay before the Legislature a general measure for the regulation of the Church in the colonies. We well know that in both houses of the British parliament there

are men who view with jealousy and suspicion any proposal to grant additional freedom of action to the colonial churches, and many sincere friends of the Church, not actuated by any such mean motives, who yet are fearful, and doubt the wisdom of removing the restrictions by which we are now fettered. Let us be careful to put no weapons into the hands of our enemies, to disappoint the fears of our friends. It is to be expected that differences of opinion will prevail; let them be urged in a temperate, dignified and Christian spirit; let no bitterness, or wrath, or evil-speaking find place among us.

And let us not forget that such a spirit can only be attained and preserved by those whose hearts are subject to divine influences. Let those, therefore, who will be called upon to vote in the approaching election, pray frequently and earnestly that the Great Head of the Church will be pleased to direct their thoughts, and guide their choice. It were well indeed if some form of prayer could be issued by authority, to be used in all our congregations, for the purpose of imploring Almighty God to pour out the spirit of wisdom and counsel upon our deliberations; we only doubt whether there is at present enough of earnestness and devotion among our people generally to warrant such a course. People who sit and loll at ease in their cushioned pews during the prayers of the Church, are not likely to put much fervour into such petitions.