

We have, then, to consider the present and the purely missionary character of our work. But it is very improbable that the large extent of cultivatable land, especially along the Peace River, the not unfavorable climate, together with modern facilities of rapid and easy communication by steamers on the rivers, and by railways over land, will keep this country sealed against the steady out-put of emigrants not only from England and Europe, but from the eastern provinces of Canada herself. The only limit that can be placed to this is the limit of the wheat plant itself, and that at least extends to the 60th par. N. Lat. This outlook renders it necessary for us to consider such organization as will prepare us, as a portion of the Church of England, for future work in this country. Such preparations are also obligatory upon us as a Diocese of the Ecclesiastical Province of Ruperts Land. As such we have received the constitution agreed upon by the first Provincial Synod of 1875, to two clauses of which I will draw your attention, II, III, as set forth in appendix to Provincial Synod 1884. The first fixes our doctrine and administration as in full accord with that Church by whose kindly ministrations and missionary zeal the Gospel of Jesus Christ was brought to this country, and which through her handmaid the Church Missionary Society, has done so much to foster and build up the Church throughout the length and breadth of the land. The second defines the relation in which the Provincial Synods and Diocesan Synods shall stand, and the duties devolving on each.

After necessary preliminaries our first business then in Synod will be to draw up a Constitution. I have carefully prepared a draft of such Constitution restricting the scope as much as possible to our present circumstances as a purely missionary church. It will be, however, open to revision as the future circumstances of the diocese may require.

The next subject to which I would draw your attention is the training and provision of men who shall, with God's blessing, become able and faithful labourers in this portion of the Master's vineyard. In the first place, except for ministering to the scanty residents of the Company's Posts, ours is at present a purely missionary field of labor. The missions are few and far between. To occupy them must necessarily entail much isolation, and considerable hardships and privation on the missionaries and their families. For such work we need men whose hearts God has touched, and who have given themselves to the work from pure love of souls and desire for their