

CANADA.

the subscriptions already amount to nearly 10,000*l.*, and will soon reach the maximum 12,500*l.*, which is considered at present sufficient for the endowment of a bishopric, because at 6 per cent., our legal interest, it would yield 750*l.* per annum. Hence, should the privilege be granted by Her Majesty to the synod of each diocese to elect their own bishop, we may soon have one for the western district of this diocese, and the others will rapidly follow.

Nor will this boon seem unreasonable, when the present position of the Church in Canada is tenderly considered.

The Church has just been deprived of all her property by the Provincial Legislature, merely leaving to her clergy their stipends and allowances, during their natural lives and incumbencies, but without the slightest means at her disposal to extend her limits, or to fill up the vacancies which will be daily occurring; she therefore requires to be made as complete as possible within herself, in all her arrangements, even to preserve her existence, and this can only be effected by uniting her clergy and laity in synodical action. Seeing this state of things approaching, I have held two synods, the first in October 1853, and the second in October 1854. I have the honour to enclose a printed copy* of the proceedings of each, for your Excellency's information, and I am happy to state that they have met with the general and cordial approbation of our Church in all parts of the world.

The subdivision of the diocese was taken up on both occasions, and it was felt on all sides that it presented labour enough for three instead of one bishop, and is yearly becoming more and more beyond the strength of any individual.

From what the Duke of Newcastle says in his letter, as quoted above, we are encouraged to believe, that if the Church in Canada undertakes to support her own bishops, Her Majesty's Government would think it but reasonable to permit them to be chosen by her synods from among her own clergy; men who have served long in the colony, and are acquainted from experience with the hardships and difficulties of missionary life, as well as the more urgent wants of a colonial diocese. All appointments, with the exception of the Governor-general, are now made in the province, and we do not anticipate that the boon we pray for, which is so necessary to the extension and prosperity of the Church, will be any longer withheld.

I have &c.
(signed) *John Toronto.*

Enclosure in No. 1.

London, Canada West, 30 December 1854.

Encl. in No. 1.

At a meeting of the Committee of General Management for the Rural Deanery of London, convened for the purpose of ascertaining the amount of subscriptions obtained towards an Episcopal Fund for the Western Section of the Diocese of Toronto, the following Address to the Lord Bishop of Toronto, was adopted.

To the Honourable and Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Toronto :

May it please your Lordship,—We, the Committee of General Management for the Rural Deanery of London, beg leave to report for your Lordship's information, that the subscription set on foot, in accordance with your Lordship's instructions, in order to provide a fund for the maintenance of a bishop in the western section of the diocese of Toronto, has met with a very encouraging measure of success in every place where an appeal has been made to the members of the Church.

That we rejoice in being able to state to your Lordship, that the sum now actually subscribed amounts to nearly 10,000*l.*; and we do not hesitate to state our conviction, that in a very short time a sum sufficient to produce 750*l.* per annum will be subscribed, as there are several important places within the limits of the proposed new diocese which have not yet been appealed to for this object.

In the meantime, it is respectfully submitted to your Lordship that by the terms of the subscription list, all subscriptions are to be paid or secured to the fund on the 1st day of January 1855. But the Committee will not be in a position to call upon the members of our Church to pay, or to secure the several amounts subscribed by them, until the condition suggested by your Lordship, and embodied in the heading of the subscription lists, namely, "That the clergy and lay delegates within the limits of the proposed new diocese shall be allowed to elect their own bishops," shall have been formally sanctioned by the authorities at home.

We,

* Pamphlets, intitled, "Triennial Visitation of the Lord Bishop of Toronto, and Proceedings of the Church Synod of the Diocese of Toronto.—October 12th, 18th, 1853, and October 25th, 26th and 27th, 1854."—Published by Henry Rowsell, King-street, Toronto.