

With this reliance on the Spirit, read with fixed attention, concentrating all the faculties of your mind on the work: with deep reverence, regarding it as the Word of God as much as if his voice was addressing you, with a sincere desire to discover the mind of the Spirit; with self-application, seeking what God has to say to you, examining yourself by each precept, drawing the proper inference from each promise, taking the intended warning from every threatening, giving the full introduction of every example, entering into the import of every doctrine, and whenever some bright glimpse of the promised glory reserved in heaven for you, sheds celestial splendor round the sacred page, endeavor to become prepared for such a heaven. — *White.*

News Department.

From Papers by R. M. S. America, August 6.

COLONIAL CHURCH REGULATION BILL.

(Concluded from last week.)

IX. And provided, That every such Meeting shall choose as a Representative or Representatives One Person or (in any case where they think fit) Two Persons who shall have been a Communicant or Communicants in the said Church for at least the term of Twelve Months preceding the Day of such Meeting: Provided always, that if One hundred and fifty Persons or more shall attend and vote at such Meeting, it shall be lawful for such Meeting, if they think fit, to elect One Representative for each Number of fifty Persons so voting, provided that no Parish or District shall return more than four such Representatives.

X. And provided, That in case at the Meeting the Number of Persons proposed for Election exceed the Number which the Meeting is authorized to elect, the Chairman shall take in Writing or in a Poll Book the votes of the qualified Persons present and enumerated as aforesaid, and every such Person may give One Vote for each of such of the Persons proposed, not exceeding the Number which the Meeting is authorized to elect, as he may think fit, and the Chairman shall declare the Number of the Votes given for each of the persons proposed; and the Chairman, if he be not a Clerk, shall be entitled to vote at and may be elected by such Meeting, and where the Votes for Two or more Persons are equal the Chairman, if not a Clerk, may give a double Vote for any such Person, and if the Chairman be a Clerk he may, notwithstanding where such Votes are equal as aforesaid, give a Casting Vote for any such Person.

XI. And provided, That the Chairman shall deliver or cause to be delivered to each Person elected a Certificate of his Election, and shall sign the Minutes of the Meeting in token of their correctness, and, unless he be the Clergyman of the Parish or District, shall deliver them to such Clergyman, together with all Certificates, Subscriptions, and Lists which had been laid before the said Meeting, and a Certificate of the Names, Callings, and Addresses of the Persons chosen, and the Clergyman shall cause all such Documents to be delivered to the Bishop, to be by him laid before the Assembly at the Meeting thereof.

XII. And provided, That every Assembly first convened in any Diocese under this Act shall at its First Meeting or at some Adjournment or Adjournments thereof make such Regulations as shall seem fit for its own Proceedings and Government, and for the Proceedings and Government of future Assemblies, without Prejudice to the Right of any future Assembly to vary or repeal the same, and especially for the Adjournment or Prorogation of such Assembly, and the calling of future Assemblies, and election of the Lay Members thereof, but so that every Lay Member of such future Assembly shall be a Communicant of the Church as aforesaid.

XIII. And provided, That the Provisions of this Act for and in relation to the first convening and holding of an Assembly in a Diocese, and for and in relation to and consequent on the Election of the Lay Members thereof, shall, unless and until the first or any subsequent Assembly shall otherwise provide, remain in force and be acted upon for and in relation to any subsequent Assembly in such Diocese, and the elections of the Lay Members thereof; and in every Case not provided for by this Act, or by the Regulations for the time being in force of his Diocesan Assembly, the Bishop of the Diocese may provide for and regulate the convening of such Assembly, and the Form and Manner of all Proceedings preparatory thereto, as he may think fit.

XIV. And provided, That a Copy of the Regulations passed at the First Assembly to be called in any

Diocese, and from Time to Time of any alterations of such Regulations, shall be sent by the Bishop, duly certified under his Hand and Seal as having been made with his Assent by an Assembly of his Diocese, to the Archbishop of Canterbury, and the Archbishop shall within Six Months of his Receipt of the same, submit the same, with such Observations thereon as he may see fit to make, for the Consideration of Her Majesty in Council, and Her Majesty, by and with the Advice of Her Privy Council, may allow or disallow the same as to Her Majesty, with such Advice, shall seem fit; and the Regulations so allowed, and a Notification of the Disallowance of such Regulations as may be disallowed, shall be forthwith transmitted by the said Archbishop to the Bishop of the Diocese, and shall by him be published in the said Diocese.

XV. And provided, That any Regulation disallowed by Her Majesty as aforesaid shall, after the Notification of the Disallowance thereof shall have been received by the Bishop of the Diocese, cease to be in force, but any Act, Matter, or Thing done under or in accordance with any such Regulation before such Receipt of the Notification of the Disallowance thereof shall have the same Validity and Effect as if such Regulation had been allowed.

XVI. And provided, That after the Regulations certified by the Bishop of any Diocese as the Regulations made with his Assent by an Assembly in his Diocese under this Act, or any of such Regulations, shall have been allowed by Her Majesty in Council, no such Regulations, nor any Matter done thereunder, nor any Proceeding of any subsequent Assembly, shall be in anywise invalidated or affected by or on account of any Error or Irregularity in convening or otherwise in relation to the Assembly of which the Regulations shall have been so certified, or in relation to the Proceedings preparatory to the Meeting of such Assembly.

XVII. And provided, That in any Province where, for the Purpose of promoting Agreement between the Rules and Regulations of the several Dioceses thereof, it shall be thought fit to hold any Meeting for such Dioceses jointly, the Archbishop or Metropolitan of such Province for the Time being shall convene the Bishops of such Province, and require them to convene the Members of their several Diocesan Assemblies, or such Representatives of the same as shall hereafter by any such Provincial Assembly be determined, at such Time and Place as he may deem fit, to consider of and determine upon all such Things and Matters as may concern the Church in the same Province; and of every such Provincial Assembly the said Archbishop or Metropolitan shall be the President and shall always preside therein personally, or by such Bishop or Bishops of his Province as he shall appoint his Commissary or Commissaries under his hand and seal for that purpose; and the Archbishop and Bishops attending such Assembly shall sit and vote as one House, and the Clergy and Lay Members shall sit and vote as another House, and no Act or Resolution shall be valid to which both Houses shall not have assented; and on every Division of the House of Clergy and Lay Members nothing shall be held to be carried by a Majority of such House but that to which a Majority of both the Clergy and Laity, voting by Dioceses, shall have assented, the Vote of the Majority of the Clergy present and representing each Diocese being taken as the Vote of the Clergy of such Diocese, and the vote of the Majority of the Laymen present and representing the Laity of such Diocese being taken as the Vote of the Laity of such Diocese; and all Rules and Regulations so passed shall be valid, subject to such Provisions and Restrictions, and to such Allowance or Disallowance, as has been hereinbefore provided with regard to the Regulations of such Diocesan Assemblies as aforesaid.

MISSIONARY BISHOPS.

A Bill, entitled an Act to Authorize the Consecration of British Subjects in Foreign or Heathen Lands.

WHEREAS an Act was passed in the twenty-sixth year of the reign of his Majesty King George the Third, entitled "an Act to empower the Archbishop of Canterbury, or the Archbishop of York, for the time being to consecrate to the office of a bishop, persons being subjects or citizens of countries out of his Majesty's dominions;" and whereas it is expedient to extend the provisions of the said Act so as to authorize the consecration of British subjects to be bishops in foreign countries; be it therefore enacted by the Queen's most excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords spiritual and temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1. The provisions of the said Act for, and in relation to, the consecration of persons to be bishops as therein

mentioned, shall extend, and be applicable to and for, the consecration of British subjects to be bishops in any foreign country or heathen land.

II. The third section of the Act shall not extend or be applicable to British subjects consecrated to be bishops, as aforesaid, and any person so consecrated may, by warrant or license of Her Majesty under the royal sign manual, exercise his office within any British settlement or part of her Majesty's foreign or colonial possessions or dependencies not included within the limits of any existing diocese: provided always, that before he shall so exercise his office in any part of such possessions or dependencies he shall take the oaths of allegiance and supremacy, and the oath of due obedience to the archbishop for the time being.

III. Provided also, that no person admitted to the order of deacon or priest, by any bishop so consecrated, or by any successor, of any bishop so consecrated, shall be thereby enabled to exercise his office within her Majesty's dominions of England and Ireland, or of being admitted, instituted, or licensed to any benefice or curacy therein, until he shall have been previously specially examined and approved by the archbishop of the province, wherein he shall desire to minister or officiate, and shall also further have obtained from the bishop of the diocese wherein he shall desire to administer or officiate the like approval, to be followed, if such bishop shall think fit to grant the same, by the usual license or authority to him to officiate as curate, or to be admitted and instituted to any benefice in the said province and diocese; such person, previous to such license being granted or institution had, taking such oaths and making such subscriptions and declarations as are by law required in such cases.

THE COLONIAL CHURCH BILL.

THE Colonial Church Bill now before the Lords is entitled "An Act to enable the Bishops, Clergy, and Laity of the United Church of England and Ireland in her Majesty's Foreign and Colonial Possessions to provide for the Regulation of the Affairs of the said Church in such Possessions." The following is the substance of its contents:—

"The first clause provides that, in every colony in which the Queen and Council shall declare the Act to be in force, the diocesan may convene, prorogue, and dissolve an assembly of the clergy, being incumbents or licensed within the diocese, and of representatives of the lay members of the Church in such diocese.—The next clause asserts the all-important principles that the votes of the clergy and laity shall be taken separately; and that the bishop, as a separate order shall have a veto on their decisions. It is hardly necessary to add that, as the object of the proposed assemblies is to make regulations for the affairs of the Church, these regulations are only to bind ministers and members of the Church 'in respect of their ministry and membership,' and are to have no legal validity against the acts of the Colonial Legislatures. Thus the state obtains all the guarantees which it is entitled to demand; whilst the orthodoxy of the Church finds ample security in the sixth clause, which forbids any regulation to be made at variance with the Prayer Book, the Articles of religion, or the oaths at ordination. The existing subordination of the Colonial Church to the see of Canterbury is also protected by a provision that no measure affecting it shall be valid without the consent of the archbishop, under his hand and seal, and the final sanction of the Queen in Council.

"The bill then proceeds to deal with the important practical question of the election of lay representatives. The electors, who are to meet for the exercise of their powers on the summons of the clergyman, are to consist of all the laymen of the parish, of twenty-one years old and upwards, who have signed a declaration that they are members of the United Church of England and Ireland, and 'belong to no other religious denomination.' The representatives are to be persons chosen in the proportion of one representative to every fifty electors until the number four is attained, which is, in all cases, to be the maximum for each parish; and the representative or representatives so nominated must have been a communicant or communicants in the said Church for at least the term of twelve months preceding the day of such meeting.' In a subsequent clause, provision is made that no future assembly shall by its standing orders, abrogate the regulation that all lay representatives shall be communicants. We may add that these 'standing orders'—or, as the bill calls them, regulations—and all alterations in them, are to be sent to the Archbishop of Canterbury, and to be submitted by him within six months to the Queen in Council, who may disallow them. No other home restrictions than the very moderate provisions which we have mentioned are imposed upon the free action of each colonial diocese.