

rectory fund, will amount to more than \$125 per quarter. This amendment shall not apply to the case of any clergyman at present on the list of beneficiaries, or to the first 20 clergymen named in the Bishop's seniority list."

Rev. Robert Harrison drew attention to the fact that a distinction was drawn between those who derived money from endowments and those who received money from offertories. Those who drew money from the former source were discriminated against in the amendment. He asked the Synod to consider the matter.

Rev. J. P. Lewis would have liked a lucid explanation before he voted on the amendment. If constant tinkering with the fund went on it would shake his confidence in it. (Applause.)

Rev. W. C. Allen was sorry to see such silence observed in the Synod in regard to the question. The change proposed was radical and agrarian, and yet it was contemplated to let it pass through without discussion. The canon, on its face, bore its own condemnation, and the constant changes in the fund tended to weaken its stability. (Applause.)

Rev. John Gibson approved of the amendment, as it proposed to extend the endowments of the Church, and to give every clergyman an opportunity of enjoying them to a greater or lesser extent. It was a step in the right direction.

Rev. H. V. Thompson thought it was time that there should be a stop to these perpetual alterations, and there should be some security for the prospects and position of the elder clergy. He was inclined to think the amendment had not been legally and properly brought forward.

Mr. Campbell said the clause did not affect any clergyman now upon the fund, nor whose name appeared on the first 20 named in the Bishop's seniority list.

Rev. A. Mussen said it was a disgrace to the Church that there were clergymen totally independent of their parishioners simply through the support of this fund.

Delegates to the General Synod.—The discussion was not terminated, the hour for the Lieutenant Governor's reception having arrived. Before adjourning the scrutineers announced the result of the balloting for delegates to the General Synod as follows: Clerical—Rev. Provost Body, 56; Rev. Dr. Langtry, 55; Ven. Archdeacon Allen, 36; Rev. Canon Dumoulin, 30. Lay—A. H. Campbell, 64; Hon. G. W. Allan, 61; J. A. Worrell, Q.C., 53; N. W. Hoyles, Q.C., 44.

The Synod then adjourned.

In the evening at 8 o'clock a Diocesan Conference opened, His Lordship the Bishop presiding. The first part of the evening was devoted to a conference on Diocesan Missions. The subject was opened by Ven. Archdeacon Allen, of Peterboro', who spoke on the present work of the Mission Board and the general position of Diocesan Missions. In the course of his remarks the Archdeacon said the importance of Diocesan Missions was shown by the fact that 47 clergymen were stipendiaries of the Mission Board, for whose sustentation the sum of \$12,511 was last year paid. It would be a good thing to make the missions smaller. The other denominations were cutting their circuits up, and obtaining very much better results.

Maintenance of Stations.—Rev. Rural Dean J. M. Jones introduced the question of "The Maintenance of Mission Stations," with some practical and pointed remarks.

(To be continued.)

NIAGARA.

HAMILTON, Tuesday, June 6th.—The Synod was opened this morning in the school-house of Christ Church Cathedral by Bishop Hamilton. After the roll-call of delegates, the Rev. W. R. Clark, M.A., was re-elected honorary clerical secretary, and J. J. Mason honorary lay secretary. J. J. Mason was also re-elected secretary-treasurer.

The Bishop then delivered his charge, in which he referred in feeling terms to the loss sustained through the deaths of the late Rev. Dr. Medley, Bishop of Fredericton and Metropolitan of Canada; Rev. Canon Read, rector of Grimsby; Rev. W. E. Grahame and George Elliott of Guelph. Reference was made also to the generous bequests made to the Church by the late Mr. Elliott. Of the consolidation of the Church in Canada his lordship said that, whatever the opinions of individuals might be, loyalty to the Church requires that delegates be sent to the general synod, which is already summoned to meet in Toronto in September next. He, however, considered the consolidation premature, and the formation of the general synod certain to result in the destruction of the usefulness, if not the existence, of the provincial synods. The Episcopal Endowment Fund was reported to have reached \$20,000. His lordship intimated his desire to have the diocese provided with a see house. The plan he proposed was that the wealthier members of the diocese be asked to subscribe \$6,000 or \$7,000 for that purpose, offering

to devote to the payment of interest on the balance and the formation of a sinking fund to wipe out the balance the \$600 a year he now pays in rent. As to the claim of the synod of Toronto against the synod of Niagara, his lordship expressed the view that all the claims which either diocese may have against the other should be settled at the same time.

On the subject of solemnization of marriage he expressed the opinion that the ceremony should always be held in the church, as required by the rules, and that as much publicity as possible should be given in the publication of banns, so as to guard against illegal unions. Infant baptisms should also take place in the church on the first or second Sunday after the birth of the child, and in cases of private baptism, the ceremony in the church should also be performed at the earliest available time.

During the year missionary meetings were held in the diocese, at which 5,286 persons were present. There were 736 confirmations during the year, of whom 145 were persons brought up outside the Church of England.

A resolution expressing the synod's regret at the death of the late George Elliott of Guelph was passed.

Communications were read from the synod of Toronto respecting its claim against the synod of Niagara, and relative to the consolidation scheme and the election of delegates to the general synod. They were referred to the following committee:—J. J. Mason (convener), D. Martin, Q.C., Maitland Young, Rev. E. J. Fessenden, and Rev. J. J. Morton.

The following committee was appointed on the bishop's address:—Rev. E. M. Bland (convener), Revs. E. J. Fessenden, W. R. Clark, T. Motherwell, W. J. Armitage, T. Geoghegan, G. Forneret and J. Fletcher, Judge Senkler, Messrs. M. Young, W. F. Burton, A. G. Heaven, C. Halsen, J. J. Mason, W. A. H. Duff and Archdale Wilson.

In the afternoon session the new commutation fund by-law came up for discussion. Formerly commutants, providing their annuity did not reach \$400, were entitled by the by-law to the additional sum of \$400, no matter if they were but a few dollars short of the annuity. The new by-law, presented at this synod by the standing committee, changes this state of affairs by making the annuity reach \$400 only in any case. A long discussion took place upon the clause making the law, and it was finally carried.

At this evening's session discussion took place upon what should constitute the service to entitle a clergyman to participate in the commutation trust fund. Much of the afternoon had been taken up with the clause defining this, and various amendments were offered, but after all the discussion the synod accepted the clause as originally drafted, which states that such service shall consist of the time during which the clergyman has been exclusively employed in bona fide parochial or missionary duty, whether in deacon's or priest's orders, and in case of intermission in the time of such service (unless occasioned by ill-health) the length of such intermission shall be deducted from the time of service for which the clergyman claims.

Wednesday.—The following were elected delegates to Provincial Synod. Lay delegates—Judge Senkler, John Hoodless, Alexander Gaviller, Archdale Wilson, Hugh Roberts, William Bell, Alfred Ball, T. Keyes, Hugh James, James Old, C. Riseley, W. J. Barr. Substitutes—J. J. Mason, Kirwan Martin, W. F. Burton, E. Kenrick, M. Young, W. A. H. Duff.

Clerical delegates—Canon Houston, Archdeacon Dixon, Canon Bull, Rev. W. R. Clark, Rev. E. M. Bland, Canon Sutherland, Canon Worrell, Canon Bolt, Rev. George Forneret, Rev. A. J. Belt, Rev. E. J. Fessenden, Rev. P. L. Spencer. Substitutes—Rev. C. E. Whitcombe, Rev. T. Geoghegan, Rev. E. A. Irving, Canon Henderson, Rev. W. J. Armitage, Rural Dean Gribble.

The following Standing Committee was elected: Clerical delegates—Archdeacon Dixon, Canon Houston, Rural Dean Clark, Canon Sutherland, Rev. G. Forneret, Canon Bull, Rev. C. E. Whitcombe, Rev. W. J. Armitage, Canon Belt, Rev. E. J. Fessenden, Canon Worrell, Rev. P. L. Spencer, Rev. J. A. Belt, Rural Dean Gribble, Canon Henderson, Rev. C. R. Lee, Rev. E. A. Irving. Lay members—W. F. Burton, William Bell, A. Gaviller, John Hoodless, W. A. H. Duff, Hugh James, J. M. Russell, Archdale Wilson, C. Lemon, S. J. Taylor, Alfred Ball, J. J. Mason, E. Kenrick, A. G. Heaven, C. E. Bourne, M. Young, C. Halsen.

A resolution moved by Rural Dean Belt was passed endorsing the work of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, and expressing a hope that it would be extended.

The consideration of the report of the Standing Committee was continued, and the draft by-law in reference to the administration of the commutation fund was passed without material amendment. It was stated that there is a balance of \$6,699 on hand this year, sufficient to add three more clergymen to the fund. A discussion ensued as to the personnel of the members eligible. It was stated that they

would probably be Rev. E. J. Fessenden of Ancaster; Rev. R. Gardiner, of Jarvis, and Rural Dean Gribble, of Port Dalhousie. The claim of the latter was disputed, and in case he should not be successful in establishing it, Rev. W. J. Pigott, of Port Robinson, will be the third. The chancellor will be asked to give his opinion as to Rural Dean Gribble's claim under the terms of the new by-law.

Afternoon Session.—At the afternoon session a very stormy discussion arose on the subject of ritualism. Certain clauses in the report above referred to stated that 23 congregations in the diocese had failed to contribute to the home mission fund; also that there were 19,000 more Anglicans mentioned in the census of 1891 as belonging to the diocese, than are known to the rectors of the parishes.

Mr. John Hoodless, of Hamilton, Judge Senkler, of St. Catharines, and some other speakers charged that this state of affairs resulted from the feeling of distrust that was prevalent among the laity owing to the extremes of ritualism that have been established in certain parishes of the diocese, notably St. Matthew's, Hamilton.

Rev. Mr. Fessenden, of Ancaster, asked if they expected those who had views on the proper mode of conducting the worship of God to stifle their consciences and refrain from doing what they believed was right because some people objected.

Rev. E. M. Bland made a pacific speech to the effect that it did not matter about a division of opinion, as long as all worked in their own way for the glory and good of the Church.

Rev. C. E. Whitcombe, of St. Matthew's Church, denied that the practice of ritualism was the cause of the falling away in the contributions. If there was anything wrong with the ritual practiced he challenged his critics to appeal to the Church courts. They might try to drive the men of his school of thought into the Roman Catholic Church, but they refused to be driven, because they loved the Church of their fathers far too well.

Rev. Mr. Armitage, of St. Catharines, next took the floor and raised loud demonstrations of dissent from the ritualistic section by reading selections from various writers, showing, as he alleged, that the high churchmen teach auricular confession, prayer to the Virgin, the doctrine of purgatory and other tenets that the Anglican Church repudiates.

The speaker was repeatedly interrupted with charges that his selections were garbled, and that he was slandering the ritualistic section.

Bishop Hamilton said if the speaker knew that such doctrines were being taught, he should not confine himself to verbal statements, but should lay charges.

The hour of adjournment having arrived the synod arose before the discussion was ended.

In the evening the members attended an At Home at Bishop Hamilton's residence.

Thursday.—Considerable of the morning was taken up in continuing the debate of yesterday afternoon's discussion.

Prison Reform.—Rev. T. Geoghegan presented the report on prison reform, which stated that while the number of prisoners in the jails of the diocese has decreased from 1,908 in 1890 to 1,418 in 1892, the number of boy criminals has increased. The report mentioned that Sir John Thompson has promised to bring in an act for the establishment of a reformatory for young men who are first offenders.

It was expected that the report of the special committee on appointment to vacancies would cause a long debate, but as the session was nearly over, and many delegates had gone away, the report was referred back to the committee without being read, and will come up at next meeting.

Delegates to the General Synod.—The following delegates were elected to the general synod, subject to a decision of the synod as to whether or not they shall attend: Clerical delegates—Archdeacon Dixon, Canon Sutherland, Rev. E. M. Bland. Lay delegates—Judge Senkler, John Hoodless, Archdale Wilson.

During the afternoon Rev. Dr. Sutherland, ex-president of the Methodist Conference of this district, was invited to a seat on the floor of the house.

W. F. Burton gave notice of a motion in reference to the sermon by Rev. Dr. Langtry, deprecating the reflections contained therein on the other Protestant denominations.

The dispute with Toronto Synod.—The attendance at the evening synod was very small. The report of the special committee on the claims pending between the Toronto and Niagara dioceses was presented and adopted. The report stated:

Your committee is not aware of any grounds upon which the Toronto synod can maintain its claim, assuming the facts as to the general purposes fund to be as stated in the letter of May 29, 1893. Your committee sees no objection to the passage of a resolution (when all the matters between the two synods are in order for settlement) stating that the synod of Niagara should hold the capital sum of \$11,182 upon trust, that the income thereof should be applied to the general purposes of the diocese of