

SHERBROOKE, 5th December, 1877.

MY DEAR SIR AND OLD FRIEND,—

When we were both young in the ministry and frequent companions, you wrote, over the signature of "A Presbyter of the Diocese of Quebec," a little pamphlet entitled "*Thoughts on the Present State and Future Prospects of the Church of England in Canada.*" Before you ventured to print it, you read to me your manuscript, and it was the subject of much earnest and frequent discussion between us. We both felt strongly that a crisis in the history of the Church could not be distant, and that it was absolutely necessary to its well-being that provision should be made in time to meet the threatened crisis, if the most serious disasters were to be averted, and we were of one mind as to what the nature of that provision should be. I remember well that I not only agreed with you in the views set forth in the manuscript you read me, but also that I urged you to print it, and I have still a copy of it bound up in a vol. with other pamphlets on various subjects.

As this little pamphlet of yours, written under such circumstances, is now out of print, and probably only a very few copies anywhere remaining, would it not be well for you to reprint it, if for no other reason, because it supplies an item in the history of movements that have since taken place in our Church, that is too valuable to be allowed to pass out of memory. So far as I am aware, such views had never before found utterance in any portion of our Church. Your little pamphlet, therefore, may fairly be regarded as the root out of which our present system of Synods, in which the laity are an important and even fundamental element, has been since developed; and for this reason I hope you will agree with me that it is very desirable that it should be reprinted, being, as it unquestionably is, a valuable contribution to the history of our Canadian Church.

I am, my dear

Yours truly,

C. P. REID.

NEWMARKET, 14th Dec'r, 1877.

MY DEAR BISHOP,

I am pleased to learn from a mutual friend, that you have been moved by the late discussion on *The origin of Synodical action in our Colonial Church*, to reprint the valuable pamphlet on the subject which you published shortly after your admission to Priest's orders—now upwards of forty years ago. I feel it due to you, as one of your earliest and most intimate friends, to testify, that whatever credit may be claimed for others (your seniors, and at that time your superiors in position) in carrying it out, you are fairly entitled to the honor of *having first suggested* it. I well remember your earnest advocacy of the measure in our conversations, and have still your letters evincing your views on this and kindred subjects, bearing on the interests of the Church of our Fathers and of our native country. Great must have been your satisfaction in witnessing its adoption, and the benefits it has conferred on the Colonial Church.* It is one among other proofs of your legislative and administrative talent, and your fitness for the high position in the Church of God to which Providence has raised you. That you may long be spared to fill it with advantage to the Church and honor to yourself, is the desire of your ancient friend and humble fellow-laborer,

SALTERN GIVINS.

* In the autumn of 1836, the late Bishop Mountain, acting for the Bishop of Quebec, convened a meeting of the clergy of the Diocese in Toronto, at which the late Bishop of Toronto, then Archdeacon, preached, and in his sermon propounded a scheme so similar to that set forth in the pamphlet, that it was a matter of general remark. The scheme was adopted first in the Diocese of Toronto, and afterwards in other Colonial Dioceses, and is now the law of the Church.