

PROVINCIAL SYNOD.

It will no doubt be remembered that the Committee of the Synod of Nova Scotia, appointed to consider the subject of Provincial Union, requested Colonel Lowry (of the 47th Regt.) to act as their representative at the meeting of Provincial Synod in Canada, and to obtain for them necessary information.

Nothing could exceed the kindness and cordiality with which the object of the Colonel's mission was met by members of the Synod of *every shade* of opinion.

The Bishops (although in trouble by the death of the Metropolitan) held a special meeting, inviting Col. Lowry to be present and talk over the subject of his visit. They readily agreed to take any action, and afford any information in their power, expressing, at the same time, the happiness with which they viewed the prospect of any enlargement of the Church in Provincial Synod in B. N. America.

So also in the Lower House, much interest was shewn in the subject. Colonel Lowry being requested to be present and address the Synod, put before that Body the main points upon which the Committee of the Diocese of N. S. desired information. A committee was at once named to evince the feeling of the House on the question and to afford this Diocese every information.

The formal answers given by that committee have been received and will be submitted in due time to our Synod. We have the pleasure of giving the substance of the address of Col. Lowry to the Provincial Synod on that occasion. It has already appeared (although *not quite correctly*) in some of our secular papers, and was, we regret to say, inadvertently omitted from our last number.

Mr. Prolocutor, Rev. Gentlemen, and Gentlemen of the Laity.—I desire to thank you heartily for the very great kindness with which you have received my name, when coming, as I do on this occasion, in a semi-official position from the Diocese of Nova Scotia.

I rejoice, too, to find myself once more, ere leaving this continent perhaps for ever, amongst so many of the churchmen of Canada with whom it has been my privilege to have been intimately connected in working for the interests of our Common Church in the years that are past.

Loving, as I do, the Unity of that Church I should deeply deplore if my presence here to-day should result in anything detrimental to her interests or productive of discord. I say this in reference to the single objection which—for a brief moment—was offered to the call made upon me to address you this afternoon.

My words shall be few, for I am so unwell that it will be alike pain for me to speak, and for you to hear. Briefly then I shall endeavour to put before you the circumstances under which I now come before this representative Body of the Church in Canada. At the late meeting of the Synod of Nova Scotia a warm feeling was expressed on the part of many to bring about a union with other Dioceses of B. N. America. It was decided that the best course would be—not to apply directly, and at once for admission into this ecclesiastical Province, but—to institute such enquiries as would enable the Synod of Nova Scotia to decide whether it would be desirable so to join. A Committee, of which I was a member, was appointed to make the necessary enquiries, and it was agreed that the Synod of the Diocese, which, under ordinary circumstances, meets only once in two years, should, with the concurrence of the Lord Bishop of Nova Scotia, be called together within one year from that date to receive the report of this Committee.

When it became known that I intended visiting Montreal about this time, a meeting of the Committee was called, and the resolution, requesting me to obtain all possible information from this Synod—which has just been read to you by Archdeacon Fuller, was unanimously passed.

These are the circumstances under which I appear here to-day. Reference has