

sacrifice made by my clergy, which has preserved the existence of the Church in her full efficiency, and turned the deadly blow aimed against her into a sublime moral triumph, which can never be forgotten. The first act of this second Conference was to declare itself a Synod. For we had by this time made some little progress in the history of the Church, and found that Bishops had the power of holding Synods, and of inviting the aid of the laity in the way which might be found the most convenient and beneficial to the Church. Yet, as there were still some objections of a technical nature, it was considered more respectful to renew our petition to the Queen for permission to hold them. The Division of the Diocese, and several other important matters, were then taken up, and after a session of two days' continuance, the Bishop having expressed his satisfaction at the harmonious management of the business and its auspicious results, dismissed the Synod with the episcopal benediction.

On the 25th day of October, 1854, the third Synod met. It had been delayed, in the hope that the Imperial Government would redeem its pledge and pass the promised measure for removing the disabilities which were supposed by some to exist, in regard to Colonial Church assemblies. This hope was not realized; but any scruples as to the meeting of the Synod were substantially removed by the Solicitor-General of England, who declared that whatever difficulties might stand in the way of National and Provincial Convocations of the Clergy, they do not extend to Diocesan Synods.

At this session, which continued three days, much important business was transacted, or put in train. A constitution was framed, and a declaration prefixed to it, which has met with much favour throughout the Church. The subject of ecclesiastical discipline, in regard to both clergy and laity, was also considered and discussed at some length. But the Synod did not consider itself yet in a position to adopt, on these points, any definite measures. On the whole, this session of the Synod was very satisfactory, and greatly increased our confidence.

The fourth Synod was not convened till Thursday, the first of May, 1856.

In the mean time the Commutation was arranged and completed