

Diocesan Synod of Nova Scotia.

ORIGINAL DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES.

(ADOPTED OCTOBER, 1855.)

We, the Bishop and Clergy, and Representatives of the Laity of the United Church of England and Ireland, within the Diocese of Nova Scotia, assembled together, and intending under God's blessing and guidance, to consider and determine upon such matters as shall appear necessary for the welfare of the Church in this Diocese, desire, in the first place, for the avoiding of all misunderstanding and scandal, to make a declaration of the principles upon which we propose to proceed.

We desire that the Church in this colony may continue, as it has been, an integral portion of the United Church of England and Ireland.

We recognize the true Canon of Holy Scriptures, as received by that Church, to be the rule and standard of faith; we acknowledge the Book of Common Prayer and Sacraments, together with the Thirty-nine Articles of Religion, to be the true and faithful declaration of the doctrines contained in Holy Scriptures; we maintain the form of Church Government by Bishops, Priests, and Deacons as Scriptural and Apostolical; and we declare our firm and unanimous resolution, in dependence on Divine aid, to preserve those doctrines, and that form of Church Government, and to transmit them to our posterity.

We uphold the ancient doctrine of our Church, that the Queen is rightly possessed of the chief government or supremacy over all persons within her dominions, in all causes whether ecclesiastical or civil; and we desire that such supremacy may continue unimpaired.

It is our earnest wish and determination to confine our deliberations and actions to matters of discipline, to the temporalities of the Church, and to such regulations of order as may tend to Her efficiency and extension.