

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF RUPERT'S LAND

The Synod was opened on Wednesday, November 24th, 1880, by the celebration of Divine Service at 10:30 a.m., in St. John's Cathedral.

Morning Prayer was read by the Rev. O. Fortin and the Rev. S. P. Matheson. The First Lesson—Isaiah LII, to end of verse 10—was read by the Rev. T. Cook. The Second Lesson—Ephesians IV, to end of verse 16—was read by the Rev. W. C. Pinkham. The Bishop read the Ante-Communion Service, and delivered the following address instead of a sermon :

REVEREND BRETHREN AND BRETHREN OF THE LAITY :

Last year there was a meeting of the Provincial Synod, but not of the Diocesan Synod. Two years, have, therefore, passed since our last meeting. It is but a short time, yet, when we bethink ourselves of the advance of settlement, how momentous the change in our circumstances.

In welcoming you, then, to our meeting of Synod to-day, I cannot but express what is uppermost in my own mind, and what I am sure many of you must be feeling, the deepening responsibility of our position from the growth of this country. If we are to show a true appreciation of the future that is before us, if we are to do anything practical to meet the spiritual wants of the members of our church now scattered over the land, still more if we are to rise to the holy ambition that our church may take a worthy part in the work for Christ that will be needed that this young country of ours may be a Christian country with an adequate supply of the means of grace; what liberality, what zeal, what love will be called for from both ministers and people! In speaking of our duty, I would not forget that others are working in their own way for the same end. Often we cannot but admire the energy and devotion of members of other bodies, and perhaps long for something of the sympathy and help with which we see they are supported by their brethren in Canada. It is a great pleasure to myself that without any compromise of our distinctive principles and ways our relations with other bodies are so friendly and kind. But their efforts do not lessen our responsibility. They rather should stir us up and encourage us to greater self-consecration.

I doubt not you will expect me to say a few words respecting my effort for the Diocese in my visit to England. I carried with me in that visit your approval and good wishes. The last Synod appointed a committee to present me with an address before I left. They fulfilled your wishes only too kindly. It was gratifying to me to be able to show my friends their words of affection. I felt also much the cordial welcome I received on my return. I was enabled by my visit to be present at the conference of Bishops called together by the Archbishop of Canterbury. Many important questions were considered. I had the opportunity given me of making a statement to the conference respecting this Diocese, the substance of which was afterwards published with the Archbishop's consent in the form of a letter addressed to His Grace. Most of the work of the conference was done by six commit-