

of the promise of the Father, we too may well be called upon to practise a patient waiting for God's good time when He Himself shall choose to unravel the mysteries of the Church's progress, when He shall think fit to enable us to surmount the difficulties with which we are day by day surrounded, and when finally He shall bring us by His grace and Spirit to the living fountains of the Water of Life in the Redeemer's Kingdom. And surely we also have witnessed enough of the dealings of Him Whose paths are in the mighty waters and whose footsteps are in the great deep, to enable us to exercise strong faith in the promise of Him Who has engaged to supply the gifts of His Holy Spirit to them that ask Him for them!

THE APPROACHING SYNOD OF TORONTO.

IN view of the meeting of this Synod next week, it may not be amiss for us to bear in mind the fundamental principles which the Anglican branch of the Catholic Church recognizes. And it is desirable particularly to recollect that it hath been the wisdom of the Church of England ever since the first compiling of her public liturgy to keep the mean between the two extremes—not to forget that our Book of Common Prayer, with great diligence examined and approved by convocation, has been well accepted and likewise approved by all sober, peaceable and truly conscientious sons of the Church for centuries; and the rules, forms, and ceremonies therein set forth, which are plain and easy to understand, should be closely observed and followed. Observing and following them is, however, termed "Ritualism," by some people who appear to be remarkably ignorant of the teaching of the Church to which they belong. But what said the compilers of this Liturgy, when they presented it to our Church? "Having thus endeavoured to discharge our duties in this weighty affair, as in the sight of God, and to approve our sincerity therein (so far as lay in us), to the consciences of all men; although we know it impossible (in such variety of apprehensions, humours and interests as are in the world) to please all; nor can we expect that men of factious, peevish, and perverse spirits, should be satisfied with anything that can be done in this kind by any other than themselves, yet we have good hope that what is here presented will be well accepted and approved."

And again it is written, "And in these our doings we condemn no other nations, nor prescribe anything but to our own people only, for we think it convenient that every country should use such ceremonies as they shall think best to the setting forth of God's honour and glory, and to the reducing of the people to a most perfect and godly living without error or superstition." And again they write: "And although the keeping or omitting of a ceremony in itself considered, is but a small thing; yet the wilful and contemptuous transgression and breaking of a common order and discipline (especially by our own people) is no small offence before God. "Let all things be done

among you" saith St. Paul, "in a seemly and due order" the appointment of which order pertaineth not to private men, therefore no man ought to take in hand nor presume to appoint or alter any public or common order in Christ's church except he be lawfully called and authorized thereunto; and the article says, "The church hath power to decree rites or ceremonies and authority in controversies of faith." The attempt must therefore be highly reprehensible to put down those clergymen and those congregations who follow the Book of Common Prayer and faithfully observe the rules, rites and ceremonies of our church, as they have been prescribed by due authority, and the appointment of which pertaineth not to private men nor to self-constituted societies. Our Book of Common Prayer was prepared and its rules, rites and ceremonies prescribed for "sober, peaceable and truly conscientious sons of the Church of England." And although a Diocesan Synod has no power to alter a single word either of the Book of Common Prayer itself or of any of its Rubrics, yet questions even of the business for which the Synod is called together may involve principles of the first importance. It could, however, be no evidence of sound Churchmanship to desire an alteration of the fundamental principles of the Church, or of the essential rules by which she is governed.

The confirmation of the Canon relative to the re-construction of the Standing Committee involves some important changes that will no doubt commend themselves to the Synod. The amendment to the Canon on the Constitution of the Vestries of Free Churches is also important, and involves a principle that should be recognized at once if the Church is ever to flourish as it ought. The money qualification proposed in a motion to be submitted scarcely appears to be correct in principle, and hardly appears, so far as we can see, to be of much practical use. The religious qualification requiring attendance at Communion is a far more legitimate one.

The reports of the committees to be presented will doubtless furnish several subjects for attention. The name of the committee appointed "to obtain co-operation of other religious bodies on the question of religious instruction in the public schools" appears to ignore one of the most urgent duties of the Church herself, which is to feed the lambs of Christ's flock.

IN MEMORIAM.

THE hopes so long entertained, and several times expressed in our columns of the recovery of the Rev. E. H. Cole, Incumbent of Whitby, failed to be realized; and he succumbed to the weakness brought on by repeated attacks of disease on Thursday the 16th inst. He had been suffering acutely in bodily health for several months. His remains were escorted to the Grand Trunk Railway station on Monday the 20th, on their way to Cobourg, where he was buried with other members of his family who died since they came from England to this country. Mr. Cole has been for three years and a half the Incumbent of All Saint's Church, and

during this comparatively short period, he had become endeared to his congregation, and his loss will be severely felt by those who have been favored with his pastoral care.

At a vestry meeting of his parishioners held on Monday evening the 20th the following motion was passed:

Moved by J. H. Perry, Esq., seconded by Judge Dartnell: "That the Vestry and Congregation of All Saints' Church, Whitby, deeply feel the great loss we have sustained in the death of our beloved Pastor the Rev. E. H. Cole, who, during his incumbency was ever ready and anxious to aid and assist the Church and his people to the utmost of his power and ability. In his death, not only has All Saints' lost a faithful and true worker in the Cause of Christ, but the Diocese have to mourn for one of its most earnest and single hearted members."

Also resolved: "That the Widow and family of our deceased Pastor have the sincere and heartfelt sympathy of this Congregation in the irreparable loss they are called upon to mourn and suffer."

THE MISSION WORK IN MUSKOKA.

WE are exceedingly glad to find that this interesting field of the Lord's vineyard is attracting increasing attention in the older settlements of the Dominion; and we trust that the time will soon come when a deeper sense of the duties and responsibilities resting upon us with regard to this branch of Mission work will be more generally felt, and that too in a degree more nearly proportioned to the claims it has upon us.

A meeting was recently held at Dr. O'Reilly's, in the City of Toronto, Canon Givins in the Chair—the objects of which were,

1. To obtain and diffuse general information as to the Diocese of Algoma, and particularly as to the Muskoka Branch.
2. To aid the erection and furnishing of log churches.
3. To assist the formation, furnishing with books and conducting of Sunday Schools.
4. To obtain funds to assist and support Missionaries and aid in the establishment of fresh Missions.

President: Mrs. O'Reilly; Secretary-Treasurer, Miss Westmacott; Ladies' Committee: Mrs. O'Reilly, Mrs. Allan Howard, Mrs. Pearson, Mrs. Trees, Mrs. Perrain, Mrs. Hutchinson, Miss Thorne, Mrs. James Henderson, Mrs. Perrain.

The Reverend William Crompton, travelling Clergyman, attended the meeting and explained the urgent need, in that part of the Algoma Diocese, of the kind of help proposed.

It was ultimately decided that an appeal should at once be made to the Sunday Schools in the Diocese and especially in the City of Toronto, for grants of any books which can be spared in order to form libraries in the Sunday Schools of the Diocese of Algoma. We trust that similar efforts will be at once made in other parts of the Dominion. The rapidly increasing population in the Muskoka district especially renders it of the utmost importance that every effort should be made to furnish the services of our Church to the masses of our people which are flocking into that part of the country in large numbers.