

patient faith "the prize is sure," and they who would be counted worthy to share her final triumph must in sunshine and in gloom remember that Christ's signet is on their brow, and as His faithful soldiers and servants they must contend even to the death, for the faith once delivered to the Saints. A few years ago the Church appeared to have forgotten her mission, to have been insensible of her divine character, but by the quickening energy of God's blessed spirit she has been roused to exertion; and now, alive to her high and holy calling, she is extending her conquests notwithstanding all opposition, and "false doctrines, heresy and schism" are flying before her. If we look to England, she is faithfully doing her work and gathering into her bosom the outcast and the wanderer. If we look to Ireland, she is seen there attacking the strongholds of Popery itself, and thousands are being made partakers of the glorious liberty of the sons of God. If we look to the vast extended Colonies of Great Britain, to them the Church has turned her attention, and by means of her Missionary Societies is overthrowing the barriers of Idolatry and Superstition. While venerable and noble Societies, under her direction are doing much to hasten the time when the kingdoms of the world, shall become the Kingdom of the Lord and of his Christ, younger, and perhaps, less noble Societies are in these North American Colonies, becoming imbued with the same spirit, and according to their ability doing service in the cause of truth. Such are the various Church Societies of Nova Scotia, Quebec, Montreal, New-Brunswick and last, though not the least efficient, that of the Diocese of Toronto. Each of these Societies are rendered more or less efficient in proportion as the several Parishes within their bounds act as members of one great body, of which Christ alone the Head. Each of these Societies will promote the Spiritual well-being of their several provinces as the members of each parochial branch are alive to their individual responsibility. In bringing before this meeting the eighth Report of the Lloydtown branch of the Church Society, the Committee desire to record their gratitude to Almighty God for even the small measure of success with which it has pleased Him to crown its labors, while at the same time it is sorry that its financial affairs are not quite so favorable as the year previous. They do not, however, despond, but trust rather to the united co-operation of every member and friend of the Church, for the accomplishment of more than has ever been done before. By referring to the returns of the Parish, which extends over the very limited space of about two hundred square miles, your Committee find that during the year ending Easter 1852, there have been 85 baptisms, 8 marriages and 9 burials; while the amount contributed towards Church purposes, which includes the offertory Collections, Clergyman's Stipend, Diocesan Society, &c., was about £110. £60 19s. 10d of which was collected in cash and produce towards the Stipend of the Clergyman doing duty in this Mission.

In regard more particularly to the Lloydtown Parochial Branch of the Church Society, your Committee beg to report receipts and expenditure, as follows.

Forwarded to Parent Society.....	£2 6 3
Paid Lumber for Fence.....	1 17 6
Paid Mr. R. Street.....	2 10 0
Paid for Painting outside.....	1 15 0
	£8 8 9
Balance from 1851.....	£2 2 1 1/2
Collected by the Misses	
Gardiner and Stead.....	9 1 3
	£11 3 4 1/2

Balance.....£ 2 14 7 1/2
Your Committee in conclusion, would invite each and all to make the interest of the Church in this particular locality, a matter of special and frequent prayer, uniting therewith the "work of faith and labor of love."

HENRY B. OSLER,
Secretary.

Moved by Rev. A. Hill, Seconded by Mr. J. Lawrence.

Resolved—1. That this meeting in moving the adoption of the report of the Lloydtown Parochial Branch of the Church Society, desires at the same time to record its thankfulness to Almighty God, for the measure of success which has attended the labors of the Parent Society during the past year.

Moved by Rev. H. C. Cooper, Seconded by Mr. W. Henry.

Resolved—2. That while this meeting rejoices to hear of the success which is following the labors of the clergy of the Church, both in England and Ireland, and that in those countries pure religion is extending itself; it calls on all to unite in prayer to "our father which is in heaven" that he would so continue to bless their labors as that the united Church of England and Ireland may become a praise in all lands.

Moved by Rev. F. L. Osler, Seconded by Mr. S. Gamble.

Resolved—3. That while this meeting rejoices to hear of the prosperity of the various missionary Societies, in connection with the Church Catholic, it feels called upon, especially to praise God for having caused His blessing to rest so abundantly on the two noble and venerable Societies to whose care and liberality we in this Diocese are so largely indebted. The Society for Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, and Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge.

Moved by Dr. C. Jones, Seconded by Mr. H. Varcoe.

Resolved—4. That this meeting invites the united and hearty co-operation of every member

and friend of the Church in carrying out the objects specified in the constitution of the Church Society in this Diocese.

DIOCESE OF MONTREAL.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND CONVENTION.

On Wednesday, the 19th instant, the clergy and lay delegates of the several congregations in connection with the Church of England in the Diocese of Montreal, assembled in Montreal at the call of the Lord Bishop. After morning prayers and the administration of the Holy Communion at the Cathedral, the Convention met for despatch of business at the National School House. The Bishop having taken the chair opened the meeting with prayer, and the Roll of the Convention being called, there were found to be present—

OF THE CLERGY. Rev. J. Bethune, D. D., Rev. J. Morris, Rev. A. D. Campbell, M. A., Rev. W. T. Leach, D. C. L., Rev. W. Bond, Rev. J. Irwin, Rev. J. Ellegood, B. A., Rev. D. Robertson, Rev. E. Rogers, Rev. W. Abbott, Rev. J. Braithwaite, M. A., Rev. W. Brethour, Rev. J. Constantine, Rev. R. J. Cornwall, Rev. E. D. Duvernet, B. A., Rev. J. Flanigan, Rev. C. Forest, Rev. N. Guerout, Rev. W. Jones, Rev. W. Lindsay, Rev. A. Lockhart, Rev. C. Morrice, Rev. J. Mountain, B. A., Rev. J. Pyke, Rev. J. Reed, M. A., Rev. A. Stephenson, Rev. J. Scott, M. A., Rev. J. Sutton, Rev. G. Slack, Rev. M. Townsend, M. A., Rev. Thomas Young, and the Clerical Secretary, the Rev. C. Bancroft, M. A., making 32.

LAY DELEGATES.—Hon. W. Badgely, M. P. P., Hon. Judge McCord, and Messrs. H. Thomas, H. H. Whitney, M. H. Gault, A. Gough, E. Jones, J. H. Schneider, E. A. Clark, Hon. R. Jones, Messrs. W. Bowman, W. Leggett, J. Coote, Col. Austin, Messrs. Henry Martin, W. McDonald, O. Owen, G. Rodgers, J. Armstrong, J. Drake, G. Alsopp, C. Jones, W. Williams, Morrison, D. S. Ramsay, C. Schneider, R. S. Robins, John Standish, W. Parker, D. Westover, A. L. Baker, R. Toynton, A. Vaughan, T. Hawley, Major Campbell, and Dr. Smallwood, and the Lay Secretary, Geo. Pyke, Esq., making in all 37, representing 27 parishes out of 46.

The minutes of the proceedings of the Committee appointed at the General meeting held in January, 1852, were read by one of the Secretaries; showing as a result of their deliberations, their consideration of the Bill introduced into the Imperial Parliament upon the subject of Colonial Church Government, by the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, and the preparations of certain amendments thereto, which were recommended by the Committee for adoption by the Convention. The Bishop read a letter to the convention, from the Right Hon. Sir John Pakington, then Secretary of State for the Colonies, requesting his opinion of the provisions of Mr. Gladstone's Bill. In reply His Lordship had informed Sir John Pakington, that he would take steps to enable him to give the opinion of his Diocese upon the subject. He had accordingly submitted it to the convention Committee, whose report thereupon was now before them.

Thereupon it was moved by the Hon. W. Badgely, seconded by the Rev. M. Townsend that the report of the Committee be now received and considered clause by clause.

W. Bowman, Esq., moved in amendment, seconded by the Hon. Robert Jones. Whereas the subject matter of the Report now submitted was not referred to the Committee at the last sitting of this Convention, but is founded upon a Bill since that time proposed to be brought forward in the Imperial Parliament, which Bill the Lay Members of the Church of England in this Diocese have not had an opportunity of considering:

Resolved, That the Report be now received and that the proposed Bill, the subject matter of the same, be referred to the several congregations of the Church of England in this Diocese, for their opinions thereon, to be evidenced in writing with the signatures of the Members in each congregation approving and disapproving of the same.

Hon. Robert Jones objected that the Laity of the Diocese were not sufficiently represented to warrant the meeting taking action upon a matter of such vital importance, and wished to know how many delegates were present, and how many absent. This having been explained, the Lord Bishop stated that he knew of no better way of securing a full representation than the plan he had taken. He could not compel delegates to come, and it was never expected that all the members of a representative assembly would be in attendance, and as to the importance of the matter, the present question was simply as to whether it was desirable that the Church in the Colony should be allowed to make rules for its guidance, subject always to certain restrictions. After a lengthy and somewhat irregular discussion, the amendment was put and lost. The following persons only voting in the affirmative. Rev. W. Bond, Rev. J. Irwin, Rev. C. Bancroft, Hon. Robert Jones, W. Bowman, Esq., W. Leggett, Esq., J. Coope, Esq., and C. Jones, Esquire.

The original motion was then put and carried. The Bill with the amendments of the Committee and certain other amendments was then, after consideration and some discussion adopted, clause by clause. The bill as thus amended will be found with the Statement of the Lord Bishop given below, the amendments, proposed in Convocation, being printed in Italics.

It was then moved by W. Bowman, Esq., seconded by the Rev. C. Bancroft, that the Bill with its proposed amendments, be printed and referred

to the Parishes. The mover again addressed the meeting at some length. The scope of the observations of the opponents of the measure (which want of space compels us to omit) seemed to us to consist in this, that a Bill coming from Mr. Gladstone, an avowed leader of the Tractarian party, should be looked upon with suspicion, as likely to give a despotic authority to the clergy, and remove the Colonial Church from the salutary influence of the legislative supervision: that in the first clause of the bill the Bishop was given authority to negative any of the proceedings of the Convention, which would be giving an unworthy prelate, if ever they should be so unfortunate as to have one, to great a power. These objections had been urged at Cape Town, in New South Wales, and in New Brunswick.

On the other hand, it was urged that it did not matter from whence the bill came so that its provisions were good; that it had been the desire of the members of the Church of England here to be allowed to hold Conventions similar to those held in the neighboring States, in which would be vested the authority over the clergy and members of the Church in matters of discipline, an authority which seemed to be vested in nobody, and impossible to be exercised. Therefore it was well to accept a Bill which defined their position, and gave them the desired authority, if they could get such amendments made in it as were then proposed.

As for the power of veto given to the Bishop, it was held by the Bishops in the United States, and had given no occasion for complaint there. It was farther objected in support of Mr. Bowman's motions, that sufficient time had not been given for the mature consideration of the Bill, and that the Laity being imperfectly represented it would be well it should be referred back to the parishes.

In reply, it was said that that meeting was about as large or perhaps a larger meeting of Delegates, than could be got together again; that if the Bill were referred to the Parishes, some would take no action upon it, and nearly all the rest would find it impossible to give its mature consideration, and would adopt the views of leading members of the congregations—probably of the very delegates sent to the convention. Further, that it was of importance that the matter should be decided now, as the Imperial Parliament would likely take action on it during its present session, and the Bishop was to proceed to Great Britain ere long, where he should be empowered to express the opinions of this Diocese on the subject.

The Rev. Mr. Bancroft desired to make an explanation of what might appear inconsistent in his conduct as a member of the Convocation Committee who prepared and presented the report, voting against its immediate adoption. At the time the Bill came before the Committee he had recently returned from England, and had not seen or considered it at all. It seemed to him all right, and he had voted for its adoption. Further reflection had convinced him that under the circumstances they required to proceed with deliberation and caution, and he desired therefore, that further delay should be granted, for a full consideration of the subject by all the congregations in the Diocese. This was his reason for voting against its adoption then.

The Rev. Mr. NEVE, seconded by the Rev. W. Abbott, moved in amendment, that the final consideration of the question be now proceeded with, which was carried.

It was farther resolved, on motion of Major CAMPBELL, seconded by the Rev. Dr. LEACH, that this meeting are decidedly of opinion, that unless the amendments now proposed are faithfully adopted in the Bill, it will not be satisfactory to the Church in this Diocese.

It was finally moved by Col. AUSTIN, seconded by the Rev. Dr. BETHUNE, and resolved.—That the Bill with its amendments be adopted, and that his Lordship the Bishop of the Diocese be respectfully requested to forward the same to the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for the Colonies, with such observations or remarks as to his Lordship may seem appropriate. His Lordship remarked that the only observations he should send would be a succinct statement of facts; and that if any congregation should feel aggrieved and desire to send in a remonstrance against the Bill, he would see it faithfully forwarded to the proper authorities.

The meeting was then closed with prayer. The statement of the Lord Bishop will be found below.

EXPLANATORY OBSERVATIONS, &c.

Explanatory Observations drawn up by the Lord Bishop of Montreal, in compliance with the Resolution of the Clergy and Lay Representatives of the Diocese of Montreal, assembled at the National School Room, in this City, on Wednesday, January 19th, 1853.

Having been appointed Bishop of the Diocese of Montreal, on its separation from the old Diocese of Quebec, I arrived in Montreal on the 16th of September, 1850. I had scarcely entered upon the duties of my office, when cases came before me, in which it was necessary for me to take action, and which obliged me to inquire, what means I possessed of administering the Ecclesiastical affairs of the Diocese, and by what system of law and discipline I was empowered to exercise any authority. I soon found that all was involved in doubt and difficulty; and that, in consequence of our anomalous state there was really no code of Ecclesiastical law in force; and that nearly every thing seemed to depend upon the individual will of the Bishop. Upon consulting with my brother prelates, it appeared that they were equally at fault with myself. The subject was from time to time much canvassed among

various members of the Church in this Diocese; and on the 1st of July, 1851, at a meeting of "The Church Society," on the motion of the Rev. C. Morrice, seconded by the Rev. C. Bancroft, a Committee was appointed to consider what steps might be taken to provide a remedy for such a state of things, either through the action of Synods or Conventions or otherwise.

The Committee consisted of the following persons:—The Lord Bishop; Rev. J. Bethune, D. D., Rector of Montreal; Rev. W. Leach, D. C. L., Minister of St. George's Church, Montreal; Rev. M. Townsend, Rector of Clareville; Rev. C. Bancroft, Rector of St. John's; Rev. C. Morrice, and Rev. J. P. White, Missionaries; Hon. Judge McCord, and Dr. Holmes. On the 5th of August, following there were added to the above, Colonel Wilgress, Major Campbell, and John Abbott, Esq. The Committee held one or two meetings at which the subject was generally discussed. But as there was then an immediate prospect of a conference of several of the Bishops of the North American Dioceses being held in Quebec, where it was expected that some action would be taken by them in the same matter, it was thought advisable to suspend the proceedings of this Committee until the result of that conference should be made public. The Bishops of Quebec, Toronto, Newfoundland, Fredericton, and Montreal, met at Quebec on the 24th of September, and in the published "Minutes" of their "Conference" the following was the first subject that had engaged their attention:—

CONVOCATION.

"In consequence of the anomalous state of the Church of England in these Colonies with reference to its General Government, and the doubts entertained as to the validity of any Code of Ecclesiastical Law, the Bishops of these Dioceses experience great difficulty in acting in accordance with their Episcopal Commission and Prerogatives and their decisions are liable to misconception, as if emanating from their individual will, and not from the general body of the Church; we therefore consider it desirable, in the first place, that the Bishops, Clergy, and Laity of the Church of England in each Diocese should meet together in Synod, at such times and in such manner as may be agreed. Secondly, that the Laity in such Synod should meet by representation, and that their Representatives be Communicants. Thirdly, it is our opinion that, as questions will arise from time to time which will affect the welfare of the Church in these Colonies, it is desirable that the Bishops, Clergy, and Laity should meet in Council under a provincial Metropolitan, with power to frame such rules and regulations for the better conduct of our Ecclesiastical affairs as by the said Council may be deemed expedient. Fourthly, that the said Council should be divided into two houses, the one consisting of the Bishops of these several Dioceses under their Metropolitan, and the other of the Presbyters and Lay Members of the Church assembled (as before mentioned) by representation.

Upon these grounds it appears to us necessary that a Metropolitan should be appointed for the North American Dioceses."

It seemed now desirable that the subject should be brought in a more formal manner before the whole body of the Clergy and Laity of the Diocese; and as I was about to hold my first "General Visitation of the Clergy," in the month of January 1852, I requested in my notice to the Clergy, respecting the Visitation, that they would, if possible, bring with them on that occasion, two Laymen, to be chosen by the Vestry, as Representatives from each Mission or Parish, with whom we might take mutual counsel and advice. In my Visitation Charge, delivered in the Cathedral, on the 21st of January, 1852 I again adverted to the unsatisfactory state in which we were placed as to all matters of discipline and exercise of authority, and referred to "the minute" of our conference at Quebec, as given above. In the evening of the same day a preliminary meeting of the Clergy and Lay Representatives was held in the National School-Room, to take down the names of all present, and agree on our course of proceedings. And on the following day, we met again by adjournment at 12 o'clock. The Primary Visitation of their Bishop, naturally induced the Clergy to assemble in full numbers, and out of sixty-one officiating Clergymen in the Diocese, forty-nine were present; and there were sixty-eight Laymen representing forty-two Parishes or Missions, out of forty-six. In consequence of the expense many of the Parishes only sent up one Lay Representative. The first subject brought before the Meeting was "the government and discipline of the Church;" and after a lengthened discussion, it was moved by the Rev. C. Bancroft, seconded by the Honorable Judge McCord, and carried unanimously, "that it is the opinion of this meeting that in consequence of the want of any Law Ecclesiastical for the government of the United Church of England and Ireland in this Colony, and the acknowledged difficulty of carrying into effect any efficient system of Church discipline, it is imperatively necessary that a body should be formed with power and authority to frame and enforce laws and regulations for the government, discipline, and internal management of the Church; such power, however, in no manner to extend to matters of faith, or in any way interfere with, or alter doctrines or forms of prayer; and that such body shall consist of Bishop, Clergy, and Laity, meeting together in such manner, and exercising such functions and duties as may be hereafter by law authorized." In passing this Resolution, it was felt by all, that we had then no definite proposition before us; that we had met rather for consultation on the general question, and accordingly a Committee was appointed, consisting of the Bishop, Hon. George Moffatt, Judge McCord, Major Campbell, Rev. J. Bethune, D. D., Rev. J. Leach, D. C. L., Rev. A. D. Campbell, M. A., and the Clerical and Lay Secretaries