

And that "That the resolutions and the scheme now approved by this house as a basis on which the General Synod may be formed be communicated in due form to the several Diocesan Synods of this Ecclesiastical Province, with the expression of an earnest hope that said several Synods may be able accept thereof and upon the basis so agreed to send delegates to the meeting to be held in Toronto in September, 1893; and that it should be a further instruction to the said Committee" (that is the joint Committee appointed by the Synod to carry out its instructions in regard to the General Meeting) "to take such steps as they shall think desirable to acquaint the Province of Rupert's Land and the other Dioceses outside the jurisdiction of this Synod with the action of this Synod in respect of the said scheme."

THE POSITION OF ALGOMA, owing to the state of the Bishop's health, engaged the attention of the Synod shortly after it opened, and a joint Committee of both Houses was appointed to take into consideration the communication received, and also to hear verbally from the Bishop's son who was present in the City. There was submitted to this Committee a letter from Dr. James Stewart, of Montreal, who had attended the Bishop of Algoma, as to the causes and nature of his illness. The Committee reported that it would appear that the immediate cause of the Bishop's present attack was that, on his return from a lengthened missionary tour in the Evangeline, he found a large accumulation of correspondence as well as a great deal of other work requiring immediate attention in connection with the preparation of his report for the Provincial Synod, and under the additional strain thus put upon him he ultimately broke down. There is no doubt, however, both from the statements of his son and of Dr. Stewart, that excessive work and mental worry, consequent upon the many anxieties and responsibilities connected with the administration of his Diocese, (especially his constant anxiety in regard to the Mission Fund), had for a considerable time past, been telling very severely on the Bishop's health, until in Dr. Stewart's words, complete and entire rest from all work for a period of at least six months, has become a necessity.

The Committee recommended, 1st, That a year's leave of absence be granted to the Bishop of Algoma, though it is hoped that complete change and rest, may, by God's blessing, enable the Bishop to return to his duties considerably within that period.

2nd, That as both the local physicians and Dr. Stewart strongly recommend a sea voyage, and a trip to Japan or New Zealand, as the best means for restoring the Bishop's health, the Committee recommended, that an appeal be made to the several Dioceses now contributing to the Bishop's salary, to make such an additional assessment as will provide a sum of \$1,500 to cover his Lordship's travelling expenses, including those of any member of his family, or other attendant, whom it will be necessary under present circumstances should accompany him.

3rd, That upon the Bishop's return to his Diocese, a further appeal should be made for a sufficient amount, say an annual sum of \$800, to enable the Bishop to secure the services of some one in holy orders who could act as his secretary and assist the Bishop in various other ways in the work of the Diocese. They urged the adoption of these recommendations, believing that it was the earnest desire of the Bishop to continue the work which he has, regardless of all considerations of personal advantage, ease or comfort, so nobly and faithfully carried on in his missionary diocese, and believing it would be an irreparable loss to the interest of the Church of Algoma if the Bishop should be compelled, from failing health and the lack of some seasonable assistance in his arduous duties, to give up the charge which ten years ago was undertaken by him with a single eye to the glory of God and salvation of souls.

The Lower House having considered the report referred to the Board of Management of the Domestic and Foreign Society for the purpose of providing some means of raising the necessary funds, and at the meeting of the Board held during the session, the following resolution was adopted:—

That the Corresponding Committees in the several Dioceses be requested to use their exertions to obtain the sum required in accordance with the Resolution now read, and that it be particularly brought to their attention that the sum of \$1500 is the lowest amount which can be fairly placed at the Bishop of Algoma's disposal, and that it is of the utmost importance that the amount required should be promptly furnished.— and that the Secretary do at once communicate with the several Corresponding Committees and the members of the Board of Management for each Diocese and send them copies of the Report made to the Provincial Synod and the Resolution of the Synod, and that they be requested to report to the Treasurer on or before the 15th of October next.

DELEGATION TO THE GENERAL CONVENTION OF THE AMERICAN CHURCH.—The following were appointed by the Lower House as its representatives: Rev. Canon Partridge, D.D., Halifax; Rev. Canon Mills, B.D., Montreal; Dr. Davidson, Q.C., Montreal, Lay Secretary; and Mr. Charles Jenkins, Petrolia, Ont. The House of Bishops appointed the Lord Bishops of Fredericton and Niagara.

AGGRESSIVE WORK.—The joint Committee on the Aggressive work of the Church presented an important report in which amongst other things, they suggested the formation of five new dioceses; a repeal of the provisions preliminary to the formation of any new dioceses as now fixed by the House of Bishops viz: a funded endowment of \$40,000; and provisions being made instead thereof for an annual stipend of not less than \$3,000 of which \$1,000 with a house should be secured by the intended diocese and the other \$2,000 raised by assessment on the older dioceses. The report also referred to the employment of Lay Agency, insisting however, on the faithful observance of the provisions of the Canon in this respect; and urged a wider circulation of Church publications. The House of Bishops having considered the report sent down a message refusing concurrence in the suggestion for the formation of five new dioceses; but expressing readiness to subdivide the diocese of Ontario as already agreed upon and the missionary diocese of Algoma; but declining to alter the requirement of \$40,000 endowment fund. The matter was considered in the Lower House with this message before them; and it adhered to its desire for an increase in the dioceses and change in the Canon as to endowment, and requested Conference with the Upper House early on the morning of the last day, but this was declined by the latter for the reason as stated in the message received just as prorogation was to take place:

That, inasmuch as the attendance of the clerical and lay delegates is much reduced and the hour of prorogation has been fixed and is at hand, the upper house regrets exceedingly it is unable to see its way to a conference of both houses on the important subject of The Church's aggressive work, and recommends the re-appointment of the joint committee to continue the consideration of the subject.

The Prolocutor of the Lower House then appointed the following Committee as requested by such message: Dean Carmichael, Rev. Dr. Langtry, Rural Dean Jones, Ven. Archdeacon Roe, Rev. Provost Body, Canon Partridge, Dr. Davidson, Mr. Jarvis, Mr. J. J. Mason and Mr. Bilyly.

MEMORIAL TO THE LATE METROPOLITAN.—The Lower House adopted by standing vote the following memorial: Resolved, "That the Lower House of the Synod of the Province of 'Canada' do place on record their grateful sense of the Treasure possessed by The Church in Canada in the life and labors of the Venerable and Venerated Metropolitan, the Right Reverend John

Medley, Bishop of Fredericton from the creation of that Diocese in 1845 down to this year of grace 1892. Forty-seven years service in the sacred and laborious office of a Bishop of The Church of God, marked by such unceasing and devoted labors, and distinguished by such soundness of judgment and ripeness of learning, cannot be summed up in any brief statement. The history of Ecclesiastical Province and of The Church in the Diocese of Fredericton is the Memorial of the Most Reverend Father in God for whose entrance into Rest we bless God while we mourn our own loss, That the Prolocutor be requested to convey a copy of this Resolution to the Synod of the Diocese of Fredericton and to Mrs. Medley with the earnest assurance of the heartfelt sympathy of the Lower House of the Provincial Synod."

MEMORIAL TO THE LATE BISHOP OF QUEBEC.—Resolved, "That the Lower House of the Synod of this Ecclesiastical Province desires to put on record its deep sense of the loss which the whole Canadian Church has suffered in the death of the late Right Reverend J. W. Williams, D.D., Lord Bishop of Quebec. The ripeness of his scholarship, the gentleness of his nature and the correctness of his judgment have long distinguished him, while the zeal and devotion with which he performed the many and extremely arduous duties of his high office have elicited the praise and admiration of the Church. The Lower House also desires to extend to his widow and family its Christian sympathy and trusts that the God of all consolation and love may abundantly sustain them in the heavy affliction He has been pleased to send them."

RITUALISM.

[From Church Bells.]

I propose to consider, in this paper, how far the decision of the Archbishop of Canterbury in the Lincoln case, supported and upheld as it has been by the report of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, ought to lead to alterations in ritual where they had not been previously contemplated.

There is no doubt that a large number of people are averse to frequent modification of the details of the service, however slight and unimportant they may be. There is the dread that their clergyman 'is creeping on, and they don't know where he will stop.' Some think that the ultimate end is Romanism, while others are utterly vague as to the goal to which this 'creeping on' is to lead.

It is very natural that the congregation, or, at least, a proportion of them, should object to these ever-recurring changes. Their attention is almost inevitably distracted from their worship, they are uncertain as to the meaning and intention of the alteration, and they begin to entertain a vague sense of general distrust of their parish priest.

On the other hand, there is much to be said from the clergyman's point of view. He is proud of his Church and of the way in which the services are conducted; he is anxious, as opportunity offers, to make improvements, and from time to time, especially at festivals, he introduces some slight changes which he considers advisable.

Many points of Catholic ritual, i.e., ritual such as has been common to the Catholic Church in all ages, including the Anglican Church prior to the Reformation, have remained in abeyance because the clergy have been uncertain, in the absence of an authoritative ruling in a spiritual