

P R E F A C E.

It was at first intended to publish the whole of the *Proceedings* of this, the most important and eventful Session of the Provincial Synod ever held in Canada, but, upon serious reflection and anticipating the actual requirements in the premises to make this pamphlet of lasting interest and value, it was ultimately decided not to tax the reader with a large amount of routine matter, which can always be found in the Synod Reports ; but to confine the work to the Debate on Ritualism, (which occupied such a prominent feature of this session), and the funeral obsequies of the late lamented Metropolitan, the Address of Condolence, and the Sermon of the Rev. Canon Balch, D.D., delivered on the occasion in the Cathedral, Montreal, the day after the funeral.

There was every latitude given on the floor of the Synod, to one and all freely to discuss Ritualism, and the impromptu speeches made are good evidence of the feelings of the speakers. We give the most correct report of the whole, taken by the short-hand Reporter of the *Daily News*, with the exception of three speeches which were in manuscript ; and give the authority of the Synod Report for the order and division on the Resolutions, &c., as set down in the same. A careful perusal of this debate, especially the remarks towards the end, by eminent *Divines*, Lawyers and Laymen, will go far to illustrate the independence of the Church of England in Canada, and the great importance of the final vote.