

the first, coming from all parts of the Diocese. He continued—It shews that the interest in our work does not flag, but rather increases, to see both lay and clerical delegates from all parts of this Diocese, far and near, present to answer their names. I could not but feel grateful to-day in joining in the services of the Church, and in receiving that most holy communion and high ordinance of our faith, together with so many of our brethren, proving we are all united in one body, and in one great work. My heart warms and expands towards you all, and I do feel grateful to God that we are proceeding so favourably with our work in this Diocese, with so many of the laity co-operating with the clergy for the good of the Church. It is true we miss some of our old friends, but I think the hand of God has been light among us—certainly so in the number taken away, though we have lost some valuable members both of the laity and clergy, some whose loss we can ill bear, whose work we well remember, and who will long be kept in mind as among our most active members. I may mention particularly in this respect the late Honorable George Moffatt, who so long took a leading part among the laity of this diocese, in the Synod, and in every other work connected with the Church, but who now is with us no more. But I have to-day heard many fresh names, showing that, although we are losing some of our friends, others are coming forward to take their places. We meet now at a very important time for the world at large, the Church and the Colonial Church. What has transpired in England respecting the state of the law relative to Colonial Churches must be of very great interest to us. It has altered in a great measure our relations and standing in connection with the mother Church; and, though it will be our desire to keep as close as we can in the connection, yet, in the future, we must look to ourselves as ordering and carrying on our own work here as a branch of the English Church, and no longer consider ourselves as bound down by the particular laws and regulations of that Church in itself. The decisions given respecting the Bishops of Cape Town and Natal produced very considerable excitement and effect in many of the Colonial Churches, but they do not affect us. I took occasion, in consequence of doubts having been thrown upon our position and legal standing as a Church, to send home for an opinion