

The Church Guardian,
A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER, PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

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Lock Drainer 29, Halifax, N.S.

The Halifax Editor can be found between the hours of 9 a. m. and 1 p. m., and 2 and 6 p. m., at his office, No. 52 Granville Street, (up-stairs) directly over the Church of England Institute and next door to the office of the Clerical Secretary.

THE SYNOD OF FREDERICTON.

The Synod has held a most pleasant and harmonious meeting. The only drawback was that the meetings were so continuous that the delegates who faithfully attended to their duties had scarcely time for their meals. We heartily endorse Canon Medley's suggestion, that the clergy be given a Sunday's leave of absence that they may have some time for their own private affairs. The sympathy of the Synod was entirely with the Bishop in his prudent and cautious efforts to secure the right man for Coadjutor. It was unanimously resolved to leave the matter entirely in his hands, and make it optional whether he would call a special meeting or not.

The Delegates to the Provincial Synod were chosen fairly from all sections of the Diocese, and represent no one class of theological views. Several new names from the younger clergy appear on the list for the first time. We believe it to be a wise plan not to elect the same delegation each year. Both clergy and laity are representative men, and earnest workers in their respective parishes, and no doubt will give a good account of themselves at the Synod.

The Bishop's Charge was able and eminently practical. We were glad to find that Sunday Schools received a share of attention, and that a Committee on Sunday Schools was again appointed to care for this important work.

We regret that in a thin house, after most of the country delegates had gone home, most of whom would have voted for the measure, the very moderate constitution for a Diocesan Temperance Society was defeated by twelve votes. This matter, however, has not failed, but sooner or later will pass the Synod. If it had been brought on the day before, we believe the measure would have passed.

In the Church Society the gratifying announcement was made that almost \$10,000 have been raised against \$5,600 last year. The deficiency will be reduced to \$2,400, and there will be over \$7,000 to carry on the general work for the coming year. The increase of ten per cent on the Missions was, in most cases, accepted, and we may congratulate the clergy and the venerable Bishop on the evidences of work and good feeling throughout the Diocese.

The kind and sympathetic words of Rev. Geo. M. Armstrong to the Bishop found an echo in every heart, and every effort was made on all sides to make things as easy and satisfactory to his Lordship as possible. This feeling was warmly appreciated we are sure by him, and the Synod of 1880 will long be remembered as one of marked harmony.

THE SYNOD OF NOVA SCOTIA.

It is gratifying to be able to announce that the marked unanimity of feeling which pervaded the Synod of Fredericton, and characterized all its deliberations, was equally present in the Synod of Nova Scotia, which held its fifteenth session on Tuesday—Friday of last week. It will be long remembered, among other things, for being the first meeting of the Synod in which every Parish in the Diocese was represented. And in the *personnel* of its members, and the ability displayed by both Clerical and Lay delegates in the several debates, the Church at large has great reason to feel satisfied and thankful.

A great amount of important business occupied the time of the Synod, and every thing passed off without an ill-natured or unkind word to mar the Christian character of the Assembly. The Bishop presided with his usual remarkable tact and ability, and his Charge, which by vote of the Synod he has been requested to have published, was an able and exhaustive *résumé* of the notable things and subjects which have transpired and have provoked discussion in the Church of England, both at Home and Abroad, during the past six years.

We publish the Address of His Lordship, in which our readers will see we have been referred to in a most kind and highly complimentary manner. We have also cause to feel very grateful to the members of the Synod for the following resolution, moved by the Rev. Canon Dart, D. C. L., and seconded by the Hon. N. W. White, which speaks for itself:—

Whereas, By the establishment of the CHURCH GUARDIAN a great and long felt want has been supplied to the Church in the Maritime Provinces;

And whereas, This paper has been and is judiciously conducted by the enterprise of two clergymen at great pecuniary risk to themselves, and is issued at the lowest possible rate of subscription;

It is therefore resolved, That in the opinion of this Synod the CHURCH GUARDIAN is deserving of encouragement and support, and that the thanks of the Church are due to the said clergymen, the Rev. J. D. H. Brown, and the Rev. E. S. W. Pentreath, who are the editors of the same.

SYNOD OF NOVA SCOTIA.

FIRST DAY.

The Fifteenth Session of the Diocesan Synod of Nova Scotia met at St Luke's Cathedral, Halifax, on Tuesday, June 6th, at 9.15 a. m. Holy Communion was celebrated, and about one hundred and fifty Clerical and Lay Delegates partook of the Sacrament, His Lordship the Bishop being assisted in the service by the Venerable Archdeacon Gilpin, Rev. Canon Dart, and the Rev. Dr. Uniacke. Immediately afterwards the Synod was called to order by the Bishop, who offered the prescribed form of prayer. Roll of the clergy was called and 69 answered to their names. W. C. Silver and Wm. Gossip, Esqrs., with the Lay Secretary, were appointed a Committee to examine credentials of Lay Delegates. Sixty Lay Delegates were found in attendance at Roll call.

A considerable number of both Orders entered, and took their seats after Roll-call.

The Bishop then read his Address as follows:—

In meeting again, the Clergy and representatives of the Laity of the Diocese at the opening of the 15th Session of our Synod, I have to observe with satisfaction that there is no longer any Parish separating itself from the Synod, the Parishes of St. George, in this city, and that of St. Paul's, Charlottetown, P. E. I., having elected and sent representatives since our last Session. It is now exactly a quarter of a century since we adopted our Constitution, which we have

retained essentially, as it was at the first, and although at the commencement our movement was thought to be illegal and unnecessary, I suppose that all are now convinced by the "irreparable logic of facts," that owing to the change in our relations to the Crown, resulting from decisions of the English Courts and other circumstances, Synods are essential. In fact, since the Crown has ceased to appoint Bishops for the Colonies, there is no mode of filling a vacant Diocese except through the action of a Synod.

The necessity for the establishment of Synods, both Diocesan and Provincial, was declared in the minutes of a Conference of the Bishops of Quebec, Toronto, Newfoundland, Fredericton and Montreal, held in Quebec in 1851. In that same year the expediency of establishing a Synod was considered in the Diocese of Toronto, and in 1853 the first Synod assembled for the transaction of business. In the following year, foreseeing the changes which have since come to pass, and which were then, to my mind, clearly foreshadowed, I consulted the assembled clergy and representatives of the laity sent by the several Parishes at my request, and it was determined, by a large majority, that a Synod should be established, and in 1855 we adopted a Constitution and Rules of Orders similar to those which had been previously adopted in Toronto. The Canadian Dioceses obtained, in 1856, an Act of the Legislature, which was then supposed to be necessary to sanction their proceedings, and in 1863 we applied for a similar Act to our own Legislature, but the application was refused by the Council, although granted by the Assembly, and only an Incorporating Act was passed, which is, in reality, all that is required. In order to be admitted into the Provincial Synod, which sits under the authority of an Act of Parliament, we were obliged to obtain an Act empowering that Synod, as then constituted, to receive us, and in 1874 we were duly admitted, and took our seats as an integral part of that important Assembly, which is, in fact, the chief legislative body of this Branch of the Church. You are aware that we petitioned, but in vain, to have a reduction made in the number of representatives to be sent to the Provincial Synod from each Diocese, and I shall again submit to you a proposition to the same effect, for so long as the Synod meets in Montreal, we must be at a disadvantage in consequence of our great distance from the centre; and since 4 clerical and 4 lay representatives from each Diocese in the United States are found to be sufficient, I do not know why 12 should be required here, and as now Dioceses are created from time to time, even 8 of each order from each Diocese will constitute an Assembly inconveniently large.

Since our last Session, a change in the nominal condition of the Church has been effected in P. E. Island, and the only obstacle has been removed which might have been supposed to affect in any way their position in the Synod. An Act has been passed similar to the Nova Scotia Church Act, repealing the old Act by which the Church of England was nominally established in the Island, and recognizing the right to license, institute and induct of the Bishop exercising jurisdiction there. It differs from our Act, in that the previous system is continued under which each Church is a separate Parish, and there are no Districts assigned; and, I think, that it may be well to consider the terms of Rule 9 with reference to this peculiarity. There are conventional Parishes recognized by the Bishop containing sometimes 2 or more Churches, so that there may sometimes be 3 or 4 legal Parishes within one Ecclesiastical District, and it should be determined how the representation is to be arranged, whether according to the Ecclesiastical or the legal division. I endeavoured to obtain the recognition of these Ecclesiastical Districts as Parishes for the purposes of Incorporation, but there appears to me an unwillingness to allow any one Church of those committed to the care of my clergymen to be the Parish Church or in any way superior to the others.

One feature of the Island Act is better than our's, that only communicants can be Wardens of Vestrymen.

As the Provincial Synod is to meet in Montreal next September, it will be your duty to elect 12 representatives of each order with substitutes to fill the places of any who may be unable to attend. Our representation will not be as satisfactory as it might be until you are able to devise some means of paying the heavy travelling expenses of your representa-

tives, for it must sometimes happen that the very men whom we would especially desire to send will be unable to pay their own expenses without serious inconvenience.

There are some motions standing over from last Session, upon which it will suffice to speak when they come before us. In addition to these, your attention will be particularly called to the attempt made in the last Session of the Dominion Parliament to render valid marriages which our Church affirms to be contrary to the Law of God, and you will be asked to petition Parliament not to tamper with the Marriage Law, and to make arrangements for sending petitions from the women as well as the men of our congregations throughout the Diocese. I am happy to inform you that the Fredericton Synod has unanimously adopted a resolution to this effect. I will not detain you with this subject now; for I purpose to treat of it at length in my Charge this afternoon.

You may expect from me some report of the great Conference at Lambeth, to which I was about to proceed at our last Session, but for this also I refer you to my Charge, with the further statement that I shall be happy during our Session to answer any questions, and to give any information concerning its proceedings that may be asked or desired. The Acts of the Conference do not bind any Diocese which does not formally accept them, and I do not know that any were of such a nature as to demand action on your part.

At our last session a resolution was passed recognizing St. Margaret's Hall as a Diocesan School for Young Ladies, and, as Visitor, I am happy to report that a good work has been done there, and that the enterprising Principal is helping to supply a serious defect in our Church organization. But I feel that this ought not merely to be left to private enterprise, and that we ought to do as much to secure a good education for the girls as for the boys. We have erected a suitable house for the Collegiate Academy at Windsor, and we ought to provide one for our girls here in Halifax. I, therefore, call your attention to the last paragraph but one of the report of Committee on a Church Seminary for Females, presented by the Chairman, Dr. Hill, at our last session, (page 46 of Journal). It is a serious reproach to us that when a need is thus recognized there is still a want of energy and determination sufficient to remedy it. The value of a thoroughly sound and complete education is little understood by our people, otherwise parents would make any sacrifice necessary in order to secure for their children the most valuable heritage that they can bestow upon them.

We shall miss in this Synod the Rev. Dr. Cochran, who was wont to give us his interesting reminiscences of the past, and who has lately been taken from us. He labored most abundantly while strength remained, and, having passed the limit of fourscore years, he gradually became weaker, until obliged altogether to withdraw from active work, and he now rests from his labors. We are also deprived, by his ill health, of another of our generous clergy, who has never failed to take an active part in our proceedings—Dr. White. We are in want of men, and equally in want of funds, in order that the work of the Lord may be carried on efficiently in some destitute places, and now that the Missionary work is a branch of the operations of the Synod I hope that some means may be devised for securing more general and substantial support for the Board by which the funds contributed for this purpose are administered. The S. P. G. has reduced its grant for next year by another £100, and we have previously received notice that on the death of certain persons specified the amount granted for them will lapse, so that there must be a considerable increase in subscriptions if even our present work is to be maintained. It is to be observed, for I doubt whether this is clearly understood, that the place of the old D. C. S. is taken by the Synod, not, as some appear to suppose, by the B. H. M., which only occupies the place of the former Executive Committee of the Society, and every member of the Church having, by his representative in the Synod, a voice in the appointment of the Board, and in the general control of the funds, should consider himself bound in honour to aid its work to the utmost of his ability, and, as a matter of course, to be a subscriber to those funds. In P. E. I. the old organization has been continued, and there would be a practical difficulty in the way of merging that Society in,

or placing its funds under the control of the Synod, but it would be possible for the Synod to nominate a separate Board of Missions for the Island, and the anomaly would not differ in character from that which exists at present, since Island members may vote with reference to the Nova Scotia Mission Funds to which they do not contribute. The Widows' and Orphans' Fund has always been common to the two parts of the Diocese.

In conformity with your instructions to the Executive Committee, (page 52 of Journal), a sub-Committee was appointed by them to examine and report so as to enable the Committee to prepare the desired outline, but the terms of the resolution were found to be too indefinite to admit of a satisfactory compliance with it. If information is required, the particular points supposed to be doubtful should be specified, for the omission of any such point in a report supposed to be exhaustive might lead to serious confusion.

I have to call your attention to the state of the Law with respect to grants to Denominational Colleges, as under the Act of 1876 (page 46). They will all expire some time in the course of next year. We receive \$2400 for King's College; and as we can barely maintain our staff and carry on our work with that assistance, the loss of it will be most disastrous. The limitation to 5 years of these Educational Grants, which have been long enjoyed, was connected with the endeavour to establish a Provincial University intended to swallow up all others. But, I think, that you will agree with me, and, I believe, the feeling to be general, that the separation of religion from the education of our youths would be an unmixed evil, and that these separate Colleges of the leading denominations should be maintained as the only agencies whereby the religious instruction of the young men can be secured.

I would suggest, therefore, that you adopt a Petition to the Government to provide by Legislation in the next Session for a renewal of the Collegiate Grants, which will otherwise cease and determine in the middle of next year. I hope that the other religious denominations interested in the maintenance of their several Colleges will also bring their influence to bear upon the Government for the continuance of the Grants, the loss of which would, more or less, impair their efficiency.

In this and in all matters in which it may be necessary to instruct and to arouse the members of the Church, we have a valuable agent in the CHURCH GUARDIAN, and I heartily congratulate you, as the representative body of the Church of England, that such a paper has been provided for you. Our warm thanks are due to the Editors, who, for the sake of the Church, undertook the serious responsibility and risk, as well as the heavy labour of publishing and editing the paper. It is issued at such a low price, that a very large circulation must be obtained in order to secure them against loss; and, I am sure, that the same amount of useful information, and profitable reading matter for a Churchman's family cannot be obtained at the same cost—2 cents per week—in any other way. We have had similar efforts for the benefit of the Church heretofore, but I fear they have always resulted in serious pecuniary losses to those who have undertaken the work; and it has been stated that no paper costing more than \$1 per annum would be generally taken by our people. The experiment of this low charge is now made, and, inasmuch as the value or even the necessity of some organ of communication upon the affairs of the Church is self-evident, I sincerely hope that it may be successful. It appears to me to be characterized by an earnest, loving spirit, and while some would like a more decided party tone, on one side or the other, I think that he must be very narrow-minded indeed, who, having any regard at all for the interests of the Church, of which he is a member, refuses to support the only available agency through which a fair exposition of her principles can be circulated, and a general interest in her work throughout the world awakened.

I will now request you to proceed with the business of the Session, expressing a hope that any member intending to introduce any subject will give notice of motion as soon as possible, and as the time during which members can stay in town is limited, I recommend you to