

Prayer-Books, and though one to which they had given their assent, seemed to them an unreasonable and impracticable thing which, though it might have suited a former age, was not calculated for the nineteenth century.

Yet it was from the ranks of these men that the two former elections had necessarily taken place, the age and standing of the respective candidates going far in determining the choice of the diocese. They were however men who, notwithstanding their individual excellence, were more than questionable in their adherence to the evident doctrines of the Prayer-Book, and who had never in their own persons or practice endeavoured to carry out its laws.

Hence arose endless difficulties and heart-burnings. Younger men differently trained, and having no love for a system which had brought forth little fruit, and which had at length sunk down in too many instances into respectable worldliness covered by an unreal assumption of spirituality, felt themselves bound in conscience to teach the doctrines and comply with the laws of the Church to which they belonged: and since those doctrines and laws strike at the very root of worldliness and self-seeking, and teach men for the love of their Lord to do those deeds of love to their brother also, which involve an amount of self-denial that *talking* never does, the necessary consequence was, that opposition was excited, and difficulties arose, which not unfrequently led to appeals to the authority and decision of the Bishop. Faithful churchmen, however, whether clerical or lay, had little confidence in one who, notwithstanding his high office, was of doubtful orthodoxy; and it was hardly possible for him consistently to uphold a clergyman in faithfully carrying out the laws of the Church when it was plain by a simple reference to the past, that he had never obeyed nor inculcated them himself. Nay worse, it was sometimes found that an earnest effort on the part of a parish priest to fulfill those requirements of the Church which he in common with every clergyman had promised to obey, was frowned upon by the Bishop because such an attempt was a tacit reproof to his own former disregard of his ordination vows.

These facts and the considerations arising out of them had weighed much upon the minds of the clergy, and of that rapidly increasing body of the intelligent laity who received and acted

upon the true principles of the Church. The result was that that Diocesan Synod resolved by a large majority, that the vacancy which had occurred at the time we speak of should be filled by some clergyman of sound principles and experience in the practical working of the Church system. Hence their choice fell upon a distinguished clergyman of the "Old Country," who was old enough to have overcome the rashness of youth, but young enough to have been trained in the higher school of theology to which the Church is so much indebted for reviving among her children the knowledge of forgotten truth. Able, eloquent and learned, filled with the loving Spirit of his master Christ, in the blessed steps of whose most holy life he constantly prayed and strove to walk, he was one who held a high place in the reverence and regard of the Mother Church; but when unsought, and indeed unthought of by himself, he was urged to accept the episcopal office in a Canadian diocese, he resolved to relinquish all his bright prospects at home, when it was made plain to him that by accepting the offer that was made he might, in the hands of God, be an instrument of great good, not to the much-loved parish in which he laboured at home, but to a large and important diocese.

One evening, soon after it had become known that the newly elected Bishop had consented to the wish of the Synod and would shortly sail for the scene of his future work, Mr. Jackson came over, as was often his custom, to spend the evening with the Cramptons.

"This is the best news I have heard for many a day," said he, as soon as he was fairly seated; "I tell you what, Crampton, you did good service at the Synod, and with such a man as we've now got for our Bishop, we shall get out of this everlasting jog-trot along the old rut, in which we have been so long."

"I must acknowledge that I hope great things from our Bishop elect," replied Mr. Crampton. "I knew him well before he left home, for he was rector of the parish next to which I lived, just before I came out here. My personal knowledge of his excellence, energy and ability, combined with his well-known reputation as an author, enabled us to carry his election in the Synod without much trouble. Our failure in the effort which we made a few months ago to improve the church accommodation for the