

read his Address:
BRETHREN, AND BRETHREN

thankfulness, and yet with
to-day as the President of
thing that is excellent in
this our Synod is due, I
and ripe judgment of my
the several parts which
struction, are, being gra-
s members at each succe-
ne Synod of this Ecclesias-
sent five Dioceses, and I
ions begin, a sixth will be
a, having obtained a Per-
empowering it to be em-
admission among us. And
ed number of clerical and
al Synod, at this moment

I cannot doubt but that
arty welcome at your hands.
le inconvenience has arisen
ar proper day of meeting.
ted, I requested the Chan-
the question, and to advise
investigation was so decided,
ame the second Wednesday
stion as to which was the
was the day laid down in
be stated in a few words.
he day was amended by the
55; but by the Lower House
efore the Upper House; at
of its having been concurred
House. Consequently the

amendment was again made by the Lower House in the following session, that of 1868, and duly accepted by the Upper. But before being acted upon, the amendment, thus for the first time concurred in by both Houses, requires to be confirmed, as I presume it will be, by an act of the present Session. If required, the Chancellor will, I am sure, be willing to satisfy the House on this point.

It is sometimes asked, what is the distinction between the Acts of our Provincial, and those of any Diocesan, Synod? I would say that this Synod declares the voice of the Church of England in Canada, speaking in its corporate capacity. Its canons are therefore binding upon the Church collectively, whilst those of our various Diocesan Synods are only binding upon the several Dioceses; and that so far as they do not conflict with anything enacted by the Superior Council. Observe the successive steps of our organization. First, each parish legislates for itself with reference to its own distinctive wants and necessities; but in submission to, and in accordance with, the laws which have been put forth by the Diocesan body of which it forms a part—the minister and churchwardens being the administrators of those laws, in subordination to the Bishop. Secondly, each Diocese has full authority to make its own canons affecting the several parishes or missions within its bounds, so far at least as it enacts nothing which is at variance with those which have been passed by the Provincial Synod. Then, thirdly, we have our Provincial Synod, over-riding in a measure all acts of the several inferior synods within its jurisdiction, and legislating as the great Council of the Church. Such, as it appears to me, is the Ecclesiastical Polity of this Church. She has been from the first, and is still, closely linked to the Mother Church of England, and we have no wish to sever, or even to weaken, the bond which unites us. And whilst we assert our undoubted privilege of independent action, we declare our