

the Bishop too often finds himself called upon to assume responsibility in matters over which he has no control, until trouble or scandal draws him in. Nowhere, perhaps, in the diocese has he so little voice and so much anxiety, as in the conduct of a Synod Rectory. In the exercise of its rights a congregation requiring a Rector takes every one into its confidence except the Bishop. It asks the Bishop—almost requires him—to induct a clergyman, of whom little is known by the people amongst whom he is to minister. After an intimate but short acquaintance there is sometimes,—too often,—disappointment; then application is made to the Bishop and his influence sought in order to break the tie so hastily made. Nor is this the worst, a clergyman for whom the Bishop has no suitable employment is adrift upon the diocese. It ought to be understood that when a parish calls a rector without the express approval of the Bishop—when the Bishop concurs only because by the letter of the law he cannot help himself—that parish must keep its rector and maintain him properly until he chooses to leave of his own free will, unless under our canons he shall become disqualified. I wish we could arrive at some more satisfactory system for the protection and improvement of Church property than any which at present exists. Perhaps centralization might be a gain. Records of insurance, sales, and such like might be deposited in the Synod office, and no changes effected without notice to the Secretary, who in his turn might notify the Bishop or other responsible authority, when any change affecting property is in contemplation. And in this connection I should like also to have united action in regard to the building of new churches and parsonages. It is desirable that all such edifices not erected without external aid should, as to size, value, design and locality, be subjected in some degree to the control of Synod. Mistakes are too frequently made by zealous but inexperienced persons whereby good money is injudiciously expended, and opportunities for the acquisition of valuable property lost.

I will not detain you longer, from the business which is before you, than to remind you how much depends upon the practical wisdom and disinterested legislation of this body. Every year should find us advanced in knowledge and power, in all things which touch the order and extension of the Church in this diocese. The Church, the living Church, must grow and prosper both in external and internal graces and virtues. These make up the strength and beauty of the Bride of Christ, and prepare her to meet her Lord. I pray that the Spirit of God may rest upon you and upon me, and inspire our deliberations. To that end let us suitably prepare our hearts for His reception. I affectionately counsel you now to bear in mind the dignity and high calling of the Church we represent. Let us put away from