

trict, and they listen very attentively to the earnest appeals of the priest to awaken them to a sense of their responsibility and duty. The people themselves fully appreciate and value the effort being made for their good. Strict order and quietness are observed, and the eager, anxious, careworn faces of the people are a sight to see. It is evident that the reverence and impressiveness of an open-air service attracts more powerfully than an open-air meeting. An offertory bag is handed round in aid of the Universities Mission in Central Africa; thus the people in darkest England help their brothers in darkest Africa.

"A WESLEYAN LAYMAN," hitherto a Liberal, but not a Home Ruler, writes to the *Times* to say that "if the intolerance shown by Gladstonian Wesleyans becomes general, many Wesleyans will join some other Church." He refers especially to the case of the Rev. T. GRIER, an Irish Wesleyan minister, who paid a visit to York in connection with the general election, to set before the members of his own denomination in England the views of the Society in Ireland concerning Home Rule. The York Methodist Council is to be invited to memorialize the district meeting on the subject, and to take such steps as they may deem necessary. It seems that the *Methodist Times* has refused to insert a letter correcting a statement taken from one of the Home Rule leaflets which was "altogether untrue," as can be proved by official figures. The "layman" complains that whilst "anything put forth by the Nationalists is readily accepted and passed on by Wesleyan Gladstonians as true; if an Irish Wesleyan minister, knowing of these and like misrepresentations, attempts in England to prove them such, all the courts of his Church are to be moved to prevent his voice being heard."—*English Churchman*.

THE PROVINCIAL SYNOD.

[CONTINUED.]

The great Parliament of the Church in the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada closed its sessions on the afternoon of the 23rd inst., having been in continuous session from the 14th of September. There was somewhat of unseemly haste and want of dignity in its proroguing. Whilst the Lower House was in the act of reading its minutes (having rushed through the orders of the day with a celerity truly astonishing in a legislative body) the House of Bishops appeared at the door and entered the hall preceded by the senior Bishop. Probably it would have been within the power of any member of the Lower House to have claimed "privilege;" but this not being done, there was some little confusion in closing the session. After reaching the platform, the Lord Bishop of Ontario, as President, read the following statement of the business which had been fully passed, having been concurred in by both Houses:—1, Confirmation of amendments to canon xv; 2, Confirmation of amendments to articles 8 and 9 of the Constitution; 3, Appointment of a delegation to attend the general Convention of the Protestant Episcopal church of the United States; 4, Adoption of a resolution with reference to the stipend of the Missionary Bishop of Algoma; 5, Appointment of a joint committee to confer with committees of other Christian bodies on the subject of Reunion; 6, Appointment of a joint committee on Canons; 7, Adoption of a scheme for the Consolidation of The Church in British North America, with committee for the carrying out of the said scheme; 8, A resolution for the re-enactment of the Canons and Constitution as now in print; 9, Adoption of an amended Canon

on the representation of the Missionary Diocese of Algoma in this Provincial Synod. His Lordship, in conclusion, heartily congratulated the Synod on the unanimity and general good feeling which had prevailed.

The doxology was then sung, and the benediction was pronounced by the acting Metropolitan.

Their Lordships having withdrawn, the Lower House resumed business and completed the reading and confirming of its Minutes, after which its session was reverently closed by the Prolocutor pronouncing the greater Benediction.

The chief, if not the only matter which received careful consideration by both Houses, was the scheme for the Consolidation of the Church. This occupied the attention of the Lower House, several days being taken up upon the report of the joint committee appointed at the previous session. The scheme or basis set forth by the Winnipeg Conference has already been published at length in our columns. The first resolution adopted at that Conference as a condition precedent to the formation of the General Assembly was the following: (1) "That this Conference is of opinion that it is expedient to unite and consolidate the various branches of the Church of England in British North America." This was adopted without dissent.

The second resolution of such Conference, which the House was asked to concur in, was the following: (2) "That in any scheme of union the Conference affirms the necessity, of the retention of Provinces under a General Synod;" and it had no sooner been read and moved than it became evident that there was a strong feeling of opposition to it and that it could not be carried in the form in which it was submitted. A long and able discussion followed, resulting ultimately in the adoption of the following in place of resolution 2 (of the Winnipeg Conference), "It be resolved that the scheme of union should not either affirm or disaffirm the necessity for the retention of Provinces under the General Synod; but on the contrary, the retention or abolition of the various Provincial Synods should be left to be dealt with according to the requirements of the various Provinces, as such Province and the Dioceses therein may see proper."

These conditions precedent having been disposed of, the scheme for the Constitution itself of the said Synod was next taken up and was finally, after long discussion, adopted by the Lower House and by the Upper House after several Conferences in the following form:

1. *Constitution.* There shall be a General Synod consisting of the Bishops of the Church of England in the Dominion of Canada and the Diocese of Newfoundland, and of delegates chosen from the Clergy and the Laity.—Adopted.

The delegates shall be chosen by the several Diocesan Synods according to such rules as they may adopt, or, in a Diocese which has no Synodical organization, may be appointed by the Bishop.—Adopted.

The representation shall be as follows: Dioceses having fewer than twenty-five licensed Clergymen, one delegate from each order; Dioceses having twenty-five and fewer than fifty licensed Clergymen, two of each order; Dioceses having fifty and fewer than one hundred, three of each order; Dioceses having one hundred licensed Clergymen and upwards, four of each order.—Adopted with the following reservation: "That in order to avoid complication, the House accepts the paragraph, but that the question of the advisableness of increasing the number of diocesan representatives be referred to the general meeting at Toronto."

2. *Time and Place of Meeting.* A General Synod shall meet for the first time in the city of Toronto on the second Wednesday in September 1893, and shall be convened by the Metropolitan, senior by consecration. This Provincial Synod in assenting to this clause does not thereby surrender any powers or jurisdiction now possessed by it nor does it intend thereby to take away from or interfere with any rights as to

the acceptance of the said amended scheme of Union possessed by the several Diocesan Synods in regard to the formation of such General Synod.

3. The Synod shall consist of two Houses; the Bishops constituting the Upper, and the Clergy and Laity together the Lower House. The Clergy and Laity shall vote by orders if required.

4. The President of the General Synod, who shall be styled the Primate, shall be elected by the House of Bishops from among their own number.

The Primate shall hold office for life, or so long as he is Bishop of any Diocese of the General Synod; nevertheless, he may resign at any time.

5. The General Synod shall have the power to deal with all matters affecting in any way the general interests and well-being of the Church within its jurisdiction.

Provided, that no Canons or Resolutions of a coercive character, or involving penalties or disabilities, shall be operative in any Ecclesiastical Province, or in any Diocese not included in any Ecclesiastical Province, until accepted by the Synod of such Province or Diocese, and that the jurisdiction of the General Synod shall not withdraw from the Provincial Synod the right of passing upon any object falling within its jurisdiction at the time of the formation of the General Synod.

The following, or such-like objects, may be suggested as properly coming within the jurisdiction of the General Synod:—

- (a) Matters of doctrine, worship, and discipline.
- (b) All agencies employed in the carrying out of the general work of the Church.
- (c) The general missionary and educational work of the Church.
- (d) The adjustment, with consent of the Dioceses, of the relations between Dioceses in respect to Clergy, Widows and Orphans', and Superannuation Funds.
- (e) Regulations affecting the transfer of Clergy from one Diocese to another.
- (f) Education and training of candidates for Holy Orders.
- (g) Constitution and powers of an Appellate Tribunal.
- (h) The erection, division, or re-arrangement of Provinces.
- (i) To provide for the revision or disallowance by the Supreme Court of Appeal in addition to its other powers of the Acts or Canons of any Provincial or Diocesan Synod as being *ultra vires* on appeal of any Bishop or of one-fourth of the delegates of any Provincial or Diocesan Synod.
- (j) That nothing in the foregoing scheme or in the Constitution to be placed thereunder shall affect in any way any Canons and Enactments of this Provincial Synod in force at the time of ratification of the said Constitution by this Synod.

6. For the expenses of the Synod, including the necessary travelling expenses of the members, there shall be an annual assessment of the Dioceses, proportioned to their representation, exempting those which have not more than ten Clergymen.

7. The words Ecclesiastical Province heretofore used shall mean any group of Dioceses under the jurisdiction of a Provincial Synod.

It was also resolved as additional conditions of the scheme "That the General Conference be requested to incorporate in the Constitution of the General Synod a solemn declaration, corresponding to the declaration issued by the Bishops and delegates of the Clergy and Laity assembled in the first Provincial Synod of the Ecclesiastical Province, reciting the intention of the General Synod to hold and maintain the doctrines and sacraments of Christ and the Lord hath commanded in His Holy word as the Church of England hath received and explained the same in the Book of Common Prayer, and administration of the sacraments and other rites and ceremonies of the Church, according to the use of the Church of England, together with the psalter or Psalms of David as they are to be sung or said in Church, and the form or manner of making, ordaining and consecrating of Bishops, Priests and Deacons in the thirty-nine articles of religion."