

But for these we may well be content to wait until the Mother Church leads the way, which she is evidently prepared to do at no very distant day.

I much hope that the new *Lectionary*, which has been prepared with great care by the Ritual Commission, and has passed the English Convocation, will be submitted to our Provincial Synod at its next meeting. The adoption of this new calendar of lessons will be a great boon to our Church, and has long been wanted.

I propose putting into the hands of my clergy a *Form for Harvest Thanksgiving*. It may be used this year merely as an optional service, with a view to some approved form being ultimately submitted to the Provincial Synod for its sanction.

6. The expediency of having one authorized *Hymn Book* for the Diocese, if not for the whole Province, has been much on my mind. A committee appointed by the Provincial Synod upon this subject is now sitting, and will, I hope, before next year, be prepared with its Report.

There are many difficulties and arguments which array themselves against the adoption of such a book, but the countervailing advantages seem to me to be immense.

I have long felt that the lack of uniformity in this respect is a prominent source of the Church's weakness; and I should heartily rejoice to see it remedied. We are rich in Hymn Books in the present day; and from the varied treasures that exist, an excellent selection may be made, and one that would I hope commend itself to persons of all views, and would meet with general acceptance. In any case it would be very unwise to make the reception of such a book compulsory on our congregations; it would be sufficient that its introduction into the Diocese or Province should be permissive, sanctioned as it would be by authority.

7. I cannot omit the mention of a subject, which has given rise to some discussion in the lesser meetings of our clergy assembly. I refer to the *Ruri-decanal system*.

I know that it has not found much favour with the clergy generally. But feeling that the office is of ancient origin, and that it now forms an integral part of our Ecclesiastical system, feeling also that it may be made extremely helpful to the Bishop, as well as conducive to the good order and working of the Diocese, I am unwilling lightly to abandon it. I must therefore ask you to bear with my conservative wish that it should be continued as a part of our Church Organization. I propose, however, in the event of its occurring, to leave the selection of a Dean in a great measure in the hands of the Clergy of the Deanery. This of some responsibility, and make the Dean be elected by one of the Clergy of the Deanery.

8. I am thankful to say that I have been enabled to visit the larger half of the forty-three Missions, during the past months; and I hope to complete my visit of the whole before the commencement of the winter. My first Episcopal act was to consecrate the little church at Omo in September last. Other churches are now in the course of erection; and several, especially in the Deanery of St. Andrews, will be ready for consecration during the ensuing autumn. I have held confirmations in twenty Parishes, and received nearly four hundred persons into full membership with the Church. I have also ordained six Clergymen, who are now at work in the Diocese.

And now, as to the future of our beloved Church in this land, I cannot but think that the prospect is bright and hopeful. With a sound and devoted clergy, loving the work which their Heavenly Master has given them to do, and anxious by the power of His Holy Spirit to win souls to Him; and with a generous and right hearted Laity, zealous not merely for their own, but for the Church's welfare; we have little to fear. There is a great and glorious work entrusted to us by our Lord; and happy for us, if during our short hour of life we take each of us, our part in the fulfillment of it. On you, my Reverend Brethren, devolves the important duty of acting as leaders in the progress onward; and whilst you go foremost, undaunted by the difficulties before you, and confiding in the promise of your Lord, sure I am that our Lay Brethren will rally round you, upholding you in your great enterprise by their untiring aid, and cheering you by their sympathy.

I have now only a few more words to add, regarding the present Synod, which I have today the still greater privilege of presiding. I have looked forward to its meeting with some degree of anxiety, knowing the influence which its calm and dignified bearing will have upon the Church at large, and feeling the great responsibility of the part in it which I was called to take. But of this I am assured, that if He whose aid we have solemnly invoked, is Himself with us, my anxiety will be exchanged for thankfulness. The eyes of many of our brother churchmen are turned towards Canada at the present time: let it be seen, from the temper we display at our Synod meetings, that we can come together as Christian brethren, and separate with our hearts warmed, and our spirits calmed and chastened.

I am inclined to think that in all mixed gatherings of churchmen there is some little danger lest a feeling of clausiphobia should be allowed to spring up between the clergy and laity. This should be especially guarded against; for surely the interests of the one body are the interests also of the other; and the moment those interests are divided, the well-being of the church is in peril of being weakened.

It is for this reason that I would venture to recommend a very sparing use of our privilege

of voting by orders. It is important for both parties that the privilege exists; but we should resort to it only on very exceptional occasions. This manner of voting should be regarded by us as something rather held in reserve, than brought into frequent exercise—as a power which should be rather felt, than often used. It is well for a church when its clerical and lay members feel such mutual confidence towards each other, that they can consult together with perfect freedom and singleness of purpose. And better still is it when they can be seen habitually voting together, and acting together, without distinction. This should be your rule; the other only the rare exception.

And may I not also express a hope, an earnest hope, that the clerical members of this Synod may have come here prepared to lay aside their sectional differences—that from the tone which prevails within these walls it may be happily apparent to all that the spirit of party is speedily dying out, and that the spirit of union is taking its place.

Try to forget, my reverend brethren any little specialities, either of doctrine or practice, which have in days past ranged you on separate sides; and think only of the greatness of those matters on which you are sent here to deliberate, and of His honour which should be dearer to you than all else. Look at each question which shall come before you, not as to how it will affect yourselves, but how it will affect the Church at large.

In your recent sessions the subject which engaged your attention was of an unusually exciting character, and naturally aroused a certain warmth of feeling. That subject has now passed away, and with it I trust any little irritation which it called up at the time. We shall henceforth do well to lay aside all bitterness of feeling, and devote ourselves to those questions of practical importance which shall come before us. And surely if our deliberations are conducted in a spirit of self control, and as in the presence of God Himself,—if we speak with all deference towards each other, and with due respect for the opinions of those who may chance to differ from us—then may opposing views be expressed without the slightest risk of our harmony being disturbed.

I have full confidence in those who are now before me, that they will strive to promote the feeling which I have expressed; and that their chief forbearance will be exercised towards myself, in presiding for the first time over this important assembly.

May the Holy Spirit so possess our hearts that we may all be calm and gracious influence, that we may speak with all Christian love and wisdom. He Himself so direct all that shall be done during this present session, that it shall lead to the advancement of His glory, and the growth of His Kingdom among us.

It was moved by the Rev. Canon Bond, seconded by the Rev. T. Robinson—"That the Rev. P. Dumoulin be clerical secretary."—Carried.

It was moved by Mr. Sanborn, seconded by Mr. L. Davidson—"That Mr. Frederick Mackenzie be lay secretary."—Carried.

On the motion of the Rev. R. Lonsdell, R.D., seconded by Dr. Smallwood, Mr. J. Hutton was unanimously re-elected treasurer of Synod.

Dr. Smallwood moved, and Major Campbell seconded, the appointment of Mr. A. F. Gault and Mr. D. McCord as auditors. Carried unanimously.

Canon Bancroft moved: "That this Synod cannot allow the Rev. Canon Balch and M. H. Sanborn, Esq., to retire without putting on record its high appreciation of their long and faithful services as secretaries of the Church Society and this Synod; and that the present secretaries be requested to communicate this resolution to the Rev. Canon Balch and Mr. Sanborn." The mover said that he would be sorry for these gentlemen to retire into private life without carrying with them some testimonial which they could hand down to posterity. (Laughter and cheers.) He had had the pleasure of sitting on committees in which these gentlemen had been present, and could bear testimony to the amount of service which they had rendered. (Hear.)

The motion was seconded by Major Campbell, and carried by acclamation.

It was proposed by the Rev. Canon Bond, seconded by Mr. James Fulton, that a committee be appointed to prepare a resolution expressive of the sense of loss felt by the Synod in consequence of the death of the late Right Rev. F. Fulford, bishop of this diocese and metropolitan; and that an expression of deep sympathy be conveyed to Mrs. Fulford and family.—Carried.

The minutes of the last meeting of Synod were taken as read, and confirmed.

The Bishop named, as the committee to prepare a resolution relative to the decease of the late Bishop and Metropolitan, the Ven. Archdeacon Leach (convenor), the very Rev. the Dean, Canon Bond, Revs. E. Wood and R. Lindsay, Major Campbell, and Mr. E. Carter, Q.C.

The appointment of the several committees was postponed till the next day.

The Rev. Canon Balch reported on behalf of the executive committee of synod:

Page 50. Proceedings of the 10th Synod, 1868, will be found the Rules and Bye-laws for the administration of the property, missions, and other duties of the Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Montreal, which says:—"And the said Committee shall furnish to the Synod, at each stated annual meeting of the Synod, a report of its operations, and a clear statement of the receipts and expenditures of the Committee during the preceding year, and of the state of the funds and property belonging to, or vested in, or under the control of the Synod."

In compliance with the said instructions, the Executive Committee beg leave respectfully to report:

That no annual statement for the year ending Jan. 1st, 1869, could be submitted to the Synod, because there was no annual Synod

held during that year. The See of Montreal became vacant in Sept., 1868, and by provision of the law, a Special Synod was called, and met in Nov., 1868, for the purpose, and only for the purpose, of electing a Bishop and Metropolitan of Canada. The Special Synod at that meeting failed to elect, and adjourned to meet again on the 11th May, 1869, at which time the Rev. Canon Oxenden, Rector of Pluckley, Kent, England, was elected. Mr. Oxenden was consecrated in Westminster Abbey, and was enthroned in the Cathedral of Montreal, Sept. 5, 1869. The present Synod, therefore, is the first annual Synod to which the Executive Committee of the Incorporated Synod and Church Society of the Diocese of Montreal could report. Their report, therefore, embraces two years, viz., from June, 1868, to June, 1870.

The Treasurer's report shows the financial state of the Diocese. (The Treasurer's report being not quite ready will be submitted tomorrow.)

The reports of the Rural Deans, together with the reports of the Rectors, Incumbents and Missionaries of the Diocese, give full and on the most part satisfactory statements of the condition and progress of the church in the Diocese. These will be published in the report of this Synod. A digest of the whole would have been carefully prepared by the Secretary, and inserted in the body of this report for the convenience and information of the Diocese, but returns have not been received from all the parishes and stations. Forty-two returns have only been received.

The present Secretary was elected in 1867 Secretary of the Church Society, which Society was afterwards merged into the Incorporated Synod of Montreal, June 1868. He was (see p. 57 proceedings of the 1st Synod) the elected Secretary of the Synod and at the meeting of the executive committee, August 12th 1868, he read to the committee notes from the Dean and Wardens of the Cathedral to the committee, objecting to his holding the office, and he declined up the appointment, whereupon Bishop Fulford wrote—the committee, adopted a resolution asking the Secretary to hold the office until Nov. Before November, the See was vacant, and no Synod could be held until it was filled, and therefore, the present Secretary was obliged to continue in office until to-day, and now respectfully asks to be relieved, because the duties of Canon of the Cathedral are incompatible with the duties of Secretary.

MEETINGS OF COMMITTEE. There have been held according to law meetings of the executive committee during both years; on the 2nd Wednesdays of Feb., May, August and November. Adjourned meetings have been held in May, 68, August, 69 and a special meeting September, 69.

TREASURER OF THE S. P. G. FUND. At a special meeting of the committee September 14th 1869, the Treasurer read a letter from the Secretary of the S. P. G., relating to the resignation of Mr. Anderson, who for 30 years had faithfully discharged the duties of Treasurer, and the committee unanimously entered on their minutes, a vote of thanks to Mr. Anderson, which at their request was conveyed to him by the Metropolitan.

Mr. James Hutton was appointed Treasurer in place of Mr. Anderson.

SUPERANNUATION FUND. At the meeting held May 13th, 1869, a committee was appointed to report a plan for carrying out a superannuation fund, and at the meeting Nov. 10, 1869, the said Committee's report was adopted and the fund commenced as follows:

Moved by the Rev. D. Lindsay, seconded by the Rev. R. Lindsay:

- 1st. That the Superannuation Fund be now commenced.
- 2nd. That every Clergyman, to be entitled to the benefit of this Fund, subscribe \$5 per annum.
- 3rd. That an annual sermon be preached on its behalf, and that a Committee be appointed to work out its details.

At the meeting of the Committee held Aug. 25th, 1869, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved,—That in the opinion of the Executive Committee, it is very desirable that the Bishop of Montreal should transfer the property known as the Cathedral School House, to the Synod, in consideration that the Synod should pay the Bishop interest at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum on £2,129 18., the amount of the Bishopric Endowment Fund invested in such property, and subject to the arrangement presently subsisting between the Cathedral and the Bishop.

At the meeting of the Committee Nov. 10th, 1869, the following document was read by the Secretary:

With reference to the resolutions of the executive committee passed at the meeting held on the 25th of August last, on the subject of the Cathedral school house property, the Lord Bishop of Montreal declared in writing as follows:—

With reference to the foregoing resolution, I hereby agree to convey the property referred to in the resolutions to "the Synod of the Diocese of Montreal," in consideration of the Synod allowing the Rector of the Parsonage or Rectory and "Parish Church of Montreal," to continue to use, for Sunday school purposes, in the same manner as heretofore and now, and for ever, the building presently erected on the said property, or such other building as may at any time hereafter be erected in its place on condition of his paying the sum of one hundred and twenty dollars currency per annum to cover the expenses of heating, lighting, and care keeping of the portion of the said building so used in connection with said Sunday school and in further consideration of the Synod paying to the Lord Bishop of Montreal interest at the rate of six per cent per annum, on the sum of two thousand, one hundred and twenty nine pounds, eighteen shillings and one penny currency, being so much money belonging to the Bishopric Endowment Fund and invested in said property; such interest to be payable semi-annually on the 10th day of November and May in each and every year.

Montreal, 6th November 1869. (Signed), A. MONTREAL.

And it was thereupon resolved that a conveyance of said property be accepted from the Bishop on the terms above proposed, and that the Treasurer of the Synod be, and he is hereby authorised to accept such conveyance on behalf of the Synod and to execute all necessary deeds to that end.

Moved by Mr. SANBORN, seconded by Mr. BOND, that the Secretary, the Chancellor and the Treasurer be a committee to have charge of the Synod building, and by whom all necessary arrangement shall be made for insurance, repairs and proper care, and by whom the use of it shall be granted from time to time, upon such terms as they shall see fit; and that the same committee shall be charged with the duty of making regulations for the Library.

REVISING GRANTS TO MISSIONS. At the stated meeting Feb. 9th, 1870, the following resolution was adopted:

Mr. BRYDGES moved, seconded by Dr. BANCROFT, that a committee of Laymen be appointed to examine into the whole system of our mission grants, and to report to the committee.

The BISHOP appointed Messrs. Brydges, Hutton, Bethune, Gault, Sanborn, and Dr. Smallwood said committee.

At the stated meeting of the Committee, August 12th, 1868, the Secretary read a paper stating that the Diocese for years, in consequence of anticipating revenue, has really been in debt to the amount of \$5,000, and proposed to obtain that sum over and above the ordinary income. Before the death of Bishop Fulford fair progress had been made in this behalf, and the sum of \$864.84 was subscribed. Upon the decease of Bishop Fulford, the Secretary found the application met with little favor, and after consultation with the Very Rev. the Dean, the venerable Archdeacon and several prominent Laymen of the Church, all of whom approved of the measure he applied for aid to a few friends and churchmen in the States.

The application was most cordially received, and arrangements made to pay \$1,000 United States currency, in January, \$1,000 in Feb., and whatever balance might be needed to the extent of \$3,000 or \$4,000 more in the month of March.

The instalment for January amounting to \$1,075, United States currency, was accordingly paid to the Treasurer, and at the stated meeting of the Executive Committee Feb. 11, 1869, the following resolution was moved by the Venerable Archdeacon Leach, seconded by the Rev. H. F. Darnell:

"Resolved, That the Executive Committee, having had submitted to them a statement of the Secretary of the Synod, learn with satisfaction the results of his exertions, and tender to the Secretary their thanks for his successful efforts to improve the mission funds of the Diocese.

The Executive Committee beg leave to request their brethren in the United States, who have assisted the Secretary by contribution or otherwise to accept of their cordial acknowledgments of their assistance."

The opinion having been expressed that another effort to obtain the balance of the debt in Montreal would prove successful, the Secretary suspended the arrangement made in the States until by a simultaneous collection in all our city churches together with personal application by Messrs. Shelton and MacKenzie. And the Secretary had the agreeable duty, whilst thanking our generous brethren in the States for what they had done, of assuring them that the sums pledged to be paid in February and March were not required.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee, Nov. 10, 1869, the following resolution was adopted:

Moved by Canon BOND, seconded by Canon ANDERSON, That the thanks of this Committee be given to the Rector and Incumbents of the churches in the city of Montreal, and to Messrs. Shelton and MacKenzie, for their valuable aid in obtaining the balance of the debt due by the Diocese to the Mission Fund.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF THE DIOCESE FOR MISSIONS.

Upwards of \$18,000 per annum are required for the support of Missions on our present scale; of this sum, from \$5000 to \$6000 per annum were contributed previous to the 1st of January 1868 from the whole Diocese. The Treasurer's report shows the amount given. This revenue is derived from three sources.

Bishop Fulford thus speaks in his pastoral letter of 15th of August, 1868:

"The funds which the Synod will have to administer are derived from three sources:

1. The grant from the S. P. G.
2. The income arising from the capital received for commutation of life-interest in the Clergy Reserves.
3. Annual subscriptions, collection in churches, &c.

Of these, the grant from the S. P. G. is, as you well know, in course of gradual withdrawal. I have just received notice that £180 sterling will be taken off from the grant next year; and it will be subject to further diminution every year until the whole is withdrawn. Out of what we do receive, we are bound to pay all pensions and salaries for which the S. P. G. is pledged, so that a very small balance remains free for our use in the general work of the diocese. The Clergy Reserve Fund, though not subject to diminution, like the former, is nearly all appropriated to the original clergy, in whose names it was commuted; only a small portion has yet fallen in to be added to the general funds at the disposal of the Synod. The only source, then, to which we can look for any immediate or effectual assistance, in order to obtain an increase of funds, is no 3: 'The annual subscriptions, collections in churches, &c.'

The plan of raising revenue for the support of Missions under the 3rd was by annual collections, and annual subscriptions and deputation meetings; in other words, an annual effort. The present Secretary believed that such a plan admitted of little improvement, and could not meet the growing wants of the Diocese on the one hand; and now on the other, its diminished increase by the withdrawal of the grant of the S. P. G.

He therefore discussed at length, in a report made to the Church Society in January, 1868, the plan of frequent contributions—small gifts often made—in other words, the Scripture