

they were appointed from conferring with the representatives of Rupert's Land and British Columbia. This resolution is on page 29 of the last Journal of the proceedings of the Provincial Synod, and is as follows:—

"It was moved by Mr. E. Baynes Reed, seconded by the Rev. E. P. Crawford, that the Upper house be respectfully requested to concur with the Lower house in the appointment of a special committee to consider the advisability of procuring the Incorporation of the Provincial Synod and also to consider the whole subject of the relative positions of the various Dioceses of this Ecclesiastical Province of Canada with the Provincial Synod, and, if requisite, recommend such legislation as shall so extend the powers of the Provincial Synod that it may be enabled to legislate for the Canadian Church as a whole, to bring about a uniform method of procedure in all matters pertaining to Church government, a uniformity of Canons and of discipline of the Clergy and Laity.

And further to consider and advise what legislation may be necessary in the several Dioceses to bring about the beneficial result of an entire and united Church in the Dominion of Canada.

The committee to report at the next meeting of the Synod. Carried."

Persecution can scarcely be claimed as one of the merits of this resolution, and it is conceivable that the members of the committee may be in some perplexity as to the scope of their labours. The first two subjects of inquiry and consultation are accurately enough defined, but the third is not free from difficulty, "if requisite, to recommend such legislation as shall so extend the powers of the Provincial Synod that it may be enabled to legislate for the Canadian Church as a whole."

What is meant by the "Canadian Church?" The Church of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada? Or the whole of the Dioceses of the Church within the Dominion of Canada? The former interpretation is most consonant with the rest of the resolution; and further, it seems premature to recommend such legislation as will extend the powers of the Provincial Synod to Dioceses which at present have no connection with it. But on the other hand, this is not more premature than to consider and advise "what legislation may be necessary in the several dioceses to bring about the beneficial result of an entire and united Church in the Dominion of Canada," before consultation with the Province and Dioceses with whom it is proposed to unite. Further, it is impossible for the Committee to advise what legislation is necessary without authentic information as to the nature of and form of the general organization of which that Province and those Dioceses would be willing to form a part.

The Committee of the Provincial Synod certainly are not authorized to negotiate a basis of union with the representation of Rupert's Land and British Columbia, and to report the same to the next session of the Provincial Synod. But surely not only would they be within their powers in consulting with the Committee appointed to meet them, but such consultation is necessary to enable them to report as required by the Synod. It is earnestly to be hoped that no such technical view of their duties will prevail as will be the means of withholding from the Provincial Synod the valuable assistance to its deliberations, which the Province of Rupert's Land and the Dioceses of British Columbia offer to it.

Yours,  
D. SMITH.

Sydney, C.B., Jan. 14th, 1889.

Sir.—Much has been said about commercial union with the United States involving disloyalty and ingratitude towards the Mother Country, which has done so much for us, and finally as many of us do see, culminating in annexation, even to have it forced upon us a exhibited in the out throat expressions of the

wide-mouthed Senator Blair who might fairly be ranked among the detestable Fenians.

There are in Canada those so devoted to the interests of mammon that any means adopted towards the getting of gain would justify themselves in pursuing them so long as their object was attained however perilous to their country.

To what then would we be annexed? to a nation under the cover of whose flag the most abominable laws exist with respect to marriage and more particularly as shown by the Rev. Herrick Johnson in last week's GUARDIAN wherein the number and ratio of divorces stated are fearful to contemplate. Who among us ought to desire to live under such a flag and assimilate ourselves to a republic which sooner or later should it continue in such a wicked course must surely (as it has been with other nations) be visited by God in his anger and spued out for its filthiness. It is true that for ourselves we cannot claim freedom from any law of a kindred character as we too well know since the passage of that vile Girouard Bill which legalized the incestuous marriage with a deceased wife's sister entailing upon us a corruption which we may have to suffer for. But whatever may be the evil consequences of that Act let us not increase them, or countenance a union with a country which would bring ruin upon all through its defiance of Divine laws.

Yours truly,  
W. S.

Jan. 15th, 1889.

SIR.—It has come to my knowledge that a report is being spread about, by persons who must be aware that they have no sufficient authority to justify them in circulating so grave a charge, that I have forbidden the teaching of the Church Catechism in the Sunday School of St. Paul's Parish, of which I am Rector. As I know this has been repeated to clergymen in different Dioceses of this Dominion, I crave your kind permission to allow me to give this report as emphatic a contradiction as words can convey. It is an utterly baseless calumny, set abroad and disseminated without the least foundation. The only thing I have done with reference to the Catechism in my Sunday School since my appointment has been to make an arrangement for its more systematic and thorough teaching.

I may here also ask permission to allude to another statement made by the persons responsible for that above referred to, to the effect that I disparage the Sacraments. This also is utterly false. I have done what no other Clergyman in this city has done so far as I am aware, namely, formed a 'Communicants' Union,' the object of which is to encourage the practice and urge upon Communicants the duty of participating in the Holy Communion regularly; for which purpose I invite to meet me all who will come, twice a month expressly to show the true nature and preciousness of this Sacrament.

I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient servant,

CHARLES HOLE,  
Rector of St. Paul's, Halifax, N.S.

### NEWS FROM THE HOME FIELD.

#### DIOCESE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

PARSBORO.—Our happy Christmas season has gone. The octave was ushered in by a carol service in the tastefully trimmed Church on Christmas Eve, at 8 o'clock, when a large congregation came through the wet streets to hear the Christmas Carol. The following was the order of service:—

Carol, carol sweetly carol. Prayers.  
"In the fields with the flocks abiding." Reading St. Luke ii. to 14 verse.  
"Carol Brothers carol." Reading from How.

"Stars all brightly beaming." Reading "Steam age."

"We three Kings of Orient," an address, "Where Christ was born of pure Mary." Benediction.

On Christmas Day there were two celebrations of Holy Communion in the parish Church, one at 9 o'clock by Rev. A. Watkins, being his first communion as a priest in the Church of God, and another at 11 o'clock with sermon by the Rector, Rev. S. Gibbons. In the afternoon there were services at Port Greville and at Diligent River. At either place the churches were crowded.

The Rector paid a visit to Five Islands and gave the few consistent Church people at this place the first opportunity for over a year to obey, "Do this in remembrance of me." The church people are working well for an organ towards which they have already secured a considerable sum. A new altar cloth has lately been added to the church furniture, and a hanging for the reading desk.

On St. John's day, the Freemasons attended service at St. George's Church, when a sermon was preached by the Rector. It is good for the Freemasons to show by their attendance, as a body, at public worship that they are not so worthy of excommunication as some people think.

The Rev. Albert Watkins, curate of this parish, was ordained to the priesthood upon the 4th Sunday in Advent.

The Rev. Edward DuVernet, Canon of Christ Church Cathedral, Montreal, died at the Rectory Parrsboro, upon Jan. 3rd. He was born in the Island of Ceylon, where his father was at the time quarter master general of the commissariat, educated at King's College School, Windsor, and was graduate of King's College, Fredericton, was ordained Deacon by the Bishop of Fredericton, and priest by the Bishop of Montreal, held successively and successfully the Rectories of Hemmingford, Clarenceville and Chambly, was made a Canon of Christ Church Cathedral, Montreal. For the past few years he has been incapacitated for active work.

#### DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON.

PORTLAND.—St. Luke's.—A handsomely bound and printed "Jubilee Souvenir" of St. Luke's Church, Portland, N.B., (one of the most historic churches in all Canada), will shortly be published. It will contain a dozen or more cabinet size illustrations—photographic process. Among the portraits will be those of the Reverends Dr. Gray, father and son, Rectors of Trinity Church, St. John, and closely connected with the early history of the Church of England in Portland; Messrs. James Simonds and the Hon. Charles Simonds, father and son, the latter a churchwarden and for 35 years either as member or speaker connected with the New Brunswick House of Assembly; he Rev. Canon Harrison for nearly forty years Rector of St. Luke's; Sir Leonard Tilley, for fifteen years its efficient Vestry Clerk, and the Rev. Harrison Tilley, his son, Curate of St. Luke's, subsequently Rector of Cronyn Memorial Church, London, Ont., and later assistant minister of St. James' Cathedral, Toronto, and whose early death at the age of 33 was far and widely lamented.

The Souvenir will also contain the inaugural sermon preached at the opening of new St. Luke's, by the Rev. Professor Steenstra, D.D., of the Theological Seminary, Cambridge, Mass., a most eloquent and masterly defender of the being and continuity of the Christian Church, and itself alone worth the subscription price of the book, \$1. Number of copies to be issued strictly limited to number of subscribers. All who desire to possess a copy of the Souvenir are requested to send their name and address to Messrs. J. & A. McMillan, publishers, St. John, N.B. Time for subscribing will end Feb. 2nd.