

them is one requiring me to use the vestments which were in use in the second year of King Edward the Sixth. This I have never done and am not prepared now to do. I do not think it safe, (hear and a laugh,) and I am disinclined to run any unnecessary risks, and therefore cannot vote for said amendment. If this opportunity of acting in the matter were allowed to go by, three years would be lost, and during that long interval many men would doubtless be severed from the Church. We are told by the Rev. Dr. Boswell that we have no right to interfere with the Prayer-Book. I would, however, call the attention of the Synod to the fact that the amendment to the second canon, moved by my friend, Mr. Givins, contemplates touching only one of the many points which we are asked to legislate upon by the memorial to this Provincial Synod, sent by the Synod of the Diocese of Toronto. And who signed that memorial? The best legal authority in the Province of Ontario. No less a lawyer than the Hon. J. Hillyard Cameron. Though his authority might have been conceived sufficient, a few friends in Toronto thought it best to fortify themselves with the opinions of other eminent Counsel, and we have been favoured with this opinion from them, others of the most eminent lawyers in Toronto, viz.: S. H. Strong, Adam Crooks, and Edward Blake, Esquires:—

Our opinion is requested on the following questions:—

1. "Whether it is competent for the Provincial Synod of Canada to pass a canon restraining the clergy from using the vestments authorized by the first Rubric in the Prayer-Book, commonly called 'the ornaments rubric.'

2. "Whether it can pass a canon defining the position of the clergyman in the communion office when it is said 'that he shall stand at the north side of the table.'"

We are of opinion that it is within the competence of the Provincial Synod or General Assembly, to frame regulations for governing matters of order and detail in the ministrations of the Church provided that such regulations do not abrogate those rituals, which are of divine institution, or conflict with any doctrine of the Church.

We are of opinion that matters referred to above involve such questions of order and detail merely, as may be regulated as proposed by the General Assembly.

(Signed,)

S. H. STRONG,
ADAM CROOKS,
EDWARD BLAKE.

Sept. 1, 1868.