

REMARKS.

WITHOUT the authority of an Act of Incorporation, the greater number of the Clergy of the Diocese of Fredericton, with Lay Delegates from most of the Parishes, adopted in July, 1867, a Synodical Constitution.

At the meeting at which this took place, a Committee was appointed "to consider all questions connected with the
"powers to be given to the Synod and to prepare such
"measures to be submitted for approval at the next meeting . . .
"as in their opinion may be required."

In July, 1868, this Committee accordingly submitted their Report, recommending, among other matters, a Canon for the election of a Bishop on the occurrence of a vacancy in the See.

Their Report was adopted, and the Canon agreed to.

In 1871 the entire Diocese united in the Synod under the Act of Incorporation then obtained, and adopted most of the measures passed at the preceding Synodical meetings; and, among others, the Canon above referred to, the text of which is as follows:

CANON: OF THE ELECTION OF A BISHOP.

(ADOPTED 7TH JULY, 1871.)

Whereas it is desirable to provide for the succession of the Episcopate in the Diocese of Fredericton, and whereas in accordance with the ancient usages of the Church, the election should be made by the Synod of the Diocese, the form of election shall be as follows:—

1. The Archdeacon, or if there be no Archdeacon, the Commissary of the late Bishop, or if there be no Archdeacon or Commissary, or if they shall refuse, or shall neglect for thirty days or more after a vacancy in the See shall have occurred to act, then any three Rural Deans in Priest's orders within the Diocese for the time being, shall summon a special meeting of the Diocesan Synod for the election of a Bishop, to be held not less than sixty nor more than ninety days after such vacancy shall have occurred, at which meeting no other business but such election shall be proceeded with.

2. The person who shall be chosen by the votes, taken by ballot, of at least two-thirds of the clergy and two-thirds of the lay delegates present at such meeting, or some adjournment thereof, shall be deemed elected to the office of Bishop of this Diocese. And this election shall not be vitiated by the absence of any of the parties summoned, or by the failure of any parish to elect a lay representative.

3. Any question as to the validity of the election to the vacant See shall be submitted, prior to the consecration of the person elected, to the Metropolitan of the See of Fredericton for the time being, whose decision shall be final.