

salutary and for the good of the Church. In the second place, the Queen preserves her territorial sovereignty in settling the limits of new Bishoprics when required to be established. The second clause of the statute is still more comprehensive, and contemplates Provincial Synods in which all the Dioceses may be represented. Such a provision is absolutely necessary to the salutary extension and well-being of the Church in this great country. Questions will arise from time to time which "will affect the welfare of the Church in these colonies, and will render it necessary, as it is desirable, that the Bishops, Clergy and Laity should meet in Council under the Provincial, Metropolitan, or Senior Bishops, with power to frame rules and regulations for the better conduct of our ecclesiastical affairs as by such Provincial Synod may be deemed expedient. It should also be divided into two Houses, the one consisting of the Bishops of the several Dioceses under their Metropolitan or Senior Bishop, and the other of the Presbyters and Lay members of the Church assembled by representation." For all this the second clause of the statute amply provides, and its objects will, doubtless, be carried out so soon as the necessities of the Church require.

Such Provincial Synod will answer the same purpose as the General Convention of the Church of the United States, which has been emphatically called its safety-valve against doubtful and unsafe innovation of the Diocesan Conventions, and an effective centre of permanent unity.

Without detaining you longer, I beg to call upon the Secretary to read the Proclamation and the Act of the Legislature, under the authority of which we are now assembled. This being done, the Executive Committee appointed towards the close of our last Session, to prepare, in due form, such matters as any member or members of the Synod—Clerical or Lay—may desire to be brought forward, will make their report, and I trust the same deference and courtesy will mark our present, as they have done all our former, proceedings.

The Secretary then read the Proclamation and Bill.

*all in working order now*