

up with our growth and strengthened with our strength, (hear, hear,) who had seen us in our infancy, and had watched over us until we had grown up gigantic enough to manage our own affairs; who, in his ministry of half a century, had seen the forest give place to the cottage, the cottage in time become part of a village, and the village transformed into a city. If we were sure of having such men amongst us, he would be ready to say, take for all time this patronage—take, it for we are confident it will be rightly administered. In his Lordship's hands we are safe. (Great Applause.) But he was not prepared to say, that he would place the power in the hands of those Bishops who will succeed his Lordship. (Great applause.) We do not know but some one of those time-serving subserviency men allied those very persons who had voted for the destruction of our endowments might be sent here as our Bishop, and who might be willing to place persons in charge of our Rectories who care nothing for our Church, and by this Resolution the full power to do so will be placed in their hands. We lately saw one Right Rev. Prelate, the Bishop of Durham, who was ready to vote away the whole Clergy Reserves, did not hesitate to claim £600 a year for his game-keepers. If they have given their sanction to this spoliation, they must not ask us to support Bishops in whose nomination we have no voice. They may say they have given us only the right of legislation, which we have a right to possess; but they knew that our duty to our God and our Church alike denied us the desire for the restoration of a power which might be used only for the destruction of the Church. In looking to England, which we had a right to respect, we thought that in the Bishops we had a tower of strength, and although the commonality and the nobles might desire to take away our property, we should see the bench of Bishops stand nobly and manfully for our rights. But in this we are bitterly disappointed. Under such circumstances, we are not in a position to say that we would be safe in surrendering up this power. He was willing then to say postpone the consideration of this subject, not only till September next, but until we know what the action will be which the convocation will advise your Lordship to pursue. He hoped that it would not be persevered in to place it at present in other, it might be possible, worse hands. We have placed the power in your Lordship's hands, and there we are safe; in other hands it might not be safe. He felt strongly upon this subject, and had perhaps spoken strongly, but he was glad that the first opportunity he had of speaking upon it was one where there were so many of those whom he respected present, both Clergy and Laity. (Great applause.)

Dr. LETT had no hesitation in agreeing to the suggestion to put in another name than that of Mr. Cameron. He had not taken up this position without consulting the most eminent counsel in the city, and that opinion was that we cannot transfer this power *en masse*, but must put individuals into these Rectories as they become vacant.

Hon. Mr. BOULTON thought that the Resolution which Mr. George Boulton had moved at a previous meeting, would come with more weight.

**Resolved**,—That a Committee of three Members of the Society be appointed to ascertain the Income of each Clergyman in the Diocese, from what source derived, (except from his own private property) and to report the same to a meeting of this Society in the month of May next, and that the Rev. D. E. Blake, the Secretary, and the mover, be such a Committee, in order that an appeal may be made to the Church at large for further support, and the Committee be authorized to apply to the Bishop for any information he can afford, to aid the Committee in their inquiry. He concurred with what had been so ably said by Mr. Cameron in regard to the construction of the Act of Parliament. He regretted that he could not agree with Dr. Lett upon the interpretation of it, as the interpretation of Mr. Cameron was the right and proper one. But inasmuch as it is important that in the exercise of these functions this Society should be in the possession of that information which the Legislative Council has moved for that should be procured. He should like, therefore, to see the motion divided, and that part of it which desires information he would support most cordially.

Rev. Mr. FULLER thought it would be better if the motion were divided, as some would vote for part of it, although not for all. With regard to that part which contemplates a Committee of enquiry into the state of the funds in this parish, that would be effected if they would wait until September, when the whole statistics would be laid before the Church through the medium of the Churchwardens, at that time.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON said he was just about to take that course, and would propose that the Resolution be divided, and that the first part read as follows:—"The further consideration of the By-law as to the future Patronage of the Rectories be postponed until the next Annual Meeting of this Society."

T. S. SNORT Esq. had much pleasure in seconding the amendment.

Hon. Mr. DEBLAQUIERE consented with the greatest possible pleasure to the change.

Dr. LETT reiterated his desire to obtain a legal opinion upon the question, and as Mr. Cameron had declined, he would insert Mr. Hagarty's name instead of Mr. Cameron's. If Mr. Cameron's amendment passed, they simply deferred action on the Rectories until September or October; but if this Resolution did not pass, they would be equally in the dark then as they are now, in regard to the legality of this question.—He had no objection, to go for a postponement of the consideration of the question until September, but he thought that in September they ought to

know whether or not they had the power to deal with the subject.

Rev. FRANCIS EVANS said, that Mr. Cameron's motion might have appended to it the words "and that in the meantime the Secretary be instructed to submit the question to some high legal authority for decision."

His LORDSHIP said he could not put such a motion to the meeting without making the observation that they had already got the best legal opinion in the province, and were they now to be told they must get some other and inferior persons opinion. If so they would stop all business. If it was the pleasure of the meeting he would put such a question, but his own mind was that it would be absurd to do so.

Dr. BOVELL said there was a Law framed by this Society, and Dr. Lett's motion was a violation of that Law.

Dr. LETT said, we have not Mr. Cameron's opinion before us, at all.

Mr. O'BRIEN rose to a point of order; the matter before his Lordship was the amendment of Mr. Cameron.

Mr. BOULTON begged leave to tell the learned Dr. that that amendment would not prevent them getting any information they desired. The motion of Dr. Lett was a substantive independent motion, and Mr. Cameron's was not properly an amendment upon it.

Rev. Mr. LEWIS said if this question was already brought before high legal opinion, it was strange that Dr. Lett should desire to have it submitted again. The Dr. seems to think that it was not taken into consideration at all by these gentlemen previous to their opinion being given.

Mr. CAMERON's amendment was then submitted to the meeting and passed without a division.

**Resolved**, That the said resolution be divided, and the first part read as follows:—"The further consideration of the By-Law as to the future consideration of the Rectories, be postponed until the next annual meeting of this Society."

Hon. Mr. DEBLAQUIERE said that the first part of the resolution having passed, they would now have to consider the second part of it. He concurred with the opinions of Mr. Cameron, because he did not think they militated against statements he had himself submitted. In the critical times in which we were living, he gave the hon. gentleman the greatest possible thanks for the manliness with which he has come forward. Every hour that passes, every event that occurs, shows us that no amount of prudence will ward off the dangers by which they are threatened, or enable the Church as a Church to make head against them. He wished to see all questions with them merged into one, that in the face of all objections they may come forward, as one man in the defence of the Church. In reference to a motion alluded to by a learned gentleman (Mr. H. Boulton) who has addressed the meeting, he would say that that resolution was put at a monthly meeting of this Society, without previous notice, and as a friend of order on that occasion, as he would on the present occasion, he stated that whatever was the object of that motion, being out of order, it ought not to be passed. That hon. gentleman (Mr. George Boulton) at the meeting in question distinctly stated that the return which your Lordship had made in compliance with the wishes, and for the information of the Church, as to the endowments of the Rectories was not correct. The hon. gentleman proceeded further and stated that some of the Rectors were in possession of large sums of money not included in those amounts, and his opinion was that the Church was not in possession of all the facts in reference to these endowments which they should have.

The meeting resisted that application and endeavored to get it made to your Lordship in a respectful manner to get that information. He (Mr. DeBlaquiere) was now enabled to state that it was not in his Lordship's power to give all the information desired except in the way he had named by the appointment of a committee. He did not feel that it was important to the Church that no objection be thrown in the way of inquiring into these Rectories. Your Lordship with a high and distinguished consistency has anticipated our wishes on this point. You have said that you wish to make a more equitable distribution of these Rectories. He would say that there are documents in this city containing the most ample and conclusive information,—public documents on the subject on which he was now addressing them. These documents contain all the information on that subject that can be desired, and if a resolution is agreed to, these persons will be ready to place them in the hands of a committee. He was sure that if his Lordship had the information it would be readily given, and he hinted that the hon. gentleman under whose influences they had divided this motion would concur in the observations he had made, which however feebly are honestly expressed. He was sure that were all the Hon. gentlemen in possession of the information on this subject, that he is in possession of, they would not hesitate to adopt the course he had pointed out, as it was absolutely necessary, in order to gain the information, that this resolution be adopted.

His LORDSHIP said that with reference to what passed at a former meeting, Mr. DeBlaquiere was right. It turned simply on a question of order. There had been no disposition on his own part, or on that of any member to hide the information from any part of the Diocese. He was desirous to give every information. There was no secrecy about anything that he did about the Church. He was quite willing that everything he did about the Church should be as open as the day. But it appeared to him that such information should not come to the Society; it should go to the Conference and for that purpose he wanted it.—So far as the Rectories go, he thought the Society had done perfectly correct. With regard, however, to the

emoluments and property of the Church, this is not the proper tribunal for that question. It must go to the Conference, or Convocation, and therefore he would be willing that a Committee of gentlemen be named to assist them on this point, that the whole statistics of the Church may be laid before the Conference.

Rev. Mr. CROXON said, with regard to the appointment of a Committee, such Committee should be only appointed to assist his Lordship to obtain this information. In the wording of the Resolution, it is said that, this Committee be empowered to do so and so. Now he thought that his Lordship alone had the power to ask for such information, and if his Lordship would undertake to obtain that information there was no reason why he should not obtain the assistance of those gentlemen named in the motion.

His LORDSHIP expressed his willingness to act with any gentlemen whom they might name.

Rev. Mr. CROXON then moved in effect: That his Lordship be requested to obtain such information concerning the Rectories as is necessary to lay before the Society.

Dr. BOVELL said, the very fact of the appointing a Committee would be assuming a power which they have already said this Society has not. This Society has no power to appoint a Committee for any such purpose. His Lordship if he chooses may write to these gentlemen and ask them to assist him; but he (Dr. Bovell) objected to these gentlemen taking upon themselves the power. If it had pleased Almighty God to put it into the hearts of some persons largely to endow the Church;—if the Rector of the parish of St. James be so well endowed as it is said to be,—the Rector alone is responsible to the Almighty for the distribution of that fund. No man has a right to enquire at that Rector what his income is, in order to ask him to divide it with his neighbour. He (Dr. B.) would leave the question with the Bishop of the Diocese alone, and leave it with the Rector to give the information he deemed necessary. He could not agree to the proposal before them.

Rev. Mr. ARDAGH rose to protest against the Resolution of Mr. DeBlaquiere, as it was directly aimed at the Rector of Toronto, however much had so plausibly been said upon the matter. As a Rector he would say that this Society has no power whatever to enquire into his Rector. And he denied that this Society had the power to appoint a Committee to enquire into his Rector. It was exceeding bad taste to bring forward that motion in the absence of his respected friend the Rector of Toronto. It was no matter, although Mr. Grasett had a salary of ten thousand a year, he could defy this Society from asking a single farthing from him. He had made enquiry into this subject, and knew from a correct source that the statements made about Mr. Grasett's salary are totally unfounded. He had himself examined Mr. Grasett's books and found that the rumoured salary was at least double what the real salary was. He therefore objected to the course marked out, as it only furnished a plausible method to attack Mr. Grasett.

Dr. BOVELL did not believe that the gentleman who made the motion had the slightest wish to attack the Rector of Toronto.

Rev. Mr. FULLER said, as there were many important matters of business to come before the meeting, he thought the objects of the Society would be served if the gentleman would consent to withdraw his motion. More particularly, as his Lordship had stated, that the fuller information would be given at the conference.

Hon. Mr. BOULTON said he would just read from the minutes of the Society what took place at the meeting to which he had already alluded. He then read the following Resolution:—

**Resolved**—That a Committee of three members of this Society be appointed to ascertain the Income of each Clergyman in the Diocese, from what source derived, (except from his own private property) and to report the same to a Meeting of this Society, in the month of May next, and that the Rev. D. E. Blake, the Secretary, and the mover, be such a Committee, in order that an appeal may be made to the Church at large for further support, and the Committee be authorized to apply to the Bishop for any information he can afford to aid the Committee in their inquiry.

To which an amendment was made that the Bishop be requested to furnish the Society with a tabular statement of the incomes of the Clergy of the Diocese. This amendment was lost.

COL. O'BRIEN said—Your Lordship has pledged yourself to give the fullest information to the Synodical Meeting in September. Was it fair, then, under such circumstances, to name any Committee at all. He thought that gentleman might be ashamed to do so.

Mr. Sheriff JARVIS said, the subject should be enquired into, as there are persons whose interests are concerned in it as well as the Rectors. He trusted that the matter would not be allowed to rest. If his Lordship should take it in hand, then the parties who have interested themselves in the matter will be satisfied. He was authorized to say that if this Meeting will attempt to quash an investigation which has been going on for a considerable time, and by which a large amount of information has been received, they will be very much mistaken. (Hear, hear.) He was not inclined to give to individuals powers which they did not possess, and if the question were to rest the Rectories in future Bishops after his Lordship, he would most decidedly have opposed it. Neither did he wish to interfere in matters where they had no control. But he would say that this subject will be most closely and fully investigated, and a report will be made to the proper authority. (Hear, hear.)

Rev. Mr. PALMER would say in the name of the Rectors of this Diocese that they have no desire to evade any enquiry into the amount of the incomes they derive from their Rectories. If any one is found to be excessive, he was sure they would be most willing to agree to any arrangements which the Church deemed it necessary to make. And although the Church Society has not power to carry into effect any new arrangement, an application to Parliament by His Lordship would secure the necessary power to see such arrangement carried into effect.

Mr. Sheriff Jarvis requested that the Honourable gentleman would withdraw his motion to allow the business of the meeting to go on.

Hon. Mr. DEBLAQUIERE was satisfied that his Lordship having made the declaration the matter would be attended to. He would only say as to the power of this meeting, an incorporated Church Society, not to have power to enquire into everything connected with these matters appeared to him to involve a complete absurdity. In reference to the meeting of the Church he entirely concurred with his Lordship that it would be far better when the Church meets as a Church, that such grave questions as this be fairly and fully discussed before that body, because he considered this Society is wisely organized to attend to the support of the Church. But the Church except under his Lordship's superintendance is without the power to support herself. At this moment when the Church is surrounded with enemies without and within who desire to do her hurt, it is the duty of every individual belonging to that Church to endeavour to do what will secure the union and co-operation of all her members. If the Church meets under his Lordship's superintendance, in September next without previously eliciting all the information on this subject which can be obtained, a most uncomfortable and irrelevant discussion will arise, and it might draw the attention of the Church from the important question of its temporalities to the far greater one of how far under such circumstances as they are now surrounded by, it would be right that she should exist as a Church at all. (hear hear) Observations had been made as to the motives for this enquiry, he could speak for himself that his only desire was the prosperity of the Church. He would however at present willingly withdraw his motion, with the consent of the meeting.

The resolution was accordingly withdrawn, and the meeting proceeded to consider the special report of the Committee on the By-Laws.

Rev. Dr. LETT felt some difficulty in presenting himself to the Society upon this subject. At the General Meeting, held in November last, to take into consideration the question of the disposal of the patronage of the Rectories, one of the Clergy men made use of the expression that, the Church Society was not taking hold of the Laity of the country, which the Society situated as it was can do, a Society which has been well designated the "handmaid of the Church." It struck him that it would be well that they saw where the fault lay, for he had considered the constitution of the Society, he had read the speeches delivered when it was first originated, and with great delight he saw that it was capable of doing much good. He set about, therefore, to see where the deficiency lay, and he was forced to conclude that it was in the Clergy where the deficiency lay. He applied to his Lordship for a Committee to investigate the workings of the Society for the three years then past, and he would admit that he was not prepared to find that the Church Society was so little supported throughout the country;—that in some parishes it was little known;—that in other parishes it was made use of not as a Catholic instrument to do good to the Church at large, but as a local instrument for local purposes. He found that in many cases, large sums of money were collected for the Church Society which were expended in beautifying and painting Churches, and that nothing was sent to the Society to carry on the work for which it was constituted, viz.: Missionary work, the extension of the Missionary cause throughout Canada. That investigation showed that there were only eleven Parishes throughout the whole of this great Diocese, in which for the three years past, the Church society was fully carried out in all its requirements. Therefore, it was resolved by that Committee to submit for the consideration of the Society the important principle that, those who desire to benefit by the Society must conform to all its rules in order to be entitled to that aid. He thought this was a sound principle. It is a principle every other Society endeavours to act upon, and yet we have gentlemen connected with this Society who have done nothing for it at all as yet. He would here state how deeply indebted he was to the gentlemen who worked on that Committee with him, and in the hope that that Meeting will see the propriety of enforcing this rule, he would move his first Resolution:—

That in Article XVIII of the Constitution of the Church Society, in the 28th line after the word respectively, the following words be introduced, and do form part of said Article, that the full sum of one pound five shillings for each duly recognized clergyman within the district, or in case of life membership the sum of £12 10s.

A lengthened but rather desultory discussion then ensued on the amount which should be fixed for Life-Membership and the amount of annual subscription to the Society. Dr. Beaven moved that the sum for life membership be £42 10s. Dr. Bovell seconded the amendment. The following letter from Hugh C. Baker, Esq., who had been suddenly called off from the meeting was read.

Ellah's Hotel, June 3, 1853.

My dear Sir:—

Being unable to break into a fourth day by attending the adjourned meeting of the Church Society this afternoon, I must leave my