

of the Church; and we do acknowledge the authority of the canons and constitutions of the Church, in so far as they are of force in England, and as the existing circumstances of the Church in this Diocese permit, until they shall have been altered by the Synod of this Province lawfully convened, in which this Diocese shall have been duly represented.

COLOMBO.

VI.—APPOINTMENTS BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Moved by the Rev. W. F. Kelly,
Seconded by Capt. Byrde,

That the Lord Bishop of the Diocese be respectfully requested to forward the above Declaration to His Excellency the Governor, for transmission to the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and to beg that his Excellency will be pleased to communicate to the Secretary of State the earnest and humble request of this Synod that every appointment to any ecclesiastical office in this Diocese be made in future upon the undertaking of the person so appointed to sign the Declaration in Ceylon.

VII.—APPOINTMENT OF FUTURE BISHOPS.

Moved by the Rev. W. Ellis,
Second by J. H. Tennekoon, Esq.,

That the Lord Bishop be respectfully requested to transmit a copy of the Declaration to the Most Reverend the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, and to the Right Rev. the Metropolitan of India, with a view to secure that any ecclesiastic hereafter nominated to this See be appointed on the distinct undertaking that he will sign the Declaration in Ceylon before his enthronement.

VIII.—ORDINATION OR EMPLOYMENT OF CLERGY.

Moved by the Rev. Warden Bennett,
Seconded by Dr. Willisford,

That the Lord Bishop of the Diocese be respectfully requested to require all candidates for Holy Orders, and all applicants for employment in this Diocese, prior to their being ordained or licensed, their acceptance of, and signature to, the above Declaration, as an act of agreement and contract between the said applicants and the Bishop for and on behalf of the Church of this Diocese.

Provided, however, that the enforcement of this resolution in the case of licences of certain clerks in Holy Orders be contingent on the approval by the Secretary of State of Resolution VI.

Enclosure 2 in No. 11.

Encl. 2 in No. 11.

HON. SIR,

Newera Ellia, December 5, 1865.

I FORWARD two copies of proceedings of the Synod to your Excellency. One for your own perusal, and the other to be forwarded to the Secretary of State.

First, the points I would draw your Excellency's attention to are, first,—the three resolutions under one heading, "Status of Synod," which I feel sure will vindicate the Synod from any charge of setting itself above the law, whilst its claims are, to the letter, in accordance with the late Duke of Newcastle's despatch.

Secondly, the resolution No. 6; asking your Excellency to communicate to the Secretary of State our request that he will require any clergy appointed directly from home to chaplaincies to sign the Declaration on their arrival in Ceylon.

This requires some explanation. The Declaration does not pledge such clergy to anything not already required from them; but we are advised that if a clergyman departing from his ordination vows were to be proceeded against in the Ceylon courts, they would take cognizance only of engagements made in that Colony.

It is only on this understanding that the resolution passed the Synod, and this also applies to Resolution 8, which they wished to be ruled by the same principle, though the case of Colonial Chaplains is not there contemplated, but that of other clergy, such as missionaries, coming for employment into this Diocese.

Third, Your Excellency will observe that the Synod does not affect to create a separate Church of Ceylon, but simply acknowledges a Diocese of the Church of England, in the Province, indeed, not of Canterbury, but of Calcutta, the Metropolitan See.

I should, as President, have repressed any attempt on the part of the Synod (had such been made) to constitute a separate and independent Church.

I need only further assure your Excellency of the entire loyalty of all our proceedings to the principle of the Queen's supremacy; and I can answer for my clerical and lay brethren, that if, in ignorance, we should in any particular have exceeded our powers, we should be perfectly willing, on proper advice, in such particular to amend our proceedings.

I have, &c.

His Excellency the Governor.

(Signed) PIERS COLOMBO.