

too sadly shows, will not be for the majesty and holiness of truth, but for selfish aims and party dominancy. They must produce a hampered and divided administration of the Church's general interests; create and prolong a divided authority; and render our parish vestries a standing battle-ground for opposing parties, leading to the extinction of a healthful spiritual life amongst them.

These adverse organizations, with their baneful consequences, bring upon any Bishop fearful responsibilities. To one late in the evening of life, when peace is a boon so precious, these are of inexpressible weight. While shrinking myself from a course that would make this responsibility a burden upon the conscience as well as a distress to the mind, I should shun it the more because of the probable near termination of my administrative work. In this contemplation, I could not bequeath to my successor a course of action which might prove to him a serious embarrassment at the outset of his onerous duties.

We are, too, without a precedent in the Dioceses of this Dominion for the rival and conflicting agencies which are sought to be imposed upon us here. Great Britain and Ireland, without suppression of free religious thought or trammels on the conscience, could supply more than twenty thousand clergymen from three universities; we cannot need two, in a single Diocese, for the education of less than two hundred. We must not uphold the anomaly, if it be thrust upon us, means that we consider reckless and revolutionary. We must adhere to the line of duty, though others unhappily swerve from it.

The lapse of four years has deepened the convictions which have constrained me to address these words to you. Much as I wish that the influence of those eventful years had been to bring others to the cultivation of peace and harmonious action, and to unite in keeping this Diocese in its once undisturbed integrity; yet, if they refuse this wise and dutiful course, we must ourselves loyally and honestly adhere to it.

I shall trespass no further on your time and attention; but I shall express my hope and belief that, conflicting as on some points the opinions and utterances of members of the Synod may be, I shall be able, at the close of this session, to express, as in years past, my congratulations and satisfaction on the temper of Christian forbearance and brotherly kindness by which its discussions have been, on the whole, characterized.

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#### ELECTION OF HONORARY SECRETARIES, AND SECRETARY-TREASURER.

Moved by Rev. Rural Dean Lett, D.D. seconded by Rev. Canon Ritchie,—

That the Rev. A. J. Broughall, M.A. be re-elected Honorary Clerical Secretary for the ensuing year.—*Carried.*

Moved by Mr. Alderman Boswell, seconded by Mr. A. McLean Howard,—

That Mr. Huson W. M. Murray be elected Honorary Lay Secretary.

Moved by Mr. W. Magrath, seconded by Col. R. B. Denison,—

That Dr. J. George Hodgins be elected Honorary Lay Secretary. On a vote being taken, Mr. Murray was declared duly elected.

Moved by the Chancellor, seconded by Rev. Canon Givins,—

That Mr. W. P. Atkinson be re-elected Secretary-Treasurer.—*Carried.*

#### READING OF MINUTES OF 1876.

On motion of the Registrar of the Diocese, the reading of the minutes was dispensed with.