

long been declared to be impossible could be without difficulty accomplished, and the first Colonial See was erected, and Charles Inglis was consecrated the first Bishop, August 12th, 1787. Little would any one have then imagined what would be the extent of that Episcopate at the end of the first Century of its existence, that we should have 72 Colonial and 10 Missionary Bishops, there being altogether in the American and Colonial Episcopate over 150 Bishops. We may indeed with thankfulness and wonder, say, "What hath God wrought," this being an indication of the growth of the Church and the extension of the kingdom of Christ. And the greater part of this increase has taken place within the latter part of the century, for when Her Majesty ascended the throne there were only eight Colonial or Missionary Bishoprics: two in British North America; two in the West Indies; three in India, and one in Australia; whereas now there are eighty-two; so that if there should be the same ratio of increase for the next fifty years there would be over eight hundred Bishops; but this is not to be expected; for many of these Bishoprics ought to have been constituted at a much earlier date, and the newly awakened energy of Churchmen has had, in the first place, to supply the defects in the action of our forefathers, and the greater part of the British Empire has now been occupied by the Church, and committed to the care of some of her chief pastors. The centennial of the consecration of the first Bishop for the United States was celebrated three years ago; and doubtless, the Colonial Centennial will receive due attention, from our brethren in England. The great Venerable Society, more immediately interested, and to which the Colonial Church is so deeply indebted for its growth, (and we may say indeed for its existence through its early stages) is prepared to take the lead in this matter; but when I was in England I was met with the apprehension that the celebration of the Jubilee would interfere with the Church celebration, which would otherwise be joyfully observed with all possible demonstrations of thankfulness. Moreover with reference to any large gathering of Colonial Bishops in London, the source and centre of all missionary enterprise, it was suggested that the following year 1888 being the probable date of another Lambeth Conference, there would probably be a very inadequate representation in 1887. The authorities of the Mother Church will doubtless make the best arrangements that may be practicable for the fitting commemoration of the conclusion of the first Centenary of the existence of the Colonial Episcopate to which she has so largely contributed, and which has extended her order and influence, her doctrine and discipline, even to the ends of the earth, but as this is the original Diocese we ought ourselves to mark the year beginning the 12th of next month, and ending August 12th, 1887. How this can most fitly be done, I leave for the consideration of this Synod.

I hope that the change in our day of meeting will prove to be