

able indications of piety and talents, that the main design of this Institution may be secured—the preparation of young men for the Ministry of our Church.

The Synod agreed to re-transmit the Draft of the Form of Procedure in the calling and settling of Ministers, to Presbyteries, for their consideration, and instructed them to send up their opinions thereon to the next meeting of Synod; and, in the meantime, did, and hereby do, convert the same into an Interim Act for one year. And the Synod, further, instructed Presbyteries, in connection with this matter, to take into their consideration, and report to next meeting of Synod, as to whether, and how far, it may be proper for Presbyteries, in the exercise of a wise discretion, to relax, in the case of *new congregations*, that law of the Church (July 1846—Act XXI) which requires that there shall be at least Forty families adhering to this Church, in a Congregation, before the Pastoral relation can be formed.

The Synod agreed to call the attention of the Presbyteries and Sessions anew to the necessity for a stricter observance of the Law of this Church (Act XVIII) “anent greater punctuality in the electing of Representative Elders by Sessions”—which is as follows:—“*Kingston, July 5th, 1845.* Whereas many of the Kirk Sessions connected with the Synod are very neglectful of their duty in returning Representative Elders to the Church Courts, the Synod enjoin Sessions to use greater diligence in this matter, and instruct Presbyteries to employ all competent means to secure a compliance with this injunction on the part of Sessions;—And the Synod, further, enact that all Representative Elders shall be elected within two months after the annual meeting of Synod, to attend the meetings of the Presbytery of the bounds, and the ensuing annual meeting of the Synod; that in case of death or demission, a new election shall be made within one month of the same; and that the extract minutes of such elections, duly certified, shall be laid on the Tables of Presbyteries at their first ordinary meeting after such elections shall have taken place.”

The Synod agreed to re-transmit the proposed Act of last year, anent the Status of Retired Ministers, to Presbyteries, that they may send up their opinions thereon to the next meeting of this Synod, which they are hereby strictly enjoined to do;—and the Synod, in the meantime, converted the same into an Interim Act, for one year,—as follows:—

“The Synod, having fully considered the Overture anent the status of retired Ministers, decree that, agreeably to the views of this Church respecting the permanency of the Pastoral relation, when a Minister becomes unfit, through age or infirmity, for the discharge of his pastoral duties, the case shall be referred to the Presbytery of the bounds for examination and judgment, and if it shall appear that the facts are as stated, the Presbytery shall meet with the congregation, and declare