

finding him qualified, to admit him to the ministry in the said congregation. 3. But if it happen that the major part of the congregation dissent from the person agreed upon by the session, in that case the matter shall be brought unto the presbytery, who shall judge of the same; and if they do not find their dissent to be grounded upon causeless prejudices, they are to appoint a new election, in manner above specified. 4. But if a lesser part of the session or congregation shew their dissent from the election, without exceptions relevant and verified to the presbytery, notwithstanding thereof, the presbytery shall go on to the trials and ordination of the person elected; yet all possible diligence and tenderness must be used to bring all persons to an harmonious agreement. 5. It is to be understood, that no person under the censure of the kirk, because of any scandalous offence, is to be admitted to have hand in the election of a minister.

The plan that shall best combine the twofold object of maintaining the members of the church in possession of the right of election, and at the same time arrange things in such a way as to regard the interests of all the different classes connected with the congregation, seems the best entitled to our adoption. The Kirk session of East Toronto, while they are decidedly for preserving the right of election in the members of the church, suggest that all classes be asked to subscribe an adherence to the call. One of the brethren has suggested that in every case where the members of the church are left in a minority, the matter should be submitted to the Presbytery, to do, under all the circumstances of the case, as may seem best for the interests of the church.

Some such plan as this might perhaps answer. Let the nomination be placed in the elders and majority of the members of the congregation, with injunctions from the church to consult all, and use their utmost exertions to satisfy the minds of all, in the steps they take. When they have looked out for and fix-

ed upon the person, let them call a general meeting of all interested, and get the concurrence of all, or at least of a majority.

By the church's taking care by means of a proper superintendence that sessions and members of congregations adopted a judicious and conciliatory course in securing the concurrence of all, it is hoped that in practice, collision would seldom arise; while the retaining the right of nomination in the hands of the session and members of the church, for which we have a precedent in our standards, would be a check against danger, and where division might arise, the Presbytery would act as a balancing power. A constitution upon this plan was unanimously agreed to by the congregation at New-market, and it may be observed that several congregations have at once agreed to vest the right of election exclusively in church members.

2. With respect to the election of Elders, all seem pretty much agreed that the session should *nominate*—the congregation *elect*—that is, either the members of the church, or all classes, according to the different opinions entertained respecting the qualification of voters in the election of the minister.

3. Regarding the management of the temporal department of the church, it seems to be the general opinion of the brethren, that it is expedient, when practicable, to keep the management of the spiritual and temporal departments distinct. Some think, however, that all the managers should be members—others that all classes of the congregation should be equally eligible.

On this subject, concurring as I do in the main with the views respecting the continuance of the office of deacons in the church, so well discussed in the last number of the Christian Examiner, I am