

VIII. ECCLESIASTICAL PROCEDURE, &c.

Under this head were included Ecclesiastical Procedure, Synodical Functions and Business, Standing Orders for the conduct of business in the Church Courts, Regulations anent the Records of Church Courts, the Formula and Questions to office-bearers, and admission of Ministers from other Churches.

These several matters were entrusted to a Sub-committee, whose Report was, after certain changes had been made, adopted as the recommendation of the Committee, and is as follows:—

I. That the questions to be put to office-bearers at their Ordination or Induction be—

1. Do you believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God and the only infalible rule of faith and manners?

2. Do you believe the Westminster Confession of Faith as adopted by this Church in the Basis of Union, to be founded on and agreeable to the Word of God, and in your teaching will you faithfully adhere thereto?

3. Do you believe the Government of this Church by Sessions, Presbyteries, Synods, and General Assemblies to be founded on and agreeable to the Word of God, and do you engage as a minister of this Church to maintain and defend the same?

4. Do you own the purity of worship at present authorized by this Church, and will you conform thereto?

5. Do you promise to give a dutiful attendance in the Courts of this Church, to submit yourself in the spirit of meekness to the admonitions of this Presbytery, to be subject to it and the superior judicatories, to follow no divisive course, but maintain according to your power the unity and peace of the Church.

6. Are zeal for the glory of God, love to the Lord Jesus Christ, and desire of saving souls, so far as you know your own heart, your great motives and chief inducements to enter the office of the holy ministry.

7. Have you directly or indirectly used any undue means to procure this call?

8. Do you engage in the strength and grace of the Lord Jesus Christ to live a holy and circumspect life, to rule well your own house, and faithfully and diligently to discharge all the duties of the ministry to the edification of the body of Christ?

QUESTIONS TO BE PUT TO CANDIDATES FOR LICENSE TO PREACH THE GOSPEL.

Numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, as above.

5. Do you engage in the strength and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ to live a holy and circumspect life, and faithfully to preach the gospel, as you may have opportunity?

6. Do you promise to submit yourself in the Lord to the several judicatories of this Church?