

interest in the Missions of the Free Church of Scotland to the Jews and the Heathens, as they have been so manifestly owned and prospered by the great Head of the Church; and being at the same time desirous to express their gratitude to that Church for what she has done for the cause of God throughout this land, and the encouragement and upholding of this Church by various deputations of able and faithful ministers, and by large offerings towards the education of students and the support of Missionaries.—recommend to all Ministers and Sessions to make an annual collection for the Foreign Missions of the Free Church of Scotland; such collection being one of the stated collections of the Church, and to be for the current year made on the first Sabbath in September, or the earliest convenient Sabbath thereafter and within the said month. And the Synod further recommend, that Ministers do, on the Sabbath previous to such collection, direct the attention of the people at once to the duty of labouring and praying for the enlargement and prosperity of Zion and of thanksgiving to the Lord for what he hath wrought in these our times, and is still doing through the Churches that are witnessing faithfully for his Crown and Covenant.

The Synod appoint John Redpath, Esquire, Montreal, to be General Treasurer for receiving and remitting the collections thus made in Scotland; and the Synod also remit to the Commission to take such steps for addressing the people on the duty and privilege of making liberal offerings for this and the other Christian enterprises in which the Church is engaged, as to the Commission may seem expedient.

XV. Respecting Collections for the Schemes of the Church.

The Synod agreed to renew the injunction passed at the third Session of October last,—the annual collections in behalf of Home Missions, the College, and the Synod Fund, such collections with the collection for the Missions of the Free Church to be made, as far as practicable, in all congregations, according to the following Scheme:

Collection for Foreign Missions of Free Church of Scotland, September 7th, 1845.

Collection for the Presbyterian's Home Mission Funds, December 7th, 1845.

Collection for the Theological College, March 1st, 1846.

Collection for the Synod Fund, May 31st, 1845.

XVI. Formula and Questions for Ministers, Elders, Deacons and Probationers.

FORMULA

TO BE SIGNED BY MINISTERS, ELDERS, DEACONS, AND PROBATIONERS.

I, ———, do hereby declare that I do sincerely own and believe the whole Doctrine contained in the Westminster Confession of Faith, as approved by the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, in the year one thousand six hundred and forty-seven, to be the truths of God, and I do own the purity of worship presently authorized and practised in this Church, and also the Presbyterian Government and Discipline thereof: which Doctrine, Worship, and Church Government I am persuaded are founded on the Word of God and are agreeable thereto: and I promise that, through the grace of God, I shall firmly and constantly adhere to the same, and to the utmost of my power shall in my station assert, maintain, and defend the said Doctrine, Worship, Discipline, and Government of this Church, by Sessions, Presbyteries, and Synods: that I shall, in my practice, conform myself to the said Worship, and submit to the said Discipline and Government, and never endeavour directly or indirectly the prejudice or subversion of the same: and I promise that I shall follow no divisive course from the present order in the Church: renouncing all Doctrines, Tenets, and opinions whatsoever contrary to or inconsistent with the said Doctrine,

Worship, Discipline or Government of the Church.

QUESTIONS TO BE PUT TO A MINISTER AT HIS ORINATION.

1 Do you believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be the word of God, and the only rule of faith and manners?

2 Do you sincerely own and believe the whole doctrine contained in the Confession of Faith, approved by the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, in the year 1617, to be founded upon the Word of God, and do you acknowledge the same as the confession of your faith, and will you firmly and constantly adhere thereto, and to the utmost of your power assert, maintain, and defend the same and the purity of worship as presently practised in this Church.

3 Do you disown all Popish, Arian, Socinian, Arminian, Erastian, and other doctrines, tenets, and opinions whatsoever, contrary to or inconsistent with the theforeaid Confession of Faith?

4 Believing, as you declare, that the Lord Jesus is King and Head of the Church, hath therein appointed a government in the hand of church officers distinct from the civil magistrate, are you resolved to maintain, and that, at all hazards, that in the administration of spiritual things, the church is bound to act ministerially under Christ her head, as responsible in such administration to him alone, while, in all things secular and civil, her officers and members are subject to the laws and rules that govern civil society?

5 Are you persuaded that the Presbyterian government and discipline of this Church are founded upon the Word of God, and agreeable thereto, and do you promise to submit to the said government and discipline, and to concur with the same, and never to endeavour, directly or indirectly, the prejudice or subversion thereof, but to the utmost of your power, in your station, to maintain, support, and defend the said discipline and Presbyterian government by Sessions, Presbyteries, and Synods, during all the days of your life?

6 Are you persuaded that the pastoral relation can be legitimately founded only on the free choice and consent of the people?

7 Do you promise to submit yourself willingly and humbly, in the spirit of meekness, unto the administrations of the brethren of this presbytery, and to be subject to them and all other presbyteries, and the superior judicatory of this Church, where God in his providence shall cast your lot: and that according to your power you will maintain the unity and peace of this church against error and schism, notwithstanding of whatever trouble or persecution may arise, and that you shall follow no divisive course from the present doctrine, worship, discipline, and government of his church?

8 Are not zeal for the honour of God, love to Jesus Christ, and desire of saving souls, your great motives and chief inducements to enter into the functions of the Holy Ministry, and set worldly designs and interests?

9 Have you used any undue methods, either by yourself or others in procuring this call?

10 Do you engage, in the strength and grace of Jesus Christ our Lord and Master, to rule well your own family, to live a holy and circumspect life, and faithfully, diligently, and cheerfully to discharge all the parts of the ministerial work, to the edification of the body of Christ?

11 Do you accept of and close with the call to be pastor of this church, and promise through grace to perform all the duties of a faithful minister of the gospel among this people?

QUESTIONS TO BE PUT TO PROBATIONERS.

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6, the same as the foregoing.

7 Do you promise that you will subject yourself to the several judicatories of this church, and are you willing to subscribe to these things?

QUESTIONS TO BE PUT TO AN ELDER.

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6, the same as the foregoing.

7 Do you accept of the office of an elder of this

church, and promise through grace, faithfully, diligently, and cheerfully, to discharge the duties thereof.

QUESTIONS TO BE PUT TO A DEACON.

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6, the same as the foregoing.

7 Do you accept of the office of a Deacon of this church, and promise through grace, faithfully, diligently, and cheerfully, to discharge the duties thereof.

The Synod ordained that the aforesaid Formula and Questions, shall be used by Presbyteries at the licensing of Probationers and the Ordination and admission of Ministers, and by Sessions at the ordination and admission of Elders and Deacons.

XVII. Commission of Synod, and meetings thereof.

The Synod appointed the following Members to be their Commission for the ensuing year, to attend to the business referred to them, and watch over the general interest of the church, viz.:

FROM THE PRESBYTERY OF MONTREAL.—Messrs Thomas Henry and John Clugston, Ministers, and Mr. Redpath, Elder.

FROM THE PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.—Messrs Mark Y. Stark, Alexander Gale, George Cheyne, John Bayne, Angus Mackintosh, George Smellie, Ministers. Mr. William McMillan, Mr. John Colville, Mr. William Kyle, Mr. Allan Henderson, Elders.

FROM THE PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.—The Moderator, Messrs. William Rintoul, James Harris. Mr. J. H. Westland, Mr. John Embleton, Elders.

FROM THE PRESBYTERY OF CORBURG.—Messrs. James Douglass, John M. Roger, Thomas Alexander, William Reid, Ministers. Mr. Andrew Jeffrey, Mr. Robert Johnston, Elders.

FROM THE PRESBYTERY OF KNOX.—Messrs. Robert Boyd, Henry Gordon, James Rogers, Ministers. Mr. Robert Campbell Elder.

The Synod appointed the Commission to meet in Knox's Church, Toronto, on the 2nd July next, at 12 o'clock noon. In the Church at Kingston, on the 1st of October next, at 12 noon. In the Church at Hamilton, on the 14th January next, at 12 noon, and in Knox's Church, Toronto, on the 6th May next, at 12 noon.

The Synod agreed to refer to the Commission, the overture for a Pastoral Letter, and an overture respecting disputes about Church Property.

XVIII. Home Mission Committee, and meetings thereof.

The Synod appointed the following General Home Mission Committee, for the ensuing year, namely.—Mr. Gale, (Convener), of Synod the Moderator & Clerk, Messrs. Stark, Bayne, Mackintosh, Smellie, Harris, Alexander, Reid, Boyd, Gordon, Clark, Clugston, Ministers, and Mr. McMillan, Mr. Kyle, Mr. Jeffrey, Mr. Redpath, Elders.

The Synod appointed the General Home Mission Committee, to hold stated meetings in the places where the Commission are appointed to meet, and immediately at the close of the ordinary meetings of Commission, with power of adjournment.

XIX. Respecting the preparation of a Testimony to be issued by this Synod.

The Synod having called for the report of the committee appointed to prepare the draft of a Testimony, and having heard the statement of the convener of the progress made by the committee thereon, approved of their diligence, and reappointed the committee with instructions to complete the draft, and submit the same when finished to the Commission, in order that it may be the more fully matured for the consideration of the Synod at next meeting.