

Widows' Fund Scheme, the Synod appoint Mr. Osborne, Mr. McLellan, Mr. Ferrier, Mr. John Burns, Mr. Blain, elders; Mr. Harris, Mr. Robb, Mr. Cheyne, Mr. McLean, ministers, Mr. Osborne to be Convener, a Committee with instructions to them to communicate with congregations through their respective office-bearers, and endeavour to interest and engage them in measures for providing for the families of ministers through Life Assurance Societies.

On motion made and seconded, it was agreed

That Dr. Willis, Dr. Burns, (Convener) Mr. Wightman and Mr. Gale, be a Committee for drafting an address to Her Majesty's Government, earnestly deprecating the proposed change in the law of Marriage, in Great Britain.

Mr. Bayne, in name of the Committee on Mr. Peden's case, produced a draft, and the same having been read, the Synod decreed and ordained in terms thereof.

The Synod, having considered the reference from the Presbytery of London, in the case of the Rev. Robert Peden, minister of Amherstburgh, sustain the reference, find that it is the doctrine of this Church. *First*, That "the Lord Jesus, by his perfect obedience and sacrifice of himself, which he, through the Eternal Spirit, once offered up unto God, hath fully satisfied the justice of His Father, and purchased not only reconciliation but an everlasting inheritance in the kingdom of heaven for all those whom the Father hath given unto him." And that "to all those for whom Christ hath purchased redemption, He doth certainly and effectually apply and communicate the same." *Second*, That those whom God hath predestinated unto life, and those only, He is pleased in His appointed and accepted time, effectually to call by His word and Spirit, out of that state of sin and death in which they are by nature, to grace and salvation by Jesus Christ; enlightening their minds spiritually and savingly to understand the things of God, taking away their heart of stone and giving unto them a heart of flesh; renewing their wills and by His Almighty power determining them to that which is good, and effectually drawing them to Jesus Christ; yet, so, as they come most freely, being made willing in the day of His grace. That the effectual call is of God's free and special grace alone, not from any thing at all foreseen in man, who is altogether passive therein, until being quickened and renewed by the Holy Spirit, he is thereby enabled to answer this call and to embrace the grace offered and conveyed in it. *Third*, That the grace of faith whereby the elect are enabled to believe to the saving of their souls, is the work of the Spirit of Christ on their hearts, and is ordinarily wrought by the ministry of the word; and, that the principal acts of saving faith are, accepting, receiving and resting upon Christ alone for justification, sanctification and eternal life, by virtue of the covenant of grace.

Further, The Synod find that the said Robert Peden, holds and avows opinions at direct variance with the aforesaid doctrines, subversive of the fundamental truths of the gospel, and fitted to prove injurious to the souls of men, and, in particular, that he holds

1st. That Christ made atonement in the same sense for all mankind, thereby denying Christ's covenant relation to His people, and effectual satisfaction to justice on their behalf.

2nd. That the fallen sinner does not require a special subjective work of the Holy Spirit in his heart, to enable him to believe in Christ to the saving of his soul.

3rd. That the work of the Spirit in enabling a sinner to believe in Christ unto salvation, is the same in nature and energy, with that which takes place in the heart of a sinner, who resists the Spirit and remains in unbelief and a state of enmity towards God.

4th. That faith is a mere intellectual act, and that in a sense which is inconsistent with the doctrine, that saving faith implies a vital spiritual principle in

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