

AT a Meeting of the Proprietors, Pew-holders, and Members of the SCOTCH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, St. Peter Street, Montreal, (commonly called ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH,) called by notice from the Pulpit and Precentor's Desk, held in the Church, on Wednesday the 12th May, 1835, the following ARTICLES were proposed and adopted as the Laws and Constitution of said Church:—

ARTICLE I.—This Church and Congregation, now in connection with the Established Church of Scotland, and adhering to the Standards thereof, declare, that they shall continue to adhere to said Standards, and maintain the form of Worship and Government of said Established Church.

ARTICLE II.—The House, erected for public worship, commonly called St. Andrew's Church, and the ground on which it is erected, acquired by Alexander Rea and William Hunter, by virtue of a certain deed, or instrument in writing, passed before Gray and Barron, N. P. of date, Third May, 1805, for the behoof of the Congregation of said Church, shall, according to the declaration of said Alex. Rea and Wm. Hunter, of date 14th July, 1800, made before the aforesaid Notaries, with all the other property which belongs or which may hereafter belong to the said Church and Congregation, be held by Trustees and their Successors forever, for the sole benefit and behoof of said Church and Congregation, and for no other purpose whatever.

OF TRUSTEES.

ARTICLE III.—The Rev. Alexander Mathieson, Minister of said Church, John Smith, Wm. Hunter, William Ritchie, Donald McKay, and James Fleming, and their Successors forever, shall be constituted Trustees of St. Andrew's Church, Montreal, and shall have a perpetual succession—four to form a quorum.

ARTICLE IV.—When any vacancy or vacancies shall happen in said Trust, by death or removal, or change of residence of any of the Members thereof, from the district of Montreal, or otherwise, the said vacancy or vacancies shall be supplied as follows:—When a vacancy shall happen, by the death or removal, or change of residence or otherwise, of the Minister, the same shall be supplied by his Successor, Minister of said Church. And when a vacancy or vacancies by the death, or removal, or change of residence, or otherwise, of the aforesaid Trustees, other than the Minister, and of their Successors from time to time, the same shall be supplied by such person or persons who shall be qualified, and elected by a majority of qualified voters, at a meeting called for that purpose, as hereafter mentioned.

ARTICLE V.—Proprietors not in arrear of rent and in full communion with the Church, shall only be eligible as Trustees: and Proprietors, of not less than one year, not in arrear of rent, shall only be entitled to vote in the election of Trustees. This resolution not to affect the persons named as Trustees in Article III., while they continue as such; but in case of a new election, to be in full force.

ARTICLE VI.—When a vacancy or vacancies shall happen in the aforesaid Trust, other than in respect of the Minister of the Church for the time being, the Minister, within six calendar months from the time of such vacancy happening, or as soon afterwards as the resident Trustees may deem necessary, shall, by notice from the pulpit, on two successive Sabbaths, call a meeting of the Proprietors, (not in arrear of rent) to assemble in the Church at a convenient hour on a day, not exceeding ten days after the day of such publication, for the purpose of supplying such vacancy or vacancies by electing a person or persons who shall be qualified, as mentioned in Article V., at which meeting the Minister, if not prevented by illness or some other cause, shall preside; and if so prevented, the senior of the other Members of said Trust shall preside. The President to have the casting vote. The members of the aforesaid Trust shall cease to be members thereof if they shall cease to be members of the Church, by becoming members of any other Church or Religious Society.

ARTICLE VII.—The Trustees alone shall be empowered to grant deeds of pews, to sell or alienate the property; but they shall not be empowered to sell or alienate the property, or any part thereof, except on a requisition signed by three-fourths of the Proprietors, of at least one year's standing, and not in arrear of rent, at the time residing within the district of Montreal. And no sale or alienation shall be valid unless sanctioned by three-fourths of the Proprietors, qualified as aforesaid. The proceeds of any sale or alienation so made and sanctioned, shall be the property of the Church and Congregation, and solely applicable to the maintenance of the public worship of God, according to the form of the Established Church of Scotland, and for no other purpose whatever.

TEMPORAL COMMITTEE AND TREASURER.

ARTICLE VIII.—There shall be a Committee of the Church consisting of five Members, chosen annually, who shall regulate all the temporalities of said Church, (except those specified as the duties of the Trustees) during twelve calendar months after their election, and afterwards, until a new Committee shall be chosen. Three to be a quorum.

ARTICLE IX.—The said Temporal Committee shall have power to lease pews, collect monies, pay monies, order repairs of Church, call public meetings in reference to the temporal affairs of the Church, and do all and every thing respecting the temporalities of the Church, (with the limitations aforesaid). And if it shall happen that there is at any time a deficiency in the funds appointed for the aforesaid purposes, they shall call a general meeting of the Congregation to provide for the same.

ARTICLE X.—There shall be a Treasurer of the Church annually chosen, who shall receive and pay all monies, by order of the Committee only, and shall render an account of his intromission to the Congregation, at the annual general meeting. He shall also furnish the Committee with a statement of the funds in his hands, whenever they require it.

ARTICLE XI.—The said Temporal Committee and Treasurer shall be chosen by the Proprietors, of not less than one year standing, not in arrear of rent, and pew-holders of not less than three years standing, not in arrear of rent, from out of their own number, at a general meeting annually held for that purpose on the 25th day of December, and should the 25th fall on a Sabbath, on the following day, notice thereof having been given on the two preceding Sabbaths, from the Precentor's desk, immediately after Divine Service; and the said Committee, duly elected after the manner aforesaid, are hereby empowered to transact all the business entrusted to them.

OF THE MINISTER.

ARTICLE XII.—When a vacancy, by the death, removal, or otherwise, of the Minister, shall happen, it shall be the duty of the Kirk-Session, within eight days from the time at which such vacancy shall happen, to require, by a notice or requisition, a meeting of the Proprietors, Pew-holders, and Members of said Church, not in arrear of rent, to assemble in the Church on a day, not more than eight days after such notification, at a convenient hour, for the purpose of taking the steps necessary for supplying the vacancy, by electing a Committee of nine, (seven of whom shall form a quorum); which Committee shall have full power to take such steps as to them may seem fit, and best adapted for speedily obtaining a Minister a regularly ordained Clergyman of the Church of Scotland; at this meeting the senior Member of the Session shall preside, if not prevented by illness or other cause; and if so prevented, then the senior of the other Members of Session. The person presiding shall have the casting vote.

ARTICLE XIII.—The above mentioned Committee for electing a Minister shall be chosen only from Proprietors of not less than one year standing, or Pew-holders who shall have paid rent for the three years preceding their election, (neither being in arrear of rent.) Both classes to be in full communion with the Church.

ARTICLE XIV.—In the appointment of said Committee to elect a Minister, all Proprietors, in right of property possessed for not less than one year, and not in arrear of rent, shall be entitled to vote. Also all Members of not less than three years' standing, that is three years a sinner one at least of which he has been a Member in full communion, not in arrear of rent shall be entitled to vote; it being, however, understood that there shall only be one vote for each pew. When two or more persons so qualified shall occupy a pew, they shall have but one vote, they agreeing amongst themselves by ballot or otherwise, who shall give that vote; and in case of misunderstanding amongst such Members on this point, they shall have no vote; it being hereby provided that such disagreement shall not be construed to be any privation of their rights, nor shall it influence or retard any business on which a general meeting may be held or called.

ARTICLE XV.—The Committee for Electing a Minister, being duly chosen, shall prudently and conscientiously seek out and select a pious and faithful servant of Christ, a licentiate of