

of the ministry 2. THAT WHEREAS it is believed that the present regulation, by which three examinations are required between the periods of *graduation* and *ordination*, not only puts the candidate to unnecessary trouble, but takes up the time of the Presbytery, without, in many cases, securing the thorough examination desirable. 3. THAT WHEREAS it is believed that if there were only one thorough examination between graduation and ordination, better results would be obtained, and greater satisfaction given to the Church courts, and to the worthy candidate:—

THEREFORE it is humbly overtured to the Venerable the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada that certain changes be made in the chapters in the Book of FORMS which relate to this matter as follows.—CHAPTER XII. *The licensing of Probationers.* Section 147—To remain unchanged. Section 148—When considering the question of taking a student on trials for license Presbytery should be alone. If the Presbytery is satisfied with the College certificates, and of the piety, prudence and good report of the student, it makes application to the Synod for leave to take him on public probationary trials, certifying at the same time, that the requisite certificates have been produced and considered satisfactory. If, however, a candidate for license has attended, in whole or in part, a Theological institution beyond the bounds, the Presbytery should report that fact to the Synod.

Section 149—to remain unchanged. Section 150—Leave having been obtained from the Synod, the Presbytery proceeds with the students trials on subjects previously prescribed. These shall embrace Latin, Greek, Hebrew, Philosophy, Theology, Church History, a Greek or Hebrew critical exercise, a Lecture, and a Sermon; also an examination as to personal religion and motives for entering the ministry. Sections 151-153 unchanged CHAPTER XIII. *Calling, Ordination, &c.* Sections 154-164—to remain unchanged. Section 165. On finding these documents to be satisfactory, if the person accepting the call be a licentiate, the Presbytery fixes a time for ordination and induction, and appoints one of its number to serve the edict, which is to be publicly read in the congregation on two Sabbaths previous to the induction. It also arranges for holding the ordination and induction services. Sect. 166. Previous to ordination, Presbytery may, if it see fit, require a lecture and a sermon from the candidate, and in the case of candidates from foreign or other churches, such examination as is deemed necessary may be prescribed. Presbytery, further, retains the constitutional right to examine at any stage of the candidate's course.

W. BENNETT, *Clk.*

TORONTO: April 5th:—A call from Cheltenham and Mount Pleasant to Rev. J. R. Gilchrist, of Shelburne, was sustained. The stipend is \$800 with a manse. On behalf of people in and around Sharon, Rev. W. Frizzell applied for steps being taken to organize them as a regular congregation of the Church. This was granted. An excellent report on the State of Religion, prepared by Rev. J. Hogg, was read by him and adopted. Also a report on Sabbath-school work, prepared

by Dr. Fraser. And a report on Temperance, prepared and submitted by Rev. John Smith. This latter report gave rise to keen discussion, and eventually underwent several changes. Leave of absence for three months was given to Mr. Hogg, who intends to go to Europe to recruit his health. Rev. Dr. Reid reported the contributions to the schemes for the current year from the congregations within the bounds. Defaulting congregations were instructed to fulfil their duty without delay. Messrs. R. Y. Thomson, B. A., J. Farquharson, B. A., M. McGregor, B. A., J. W. Cameron, B. A., J. A. Turnbull, B. A., J. Macleod, J. Mowat, A. Henderson, and J. A. McDonald, all of them theological students, underwent an examination on the prescribed subjects with a view to license; and the Presbytery resolved to apply to the Synod for leave to take them on public probationary trials. R. MONTEATH, *Clk.*

BARRIE: March 22nd:—The chief business was hearing reports, and making arrangements for overtaking the work in the very extensive Home Mission field of the Presbytery—including the Muskoka district. Commissioners were appointed as follows.—Messrs. Rodgers, Dawson, Fairbairn, Dr. W. Fraser, Gray and Sinclair,—*ministers*, Messrs. George Duff, J. McL. Stevenson, George Tudhope, J. G. Hood, J. G. Hodgetts and A. Thomson,—*elders*. The principle of a Sustentation Fund was approved. A committee was appointed to prepare a plan for meeting the expenses of commissioners to the General Assembly. Rev. Allan Findlay was granted three months leave of absence to recruit his health, as was also the Rev. J. Lieper of Barrie. At next meeting a conference is to be held on Temperance, the State of Religion and Sabbath-schools. R. MOODIE, *Clk.*

OWEN SOUND: March 15th:—The following were appointed commissioners to the Assembly,—*ministers*, Messrs. Cameron, Somerville, Scott and McLaren; *elders*, Messrs. Skeene, J. Harkness, McKnight and P. Christie. Committees were appointed to attend to financial matters in the supplemented congregations and mission fields during the summer. The report on the State of Religion was given in, adopted, and endorsed to be transmitted—all settled charges reported. The report on Temperance was given in and adopted. J. SOMERVILLE, *Clk.*

SATCHEL: March 15th:—A very full report of the Home Mission work of the Presbytery was read by Mr. Campbell and carefully considered. The minutes of a Sabbath-school Convention were read. Rev. Dr. Black, of Kildonan, was nominated as Moderator of General Assembly. The following were appointed commissioners,—Messrs. Baikie, Eakin, Fraser and Young,—*ministers*; Messrs. Neil, Scott, Murdock and Kean,—*elders*.