

2. That Provincial Synods may, if they see it necessary, disjoin Congregations from one of their Presbyteries and annex them to another; but that they shall report their having done so to the first meeting of the General Synod for their review.

3. It is recommended to the several Provincial Synods, that they appoint correspondents to each other, at often as the distance between the places of their meeting and the other work of ministers will admit, and especially when they apply to each other for such correspondence.

At the same time, the regulations following were transmitted to Presbyteries to guide in the meantime, so far as might be considered for general edification:

1. The Provincial Synods shall transmit, without delay, such preachers as have a call from any Congregation within their bounds, to the Presbytery that has the inspection of that Congregation.

2. The Provincial Synods and Presbyteries shall exchange such Preachers as have calls (or one of whom has a call) within other Synods or Presbyteries, that they may go to the Presbyteries where the calls have come out; provided there are no competing calls for these Preachers.

3. That it be recommended to Presbyteries, who may be adjacent to one another, to exchange, or give some days of Preachers to each other; and that Presbyteries who have many show this kindness to those who have fewer, so that there may be proper supply to vacancies and other places, and that Preachers may have a proper course through vacancies.

4. That when the members of any Congregation, under the inspection of the General Synod, shall be declared by their Presbytery able to support a settled ministry, they may apply to their own Presbytery for a hearing of any Preachers, that have been two months in the bounds of another Presbytery; and having obtained the concurrence of their own Presbytery, shall, on an application to them, send the Preacher applied for, without delay, to preach at least two Sabbaths in that Congregation; provided he has been two months in their own bounds, and not appointed on trials for ordination: And the Presbytery that has said Congregation under their inspection, shall appoint one of their Preachers to supply the place of the one that comes on such petition, if they have any Preacher able to go on such a journey; but if they have none able to go, or the distance be great, the Presbytery that sends the Preacher shall be preferable in the next appointments of the General Synod: But that in case of such a request being refused, though congregations may obtain hearings of Preachers from their being detained by any Presbytery contrary to this regulation, yet such hearings shall not be reckoned lawful and regular in order to a call; Such exchange to be at the expense of the Congregation that petitions.

5. This is only to be applied to Congregations as above described, and not to new erections unable to support a fixed ministry: Complaints of refusal to be allowed in ordinary course of appeals to Provincial Synods, and to the General Synods.

Such were the regulations adopted, as arising from the division of this Church into different Synods under one General Synod. They appear to be very judicious and suitable for the objects contemplated.

But this arrangement into Provincial Synods was never found to serve any very important purpose; and sometimes, instead of diminishing business to the General Synod, it increased it—sometimes, instead of forwarding business, it retarded it. The arrangement was continued in practice perhaps for twenty years; and although the theory was preserved till the time of the Union, yet the practice of meeting in Provincial Synods fell into desuetude; and cases of appeal and other matters were brought up by Presbyteries directly to the General Synod as before the Provincial Synods were constituted.

In the year 1788, there were two subjects of great importance which occupied the attention of the Synod, namely, the Slave Trade, and the Centenary of the Revolution. In regard to the former, this Church took up the subject of traffic