

consent of the congregation and Presbytery, upon Presbyteries, the Glasgow Colonial Society, or any other competent bodies or persons in Scotland, who are members of the established church.

ART. 6. After due time shall have been allowed for the filling up of the vacant charge, which in no case shall exceed ——— between the vacancy and the settlement, if from the negligence of the electors, or from their not being able to come to an agreement, the charge shall still continue vacant; the nomination shall in that case devolve upon the Presbytery, according to the laws of the church.*

ART. 7. That a bond guaranteeing the payment of the minister's stipend out of the revenues of the church, payable in advance by two equal portions, namely: ———

shall be duly lodged with the Presbytery, along with the call. †

Of the Eldership.

ART. 8. The elders shall be nominated and proposed by the minister, in the case of no session being already in existence; and in the case of a session already existing, by the minister and session. And in both cases elected by the male heads of families, being communicants, as follows: The nomination shall be publicly announced from the pulpit, and not less than a fortnight thereafter a day fixed for the election, which shall be conducted by ballot, if demanded. Ordinations shall follow, according to the rules of the church. ‡

ART. 9. It shall be the duty of the session to keep a roll of the communicants, and to see that the same be registered in the session book, and attested by the moderator and clerk.

II. OF THE TEMPORAL AFFAIRS OF THE CHURCH.

Deacons.

ART. 10. That the temporal affairs of the church shall be placed under the management of ——— deacons, to be elected in the same manner as the elders, and as pointed out by article 8th, and solemnly ordained and set apart for the office according to the laws of the church.§

ART. 11. That ——— of these deacons shall retire from office every year, according to their order on the roll, namely, on the first Tuesday of ——— in every year; on which day, or any convenient day within three weeks thereafter, their successors shall be chosen; provided always, that the deacons who fall to retire shall hold their office until their successors shall be appointed, and, also,

* Note B.

† Note C.

‡ Note D.

§ Note E. See Christian Examiner for October, p. 246, 250, 251.

that they may be re-appointed as often as the electors may see fit. The time and place of meeting to be intimated by the minister from the pulpit, after divine service in the forenoon of the previous Sabbath, and after such notification, should less than a majority of the electors attend, their power shall accrete to those present.

ART. 12. That all property which it is in the power of the congregation to take under their controul, shall be vested in this session of deacons, for the benefit of the congregation.

ART. 13. That this session of deacons shall have power, and it shall be their business to fix the seat rents, to sell, let, or lease the pews, or any other property belonging to the congregation, for the benefit of the same, under such conditions as may be agreed on by a majority of the whole congregation, with concurrence of the Presbytery; and the said session of deacons shall have full power to apply the monies arising from the property of the congregation, for the liquidation of all debts due thereon, or for the improvement and preservation of the same, after the maintenance of divine worship is duly provided for. They shall also attend to the repair and cleaning of the church. They shall also do their utmost to secure and see paid to the minister out of the funds of the church, the contributions of those belonging to it, or otherwise, his stipend. They shall, with the concurrence of the Kirk session, appoint the precentor and beadle, with such salaries as they shall deem fit and proper. They shall specially attend to the case of the poor connected with the congregation, make their case known to the session, and study to obtain timely relief, so as to prevent the necessity of the truly needy and deserving standing forward in the attitude of public mendicants.

ART. 14. That the session of deacons, any ——— of whom shall be a quorum, shall meet as often as necessary for the discharge of the duties of their office; that they shall elect their own chairman, treasurer, and secretary, and have power to adopt such regulations as may be necessary for properly conducting their own proceedings; and that at an annual meeting of the whole congregation, called by a fortnight's previous and public notice, they shall give in a report of the state of the congregation's temporal affairs.

ART. 15. That the ordinary Sabbath-day collections shall go to the general funds of the church, and be appropriated for the incidental expenses of the church, such as communion elements, precentor's and beadle's salary, and other necessary purposes; but the deacons, with the concurrence of the church session, may appoint special col-