

it, shall bring with him a written attestation, subscribed by the Moderator or Clerk, bearing that he is an elder, in the full exercise of his office, and that he was chosen in a meeting of Session, to which members were duly called, but if disputed, it shall be referred to a Committee.

2. That the quorum of the General Synod shall be sixteen, of whom there shall be at least twelve ministers; which number being met, they shall be competent to proceed to business.

3. That the Synod shall be employed in prayer during a part of one day, at each of their meetings.

4. That the General Synod shall have the business that properly belongs to the Supreme Court; that is, all causes brought by appeal or reference, for being decided by a Court of the last resort; all acts respecting the Secession in general, acts as to the public profession and testimony made by the Synod; acts appointing the questions to be put to ministers and elders, at their ordination, or to preachers at receiving license; terms of ministerial and Christian communion; the erection of Synods or Presbyteries, the disjoining of Presbyteries from Synods; the enacting of rules for the proceedings of the inferior Courts, and whatever is competent and proper for the Synod, as having the inspection of the whole Secession Church; but that the General Synod shall not disjoin a Presbytery from one Synod, and annex it to another, at the meeting at which this is first proposed, but shall delay it to their following meeting, unless the consent of both Synods and Presbyteries concerned be duly notified to the General Synod.

5. That the General Synod shall (as the Associate Synod hitherto have done) continue to direct as to the admission of young men to the study of Divinity for trials, in order to their preaching the Gospel in the different Presbyteries; the appointing of foreign missions; and the appointing of preachers to the several Synods or Presbyteries; and that they shall retain the inspection and management of their public fund, and of the fund for the widows and children of ministers throughout Britain, in indigent circumstances; but that the Synod of Ireland shall have their Widows' Fund under their own inspection. The General Synod to have Committees, as usual, in the Associate Synod, or such other Committees as they shall appoint, with power, after any matter has been heard before a Committee, to sub-commit for the facility of business.

6. That the Moderator may call a meeting *pro re nata*, if the General Synod shall, on some supposed probable necessity, recommend such a meeting to be called, with advice of some brethren or Presbyteries; or, if some business of any great importance occur in the intervals of the meetings of the General Synod, he may call one at the desire, or with the concurrence of two Provincial Synods, or with the advice and concurrence of one-third of the Presbyteries, if the Provincial Synods have not their meetings at the time, such business shall be made known to him; that the calling of meetings *pro re nata* be forty days preceding the meeting, by letters subscribed by the Moderator, and regularly sent to every minister.

7. That no appeal shall be received from a Presbytery to the General Synod, in the way of passing over the Synod of their bounds, unless the appeal has been made since their Synod had a meeting, and at least twenty days have elapsed from the making of their appeal to the meeting of the General Synod.

8. That the Synod books shall be regularly brought up by rotation to the General Synod, from one or two Synods, as the General Synod shall find the revival of them to be practicable.

9. That each Provincial Synod shall be furnished with a copy of the minutes of the General Synod, to be kept by them *in retentis*.

The following regulations were adopted for the guidance of the Provincial Synods:—

1. That the business, which cannot be determined by a Provincial Synod, by reason of another Provincial Synod having interest therein, shall be referred to the General Synod, and the other Synod duly informed of the reference.