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REGULATIONS FOR THE DISCIPLINE OF THE CLERGY.

PREAMBLE.

WHEREAS, it is expedient to define the mode in which the power of the Bishop shall be exercised:—We, the Bishop, Clergy, and Representatives of the Laity of the Diocese of Nova Scotia, have agreed upon the following Rules, to be observed, in order to secure a fair and impartial tribunal for the trial of any Clergyman who may hereafter be charged with any offence rendering him liable to any Ecclesiastical sentence.

I.—In every case of any Clerk in Holy Orders who may be charged with any offence against the laws ecclesiastical, or concerning whom there may exist scandal or evil report, the Bishop shall, upon the application of seven male communicants of the Parish in which the accused resided, or may if he shall think fit, of his own mere motion, issue a Commission under his hand and seal to five Presbyters of not less than seven years' standing, and the Commissioners so appointed, or any three of them, shall inquire into the truth of the charges alleged against the party accused, as set forth in their commission, notice of the time and place of such inquiry having been given to the party accused, and to the party, if any, upon whose application or complaint the commission may have been issued, not less than thirty days before the time appointed for the commencement of the inquiry.

And in the course of such inquiry, the Commissioners shall receive all such evidence as may be tendered to them, whether for or against the party accused, and said evidence shall be taken down by them in writing.

And the said Commissioners, or any three of them, shall report in writing within 30 days from the day of the date of the hearing, unless they, or any three of them, shall by a memorandum in writing extend such time, whether in the opinion of the majority of those present, there be or be not sufficient *prima facie* ground for instituting further proceedings; which report shall be accompanied by a copy of the evidence on which it is founded.

II.—And in all cases when the Commissioners, or any three of them, shall have reported that there is *prima facie* ground for further proceedings, the Bishop, with the written consent of the