

Art. 8. Although as an Association, we disclaim all power over the Churches, so far as respects any interference with their independency and discipline, yet we deem it our privilege to judge for ourselves of the propriety of continuing any church or Minister in our connexion, which to us shall appear to be *unscriptural in principle, or irregular in practice*. In order however, that we may not withdraw our fellowship without sufficient reason from any Church or Minister against whom a complaint is made by two members of this body, it shall be the duty of the Association to appoint a Committee to investigate the points of complaint, and report the result of their inquiries to the Association, that they may decide as duty shall appear.

Art. 16. Alterations or amendments may be made in this Constitution, from time to time such as experience may dictate.

Art. 2. Each Church shall have the privilege of sending one Delegate or more; but no Church, however numerous, shall be entitled to a greater number than five, in addition to the Pastor.

Art. 4. At each meeting of this Association the Moderator of the preceding year shall call for the vote for a Moderator and the person who shall be chosen by a majority of the members present, shall upon his acceptance lead the meeting to the choice of a Clerk. It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preside in all transactions of the meeting, nominate Committees, and maintain and improve the order among the members. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a fair and impartial record of the doings of the Association during its session, and furnish a correct copy of the same for the Press.

Art. 5. It shall be the duty of each Church to send by its Messengers a letter to the Association giving an account of its state, parties, and of whatever relates to its peace and prosperity, together with the names and numbers of its members. It shall also forward money for the printing of the Minutes.

Art. 6. When any Church shall desire admittance into this body application must be made by letter and satisfactory evidence furnished of their piety and order; this being done, and a vote of acceptance taken, the Moderator shall, in behalf of the Association, give to one of their Messengers, if any be present, the right hand of fellowship.

Art. 7. When a Church shall neglect to make any communication to the Association for three years successively, it shall be considered as having withdrawn from us, and shall be dropped from the Minutes, unless two or more members shall request its continuance, and shall engage to ensure into its standing, and report at the next meeting of the Association.

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