

signed by the President of the Court or Commissioners, as the case may be, and transmitted to the Bishop or his Commissary.

25. Whereupon the Bishop shall cause reasonable notice to be given to the party, of the proceedings intended against him, and after due citation and the hearing of the party in defence or extenuation, or in default of his appearing to answer, the Bishop may proceed, if the party be a layman, to admonish or suspend him from communion with the Church, and if a Priest or Deacon, to admonish or suspend him from his office until such contumacy be purged.

26. The Court may, in its discretion, adjourn from time to time.

27. The Court having deliberately considered the evidence, shall declare in writing, signed by the members thereof, or a majority of them, their decision on the charges contained in the presentment, whether in their opinion the accused is guilty or not guilty on each particular charge. And in the event of the Court being equally divided, the charge or charges shall be considered not proved.

28. If the accused, after trial, shall be found guilty, the finding of the Court, together with all their proceedings, including the evidence taken in the case, shall be transmitted to the Bishop before it is transmitted to the accused or in any way made public, and he may proceed to pass such sentence as in his judgment may be proper, not repugnant to the provisions of the Statutes under which the Synod is constituted.

29. A copy of the sentence shall be sent to the accused, and, after the expiration of one month, provided no notice of appeal be given, another to the vestry, or vestries of the parish or parishes, or congregation or congregations, with which the accused may be canonically connected; and such other publicity may be given to it as the Bishop shall think expedient.

30. When the penalty of suspension shall be inflicted such sentence shall specify the terms thereof and the period of its duration.

31. During his suspension the suspended minister shall not exercise the functions of the ministry either in his own congregation, or elsewhere within this Diocese.