

of the principle, while some alterations were suggested in the expressions. It was agreed,

"That this overture should again be sent down, with certain alterations, for the consideration of Presbyteries, and that it be again passed as an interim act."

The following is the form in which the Overture is now sent down to Presbyteries :—

Overture on Barrier Act.

"Whereas it is of importance that all laws proposed, regarding matters of Doctrine, Discipline, Government, or Worship, should, before they are finally enacted, receive the patient and prayerful consideration of the Church, and

"Whereas it is manifestly impossible that such consideration can be given during the Session of one meeting of Synod; It is therefore humbly overtured to the very Reverend the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada:

1. "That no alteration shall be made by Overture or otherwise, in the Constitution of the Church on matters of Doctrine, Discipline, Government, or Worship, until first such alteration shall be submitted to all the Presbyteries of the Church for their approbation; that such approbation be given by each Presbytery at an ordinary meeting thereof; and that the decision of Presbyteries be recorded in the minutes, and an extract of the same be sent to the Clerk of Synod before its next meeting.

2. "That the Synod, if it see cause, may, by a majority of two-thirds of those present, pass such alteration or Overture into an Interim Act, which shall possess the force of a law, aye and until the Presbyteries have, as herein required, expressed their judgment upon it.

3. "When a majority of Presbyteries have expressed their approbation, the Synod may pass such Overture into a standing Law of the Church.

4. "That when a majority of the Presbyteries have expressed disapprobation, then the Synod shall reject such Overture, or again remit to Presbyteries."

In regard to the Overture on the management of congregational affairs, and the Overture on the duties of Elders and Deacons, it was found that a majority of Presbyteries disapproved of them, and therefore they were allowed to lapse.

Overtures on Management of Congregational matters,—and on the duties of Elders and Deacons.

The Synod took up an Overture on the subject of the validity of Baptism in the Romish Church. The following was the deliverance of the Synod in this matter, viz:—

Overture on Romish Baptism.

"The Synod considering the overture to involve matters of difficulty and doubt, and recognising the importance of the subject as bearing upon our testimony against the errors of the Church of Rome, send said overture to Presbyteries, to be by them considered and reported upon at next Synod."

The Synod then took up an Overture from several members of Synod on the subject of Intemperance; there was also read a Petition from the Grand Division of the Sons of Temperance. It was resolved,

Overture on subject of Intemperance.

"That taking into account the manifold and growing evils wrought by intemperance, the Synod renew its testimony against it,—resolve