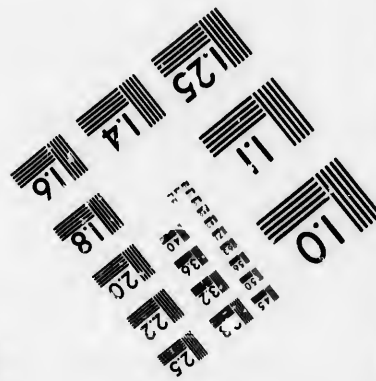
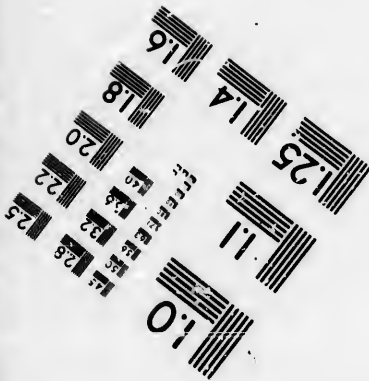
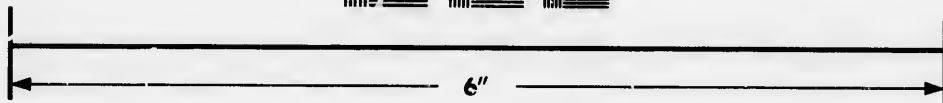
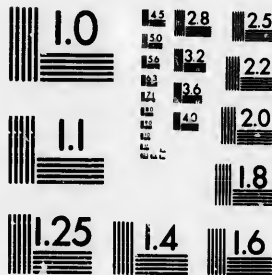


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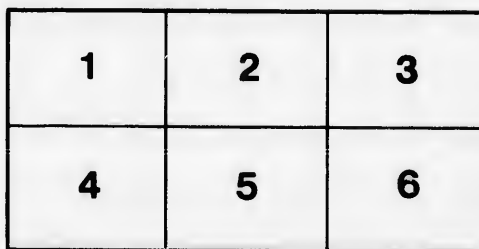
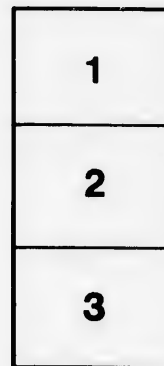
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*At Kingston, and within St. Andrew's Church there ;—  
the 5th day of July, 1845 years :*

The which day, the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland, met, according to adjournment, and was constituted with prayer.

*inter alia,—*

The Synod called for the report of the committee appointed at last meeting of Synod, to draft a model constitution for new churches. The draft was given in by Mr. Romanes, and read. The Synod ordered it to be transmitted to Presbyteries for their consideration, with instructions that they report fully upon it at next meeting of Synod.

Extracted from the Records of Synod, by

ANDREW BELL, *Synod Clerk.*

---

**Draft of a Model Constitution for New Churches.**

I. The property of the Church, and all real estate belonging to or that may hereafter be acquired by this congregation, shall be vested in five Trustees, to be held by them and their successors in office, in trust for the sole and proper use of the congregation of ——— in connection with the Church of Scotland.

II. The Trustees shall be persons in full communion with the church, or who shall declare their intention of being so at the earliest opportunity. They shall be elected at a meeting of the congregation, called for the purpose by public intimation after divine service on the two Sabbaths immediately preceding the day of meeting. They shall be chosen by the majority of votes of the male persons present, of the full age of twenty-one years, who shall have contributed to the erection of the church, or who are subscribers for the support of the minister, or who hold seats in the church.

III. The Trustees shall hold office during life, or until disqualified by removal from the province, or by ceasing to be members of the church, or until they shall resign. Vacancies occurring in the number of Trustees shall be supplied in the same manner as at the first election.

IV. The persons who shall be eligible for the office of the ministry in this church shall be,—1. Any regularly ordained Minister, or duly licensed Probationer of the Church of Scotland, or of the Synod of

Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland. 2. Any Minister or Preacher of any Presbyterian body holding orthodox standards, who shall be willing to take the usual ordination vows and obey the laws and rules of this church; and who shall have been received as Preachers by the Presbytery of the bounds.

V. The Minister of this church shall be a member of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland, and shall acknowledge that Synod as his Supreme Ecclesiastical Judicatory, so long as he shall continue to be Minister of this church.

VI. The first Minister shall be elected by a majority of votes of all male persons above twenty-one years of age who shall be resident within the bounds of the congregation, and who profess their adherence to the Presbyterian form of worship and their willingness to join with and support this church. But in all future elections, the Minister shall be chosen by a majority of the votes of the male communicants above twenty-one years of age, of at least three months standing on the roll, and free of church censure.

VII. All meetings for the election of a Minister shall be called by public intimation, after divine service, on two Sabbaths preceding the day of meeting; and all the procedure shall be in accordance with the laws and usages of the Church of Scotland, and with such laws as the Synod may have or may hereafter enact, and such regulations as the Presbytery of the bounds may adopt, agreeably to the said laws and usages.

VIII. The temporal affairs of the church shall be managed by a committee of seven fit and proper persons, who shall be members, or intending to become members of the church at the earliest opportunity. The manner of election shall be as in Article II.

IX. At the annual meeting of the congregation, the two senior members of the committee, or the two whose names stand highest on the list, shall retire from office, and the meeting shall choose two in their room, whose names shall be placed at the foot of the list. The retiring members may be re-elected.

X. Any member of the committee who shall leave the bounds of the congregation, or cease to be a member of the church, shall be disqualified for holding office. Casual vacancies occurring during the year, from these or any other causes, shall be temporarily supplied by the remaining members, until the annual meeting, when the nomination shall be confirmed, or set aside, as it may seem proper to the congregation.

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XI. The duties of the committee shall be:—To take care of the church, and all buildings belonging to the congregation:—To attend to the repairs, insurance, cleaning, warming and lighting of the church; the providing of communion elements and furniture, and all things necessary for the decent and orderly performance of divine worship:—To see to the due support of the Minister, to arrange with him in regard to the amount of stipend, and the times and mode of payment; to sign engagements, if necessary, in name and on behalf of the congregation:—To provide ways and means for raising the amount required for the Minister's support, and the other necessary expenses of the church. For which purpose they shall have power to let the seats in the church, to fix the rents, appoint the time and manner of letting, and the times and mode of payment.

XII. The proceedings of the committee during the year shall be subject to the inspection, and to the approbation or disapprobation of the annual meeting of the congregation.

XIII. The annual meeting of the Congregation shall be held on —. It shall be notified by public intimation, after Divine Service on the preceding Sabbath, and shall consist of all male persons above twenty-one years of age, who shall be contributors for the erection of the Church, or subscribers for the support of the ordinances of religion therein, or holders of a seat or seats therein, and not in arrears of payment. The meeting shall appoint a Chairman and Secretary from among their own number, and the proceedings shall be recorded in the Minute-book of the Committee.

XIV. At the annual meeting, the proceedings of the Committee for the past year shall be submitted for inspection, and approved of or disallowed, as shall seem proper; the accounts of revenue and expenditure, whether by the Committee or Session, shall be laid before them; two new members of Committee shall be elected; the Precentor and Church Officers for the ensuing year shall be chosen, and all business requisite for the welfare of the Congregation shall be transacted, providing that nothing be done repugnant to this constitution, or to the laws of the Church of Scotland.

XV. The Elders shall be elected for the first time, by the majority of votes of the male communicants above twenty-one years of age; or, if a roll of communicants has not been made up, then the Elders shall be chosen by the majority of votes of male persons above twenty-one years of age, residing within the bounds of the congregation, professing adherence to the Presbyterian form of worship, and their desire to join with and support this Church. The meeting to be called by public



intimation after Divine Service, on the two Sabbaths immediately preceding the day of meeting. The names of the persons chosen shall be laid before the Presbytery of the bounds at next ordinary meeting, and if no objections are offered, measures shall be taken in the usual form, for their admission to the office of the Eldership.

XVI. If any addition to the number of Elders shall be judged necessary, the existing members of Session shall propose fit and proper persons for the office, who, if not disapproved of by the Congregation, at a meeting called for the purpose, or by the Presbytery, shall be set apart in the usual form.

XVII. A collection shall be made, at least once on every Sabbath and preaching day, which shall be applied to defraying the incidental expenses of the Church, according to the accounts allowed and ordered to be paid by the annual meeting; and any surplus that may remain shall be at the disposal of the Session, to be applied to such pious or charitable uses as they may think fit.

XVIII. In regard to all things not specified herein, the laws, customs, and usages of the Church of Scotland shall be followed, except where these have been modified by enactments of Synod;—and if any difference of opinion arise, as to the meaning or interpretation of any part of this Constitution, it shall be referred to the Presbytery for advice and decision thereon, subject to appeal to the Synod, whose deliverance shall be final.

