

Presbyterial District: and a Minister & Clerk by them chosen, the Moderator in their Meetings. When an immediate business falls out during an adjournment of the presbytery, the Moderator can summon them to meet pro loca upon that Account. Adjacent presbyteries usually send Curators or Deacons to each other, who upon producing their commissions have a Vote in the Presbytery to which they are sent. By this Means they can ask advice of each other in difficult cases, and can give an Account of their own Determinations in parallel ones.

Presbyteries compose all Differences between Ministers and people, for which and they hold Presbyterial Visitation in every parish, where they examine the Registers of Kirk Sessions and Confessors or commend as they see cause. They can inflict the higher or Greater Excommunication, that is an Exclusion from the privileges of the faithful, and an Absolute prohibition of the Communion of the Lords Supper; they may deince probationers, and interpose in all cases and ordinations of Ministers to different parishes, suspend or depose them, and determine Ecclesiastical Matters of all sorts within their Bounds to which their Jurisdiction is limited. They appoint schools in parishes, see that the funds settled by law for that purpose be not misemployed; and schoolmasters are subject to their Confessors and Examination. They design Manses and Glebes to Ministers who want such, and Enquire into the Repairs of Churches.

They can try nothing in the first Instance which is Cognizable by Kirk Sessions, but determine all Appeals from them. And there by Appeal from Presbyteries in all cases to provincial Synods.

### Art. 3.

#### Of Provincial Synods.

A Provincial Synod is composed of several Adjacent Presbyteries. They meet twice a Year, and every Session before they proceed to business, do choose a Moderator. They send to and receive Correspondents from Neighbouring Synods as is done betwixt Presbyteries; upon whom in every thing they give a Blessing and examine their books, and may reverse their Acts. Appeals by from Synods to General Assemblies, who reverse their Acts and carry out the Registers of their proceedings.

### Art. 4.

#### Of General Assemblies.

The General Assembly is the highest <sup>Ecclesiastical</sup> judicatory and Superior Report of the Church of Scotland from which no Appeals by to any Superior Court. It consists of Commissioners from Presbyteries Royal Burghs, and Universities. Each Presbytery sends to this Assembly more or fewer Ministers and one or two Ruling Elders, according to the Number of Ministers in the Presbytery. Every Royal Burgh sends one Ruling Elder and Edinburgh two and each University sends one. Which Commissioners are chosen yearly 40 days before the Meeting of the Assembly which is held once a Year and for the most part at Edinburgh. They give in their Commissions to the Clerk of Assembly before the first Diet of its Meeting, that the Rolls may be taken by the Moderator. And such Commissions as happen to be Underwritten before the first Diet of the Assembly should be delivered in the Intervals betwixt the after Diets, and not in presence of the Assembly while it is sitting. The Sovereign of this Commission is all ways present in the Meetings of this Assembly.

At the first Down sitting of the Venerable Assembly the Moderator is chosen. Which being done the Commissioner produces his Commission Impowering him to sit there, with his Majesty's letter to the Assembly, both which are read by the Clerk and allowed. After this the Commissioner makes a speech which is approved by the Moderator; and then Commissions are appointed. This closes the first day. The second day is spent in prayer. And the third day they fall to business. The first whereof is to answer the Kings letter, which is done by a Committee whose draught is read and examined, and allowed if need be, and then approved by the house, signed by the Moderator in their presence, and delivered to the Commissioner who sends it away to his Majesty.

Business in the Assembly is usually done by committees. But any Member may propose what he pleases. When a Motion is made, or any business is brought in by a Committee, the Moderator Names two or three of the most Eminent Members to speak to it, after whom any Member may speak.