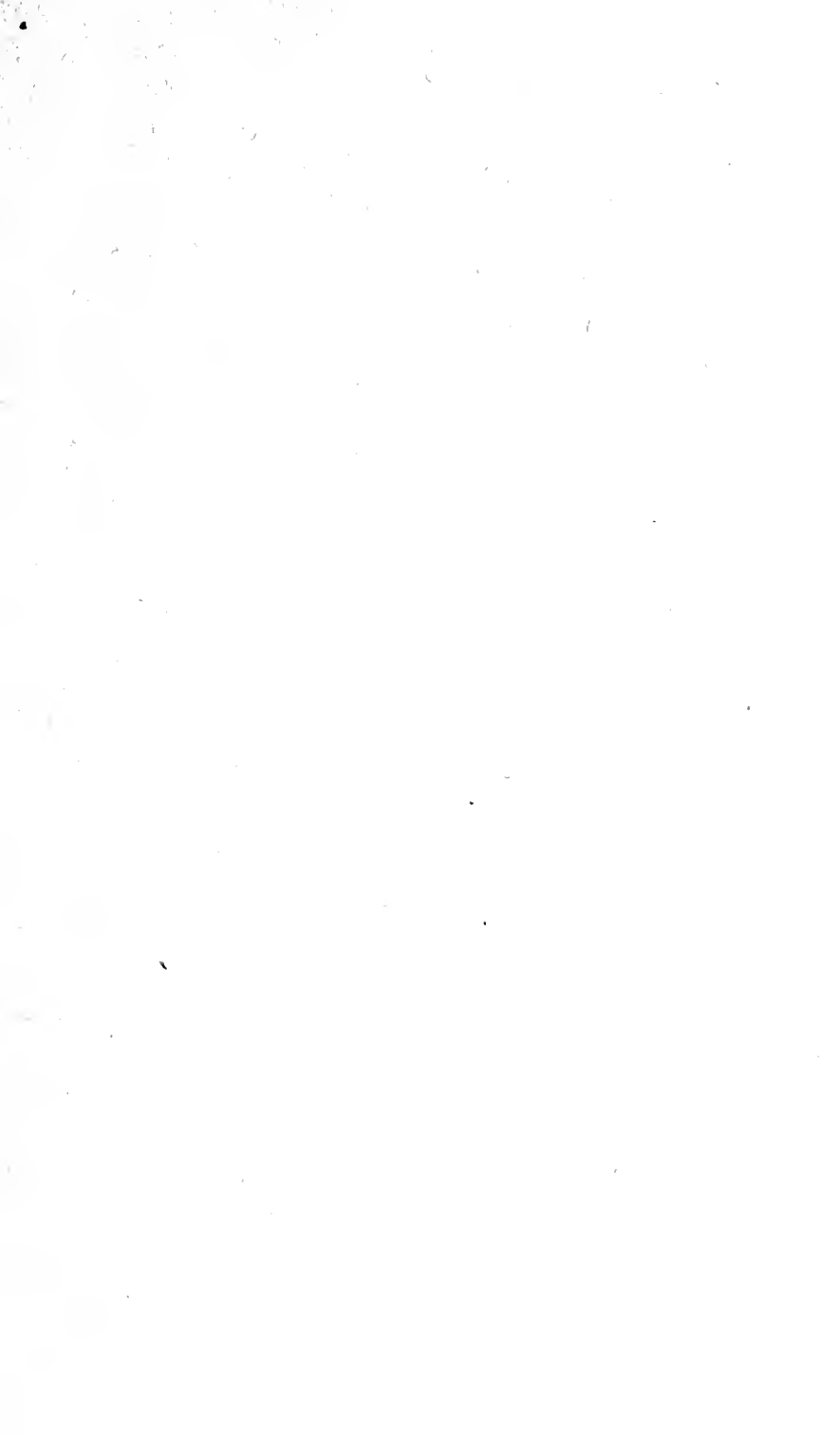






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SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING.

ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Synod of the Potomac

OF THE

REFORMED CHURCH

IN THE

UNITED STATES,

IN GENERAL CONVENTION.

FREDERICK, MD., OCTOBER, 1879.

YORK, PA. :
GAZETTE PRINTING HOUSE.

1879.

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SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING.

ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

Of the Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States, at its Annual Sessions, convened in General Convention, in Frederick, Md., in the month of October, in the year of our Lord, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Seventy-nine. The Sessions commenced on the evening of the Twenty-second, and continued until the Twenty-ninth day of the month inclusive, at 12 ¼ o'clock.

ARTICLE I.

OPENING OF SYNOD.

The Synod convened in *General Convention*, on Wednesday evening, October 22nd, A. D. 1879, at 7 o'clock, in the First or Evangelical Reformed Church of Frederick City, Frederick County, Md., pursuant to appointment of last annual meeting, and was opened with the usual religious services. The President of the previous year, Rev. M. Kieffer, D. D., preached the opening sermon from Isaiah 21: 11, 12—“Watchman, what of the night? Watchman, what of the night? The watchman said, The morning cometh, and also the night: if ye will inquire, inquire ye: return, come.”

ARTICLE II.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

I. FROM THE CLASSIS OF ZION.

Ministers:—Jacob O. Miller, D. D., William K. Zieber, D. D., John Ault, Reinhart R. Smith, Aaron Wanner, D. D., Aaron Spangler, Reuben Rauhauser, Israel S. Weisz, D. D., Moses Kieffer, D. D., William H. Herbert, Andrew J. Heller, George W. Glessner, D. D., John Kretzing, E. Garver Williams, Amos H. Kremer, D. D., William H. Xanders, Silas F. Laury, Francis S. Lindaman, William R. H. Deatrich, Jeremiah M. Mickley, William F. Colliflower, William D. Lefever, and the *Licentiates* Samuel T. Wagner and Silas M. Hench.

Elders:—Israel Laucks, John Sellers, Emanuel Krone, Jacob G. March, John Miller, Daniel Mitzel, Michael L. Emig, Andrew H.

Beitler, Jacob Rickard, James E. Ross, John Hoover, Francis M. McKeegan, Henry Dietz, Samuel R. Weaver, Adam D. Myers, George W. Hench, S. Augustus Basehore, Peter Stambaugh, Henry Wirt, Adam Heberlig, J. Lawrence Rohrbach, and Jesse W. Garrett.

II. FROM THE CLASSIS OF MARYLAND.

Ministers :—Joseph W. Santee, D. D., George L. Staley, D. D., Edmund R. Eschbach, D. D., William Goodrich, Simon S. Miller, Abner R. Kremer, Mortimer L. Shuford, Orange E. Lake, Joel T. Rossiter, Nehemiah H. Skyles, T. Franklin Hoffincier, Ambrose C. Geary, John G. Noss, William Rupp, Jonas B. Shontz, Leighton G. Kremer, Marion L. Firor, Conrad Clever, Anthony Shulenberg, J. Spangler Kieffer, P. Allison Long, Henry Wissler, and the *Licentiate* Henry E. Cook.

Elders :—Hon. Lewis H. Steiner, M. D., Louis Markell, Joseph H. Troup, J. Taylor Motter, Ezra Williard, William H. Haugh, Goldsboro S. Griffith, David H. Koogle, Christian M. Keedy, H. Wirt Shriver, John M. Hoffman, Jacob Sellers, William Miller, Jacob H. Bowers, Peter Zimmerman, Michael Smith, Michael Zimmerman, Daniel Biser, and Charles Fridinger.

III. FROM THE CLASSIS OF MERCERSBURG.

Ministers :—William M. Deatruck, Isaac G. Brown, Albert G. Dole, Ellis N. Kremer, David M. Whitmore, David N. Dittmar, John M. Schick, William I. Stewart, David W. Ebbert, William C. Cremer, William A. Gring, Franklin F. Bahner, Henry F. Long, J. David Miller, Henry S. Garner, J. Alvin Reber, Isaac N. Peightel, Elnathan E. Higbee, D. D., Milton H. Sangree, Isaac M. Motter, Cyrus H. Reiter, Henry I. Comfort, and John H. Sykes.

Elders :—Henry Mickley, Adriel Koons, Benjamin Neff, William Dice, George Dice, Levi Bolger, Henry Omwake, and Samuel B. Snively.

IV. FROM THE CLASSIS OF VIRGINIA.

Ministers :—Samuel N. Callender, D. D., Henry Tallhelm, Charles G. Fisher, John C. Bowman, John A. Hoffheins, Barton R. Carnahan, Samuel L. Whitmore, Lawrence M. Hensell, George H. Martin, D. D., Henry St. J. Rinker, and Anderson J. Whitmore.

Elders :—William H. Bargelt, John M. Nicely, John M. Stoner, Joseph Welshans, John W. Yakey, Henry J. Seibert, Emanuel Roler, and John F. Crown.

V. FROM THE CLASSIS OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Ministers :—G. William Welker, D. D., and John A. Foil.

VI. FROM THE CLASSIS OF SAN FRANCISCO.

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VII. FROM THE PORTLAND-OREGON CLASSIS.

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ADVISORY MEMBERS.

From the Synod of the United States:—Revs. Samuel R. Fisher, D. D., George H. Johnston, John A. Peters, and Theodore Appel, D. D.
From the Synod of Pittsburgh:—Rev. George A. Whitmore.
From the German Synod of the East:—Rev. Herman Bielfeld.
From Zion's Classis:—Elder William A. Wilt.
From Mercersburg Classis:—Elders Adam B. Wingerd and Jacob Heysler.

MINISTERS OF OTHER CHURCHES.

The presence of the following ministers, residents of Frederick or vicinity, was announced from time to time, during the sessions of Synod. viz: George Diehl, D. D. of the Lutheran Church, S. V. Leach, D. D., C. E. Dudrear, A. E. Bradenbaugh, and W. A. Koontz of the Methodist Church; J. L. Grimm and William Beall of the United Brethren Church; Robert H. Williams of the Presbyterian Church; and M. Spriddle of the African Methodist Church.

NOTE.—A considerable number of the members appeared upon the floor of Synod after the first session. Hence their names do not occur in the order in which they would appear, had they been present at the formation of the Synodical Roll, at the opening session, but in the order of their appearance upon the floor of Synod.

ARTICLE III.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Rev. J. W. Santee, D. D., *President*, Cavetown, Md.
 Rev. W. M. Deatrick is *Stated Clerk*, Mercersburg, Pa.
 Rev. I. S. Weisz, D. D., *Corresponding Secretary*, York, Pa.
 Elder L. H. Steiner, M. D., *Treasurer*, Frederick, Md.

ARTICLE IV.

RULES OF ORDER.

The Rules of Order, as adopted at the first annual meeting of Synod, were read by the Stated Clerk. The limits of the *Bar of the House* were defined, agreeably to these Rules, to consist of the first eight pews from the chancel railing.

On motion, the following plan or rule for the formation of the roll of the next Synod was adopted, viz.:

Inasmuch, as considerable time is occupied annually in making out the Synodical Roll, and in order to avoid this as much as possible in

the future, and to facilitate the formation of said roll, it is hereby ordered, as follows, to wit :

1. That, at least ten days before the meeting of next Synod, the Stated Clerk of each Classis furnish the Stated Clerk of the Synod with a certified list or roll of all the ministers and pastoral charges on the Classical Roll, at the time.

2. That, at least ten days previous to the convening of the next annual meeting of Synod, each pastoral charge shall be required to send the proper credentials of its delegated elder or elders to the Stated Clerk of Synod.

3. That the Stated Clerk of Synod shall, from these data, form a provisional roll, which is to be called immediately after the Synodical sermon has been preached, and that the names of those responding shall constitute the opening Synodical Roll for the purpose of organization.

4. That, at least four weeks before the time appointed for the next Synod to meet, the Stated Clerk of Synod give official notice of the foregoing action in *The Messenger*.

The following hours were fixed for the opening and closing of the current sessions of Synod, viz. :

The forenoon session to open at 9 and close at 11½ o'clock. The afternoon session to begin at 2 and end at 4½ o'clock. Evening sessions were held on Monday and Tuesday evenings, beginning at 7½ and 7 o'clock, respectively.

ARTICLE V.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

The following Standing Committees were appointed by the President, viz. :

Religious Services :—Revs. E. R. Eschbach, M. L. Shuford, G. W. Glessner, M. L. Firor, and Elders L. H. Steiner, D. H. Koogle, and L. Markell.

Minutes of Synod :—Revs. W. M. Deatrick, J. Ault, O. E. Lake, J. A. Foil, and Elders I. Laucks, E. Williard, and J. Welshans.

Overtures :—Revs. A. Wanner, W. C. Cremer, W. Goodrich, B. R. Carnahan, and Elders John Sellers, J. H. Troup, and H. Mickley.

Minutes of Classes :—Revs. I. S. Weisz, C. G. Fisher, S. S. Miller, D. N. Dittmar, and Elders E. Krone, J. Hoover, and A. Koons.

Examination, Licensure and Ordination :—Revs. G. W. Welker, J. O. Miller, G. L. Staley, A. G. Dole, and Elders G. S. Griffith, B. Neff, and J. M. Nicely.

State of Religion and Statistical Reports :—Revs. M. Kieffer, J. C. Bowman, A. C. Geary, F. F. Bahner, and Elders A. H. Beitler, J. T. Motter, and W. Dice.

Education :—Revs. T. F. Hoffmeier, E. N. Kremer, J. Kretzing, D. W. Ebbert, and Elders H. W. Shriver, L. Bolger, and J. M. Stoner.

Missions :—Revs. A. J. Heller, A. Spangler, J. T. Rossiter, D. M. Whitmore, and Elders J. G. March, Jacob Sellers, and G. Dice.

Publication :—Revs. S. N. Callender, J. G. Noss, W. A. Gring, W. H. Herbert, and Elders F. M. McKeehan, J. M. Hoffman, and M. L. Emig.

Finance :—Revs. A. H. Kremer, N. H. Skyles, C. Clever, W. I. Stewart, and Elders J. Miller, W. H. Haugh, and D. Mitzel.

Nominations :—Revs. A. R. Kremer, W. Rupp, L. G. Kremer, J. M. Schick, and Elders W. H. Bargelt, J. E. Ross, and C. M. Keedy.

Ministerial Necrology :—Revs. I. G. Brown, R. R. Smith, J. D. Miller, E. G. Williams, and Elders J. Rickard, H. Dietz, and S. R. Weaver.

ARTICLE VI.

COMMUNICATIONS.

1. The Minutes of the Classes of Mercersburg, Maryland, North Carolina, Virginia, San Francisco, Portland-Oregon, and Zion were received, and referred to the Standing Committee on Minutes of Classes, except the Reports on the State of Religion and the Statistical Tables, which were referred to the Standing Committee on these subjects.

2. The Annual Report of the Treasurer of Synod was presented and read, and then referred to the Standing Committee on Finance, for the purpose of being audited.

3. The Report of the Board of Education was laid before Synod and read, and then referred to the Standing Committee on Education.

4. The Annual Report of the Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., was received and referred to the same Committee.

5. The Annual Reports of the Board of Missions, of the Superintendent of Missions, and of the Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions were received and referred to the Standing Committee on Missions.

6. Ten other Communications were received and referred to the Standing Committee on Overtures.

ARTICLE VII.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

The Synod, during its present sessions, observed the following religious services, viz.:

1. The sessions of each day were opened and closed with appropriate religious services.

2. The Standing Committee on Religious Services submitted their report, which was received, amended, and adopted, and is as follows:

Your Committee on Religious Services would respectfully report, as follows:

SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE SYNOD, IN THE FIRST
REFORMED CHURCH.

Thursday Evening.—Sermon by Rev. Dr. Welker. Liturgical services by Revs. W. C. Cremer and Dr. Weisz.

Friday Evening.—Synodical Sunday-school Board's service, conducted by Elder G. S. Griffith.

1st Topic. The Sunday-school as a Means of Christian Nurture. *Speakers*, Revs. Dr. Staley and W. I. Stewart.

2nd Topic. The Preparation Necessary, on the part of a teacher, before meeting the Class. *Speakers*, Revs. J. B. Shontz and Dr. Wanner.

3rd Topic. The Catechism as a text-book of distinctive doctrine in the Sunday-school. *Speakers*, Revs. F. F. Bahner and Dr. Callender.

Saturday Afternoon.—Services preparatory to the Holy Communion: sermon by Rev. Dr. Martin. Liturgical services by Revs. Dr. Miller and W. M. Deatruck.

Saturday Evening.—Sermon by Rev. J. C. Bowman. Liturgical services by Revs. J. A. Hoffheins and J. A. Foil.

Sunday Morning.—Celebration of the Lord's Supper: sermon or address by Rev. Dr. Glessner. Liturgical services by Revs. Drs. Santee and Fisher.

Sunday Afternoon.—Sunday-school services. Addresses by Revs. Dr. Kremer, G. H. Johnston, and Dr. Miller.

Sunday Evening.—Sermon by Rev. Dr. Higbee. Liturgical services by Revs. W. Goodrich and A. J. Heller.

SERVICES IN OTHER CHURCHES.

Reformed Church (German).—*Sunday Morning*, Rev. A. Spangler. *Sunday Afternoon*, Rev. R. R. Smith.

Fairview Church.—*Sunday Afternoon*, Rev. G. A. Whitmore.

Mount Pleasant Charge.—*Sunday*, Rev. A. R. Kremer.

Glade Charge.—*Sunday*, Rev. F. S. Lindaman.

Jefferson.—*Sunday Evening*, Rev. E. N. Kremer.

Lutheran Church.—*Sunday Morning*, Rev. Dr. Callender. *Sunday Evening*, Rev. M. I. Firor.

Methodist Episcopal Church.—*Sunday Morning*, Rev. C. Clever. *Sunday Evening*, Rev. J. A. Hoffheins.

Episcopal Methodist Church.—*Sunday Morning*, Rev. E. N. Kremer. *Sunday Evening*, Rev. Dr. Staley.

Presbyterian Church.—*Sunday Morning*, Rev. W. I. Stewart. *Sunday Evening*, Rev. F. F. Bahmer.

Baptist Church (Colored).—*Sunday Morning*, Rev. J. H. Sykes. *Sunday Evening*, Rev. D. W. Ebbert.

African Methodist Church.—*Sunday Morning*, Rev. A. J. Heller. *Sunday Evening*, Rev. H. Tallhelm.

Lutheran Church (German Service).—*Sunday Afternoon*, Rev. E. G. Williams.

Harmony Grove.—*Sunday Afternoon*, Rev. J. B. Shontz.

Respectfully submitted,

E. R. ESCHBACH, *Chairman.*

ARTICLE VIII.

MINUTES OF SYNOD.

The reading of the Minutes of the last Annual Meeting publicly by the Synod was dispensed with, and the Printed Minutes of the last annual sessions were referred to the Standing Committee on Minutes of Synod to report the items of unfinished business, claiming the attention of this meeting of Synod. During the session of Thursday Afternoon, the Standing Committee on Minutes of Synod submitted the following report, which was received, considered item by item, adopted as a whole, and is as follows, to wit:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MINUTES OF SYNOD.

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac:

Your Committee, to whom were referred the Minutes of Synod of last year, after a careful perusal of them, beg leave to report the following items of unfinished business claiming the attention of the present sessions of Synod, viz.:

Item 1, page 7. The Standing Committee on Ministerial Necrology was appointed, whose duty it will be to report at this meeting of Synod, of which Committee Rev. G. L. Staley is Chairman.

Item 2, page 25. It will be necessary to elect members of the Board of Education to fill the places of Revs. W. Goodrich and J. A. Hoffheins, and Elder J. Heyser, whose terms of office will expire with the present sessions of Synod.

Item 3, page 34. Two thousand dollars, in addition to the three thousand voluntarily assumed by the Maryland Classis, were apportioned among the Classes of Zion, Mercersburg, Virginia, North Carolina, and San Francisco, for the purchasing of a lot and the erection of a chapel for the Washington City mission.

Item 4, page 34. The Tri-Synodic Board of Missions was requested to issue an appeal to the Reformed Church, at large, for funds for the same purpose, and thereby afford an opportunity to every baptized as well as confirmed member of our Zion to contribute towards the erection of a chapel for said mission.

Item 5, page 34. Thirty-nine hundred and fifty dollars were apportioned among the several Classes for Home Missions.

Item 6, page 35. All the pastors belonging to Synod were requested to take up special collections for the payment in full of the promises made by the Synod at York, in 1876, to the cause of missions in the Iowa and Virginia Classes.

Item 7, page 35. The Maryland Classis was requested to appoint a committee to regulate, conjointly with the mission congregation in Washington city, the purchasing of a lot and the building of a chapel; and to have authority also to draw upon the Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions for such funds as may have been placed in his hands for this specific object.

Item 8, page 36. It will be necessary to elect a member of the Synodic Board of Missions to fill the place of Elder Henry Wirt, whose term of service expired on the 1st instant.

Item 9, page 37. The Synod made contingent provision for the ordination of the licentiate Ambrose D. Gring to the work of the Holy Ministry and also as missionary to Japan; and, to this end, appointed a committee of ordination, consisting of Revs. J. O. Miller, M. Kieffer, and E. R. Eschbach.

Item 10, page 39. One half of the assessment upon Synod by the last General Synod for contingent purposes, being one hundred and thirty dollars, remained unprovided for, and was referred to this Synod for liquidation.

Item 11, page 40. An increasing deficit was reported by the Board of Trustees of Synod in the fund needed to cancel the loan, made in 1875 by the direction of Synod for the relief of the Reformed Church Publication Board.

Item 12, page 40. It becomes necessary to elect a member of the Board of Trustees of Synod, to fill the place of Rev E. R. Eschbach, whose term of service will end January 1st. 1880.

Item 13, page 41. It will be necessary to elect two members of the Sunday-school Board, to fill the places of Elder G. S. Griffith, whose

term of office expires at this meeting of Synod, and of Rev. A. C. Whitmer, whose place was made vacant by his removal, during the past year, into the bounds of the Synod of the United States.

Item 14, page 42. Conditional provision was made for the formation of a new Classis out of that portion of the territory of San Francisco Classis, lying north of the State of California.

Item 15, page 44. The Stated Clerk was instructed to have two thousand copies of the Minutes of the last annual sessions of Synod published, and to distribute them among those entitled to receive Minutes of Synod.

Item 16, page 48. It is rendered necessary for Synod, at this time, to elect a member of the Reformed Church Publication Board, to fill the place of Elder G. S. Griffith, whose term of service is about to expire.

Item 17, page 48. The Committee, appointed to prepare and publish, jointly with a similar Committee from the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, an edition of "Hymns for the Reformed Church" *with music*, was continued, of which committee Rev. E. E. Higbee is Chairman.

Item 18, page 50. The election of four commissioners, two ministers and two elders, as members of the Commission to convene in the city of Harrisburg, Pa., on Wednesday, November 26th, 1879, to consider and solemnly deliberate over all matters in controversy within the Reformed Church in the United States, with a view of devising a plan of amicable adjustment, was deferred until the present meeting of Synod would take place.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. M. DEATRICK,

JOHN AULT,

O. E. LAKE,

J. A. FOIL,

ISRAEL LAUCKS,

EZRA WILLIARD,

JOSEPH WELSHANS,

Committee.

For the action of Synod on item 1, see Article XXII., Ministerial Necrology; items 2, 8, 12, 13, and 16 were severally adopted, and then referred to the Standing Committee on Nominations to make the necessary nominations; on items 3, 4, 5, 6, and 9, see Article XIV., Missions; on items 7 and 14, see Article X., Report of Standing Committee on Minutes of Classes; on items 10 and 11, see Article XV., Finance; on items 15 and 17, see Article XX., Publication; and on item 18, see Article XXI., Miscellaneous

ARTICLE IX.

OVERTURES.

The Standing Committee on Overtures presented their report, which was received, acted on item by item, amended, adopted as a whole, and is as follows :

Your Committee on Overtures report the following papers as requiring the attention of this Synod, to wit :

Item 1. A petition from the Woodstock Charge to this Synod to hold its next annual sessions in Woodstock, Shenandoah County, Va.

Item 2. A similar request from the Newton Church of North Carolina in the form of a unanimous invitation to the Potomac Synod to hold its sessions in 1880 in Newton, N. C.

Item 3. An overture from the Alumni Association of Mercersburg College, respectfully asking Synod for an hour to consider the future of the College, and, if practicable, to devise means for the help of said College in its present necessity. It is intended that the hour asked for, shall be occupied in speaking by Revs. Dr. Higbee, M. H. Sangree, and D. M. Whitmore.

Item 4. A communication from the Corresponding Secretary of the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, requesting the appointment of a member from this Synod to constitute a joint committee of three ; the other two to be appointed, the one from the Synod of Pittsburg, and the other from that of the Reformed Church in the United States. The duty of such joint committee shall be to select a series of Sunday-school Scripture Lessons, and to prepare comments on the same for the coming year ; and, farther, that annually hereafter such joint committee be appointed by said Synods for the same purpose.

Item 5. A letter from the Corresponding Secretary of the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, in which he gives the action of said body, at the sessions in Easton, Pa., in 1878, on the overture from the Sunday-school Board of this Synod requesting the Eastern Synod to co-operate in publishing a Sunday-school Monthly, and respectfully suggests that this Synod bring this subject to the consideration of the Publication Board.

Item 6. A communication over the signatures of the President and Stated Clerk of the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, in which the attention of this Synod is called to the action of said Synod with reference to the Peace Commission.

Item 7. A paper signed by the Stated Clerk of the same Synod, in his official capacity, giving the action of said Synod in reference to the payment of deficiency in the salaries of the Professors in the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., and a recommendation to this Synod to take similar action.

Item 8. A petition from the Consistory of the Reformed Church at Churchtown, Cumberland County, Pa., praying the Synod to receive the legacy of Philip Breebill, late of Boiling Springs, Cumberland County, Pa., who by his last will and testament, dated March 4th, 1874, and proven in the Register's office in and for said County of Cumberland on the 31st day of May, 1875, did bequeath the sum of two hundred dollars to the Synod of the Reformed Church in the following words, viz.: "I will two hundred dollars to the German Reformed Synod, the interest thereof to be paid annually to the pastor at Churchtown." The Consistory further requests the appointment by Synod of some person, a member of this Synod, to whom the bequest may be paid and kept in trust for said Church.

Item 9. A statement by the President of the Board of Managers of Bethany Orphans' Home, at Womelsdorf, of the condition and wants of said institution, together with an earnest appeal to this Synod for aid to pay the debt of \$4,000.00, still resting on the Home, and help for its support in general.

Item 10. A communication from Rev. Dr. Fisher, Stated Clerk of the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, in which he directs the attention of this Synod to the misspelling, in the Minutes of this Synod for 1878, of the following three names, members of that Synod, viz.: George Z. Kunkel, and Revs. Jared Fritzingler and W. T. Gerhard.

Respectfully submitted,

A. WANNER, *Chairman.*

For the action of Synod on items 1 and 2, see Article XXIV., Adjournment; on items 3, 6, 8, and 9, see Article XXI., Miscellaneous; on items 4 and 5, see Article XVIII., Sunday-schools; and on item 7, see Article XIII., Education. The attention of the Stated Clerk was called to the misspellings complained of in item 10.

NOTE.—Since returning home I have examined the original reports, in which the names occur, whose misspelling is complained of, and which were used in printing the Minutes, and find the mistakes and misspellings in the reports as furnished to the Synod of the Potomac. Surely, neither the Stated Clerk nor the Printer should, in all fairness, be held responsible for the mistakes and misspelling of proper names in carelessly copied reports furnished the Synod.

STATED CLERK.

ARTICLE X.

MINUTES OF CLASSES.

The Standing Committee on Minutes of Classes submitted their report, during the session of Tuesday Afternoon, which was received, disposed of item by item, amended, then adopted as a whole, and is as follows, viz.:

Your Committee on the Minutes of Classes offer the following as their report:

I. IRREGULARITIES.

1. Zion's Classis transacted business, at a special meeting at York, Pa., July 11th, 1879, not contained in the call of the President, to wit: the dismissing of the licentiate Louis F. Woerle to the Classis of San Francisco.

2. The Stated Clerk of Virginia Classis failed to note the reading of the several parochial reports, and their reference to the Committee on the State of Religion, and also the propounding of the Constitutional questions to the respective elders.

3. The Stated Clerks of Zion's, Virginia, and North Carolina Classes failed to certify, under seal and signature, that their minutes are true copies of the original Minutes.

II. REQUESTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

4. Mercersburg Classis most earnestly urges the Synod to use every endeavor for the promotion and success of Mercersburg College.

5. Mercersburg Classis refers the tender of the resignation of Rev. J. A. Peters as a member of the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College to Synod for acceptance.

6. Virginia Classis requests the Synod to relieve it from the apportionment of \$50 for the erection of a chapel for the mission church at Washington, D. C.

7. San Francisco Classis requests Synod to exonerate it from any special apportionments.

III. APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS.

None.

IV. SUBJECTS REFERRED TO CLASSES.

8. Zion's, Maryland, Mercersburg, Virginia, North Carolina and San Francisco Classes took favorable action on the subject of Home Missions.

9. All the Classes took favorable action on the subject of Beneficiary Education, and the increase of young men for the ministry.

10. Mercersburg Classis took favorable action on the apportionment for erection of chapel in Washington, D. C.

11. Zion's and North Carolina Classes took unfavorable action on the same subject.

12. Maryland Classis, in accordance with the request of Synod, appointed Revs. E. R. Eschbach, G. L. Staley, J. S. Kieffer, and Elders F. J. Davis and G. S. Griffith the Committee to act conjointly with the Washington City mission in the erection of a chapel in Washington.

13. San Francisco Classis consented to the organization of the Portland-Oregon Classis,—which organization was effected in Portland, Oregon, on the 1st of March A. D. 1879; Rev. J. Gantenbein, presiding.

V. LICENSED, ORDAINED, RECEIVED, AND DISMISSED.

14. Zion's Classis licensed Silas M. Hench and Louis F. Woerle; received the licentiate William H. Xanders from the East Pennsylvania Classis and ordained him; received the licentiate Silas F. Laury from the Tobickon Classis and ordained him; received Rev. George E. Addams from the West Susquehanna Classis; and dismissed the licentiate Louis F. Woerle to the San Francisco Classis.

15. Maryland Classis ordained the licentiate Marion L. Firor; received Conrad Clever from the Lancaster Classis of the Synod of U. S.; dismissed the licentiate George M. Zacharias to the same Classis; and deposed Rev. Daniel Gans, D. D., from the Holy Ministry.

16. Mercersburg Classes licensed Wm. Wilberforce Deatruck, Samuel H. Eisenberg, and Daniel H. Leader; and dismissed Revs. Adam C. Whitmer to the West Susquehanna Classis, and Henry F. Seiple to the Tobickon Classis.

17. Virginia Classis licensed and ordained Samuel L. Whitmore and Lawrence M. Hensell; received Rev. Frederick E. Vandersloot from the Zion's Classis of this Synod; and dismissed the licentiate George A. Whitmore to the Clarion Classis.

18. North Carolina Classis erased the name of Rev. John C. Denny from its Roll.

19. San Francisco Classis licensed and ordained Julius Lange; received Revs. George Mechttersheimer from the New York Classis, Julius Fuendeling from the East Susquehanna Classis, Conrad F. Waldecker from Heidelberg Classis, and Louis F. Woerle from Zion's Classis, this Synod; and dismissed Rev. Lewis C. Edmonds to the Kansas Classis, and Revs. John Gantenbein, J. Muellhaupt, George Mechttersheimer, and Julius Lange and their congregations to form the Portland-Oregon Classis.

VI. PLACE AND TIME OF THE NEXT ANNUAL MEETINGS OF THE CLASSES.

20. Zion's Classis will meet in Littlestown, Adams County, Pa., on Thursday, May 20th, A. D. 1880, at 7½ o'clock, P. M. Rev. A. J. Heller, *President*; Rev. W. R. H. Deatruck, *Stated Clerk*; and Elder Wm. A. Wilt, *Treasurer*.

21. Maryland Classis will meet in Funkstown, Washington County, Md., on Thursday, May 20th, A. D. 1880, at 7½ o'clock, P. M. Rev. S. S. Miller, *President*, *Stated Clerk*, and *Treasurer*.

22. Mercersburg Classis will meet in McConnellstown, Huntingdon County, Pa., on Wednesday, May 19th, A. D. 1880, at 7½ o'clock, P. M. Rev. F. A. Rupley, *President*; Rev. Wm. M. Deatruck, *Stated Clerk*, and *Treasurer*.

23. Virginia Classis will meet in Zion's Church, Shenandoah County, Va., on Thursday, May 13th, A. D. 1880, at 7½ o'clock, P. M. Rev. J. C. Bowman, *President*; Rev. H. St. John Rinker, *Stated Clerk*; and Rev. C. G. Fisher, *Treasurer*.

24. North Carolina Classis will meet in the Brick Church in Guilford County, N. C., on Thursday, June 3rd, A. D. 1880, at 10 o'clock, A. M. Rev. J. H. Shuford, *President*; Rev. G. W. Welker, D. D., *Stated Clerk*; and Rev. T. Long, *Treasurer*.

25. San Francisco Classis will meet in St. John's Church, San Francisco, California, on Thursday, May 20th, A. D. 1880, at 7½ o'clock, P. M. Rev. J. Fuendeling, *President*; Rev. C. F. Waldecker, *Stated Clerk*; and Elder B. Joost, *Treasurer*.

26. Portland-Oregon Classis will meet in the First Reformed Church of Portland, Oregon, on Thursday, July 8th, A. D. 1880, at 7½ o'clock, P. M. Rev. J. Gantenbein, *President*; Rev. J. Lange, *Stated Clerk*; and Rev. J. Muellhaupt, *Treasurer*.

Respectfully submitted,

I. S. WEISZ,
S. S. MILLER,
CHAS. G. FISHER,
D. N. DITTMAR,
E. KRÖNE,
JOHN HOOVER,

Committee.

The resignation of Rev. J. A. Peters, in item 5, as a member of the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College was accepted, and the Standing Committee on Nominations was instructed to make the necessary nominations to fill the vacancy. The request made in item 6 was not granted. The request made in item 7 was granted so far as the apportionment for Washington mission chapel is concerned, but no farther. The action of the Classes of Zion and North Carolina, reported in item 11 was not approved, and the apportionment of Synod of last year was reiterated. The remaining items were severally adopted.

ARTICLE XI.

EXAMINATION, LICENSURE and ORDINATION.

The Standing Committee on Examination, Licensure, and Ordination offered the following report, during the session of Tuesday Afternoon, which was received and adopted, viz.:

The Committee on Examination, Licensure, and Ordination would make report, that no business having been referred to them, nor any application made for examination, they now ask to be discharged.

Respectfully submitted,

G. WM. WELKER,
J. O. MILLER,
GEO. LEWIS STALEY,
A. G. DOLE,
G. S. GRIFFITH,
BENJAMIN NEFF,
JOHN M. NICELY,

Committee.

ARTICLE XII.

STATE OF RELIGION AND STATISTICAL REPORTS.

The Standing Committee on the State of Religion and Statistical Reports reported at Tuesday Evening's session, which was received, amended, and adopted. As adopted, the report is, as follows:

It becomes us at all times to be grateful to the Giver of every good and perfect gift, for the numberless blessings, both temporal and spiritual, that He is bestowing upon us: but when convened as a Synod we should give thanks to God especially on behalf of the churches and congregations under our care "for the grace which is given" them by Jesus Christ, "that in every thing they are enriched by him." "So they come behind in no gift, waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." Blessed be the name of the most High God, that in the gift of His Son, He has with Him also freely given us all things. In the Church, the body of Christ, the infinite fulness of His grace is always present, because He himself is present, as He hath promised: "Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world." Nor is this divine-human presence merely objective. Christ is not merely present before the members of the Church, in the persons of those commissioned by Him to minister in holy things. The word preached by them *is indeed* His word. The holy sacraments administered by them are the holy, visible signs and seals of His grace. In His Person the kingdom of God has come to us in all its gracious and saving power. The new Jerusalem from above has come down to earth. And in this holy city, whose builder and maker is God, we have, in the process of fulfillment and actualization, all that the prophets have said, and all that is foreshadowed by previous dispensations.

This is indeed a ground of thanksgiving and praise. But not merely on this ground do we call upon our souls and all that is within us to magnify and praise the name of the Lord. We do praise and thank Him for His presence with us and our people, in the sanctuary, and in the means of grace which He hath ordained. We rejoice that the candlestick has not been removed on account of the indifference and unfaithfulness of many: but that, on the contrary, our churches generally, like that of Corinth in the time of St. Paul, have been enriched in all things by the gracious presence of our blessed Lord.

According to the reports placed in our hands, we are authorized to say, that the labors of the ministers of this Synod, (all of whose lives and health, with one exception, have been precious in the sight of the Lord,) have been greatly blessed during the past year. The word has been faithfully preached throughout the length and breadth of our extended territory, and it has had free course, and has been glorified. The outward word has become the inner word by the presence and power of the Holy Ghost. The objective realities of our blessed religion, the incarnation, the life, the death, the resurrection, the ascension, and the Pentecostal return of our Lord to His Church have become more and more facts of consciousness amongst our people, during the past year.

Christmas, the nativity of Christ, means that, by the Holy Spirit, He is formed in us the hope of glory. His life of toil, suffering, and death, is our life of suffering and our crucifixion to the world, and of the world unto us. His resurrection from the dead is our resurrection from the

grave of sin, and our justification unto life. And, as for those who have departed this life—He is their resurrection and their everlasting life. In a word, our people are becoming more and more conscious of the rich contents of our undoubted, Christian faith, and hence more and more Christ-like. Therefore it is blessed news which we hear from the churches of the large accessions,—of the number of children (as well as of believing adults) baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost—of the unusually large number confirmed, during the year, in the grace which they received in their baptism—and the unusual interest taken in Sunday-school instruction, and catechisation as means to this end: and especially the very large increase of the number who partake regularly of the elements of our Saviour's broken Body and shed Blood. True, mention is made of trials, discouragements, and sufferings; but all things work together for good to them that love God—the called according to His purpose.

In conclusion, it becomes our sad and painful duty to note the death of Rev. Nicholas E. Gilds, a member of Synod, which took place during the last Synodical year. A brief account of his life and labors is given in the report of the Necrological Committee.

Respectfully submitted;

M. KIEFFER,
J. C. BOWMAN,
F. F. BAHNER,
A. C. GEARY,
A. H. BEITLER,
WM. DICE,

Committee.

For Statistical Tables see Appendix.

ARTICLE XIII.

EDUCATION.

The Board of Education presented their annual report to Synod, during the session of Saturday, which was received, and then referred to the Standing Committee on Education. The report is as follows, to wit:

I. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac.

The Board of Education, at its meeting in Hagerstown, at the close of the last annual sessions of Synod, re-elected the following officers, viz.: Rev. S. N. Callender, *President*, Rev. I. G. Brown, *Secretary*, and Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick, *Treasurer*. The Executive Committee of the previous year was continued.

A special meeting of the Board was held in Greencastle, Pa., December 2nd, 1878, at which the Treasurer of the Board was authorized, directed, and empowered to receive a bequest "to Beneficiary Education in the Reformed Church," of one hundred and fifty dollars devised by Miss

Anna Maria Brechbill of Boiling Springs, Cumberland County, Pa., in her last will and testament, dated June 17th, 1873, and proven May 5th, 1876; and to also execute, deliver, and acknowledge a release therefor in the name of the Board. This was formally attended to a few days later, and the amount bequeathed was received. The necessary expenses paid for executing the requisite release and attorney's fee, in the case, amounted to seven dollars and seventy-five cents. Owing to informality in writing the will of Miss Brechbill, the Treasurer encountered serious difficulty in securing the bequest, having to make repeated trips to Carlisle in the discharge of this duty. For his trouble and individual expenses in the case, the Treasurer did neither ask, nor receive any compensation. To complicate matters, in addition to the informality of the will itself already referred to, when the Treasurer got on the trail of the bequest, he found that the executor of the estate had filed his final account, which had been audited, and by said audit, passed upon and approved by the Orphans' Court, the amount devised had been made payable to "the Reformed Church," instead of to the cause of Beneficiary Education in the Reformed Church. Had there been any disposition to contest the matter, it is feared, that the aim and object of the testatrix would have been frustrated, and the bequest lost to the cause.

The Board also held a meeting in Mercersburg, last May, at the close of the scholastic year in the Post Graduate Department of Mercersburg College, and attended the examinations of those students who had been receiving theological instruction in said institution. In the main, these examinations were creditable to the young men and satisfactory to the members of the Board that were in attendance.

Messrs. Franklin W. Brown, Samuel H. Eisenberg, Christian Gumbert, Lawrence M. Hensell, Daniel H. Leader, and Samuel L. Whitmore, constituting the Senior Class in the Post Graduate Course of Study in Mercersburg College, after having completed the regular three years curriculum of theological instruction were graduated and granted certificates of dismission with recommendation to their respective Classes for examination with a view to licensure. Messrs. Eisenberg and Leader were duly licensed to preach the Gospel by the Mercersburg Classis; Messrs. Hensell and Whitmore by the Virginia Classis; Mr. Brown by the West Susquehanna Classis; and Mr. Gumbert by the Westmoreland Classis. Wm. Wilberforce Deatrick also under the care and supervision of the Board, who had finished the full course of collegiate and theological study and had graduated in the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., was likewise licensed by the Mercersburg Classis.

The Board, at its May meeting, also appointed the resident members of the Board a committee to attend the examinations of those beneficiary students, who were connected with the collegiate department of Mercersburg College. These took place during the month of June, and proved very satisfactory to the members of the committee.

Your Board is happy in being able to report, that, in no instance, did the scholarship-grade of the beneficiary students fall so low as to require special admonition to increased diligence and earnestness in study, as provided for by the Board two years ago, at its meeting in Baltimore. The general behavior of all our beneficiaries and also of those who received theological instruction in Mercersburg College during the year, so far as the Board is aware, has been commendable.

In this connection, the Board takes pleasure in stating to the Synod, that since the Synod, at its first annual meeting, held in Chambersburg,

took action requiring all beneficiary students to give a bond with approved security, for the funds paid them, not a single instance of violation of the conditions of the bonds has occurred.

During the past Synodical year, the Board had under its care and supervision ten young men as beneficiary students. Five of these have completed their theological course of study, and have been licensed, as already stated. Thus only five beneficiaries are now under the care of the Board, of the number sustaining this relation one year ago. The Maryland Classis at its annual meeting in May last made provision for two young men as beneficiary students, who have since been received under the care of the Board, viz : Calvin Boyd Heller and John Nevin Bauman, both members of Franklin and Marshall College. Consequently, the Board, at the present time, has only seven beneficiaries to supply with funds. They are to be provided for as follows: Mercersburg Classis three, Maryland Classis three, and Virginia Classis one.

It is to be regretted, that all the Classes do not see fit to carry forward their beneficiary operations in connection with your Board. Mercersburg, Maryland, Virginia, and Zion's Classis only in part, have been cooperating with the Board. Hence the amount in this report as contributed for this noble cause necessarily is considerably smaller than it would be, did all the Classes unite in this work of the Board.

The diminishing number of those who are preparing for the work of the ministry challenges earnest inquiry, whether we as members of the Synod of the Potomac are not coming short in the discharge of our duty, to seek out young men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, who may be put in a course of training for this most solemn and responsible of all callings. Whilst there seems at present to be even a surplus of ministers in our Reformed Zion, your Board cannot but regard such seeming overplus to be more apparent than real. Were the proper missionary spirit awakened in the Reformed Church in the United States, it is much more than likely, that there would be shortly felt a serious lack of ministerial workmen. The cry would soon be, too few, and not too many.

It is gratifying to the Board to be able to report to the Synod, that the Treasurer of the Board has punctually paid the beneficiaries their stipends in quarterly installments, up to this date, and, that there remains a handsome balance in the Treasury. The blessing of the great Head of the Church has manifestly been granted to the work of the Board, during the past year. Whilst there has been a scarcity of funds in many other departments of church work, there has been none with us in this. In former years, the Treasurer of the Board had either to draw upon his individual resources for the time being, or to borrow where best he could, in order to meet the current demands upon the Treasury by the beneficiaries.

At the present time, G. B. Resser, E. S. Hassler, and C. W. Summey are receiving theological instruction in the Post Graduate Department of Mercersburg College, and A. A. Black and E. R. Deatrick in the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa.

The Board respectfully recommends the organization, as far as practicable, in all our congregations, of societies for securing funds for Beneficiary Education and the cause of Missions.

The Treasurer of the Board acknowledges the receipt of the following amounts for Beneficiary Education, during the last Synodical year. The

aggregate contributed by each pastoral charge is given, omitting the items and dates of payment, viz. :

SYNOPSIS OF TREASURER'S REPORT.

Mercersburg Classis.

Altoona Charge,	\$ 60.00
Martinsburg "	50.32
Mercersburg "	50.00
Chambersburg Charge,	50.00
St. Clairsville "	50.00
College Church "	40.00
Woodcock Valley "	40.00
Everett "	40.00
Friend's Cove "	34.83
Mont Alto "	33.71
Schellsburg "	28.07
Sulphur Spring "	24.90
St. Thomas "	24.46
Bedford "	20.00
Waterstreet "	17.90
Yellow Creek "	16.00
Loudon "	16.00
Waynesboro "	15.00
Orbisonia "	15.00
Greencastle "	11.76
Grindstonehill "	7.77
Clover Creek "	5.00
Middleburg "	2.97
McConnellsburg "	2.40
Amount,	\$656.09

Maryland Classis.

Evangelical Reformed Church of Frederick,	\$ 74.62
Westminster Charge,	32.71
Middletown Church,	30.00
Hagerstown Charge,	16.00
Glade "	12.25
First Church of Baltimore,	12.00
Jefferson Charge,	10.00
Cavetown "	10.00
Mechanicstown Charge,	8.00
Manchester "	8.00
Boonsboro "	8.00
St. Paul's Church of Baltimore,	5.00
Burkittsville Church,	4.00
Mount Pleasant Charge,	2.00
Amount,	\$232.58

Virginia Classis.

Cash per Treasurers,	\$162.19
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Zion's Classis.

Cash per Treasurer,	\$100.00
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Bequest.

Estate of Anna Maria Brechbill,.....\$150.00

RECAPITULATION.

Summary of Receipts.

October 15, 1878. Balance in Treasury,.....	\$276.20
Received from Mercersburg Classis,.....	656.09
“ “ Maryland “	232.58
“ “ Virginia “	162.19
“ “ Zion’s “	100.00
Bequest of Miss Anna Maria Brechbill,.....	150.00
Total receipts,.....	\$1577.06

Summary of Payments.

Paid beneficiary students of Mercersburg Classis,.....	\$ 676.25
“ “ “ Maryland “	275.00
“ “ “ Virginia “	150.00
“ “ “ Zion’s “	112.50
Expenses in getting bequest of Miss Brechbill,.....	7.75
Paid for Ledger for use of Treasurer,.....	1.30
Postage, revenue stamps, stationery, and discount,.....	1.76
October 15, 1879. Balance in Treasury,.....	352.50
Total payments,.....	\$1577.06

Respectfully submitted,

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

We hereby certify, that we have carefully audited the accounts of Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick, Treasurer of the Board of Education of the Synod of the Potomac, by vouchers, and find the same to be correct.

The foregoing Synopsis and Recapitulation are a faithful statement of the same. There is a balance in the Treasury, at this time, of \$352.50.

J. HASSLER,
I. G. BROWN,
Auditing Committee.

Mercersburg, Pa., October 15, 1879.

II. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF VISITORS OF THE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac:

RESPECTED BRETHREN:—The Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary takes pleasure in reporting that the divine favor has continued to rest on our school of the prophets.

The sessions of the Seminary were opened on the first Thursday of September 1878, and continued during the year without interruption.

The following persons were admitted into the Seminary at the opening of the year as members of the Junior class, nine in number: Albert A. Black, Thomas A. Fenstermacher, Edwin A. Gernant, Cosmos H. Herbst, Newton J. Miller, Cyrus J. Musser, John W. Rauch, Calvin S. Slagel, and Joshua Wolbach.

All had regularly graduated at College, with the exception of one, who was admitted on the basis of the partial course. Six are graduates of Franklin and Marshall, one of Mercersburg and one of Muhlenberg College.

The Faculty commends the industry, moral habits and Christian character of the students and reports that the moral tone of the institution compares favorably with that of previous years. The attendance of the students has been good. Several of them, however, were under the necessity of absenting themselves during a part of the year and were excused by the Board. The examinations at the close of the year were satisfactory and regarded as an advance on those of the previous year.

The following persons, seven in number, having pursued the course prescribed in the Seminary, and sustained their final examinations creditably, were dismissed and recommended for licensure: Robert C. Bowling, Simon P. Brown, W. Willerforce Deatrick, Maximilian F. Dumstrej, Thomas J. Haeker, Thomas S. Land, and Silas F. Laury.

All of these with the exception of one have entered upon the active duties of the ministry.

During the past year the Secretary of the Board was requested to prepare a digest of the Rules and Regulations of the Seminary, adopted by the Board from time to time. They were revised and amended, and a copy was ordered to be recorded in the minutes of the Board, as the only rules to be hereafter binding. Those omitted are not regarded as any longer holding. The Board directed that the charter of the Seminary should be published in the next year's catalogue.

We do not think it necessary at this time to direct attention to the great importance of the Seminary to the prosperity of the church. We simply refer to what has already been said in former reports in this regard. It will continue to need the sympathies, the prayers and the help of the church, in order that it may continue to perform its work and enlarge the sphere of its beneficent operations. We still need laborers properly prepared for the harvest, and especially at this time, when the church is engaged in much inward struggle to do her part in extending the kingdom in the world. The time has come to extend the border of her habitation, to lengthen her cords and to strengthen her stakes. In order to carry out her divine impulses, she will continue to need a supply of men from year to year, who will be thoroughly trained and fully up to the demands of the age in culture and preparation for their work.

Respectfully submitted,

THEODORE APPEL, *Secretary.*

Lancaster, Oct. 1, 1879.

III. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

The Standing Committee on Education, to whom had been referred the Report of the Board of Education, the Report of the Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., and item 7 of the Report of the Committee on Overtures, reported during the session of Wednesday Morning, which was received, and adopted, and is as follows, viz.:

To the Synod of the Potomac.

Your Committee on Education respectfully report. The documents placed in our hands are the Report of the Board of Education of this Synod, the Report of the Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., and a communication from the Stated Clerk of the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, containing the action of said Synod with reference to a deficiency in the salaries of the Professors in the Theological Seminary at Lancaster.

From the Report of the Board of Education, we learn that, during the year, the department and progress of the students under the care of the Board have been good. Six students graduated in the Post Graduate Course in Mercersburg College, and one at the Theological Seminary at Lancaster. The Board had under its care ten young men as Beneficiaries; five of whom have graduated. There are at present seven under its care. The financial condition of the Board is good. During the year, a bequest of \$150.00 was received from the estate of Miss Anna Maria Brechbill of Boiling Springs, Cumberland County, Pa. The total receipts of the Treasury, including the balance of \$276.20 in the Treasury at the time of the previous report, were \$1577.06. The expenditures were \$1224.56, leaving a balance in the Treasury of \$352.50.

The Board respectfully recommends the organization, as far as practicable, in all congregations under the care of Synod, of societies for securing funds for Beneficiary Education and Missions.

Your Committee recommend for adoption the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Synod be and hereby are given to the Treasurer of the Board of Education for his labor and trouble in securing the legacy of Miss Brechbill.

Resolved, That the cause of Beneficiary Education be renewedly commended to the liberality of our people.

From the Report of the Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., we learn that this Institution continues to prosper. Ten students were admitted, at the opening of the session the 1st Thursday of September, 1878, and seven graduated at the close of the Seminary year, last May.

Your Committee recommend the following resolution for adoption:

Resolved, That this Synod is gratified to learn the continued prosperity of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster.

The communication from the Stated Clerk of the Synod of U. S. contains the following resolutions, adopted by said Synod at its late meeting in Lebanon, Pa., relating to the deficiency in the salaries of the Professors in the Theological Seminary:—"*Resolved*, That the several Classes be and are hereby directed to appoint some particular time for each pastor to take up a collection in his charge to meet this deficiency, during the coming year. *Resolved*, That similar action be recommended to the Synods of Pittsburgh and of the Potomac."

With reference to this, your Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the request of the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States be and hereby is commended to the several Classes composing this Synod.

Respectfully submitted,

T. F. HOFFMEIER,
 ELLIS N. KREMER,
 JOHN KRETZING,
 D. W. EBBERT,
 H. WIRT SHRIVER,
 LEVI BOLGER,
 JOHN M. STONER,

Committee.

At the election for members of the different Boards, held during the session of Tuesday Evening, Revs. Wm. Goodrich, A. J. Heller, and

Elder J. Heyser were elected members of the Board of Education for the term of three years.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Rev. Wm. Goodrich.....	3	years,	.....	October,	1882.
“ A. J. Heller,.....	3	“	.....	“	1882.
Elder J. Heyser,.....	3	“	.....	“	1882.
Rev. I. G. Brown,.....	2	“	.....	“	1881.
“ Wm. C. Cremer,.....	2	“	.....	“	1881.
“ S. N. Callender,.....	2	“	.....	“	1881.
“ Wm. M. Deatrick,.....	1	“	.....	“	1880.
“ J. S. Kieller,.....	1	“	.....	“	1880.
“ J. W. Santee,.....	1	“	.....	“	1880.

ARTICLE XIV.

MISSIONS.

The Annual Reports of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions, of the Superintendent of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions, and of the Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions were laid before Synod, and referred to the Standing Committee on Missions.

The Standing Committee on Missions reported during the session of Monday Morning. The report was received, and provision was made for holding a Missionary Meeting on Monday Evening. The remainder of the Report was amended and adopted at the session of Tuesday Evening. These Reports are as follows:

I. REPORT OF THE TRI-SYNODIC BOARD OF MISSIONS.

To the Synod of the Potomac.

REV. FATHERS AND BRETHREN:—We herewith transmit to your Reverend Body the annual reports of the Superintendent and Treasurer of the Board of Missions of the Reformed Church in the United States (Tri-Synodic.) The reports present all the information that is deemed necessary, at this time, to communicate.

Respectfully submitted,

J. O. MILLER, *President.*

WM. H. H. SNYDER, *Secretary.*

II. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF THE TRI-SYNODIC BOARD OF MISSIONS.

To the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, to the Synod of Pittsburg, and the Synod of the Potomac.

REVEREND AND DEAR BRETHREN:—By the merciful providence of God, the Superintendent of Missions was raised up from the attack of sickness, from which he suffered a year ago, and permitted, with returning strength, to discharge the responsible duties of his office during the course of the year. It is with gratitude to God, the author of all good gifts, that he now presents this, his second annual report of the condition

of the missions under the care of the Board in the different States of the Union, embracing the territory more particularly under the supervision of the Synods herein addressed. The work committed to our hands as a Church has not been without manifest signs of the divine favor. As far as it has been prospered we ascribe all the honor to the one Great Shepherd of the flock, in whose service we have been called as fellow laborers.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Grace Church, Easton.—Members 75. Baptisms 13. Confirmations 4. S. S. scholars 100. The Sabbath-school is in a prosperous condition. Amount contributed for benevolent purposes \$12, for local objects \$150. Church property valued at \$3,000 with a small debt, which will no doubt be removed at no distant day. The congregation is making a gradual progress, with no immediate prospects of becoming self-supporting. It is, however, doing a useful and necessary work, and deserves the assistance which it has been thus far receiving. Pastor, D. Y. Heisler. Appropriation last year \$200 with some additional assistance from Classis. New appropriation \$150.

Christ's Mission, Allentown.—This mission purchased a church building during the past year for \$1500, upon which \$300 has been paid. The balance is to be paid in annual installments of \$200 each, which, it is believed, will not be too much for the congregation, the pastor not receiving any salary from his people. This step, a wise and judicious one, has had a salutary effect upon the members, whilst it has made a favorable impression on the community, who now regard this enterprise as giving promise of permanence. Business in the neighborhood of East Allentown is reviving, and the prospects of the mission are regarded as more encouraging than for a number of years past. Members 90. Baptisms 13. Confirmations 14. S. S. scholars 157. Benevolence \$15.13. Local objects \$350. Appropriations hitherto \$300. Appropriation for the coming year the same, to which the Classis proposes to add a small amount. Pastor, J. Fritzinger.

Catasauqua.—This mission has been suffering from the burden of a heavy debt for a good while. During the past year this difficulty culminated in the sale of the church building, which is now held by one of the original creditors, without however interfering with its use by the congregation. In these trying circumstances, the members have remained faithful to the discharge of their duties, and the spiritual interests of the congregation have not suffered. It is earnestly hoped, that, in the course of the year, they may again be able to secure possession of their own house of worship. It is believed the severe trials of the congregation will be overruled for good. Members 90. Baptisms 18. S. S. scholars 170. Benevolence \$34. Local objects \$190. Appropriations last year with help from Classis \$300. Present year \$300. Pastor, J. J. Crist.

St. John's, Reading.—Members 305. Baptisms 40. Additions 29. S. S. scholars 325. Attendance at church good. Benevolence \$30. For local objects \$1300. This congregation has continued in its prosperous condition, and its prospects now are better than they were a year ago. It has a valuable church property worth over \$20,000, on which, however, a heavy debt is still resting, which occasions both pastor and people much anxiety. Thus far it has not proved a burden too heavy to be borne. It has been managed with much prudence. The amount reduced during the year was \$300. With the return of prosperity in business and work for the members of the church, most of whom are poor in this world's goods, the congregation will make greater strides in prosperity and gradually become self-supporting. The pastor, J. W. Steinmetz, has

much hard work to perform, in which he is sustained by warm hearts among his own people, and in the sister churches of the city. Appropriation last year \$300. This year \$250.

St. John's, West Philadelphia.—The health of the pastor of this church, which was seriously threatened one year ago, was providentially restored, and, at the earnest request of his people, he was prevailed upon to remain and continue his labors amongst them. This had a happy effect on the congregation and seemed to give it a new impulse to strengthen the things that remained. From observations made on the ground, the Superintendent feels justified in regarding this as one of the most hopeful missions. The church property is valued at \$10,000, upon which there is some debt, the interest on which, together with the current expenses, and various projected improvements about the church, is taxing somewhat heavily the strength of the congregation and calling forth its liberality. Its prospects of becoming self-supporting at no distant day are good. Members 80. Additions since last October 19. Baptisms 6. S. S. scholars 70. Attendance on the services of the sanctuary good. Appropriation last year \$300. This year \$300. Pastor, J. Samuel Vandersloot.

Second Church, Harrisburg.—This mission has a good house of worship worth \$7,000, with a convenient lecture-room attached to it, the debt on which is now nearly liquidated, \$80 having been paid on it during the past year. The Sunday-school is large and flourishing, numbering 220 scholars. It has a missionary society on the apostolic plan, in which the young and old take deep interest. It was one of the first formed under the recommendation of the Board. Members 104. Baptisms 7. Benevolence \$60. Local objects \$500. Appropriation last year \$250. This year \$250. Pastor G. W. Snyder.

Zwingli Church, Harrisburg.—This is an exclusively German mission. During part of the past year, it was served by Rev. Frederick Fox, after his return from San Francisco. Owing to the gloomy condition of the congregation in view of its indebtedness, and for other reasons, he has recently withdrawn from the field and it is at present vacant. The property is worth at least \$5,000, on which there is an indebtedness of \$2,000, which it seems, has been found difficult to manage. Members 50. Baptisms 4. Additions 2. Sunday-school disbanded. Benevolence \$4. Local objects \$250. Appropriation last year \$300. Vacant.

Columbia.—This congregation has been pursuing a prosperous course for a number of years past. During last winter, the pastor, Rev. C. Clever, was called to another field of labor. His resignation was followed by serious difficulties, which threatened at one time to undo the labor of years. Fortunately the storm passed away, and the trouble which threatened to distract the congregation for years to come, was adjusted in a truly Christian manner. Its prospects are encouraging as in years gone by. It is believed that this affliction, which was for a season, will be overruled for good, and help to consolidate the congregation better than it was before. Peace and harmony prevail and there is a general desire to build up on the true foundation, which is Christ Jesus. Members 157. Baptisms 21. Additions 7. S. S. scholars 170. Benevolence \$45.73. Local objects \$931. Appropriation last year \$50. This year \$150. Pastor, C. S. Gerhard.

Wilkesbarre.—Communicants 275. Additions, since October last, by baptism 38. By confirmation 27, and by certificate 25. S. S. scholars 160, a gain of 35. Collected for benevolent purposes \$25. For local purposes \$550. The original cost of the church was \$13,000. The debt is \$6,000, of which \$3,000 will be cancelled during the coming year, a part having been thus cancelled already. The mission is making progress, and

gaining the confidence of the community. It is German and English united. The question of language has thus far created no difficulty. Both classes of people worship in the same church, in harmony and peace. The missionary extends his labors in the Wyoming Valley, and preaches at points, where congregations may be organized at some future time. There is room for extending the Church further in this part of the State. Appropriation last year \$400. This year the same. Pastor, F. K. Levan.

Lock Haven.—This mission has made substantial progress during the past year, which is so much the more encouraging, in view of the deplorable condition in which it had come to be involved, a few years ago, when the present pastor took charge of it. With the help of Classis, it has secured for itself a house of worship of its own, upon which a debt is still resting, which however is not oppressive to the congregation. The building cost only \$2,200. In a few years, after some repairs are made to it, it will be worth much more. The pastor and people are willing to trust in the Lord for the future, as with His blessing many difficulties, which seemed insurmountable, have vanished in the past. Members 57. Baptisms 6. Additions 7. S. S. scholars 80. Benevolence \$6. Local purposes £261.61. Indebtedness liquidated since October last \$206. Appropriation last year \$300. This year \$300. Pastor, Isaac S. Stahr.

Wilkesburg and East Liberty.—Both of these missions suffered severely from the depression of the times, and found it difficult to meet current expenses, and interest on heavy church debts. There was, as a consequence, a feeling of discouragement among the members, which was adverse to the growth of the congregations. Under these circumstances, it was thought best, to unite the two missions, as they are not far apart, and allow them to be served by one pastor. They cordially united upon the Rev. J. W. Knappenberger, after the two former pastors had resigned. This arrangement has proved satisfactory. It has relieved them of part of their financial burden. They are now better able to meet their pecuniary obligations, and a general feeling of encouragement and hope has sprung up, which argues well for the future. Mr. Knappenberger entered upon his duties in January last, and receives an appropriation of \$550, the amount given to the two former pastors. Members 90. S. S. scholars 120. There is an indebtedness upon both these churches. The indebtedness, on the church at Wilkesburg, was reduced during the year.

Orbisonia.—This mission has been growing and doing well during the year. Many of the people are poor, but they are faithful to Christ and His Church, showing that they appreciate the kindness of the Church in extending help to them, by the interest they take in their congregations. During the past year, a new Church, costing \$800 was erected and paid for. Congregations 3. Members 106. Baptisms 14. Additions 14. S. S. scholars 85. Benevolence \$47. Local objects \$307. A debt of \$350 resting upon one of the Churches has been nearly provided for. Appropriation last year \$150. This year the same. Pastor, J. M. Schick.

Sulphur Spring, Bedford County.—Congregations 3. Members 132. Baptisms 11. Additions 5. The church and parsonage at Mann's Choice are worth \$2,700. The debt is small. Benevolence \$33. Local objects \$357. The pastor reports that he is at present engaged in establishing missionary societies, for which the people seem to have been prepared. The mission is making a gradual progress, and gaining the confidence and respect of the community. Appropriation last year \$200. This year the same. Pastor, W. A. Gring.

Chambersburg.—Since the missionary left this congregation more than a year ago, it has been served by the pastor at Chambersburg, Rev. W. C. Cremer, by appointment of Classis. In this way the spiritual interests of a small body of Germans has been provided for. This arrangement is probably the best that could be made for them. There are no indications that it will grow in numerical strength in the immediate future as a German church.

Duncannon.—Members 125. Baptisms 7. Additions 14. S. S. scholars 150. Benevolence \$50. Local objects \$200. Value of church property \$2,300. The Classis of Zion paid \$1,100 and the congregation \$200 for the removal of the remaining debt on the church. Attendance good and the congregation encouraged in their work. Prospects of becoming self-supporting. Appropriation last year \$300. This year \$250. Pastor, Uriah Henry Heilman.

First Church, Allegheny City.—This mission had been without a pastor and without preaching for more than a year. At the meeting of Allegheny Classis at Pittsburg last Spring, after a careful examination into its affairs, it was found to be in a truly deplorable condition. Still it was not considered to be without hope, and the Classis authorized the Superintendent to supply it temporarily with the services of a missionary with the view of ascertaining whether anything could be done to resuscitate it, and place it on a better foundation. The licentiate Robert C. Bowling was selected for this purpose, and he took charge of the mission for a period of two months. His labors have been satisfactory, and the prospects now are, that the congregation will recover itself, and that if assistance can be extended to it for a while, it may yet be raised above impending difficulties, and be made a prosperous congregation. In view of these facts, the Board at its recent meeting commissioned Mr. Bowling as missionary at Allegheny city, with an appropriation of \$400.

Shenandoah.—Members 200. Baptisms 25. Additions 35. S. S. scholars 220. Attendance good. Value of church property \$3,000. The debt which has been considerably reduced during the present pastorate, is at present, about \$2,000. Amount paid for local purposes including pastor's salary \$500. The prospects of becoming self-supporting are encouraging. The principal difficulty in the way seems to be, the large amount of indebtedness. The appropriation last year was \$300, which has been made up by one or two congregations, an example much to be commended. Appropriation this year \$300. Pastor, J. G. Neff.

Johnstown.—There was a Reformed congregation at this place several years ago, but the church was sold and the congregation disbanded, very few of the members, however, surrendered their church connections. Their number in fact was increased by additions from other churches in the surrounding country. Upwards of forty members of our Church were found in the town, who desired the services of a minister of their own faith. The Rev. William H. Bates, whose charge is contiguous, was requested to take charge of this interest, and serve it as a missionary for the present. The prospects of this new mission are good. It may perhaps need some help in the future. It is promising. Mr. Bates does not receive any appropriation.

St. Luke's, Lancaster.—This congregation was organized in January last with nine members. It at present numbers 22, thirteen having been confirmed at Whitsuntide. The Sunday-school, made up principally of children of the poor, is prosperous and doing a good work. It numbers 125 scholars. Thus far this mission has been worshipping either in an engine house or a school house, neither of which was a suitable place for

worship. This difficulty, it is expected, will be removed before long. An effort is at present in progress to erect a chapel yet this Fall, subscriptions for which have been received amounting to something over \$1,200. The mission was taken under the care of the Board in December last, but the pastor had charge of it in April a year ago, without any visible means of support, except in his own resources, sustained by faith in God. He receives an appropriation from the Board of \$300 and such other aid from his congregation and the other churches in the city, as is needed for his temporal support. Pastor, Rev. Jacob F. Wiant.

Overton, Bradford County.—This congregation was formerly under the care of the Board, but had been vacant for a number of years past. The members hungering for the bread of life, have been exerting themselves to secure a pastor, in which the Superintendent has been assisting them. They have united on the licentiate, Phaon S. Kohler, who is now laboring among them with acceptance, and with good prospects of success. He has just formed a large class of catechumens. The services on the Sabbath are encouragingly attended. Thus far he serves only two congregations, and a preaching point at Dushore. There are two other small congregations in the neighborhood of Dushore, which have not as yet entered into the arrangement with the other two, but may still do so. Members thus far reported 105. S. S. scholars at Overton 80. Appropriation not yet determined. Church property worth about \$900.

Latrobe.—The congregation at Latrobe during the year was detached from several country congregations, and placed under the care of the Board as a mission, by the recommendation of the Board of Missions of the Synod of Pittsburg. It was believed, that it needed more pastoral labor, and that under this new arrangement, it would grow more rapidly and in a few years become self-supporting. The pastor reports, that facts thus far do not encourage that view of the case, although the charge has been making encouraging progress during the present pastorate. Members 80. Baptisms 9. Additions 14. S. S. scholars 55. Church property \$4,000. Debt \$1,800. Benevolence \$50. Amount paid for local objects \$350. Appropriations \$200. Pastor, G. D. Gurley.

Mansfield—An independent German congregation at this place applied to the Classis of Allegheny last Spring to be received into the Reformed Church, and requested the services of the Rev. Charles Knepper, as their pastor. The request was granted, provided certain conditions were first complied with, and in that event the Executive Council voted an appropriation of \$50.

Trinity Mission, York County.—About ten months ago the Rev. W. H. Xanders was appointed by the Council to labor as missionary in the town of York, and at other places in the neighborhood without an appropriation. He has organized a new congregation at Glen Rock, served an organized congregation at New Freedom, and has several preaching places, one of which is Trinity chapel in York, where congregations may be organized in the course of time. The prospects of the mission are represented as encouraging. Members 50. Baptisms 2. Confirmation 7. S. S. scholars 250. Church property worth about \$700. Amount collected for local purposes \$275.

Sharon—The Sharon charge, in Mercer county, was taken under the care of the Board as a mission in accordance with the request of the Board of Missions of the Pittsburgh Synod. Its pastor had the charge of it for a number of years without the necessary support. He had to depend upon the help of his friends to keep his family. The congregation was also involved in financial difficulties, which interfered with its prosperi-

ty. Accordingly, help was extended to it to the amount of \$100, which was thankfully received, and proved to be of material account in encouraging pastor and people. Since the congregation came under the care of the Board it has been doing well. Members 135. Additions 22. Value of church property \$4,000. Appropriation for coming year \$100. Pastor, F. P. Hartmetz.

VIRGINIA.

Winchester.—The statistics of this mission, as compared with those of previous years, shows an encouraging degree of progress. Congregations 2. Outposts 2. Members 129. Baptisms 3. Additions 17. S. S. scholars 85. Value of church property \$7,700. Debt on parsonage \$675. It was reduced \$225 during the year. Benevolence \$33. Local objects \$567. The affairs of this congregation are conducted with a considerable degree of system and economy. It is being gradually strengthened by emigration from the North, and is doing a useful work in the Valley of Virginia. It will need help from the Church a few years longer. Appropriation last year \$300. This year \$250. Pastor, Charles G. Fisher.

Middlebrook.—The two congregations constituting this mission, under the care of Rev. A. J. Whitmore, became self-sustaining during the year. The pastor, believing that he could strengthen and still further consolidate his charge, as well as occupy several important missionary points in the vicinity, resigned, and a call was extended to his brother, Rev. S. L. Whitmore, who became the pastor in June last, and has encouraging prospects of usefulness before him. Additions during the year 17. Baptisms 11. S. S. scholars 117. Mr. Whitmore has entered upon his new field of labor with true missionary zeal. He preaches at three points, at one of which a new congregation is to be organized and a new church erected before long. Appropriation for the new mission \$150.

DELAWARE.

St. John's, Wyoming, Kent County.—Members 85. Baptisms 4. Additions 15. S. S. scholars 100. Value of church property \$2,000. Debt \$250. Benevolence \$24.65. Local objects \$375.17. The missionary reports, that services were held during the season of Lent, and every evening during holy week. The Easter communion was the largest ever held in the history of the congregation. The interest in these services drew many nearer to God. In July last, the congregation celebrated the tenth anniversary of its existence. The services are represented as being of an interesting and profitable kind. An effort is in progress to liquidate the remaining debt on the church. Appropriation last year \$300. This year \$275. Pastor, E. H. Diffenbacher.

MARYLAND.

Cumberland.—Members 150. Baptisms 6. Additions 6. S. S. scholars 150. Benevolence \$30. Local objects \$800. The church property is worth from \$7,000 to \$8,000 with a debt of \$500. No reduction of the debt during the year. The mission is making slow but steady progress. The Sunday-school is in a prosperous condition and promises well for the future. The holy days were observed with much interest and profit to the people, and the number of communicants exceeded those of previous years. The missionary has established a small mission at Keyser in West Virginia, which he visits from time to time. Appropriation last year \$250. This year the same. Pastor, F. R. Schwedes.

Frostburg.—A few years ago this congregation supported its own pastor, but it fell upon evil times and it was no longer able to maintain

itself. Its members, being mostly miners, could do nothing for the church. Its pastor made many sacrifices to keep his flock together. In order to prevent the dispersion of its members, the Classis of Somerset declared it a mission, and placed it as such under the care of the Board. It agreed to pay through the Board for its support, for one year, \$600. This accomplished the desired result, and saved the church from great distress, if not from entire disintegration. It is understood, that it will now need no further appropriation. It is German and English, and a well ordered congregation, with a membership of over 200, and a large Sunday-school. Its members are liberal when they have work. Pastor, John Rühl.

Ridgely, Caroline County.—Organized over a year ago by Rev. E. H. Diefenbacher, and served by him until recently. Rev. H. King was authorized to visit and explore this field, last Spring, with the view to a permanent settlement, if he desired it. He served the charge two months and then withdrew, believing he would be more useful in some other parts of the Church. The Rev. Joseph Hannabury was commissioned to take his place. He has entered upon his work in faith and hope. At present he serves only one organized congregation, the one at Ridgely, but he expects to spend much of his time in preaching at other points in the peninsula, with the view of organizing other churches in the future. It is believed, that missionary efforts in this section of country will be attended with encouraging results in the course of a few years. The congregation has not yet commenced to build the house of worship which it has in contemplation. Members 48. Baptisms 4. Additions 10. Appropriation \$300. Pastor, Joseph Hannabury.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Washington—Members 35. Baptisms 2. Additions 15. S. S. scholars 40, most of whom are from families belonging to the church. Amount collected from local purposes \$200. The congregation still worships in a rented hall, which is a serious difficulty in the way of its progress. It needs very much a house of its own. Until this is secured it is not likely that some families will be willing to connect themselves with the mission. They prefer waiting until they have some more tangible evidence that the enterprise is to be permanently established. Thus far, some few gifts have been forwarded to the treasurer for the erection of a chapel, but not in sufficient amounts as to justify a forward movement in purchasing or building. The pledges made for this purpose by the Synods and Classis of Maryland, should be promptly met and paid. The mission is an expensive one, and true economy dictates, that it should be placed in a position to become self-supporting at as early a date as possible. When, however, it has once reached that point, it will be a monument to the honor of the Reformed Church, in which her children from different parts of the country, will find a spiritual home in time to come. But, before this is consummated, much faith, good works and almsgiving, along with the hearty sympathy and co-operation of the Church, will be needed. Pastor, G. B. Russell, D. D. Appropriation last year \$1,200. This year \$600.

KANSAS.

Emporia.—During the past year the Rev. L. C. Edmonds, already residing in Kansas, was commissioned to labor at Emporia and vicinity. He was able to devote only part of his time to the work of preaching and making explorations. He reports, that we have many members living in the State of Kansas, and a wide field of missionary labor. He has preached at different points, and, to some extent, explored the country,

but has confined his labors mostly to Emporia, where we have enough members to form a respectable congregation. They have not, as yet, been organized. They wish a missionary who will devote all his time to the work. The missionary labors under great disadvantage, for the want of a suitable place of worship, being, thus far, under the necessity of holding his services in other churches at unseasonable hours. Appropriation \$200.

CALIFORNIA.

Salem, Napa City.—This mission has had much to encounter from the outside world, to whom the gospel is a savor of death unto death and not of life unto life. It has, however, maintained its ground, and the members have remained faithful to the work committed to their hands. The present pastor has been for more than a year in his charge, and has not been without encouragement in his work. He instructs a class weekly throughout the year, which is well attended. The Whitsuntide services were well attended, and produced a favorable impression. The congregation is small, but it has favorable prospects of an increase during the coming year. Members 24. Baptisms 10. Additions 9. S. S. scholars 32. Value of church property \$2,800. Debt \$750. Benevolence \$6.00. Local objects \$250. Appropriation last year \$300. This year \$200. Pastor, J. H. Krueger.

San Francisco.—In addition to the mission at Napa, we have two other churches in California, one at Stockton and the other at San Francisco, which are self-supporting and are doing well. The pastors have not confined themselves to their own congregations exclusively, but have sought to extend the Church in the regions beyond. The field, however, is large, and the demand for more laborers has been growing stronger and more urgent. Under these circumstances the Council commissioned the licentiate, the Rev. L. F. Woerle, to labor at San Francisco, or neighboring places under the direction of the Classis of San Francisco. He was ordained to this work, a few months ago, at York, Pa., by a committee of the Classis of Zion, and is now in the field engaged in his new sphere of labor. He has taken charge of a mission at Alameda, in the vicinity of San Francisco, and the Board has voted him an appropriation of \$100. The demands of this part of our missionary ground will require the services of one or two other missionaries at no distant day. It is hoped, that we, as a Church, will be prepared to respond to the call to supply the multitudes of foreign Germans, in this far distant country with a pure gospel, many of whom are without the ordinary means of grace, and many also without God and without hope in the world.

OREGON AND WASHINGTON TERRITORY.

Portland.—Members 80. Baptisms 25. Additions 19. Benevolence \$17. Local objects \$1,050. This mission has been making its usual substantial progress. The services at the church festivals in the Spring, made a deep impression on the hearts of the people, and drew larger audiences to the church than ever before. This church, established on an evangelical basis, in the midst of much opposition from without, is now a permanent fact. The property worth \$8,000 is free of debt. Various improvements on the streets during the past year became a heavy tax on the church, for which the ladies of the congregation supplied a considerable part of the money needed to bear this additional burden of expense. The church expects to celebrate the fifth anniversary of its organization during the month of September, in connection with the first meeting of the Classis of Portland-Oregon. It expects to become self-supporting at

no distant day. The missionary frequently preaches in the new towns, which are springing up in various directions, with the view of establishing new fields of labor for other missionaries. Openings of this kind are very numerous, and it seems to be only necessary, that we should send a sufficient supply of efficient laborers, in order that we may reap rich harvests in this part of the Pacific coast. The establishment of the new Classis in Oregon will, it is believed, be of much account in carrying forward this work. Statistics did not arrive in time to be inserted in this report. Appropriation last year \$300. This year the same. Pastor, John Gantenbein.

Salem.—The field occupied by the missionary at this post, was divided during the year, and a portion of it, including the Meridian congregation, given to another missionary. He retained two of the congregations, the one at Salem, the other at Silverton, preaching at other points, and occasionally making excursions into more distant parts of the State. At Salem divine services have thus far been held in a hall, but recently a wealthy citizen of Salem, presented the congregation with a lot of ground, upon which it is now proposed to erect a church. Appropriation last year \$250. This year \$250. Pastor, J. Muellhaupt

Canby, Clackamas County.—During the past year the Rev. Julius Lange, was commissioned as missionary, to take charge of a portion of the field of Rev. Muellhaupt and of other important points. He has at present one organized church at Meridian. He fills appointments at other places, walks long distances over rough roads and through inclement weather, to gather his fellow-countrymen into the Christian fold.—Many of his people are Swiss emigrants, who are just clearing off the land, and are not able to do much for the support of the Gospel, but are strongly devoted to the Reformed faith. Brother Lange makes many sacrifices, labors hard as a missionary and finds it necessary to devote part of his time in teaching in a little attic, which is his study, his bedroom and his school house at the same time. This rigid economy is necessary in order that he may provide for his temporal support. Appropriation \$200.

Walla Walla.—During the past year the Rev. George Meechtersheimer was commissioned as missionary at Walla Walla and other places. He had been a resident of that place for some time, engaged in laboring and teaching among the Germans with the view of organizing them into a congregation. He will now be able to devote more of his time to this work, and to the establishment of other new missions under the direction of Classis. Appropriation \$100.

SUMMARY.

Number of missionaries, ten more than last year,.....	38
Members,.....	2,910
Additions during the year,.....	325
Baptisms,.....	292
Amount collected during the year for benevolence,.....	\$ 525
“ “ “ “ “ “ local objects,.....	\$8,238
Value of Church Property about.....	\$125,000
Indebtedness about.....	\$30,000

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

From the Treasurer's Report it will be seen that the contributions for missions, since the last report was made to the Synods, amounted to \$7,-326.43. This, however, does not cover the full period of a year by more

than a month. Some of the monies contributed by churches, especially the harvest offerings, have not yet been reported. How much the whole will amount to at the end of the year, cannot now be precisely stated. The probability is that it will not be quite as much as it was during the previous year. This is most likely owing to the fact that an appeal was made and special collections were lifted for missions in the month of January, 1878, whereas this was not done during last Winter. The amount due the missionaries on the 1st of July last, was \$2,643. The amount of indebtedness for monies borrowed is \$550, which is \$250 less than last year. The Board has \$2,500 invested for which interest is paid. The expenditure for carrying forward the operations of the Board during the coming year will be something larger than it was during the previous year. To meet the current expenses during the coming year, the Board will need \$14,000, for which we suggest that the different Synods concerned raise the following amounts:

The Synod of the United States,.....	\$8,000
The Synod of the Potomac,.....	3,500
The Synod of Pittsburgh,.....	2,500

We further suggest that the different Synods request all the churches, or as far as possible, to lift one collection for the relief of our missionaries, during the Advent or Epiphany period of the coming year. Also, that the Synods and Classes at their coming meetings, give special attention to the claims of the missionary cause, urge the importance of systematic benevolence, the further increase of missionary societies, in congregations and Sunday-schools, also missionary festivals, and the adoption of such measures as will tend to secure more promptly the payments of the Classical apportionments, so that the wants of our suffering missionaries may be more promptly met, and our missionary operations be more widely extended.

REMARKS.

In closing this report we call attention to a few facts. The first is the great extent and the urgent necessities of the field which we are called on to cultivate. We have been not altogether remiss in providing for the spiritual wants of the missionary ground covered by the three Synods. Beyond that territory, however, we have as yet done comparatively little: and yet the calls upon us from our own people, as from others beyond our immediate limits, to supply them with ministers to break unto them the bread of life, are urgent, and numerous. It is the call of the Divine Master addressed to us, to feed His sheep, to feed His lambs. Many of our people have settled in the new States and Territories of the West, who are without ministers and without churches. Our brethren in the West through their own missionary agencies, are doing what they can, but their efforts should be supplemented by the greater resources of the East. There is much work for us to do in Kansas, Nebraska, Texas, and neighboring States, where as yet we have scarcely made a beginning. Still farther westward in the Pacific States, we have indeed made a fair start, but the demand for more laborers in that field comes with impressive earnestness in almost every communication that reaches us from that distant country. There is also work for us to accomplish in the Southern States as great perhaps as elsewhere. It is a serious question whether the time has not come to put forth efforts to revive and expand our Church in that part of the Union. There is no reason in fact, why our Church should not be represented in all of the Southern States, as it would most likely be to-day, if the efforts of our Fathers in former years in that direction had been properly followed up. A similar remark may be made

in regard to the New England States. There we have only two ministers of our own denomination, and yet there is a German population in most of the large towns and cities, in some of which there are no German ministers, and the destitute people never hear the Gospel in a language which they understand. The Rev. L. B. Swartz, pastor of a Reformed church, in Boston, has labored with apostolic zeal for his German brethren, not only in Boston, but elsewhere for over thirty years. During this period he has preached in many parts of Massachusetts, and started some missions, which from the want of support from our Missionary Boards, have fallen into the hands of other denominations that came forward and granted them the needed assistance. After much labor and extraordinary sacrifices on his part, he finds it now difficult to maintain himself at his post at Boston on account of the financial embarrassments of his own church. The superintendent after a careful examination of the whole field, during a visit this Summer, is convinced that New England as missionary ground has claims on the Reformed Church, which she cannot safely overlook or ignore. As a beginning, he thinks there ought to be two missionaries located at Boston at once, one English the other German. This would be sufficient for the present, and might, it is believed, be accomplished without too heavy an outlay of money. In a few years other laborers might be added to their number and new missions be established for the great spiritual destitution in other places.

There is another fact, which ought to be brought home at this particular time to the conscience of the Church. It is the inadequacy of the means at the disposal of the Board to carry forward its proper work. It is with great difficulty that the missionaries under the care of the Board are sustained. As a body they are faithful, patient, and self-sacrificing laborers in our waste places. But their support is meagre, and they are often discouraged, distressed and harassed in their work by care and anxiety to provide for themselves and families the means necessary for their temporal support. What they are entitled to receive from the Church as their appropriation is not paid them promptly, and they grow weary in waiting during long and dreary months for the long expected relief. All this should be remedied. In addition, the Church should provide the Board with the means necessary to extend its borders into new, and as yet, unoccupied regions. This we believe will be done as soon as we get our people more generally to see the great need of supplying their fellow men with the Gospel. We have the poor always with us, and they who are willing to feed the bodies of men, as our people are disposed to do, will not withhold the hand of charity from those who are perishing for lack of knowledge. As ministers and people we all need more of the Spirit of Christ and His Apostles, which was the spirit of missions and self-sacrifice. In proportion as we are imbued with their spirit, in that degree, will our work go forward and prosper in our hands.

But whilst at times we are almost crushed in view of the comparatively meagre efforts which we are making for the building up of the Kingdom of Christ, there are many things to encourage us to engage in this blessed work with renewed courage, faith and hope. Thus far our missionary work has not been a failure. It has been more productive of results than we perhaps had a right to expect. With the means at our command few other denominations have done more than we in the missionary field. The interest in our missionary work is growing in our churches, and confidence in our operations is gaining ground. More has been given for missions since the panic, and during the hard times, than before, although the value of money has increased. One of the principal causes of our failing to raise more missionary funds is the want of system in develop-

ing the benevolence of the Church, but this is passing away. Missionary societies on the apostolic plan by which all alike, especially our poor people, have an opportunity to do something for the spread of the Gospel, are springing up in various parts of the Church. Missionary festivals are more numerous, and are doing a good work. The spirit of missions is, we believe, penetrating the life of the Church, and it is beginning to be felt more and more, that the time has arrived when the missionary cause should be regarded as among the first and most vital questions which we are called upon to solve. If many things are calculated to dishearten and discourage us at present, we may be assured that if we persevere in patient effort to bring our churches up to the full measure of their responsibility, the future will be more fruitful than the present. Deeply thankful for the kind treatment which he has received whenever he has had occasion to visit the churches, glad to record the help and cooperation of ministerial brethren and others, and to testify to the arduous labors of the Executive Council, the Superintendent respectfully presents to the Synods this imperfect sketch of the missionary work during the last eleven months of the year.

THEODORE APPEL,
Superintendent.

III. REPORT OF TREASURER OF THE TRI-SYNODIC BOARD OF MISSIONS.

To the Board of Missions of the Reformed Church in the United States.

I beg leave, very respectfully, to submit the subjoined Report of the the moneys received by me, and disbursed for Home Missions, during the year ending September 2nd, 1879.

SYNOD OF THE UNITED STATES.

Received from Classis of Philadelphia,.....	\$108.17
“ “ “ Tohickon,.....	289.46
“ “ “ Goshenhoppen,.....	464.67
“ “ “ East Pennsylvania,.....	601.21
“ “ “ Lebanon,.....	1366.92
“ “ “ Lancaster,.....	560.26
“ “ “ East Susquehanna,.....	272.77
“ “ “ West “.....	364.64
Total from the Synod of the United States,.....	\$4028.10

SYNOD OF THE POTOMAC.

Received from Classis of Zion,.....	\$445.40
“ “ “ Maryland,.....	783.13
“ “ “ Mercersburg,.....	748.66
“ “ “ Virginia,.....	298.04
Total from the Synod of the Potomac,.....	\$2275.23

SYNOD OF PITTSBURGH.

Received from Treasurer of Synod,.....	\$752.59
“ “ Classis of St. Paul,.....	47.00
“ “ “ Somerset,.....	22.76
Total from the Synod of Pittsburgh,.....	\$822.35

MISCELLANEOUS SOURCES.

Received from Classis of San Francisco,.....	\$ 20.00	
“ “ Gerhart Legacy, (interest,).....	12 00	
“ “ Spangler “ “	18.75	
“ “ Locke “ “	150.00	
		\$200.75
Balance in Treasury, October 8, 1878,.....		240.35
		\$7566.78
Total from all sources,.....		\$7566.78

DISBURSEMENTS.

Paid Orders of the Board during year,....	\$7359.37
“ Treasurer of Iowa Classis,.....	79.30
Balance in Treasury,.....	128 11
	\$7566.78

In addition to the above contributions for missions, I received from sundry sources the sum of \$407.90 for the erection of a chapel in Washington City, D. C.

REMARKS.

To arrive at the net amount contributed by the church for Home Missions during the year, we must deduct from the sum total received from all sources, \$240.35, (in the Treasury at the beginning of the year,) and it will leave the actual contributions during the synodical year (which in this case, however, embraces about eleven months,) only the sum of \$7326.43 or \$2260.98 less than last year.

Not one of the Classes within the bounds of the three Synods came up in its contributions to the apportionments made by the Synods, and hence the Board is always in debt to the missionaries. Virginia Classis is the only one that came nearly up to the amount asked of her. Lebanon and Mercersburg Classes made considerable increase over last year's contributions, but all the others fell far behind, some not raising one-half the apportionments made upon them.

It is earnestly hoped that in future there will be less, or no occasion to call attention to such painful facts; and that our beloved Zion will render the assistance needed to carry out the injunction of the Head of the Church to preach the gospel to every creature.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. H. SEIBERT, *Treasurer.*

Harrisburg, Sept. 2, 1879.

The undersigned, a committee appointed to audit the account of Wm. H. Seibert, Treasurer of the Board of Home Missions of the Reformed Church in the United States, respectfully report, that they have attended to said duty and find the account correct, and a balance of One hundred and twenty-eight dollars and eleven cents (\$128.11) in his hands at this date.

W. H. H. SNYDER,
D. W. GROSS.

Harrisburg, Sept. 2, 1879.

IV. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

The Committee on Missions beg leave to offer the following, as their report :

The following documents were placed in their hands for consideration, namely,—the Report of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions, the Report

of the Superintendent of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions, and the Report of the Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions, and also a communication from certain brethren of the Portland-Oregon Classis, assembled at Portland, Oregon, in the capacity of a Missionary Conference.

From these official reports, we take the following summary: that there are now thirty-eight missions under the care of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions—ten more than the previous year. Twenty-four of these missions are in Pennsylvania, two in Virginia, one in Delaware, three in Maryland, one in Washington City, and the rest in Kansas, California, and Oregon. They are all, with two exceptions, reported as being in a prosperous and promising condition. These facts should be for us a cause of gratitude and of encouragement to go forward, at the expense of still greater labor and self-denial.

There has been contributed towards missions, in the past year, the following amounts: Synod of the United States \$4028.10; Synod of the Potomac, including the amount contributed by the Classis of San Francisco, \$2295.23; Synod of Pittsburgh \$822.35; and in interest on invested funds \$180.75—Total \$7,324.43; Disbursed by order of the Board \$7,359.78; paid Treasurer of Iowa Classis \$79.30. Taking into the account the balance in the Treasury at the close of the previous year there remains a balance, at the date of the Treasurer's Report, of \$128.11. The sum of \$407.90 was contributed for the erection of a Chapel in Washington City, D. C.

These figures are not so cheering. The contributions of the Church almost everywhere have fallen below, and in many instances very far below what they should have been. In order properly to sustain the missions already undertaken, and to plant others in the waste places, which are stretching out their hands and crying to us for help, there must be an increase of love for the cause and of liberality in its support on the part of both ministers and people. Instead of progressing here, we are in danger of retrograding. We need but refer to the fact, that the amount of contributions to missions in the year just closed is \$2260.98 less than that of the former year, while very little has been done to ensure the permanent establishment of the mission in Washington City.

To meet the current expenses during the coming year, the Board of Missions will need \$14,000.00. The amount this Synod is asked to assume is \$3,500.00.

The following resolutions are recommended for consideration and adoption:

Resolved, That this sum be apportioned among the different Classes of this Synod, as follows, viz.: Zion's Classis \$1200.00, Maryland Classis \$1200.00, Mercersburg Classis \$1100.00, Virginia Classis \$300.00, North Carolina Classis \$100.00, and San Francisco Classis \$50.00—\$3950.00.

Resolved, That the churches in the bounds of this Synod are hereby urgently requested to lift a collection for the relief of our missionaries, during either the approaching Advent or Epiphany season.

Resolved, That this Synod heartily adopts the suggestions of the Missionary Superintendent, and accordingly requests the Classes, at their next annual meetings, to give special attention to the claims of the missionary cause, urge the importance of systematic benevolence, the further increase of missionary societies in congregations and Sunday-schools, also missionary festivals, and the adoption of such measures as will tend to assure more promptly the payments of the Classical apportionments, so that the wants of our suffering missionaries may be more promptly met, and our missionary operations be more widely extended.

Resolved, That the Washington Mission be heartily commended to the liberal support of our people, and that the Board of Missions be requested to send a missionary into that field as soon as possible.

Resolved, That this Synod again presents to the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions the special claims of the Virginia Valley, and earnestly overtures the Board to extend its missionary work in that direction.

Resolved, That the Synod hold a missionary meeting on Monday evening of the present sessions; that the President of the Synodic Board of Missions preside on the occasion; that Revs. J. S. Kieffer and Dr. Theodore Appel, Superintendent of Missions, deliver addresses on Home Missions, and Dr. G. W. Welker on Foreign Missions; and that a collection be lifted for the cause of Foreign Missions, on the occasion.

The paper from the brethren in Oregon states, that they met in Portland at the time fixed for the annual meeting of the Portland-Oregon Classis, but failed to secure a quorum. Hence they resolved themselves into a Missionary Conference to consider the conditions and needs of the cause of missions within their bounds. The results of their deliberations are embodied in a preamble and resolutions consisting of suggestions and petitions to the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions, and which should properly come before it. We therefore offer the following resolution for adoption:

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk transmit the communication from the brethren of the Portland-Oregon Classis to the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions for their consideration and action.

Respectfully submitted,

A. J. HELLER,
A. SPANGLER,
JOEL T. ROSSITER,
D. M. WHITMORE,
J. G. MARCH,
JACOB SELLERS,
GEORGE DICE,

Committee.

The communion alms on Sunday were devoted to the cause of Home Missions, and amounted to nearly one hundred and fifty dollars.

On Monday evening, the proposed missionary meeting was held, according to the programme in the Report of the Committee on Missions, and a collection was lifted for the cause of Foreign Missions, amounting to \$42.70.

Regarding the apportionments upon the Classes of Zion, Mercersburg, Virginia, North Carolina, and San Francisco for the purchasing of a lot and the erection of a Chapel for the Washington City mission, (item 3 of Report of Committee on Minutes of Synod,) the Report of the Committee on Minutes of Classes shows what was done in the case.

For some cause or other, the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions failed to issue the appeal. &c., as requested by the Synod of 1878, (and noted in item 4 of the Report of the Committee on Minutes of Synod.)

Most of the pastors neglected to take up special collections, as requested by the Synod of Hagerstown, for the payment in full of the promises made by the Synod at York, in 1876, to the cause of missions in the Iowa and Virginia Classes.

The Committee, appointed by the Synod in 1878, to ordain the licentiate Ambrose D. Gring to the work of the Gospel Ministry and also as Missionary to Japan, (as noted in item 9 of the Report of the Committee on Minutes of Synod,) reported as follows, which was received and adopted, to wit:

The Committee, appointed by your Reverend Body to visit Easton, Pa., for the purpose of ordaining the licentiate Ambrose D. Gring to the Holy Ministry and Missionary to Japan, beg leave to report, That we attended to the duty assigned us, in the First Reformed Church of Easton, Pa., in the presence of the Synod of U. S., on the 25th day of October, A. D., 1878, and Rev. Gring is now in Japan, prosecuting his work.

The expenses incurred by the Committee were \$22.00.

Respectfully submitted,

J. O. MILLER,
M. KIEFFER,
E. R. ESCHBACH,

Committee.

The Treasurer of Synod was instructed to pay the bill of Travelling Expenses of the Committee of Ordination.

At the election for members of the different Boards, held during the session of Tuesday evening, Rev. G. W. Welker was elected to serve for four years, as a member of the Synodic Board of Missions.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Rev. G. W. Welker,.....	4 years,.....	October 1, 1883.
“ J. O. Miller,.....	3 “	“ 1, 1882.
Elder W. A. Wilt,.....	3 “	“ 1, 1882.
Rev. A. H. Kremer,.....	2 “	“ 1, 1881.
Elder G. S. Griffith,.....	2 “	“ 1, 1881.
Rev. E. R. Eschbach,.....	1 year,.....	“ 1, 1880.
“ E. N. Kremer,.....	1 “	“ 1, 1880.

ARTICLE XV.

FINANCE.

I. TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Treasurer of Synod submitted his annual report to Synod, which was received, and then referred to the Standing Committee on Finance, for the purpose of being audited. The Report is as follows:

LEWIS H. STEINER, *Treasurer, in account with the Synod of the Potomac :*
DR.

Dec. 10, 1878,	To cash received from	Louis Markell, former Treas.,	\$186.08
May 26, 1879,	To cash received from	Mercersburg Classis,	110.00
" 30,	" " " "	Virginia "	30.00
June 12,	" " " "	North Carolina "	30.00
July 7,	" " " "	Maryland "	110.00
Oct. 15,	" " " "	Virginia "	30.00
" 23,	" " " "	Zion's "	110.00
Making,			\$606.08

CONTRA. CR.

Dec. 10, 1878,	By cash paid	Small & Welsh, for printing Minutes,	\$124.25
" 10,	" " " "	Rev. Wm. M. Deatruck, expenses as	
		Stated Clerk,	15.00
May 26, 1879,	By cash paid	Rev. Wm. M. Deatruck, Salary as	
		Stated Clerk,	75.00
Oct. 24, 1878,	Balance in Treasury,		391.83
Making,			\$606.08

II. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

The Standing Committee on Finance reported, during the session of Tuesday Afternoon, which was received and adopted, and is as follows :

Your Committee on Finance report, that they have examined the Treasurer's account, with the vouchers, and found it to be correct, with a balance of \$391.83 in the Treasury. To meet the estimated current expenses of the Synod and part of its liability on loan for the Relief of the Reformed Church Publication Board, the Committee recommend the following assessments :

Mercersburg Classis,	\$160.00
Maryland "	160.00
Zion's "	160.00
Virginia "	40.00
North Carolina "	40.00
Making,	\$560.00

Respectfully submitted,

A. H. KREMER,
N. H. SKYLES,
C. CLEVER,
W. I. STEWART,
JOHN MILLER,
W. H. HAUGH,
Committee.

The Standing Committee on Minutes of Synod, under item 10, reported the deferred assessment to meet one-half the amount assessed by the General Synod upon this Synod for contingent purposes. The Standing Committee on Finance was ordered to make the needed assessment, which is included in their report.

III. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF SYNOD.

The Board of Trustees of Synod presented their annual report to Synod, during the session of Tuesday Afternoon, which was received and adopted, and is as follows :

The Board of Trustees of Synod beg leave to report as follows :—Your Board organized by selecting Rev. J. O. Miller as *President* and Rev. E. R. Eschbach as *Secretary*. The Board held several meetings, during the year, but are sorry to say, that our agent succeeded in securing only a small amount of contributions, during the year, so that the deficit of \$818.87 reported a year ago with interest added, after deducting the amount collected by the agent, Rev. M. H. Sangree, leaves a present deficit of \$867.13. We have authorized the agent to prosecute the work of collecting to meet the remaining indebtedness, during the coming year. We trust, that the Synod will commend the agent to the churches, and that such, as have not yet contributed to this cause, will do so, during the ensuing year.

The term of office of Rev. E. R. Eschbach, as trustee will expire on the 1st of January, 1880, and a successor must be chosen by the Synod at this time.

Respectfully submitted,

J. O. MILLER, *President*.

At the election held for members of the several Boards of Synod, Elder Louis Markell was elected a member of the Board of Trustees of Synod for five years.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Elder Louis Markell,	5 years,	January 1, 1885.
“ H. Wirt Shriver,	4 “	“ 1, 1884.
Rev. Wm. R. H. Deatrich,	3 “	“ 1, 1883.
Hon. Lewis H. Steiner, M. D.,	2 “	“ 1, 1882.
Rev. J. O. Miller,	1 year,	“ 1. 1881.

ARTICLE XVI.

APPEALS AND REFERENCES.

Nothing occurred under this head.

ARTICLE XVII.

COMPLAINTS.

Nothing took place under this head.

ARTICLE XVIII.

SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

The Sunday-school Board presented its annual report, which was received, and is as follows:

The Sunday-school Board of the Synod of the Potomac begs leave to offer the following report.

Nothing came before this Board, which claimed special attention, excepting the usual service ordered in behalf of the interest represented by it, and arrangements were made to devote Friday evening of the present sessions of Synod to the Sunday-school interest, and the Board would ask the Synod to make that the order for the evening designated. Three topics have been selected for discussion with two speakers to each topic, to be followed by voluntary speeches. The Treasurer reports, that he has in hand \$40.60, bearing interest.

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. SANTEE, *Chairman.*

The Synod ordered a Sunday-school service to be held, as suggested by the Sunday-school Board, on Friday evening, and the programme, reported by the Committee on Religious Services, was observed.

Items 4 and 5 of the Committee on Overtures were referred to a special committee, consisting of Revs. J. B. Shontz, J. T. Rossiter, and Elder G. S. Griffith. The committee subsequently reported, which was received and amended. As amended and adopted the report is as follows:

We therefore offer the following resolutions for adoption, viz.:

Resolved, That this Synod accedes to the request of the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, and agrees to elect a committee of one to assist in selecting Sunday-school Lessons for the ensuing year.

Resolved, That Rev. Wm. Rupp be appointed to represent this Synod in the preparation of the Sunday-school Lessons according to the order of the Church Year.

Respectfully submitted,

J. B. SHONTZ,
JOEL T. ROSSITER,
G. S. GRIFFITH.

Committee.

At the election held for members of the different Boards, Elder G. S. Griffith was re-elected a member of the Board for the term of five years, and Rev. D. W. Ebbert was chosen to fill the vacancy occasioned by the removal of Rev. A. C. Whitmer into the bounds of another Synod.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Elder G. S. Griffith,	5 years,	October, 1884
Rev. D. W. Ebbert,	4 "	" 1883
" J. W. Santee,	3 "	" 1882
" A. R. Kremer,	2 "	" 1881
" W. K. Zieber,	1 "	" 1880

ARTICLE XIX.

CHURCH GOVERNMENT.

The Standing Committee on Minutes of Synod reported, under item 14 the conditional provision that had been made last year by the Synod, for the organization of a new Classis out of the territory of Synod, lying north of the State of California, on the Pacific coast. As ascertained from the Minutes of the San Francisco Classis and of the new Classis organized, such new Classis was organized out of the territory of Synod contained in the State of Oregon and Washington Territory, under the name and title of the *Portland-Oregon Classis*. The new Classis was organized at Portland, Oregon, March 1st, A. D. 1879.

ARTICLE XX.

PUBLICATION.

The following report was received from the Stated Clerk in regard to the publication of the Minutes of the Sixth Annual Meeting of Synod, and was adopted.

REPORT ON PUBLISHING MINUTES.

The undersigned begs leave to report, that he had two thousand copies of the Acts and Proceedings of the last Annual Meeting of the Synod printed and bound in pamphlet form, according to instructions, and distributed them agreeably to the rules and regulations of Synod, in the case. The Minutes number three pages more than those of the previous year, and cost in the aggregate about three dollars more, although actually less per page.

They were printed and bound by Messrs Small & Welsh of York, Pa., at a cost of \$124.25, which was punctually paid by the Treasurer of Synod. The work was completed before the end of November—earlier than any previous year—so that the Minutes were ready for distribution within about five weeks after the final adjournment of Synod.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. M. DEATRICK, *Stated Clerk*.

The Stated Clerk was instructed to have two thousand copies of the Minutes of the present sessions, duly authenticated, printed, and to distribute them among those entitled to receive them.

I. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLICATION BOARD OF THE
REFORMED CHURCH,

For the eleven months ending August 1st, 1879.

To the Synods of the United States, Pittsburgh, and the Potomac, the Publication Board of the Reformed Church in the United States, respectfully submits the following report:

The Board held three regular meetings during the eleven months covered by this report, at each of which, especially at the last meeting, close attention was given to the interests entrusted to their care. It is a source of regret, that they cannot present a more flattering report than the present must necessarily be; though perhaps it is more flattering than could have been expected, when all the circumstances in the case are taken into consideration.

The Book Department, we regret to say, has met with a more than usual falling off in its business, than during any year since the panic commenced, and in this department, our chief deficiency during the period covered by this report, exists. To what particular cause this is to be traced, it may be difficult exactly to determine. Those entrusted with its management have not been relax in their efforts to make it a complete success. To what extent the patronage of the Church has been withheld, is best known to those, if there be any such, who have bestowed their patronage elsewhere. Certain it is, they have not done so, because they obtained better terms. It is to be remembered, however, that the general experience of the Book Trade pronounces the depression in business during the past year, to have been more severe, than it has been during any year since the commencement of the panic. The Book trade is one of the first to feel such depression, and one of the last to recover from it. The general impression, moreover, is, that an encouraging revival of business in the Book Department will be experienced during the incoming fall, in which the Board has reason to hope its business will share.

In the general periodical department, there has been, on the whole, some improvement, on the previous year. The receipts on account of some of the periodicals have been increased, whilst the falling off on any of them with a single exception, is very slight. In those cases, however, where there has been a falling off, there has been a corresponding addition to the outstanding dues.

There has been a slight increase in the number of subscribers to the "Messenger," over that reported last year. In view of the large number of new subscribers obtained by the efforts of a special agency, it was naturally expected, that the increase would be larger. So many, however, new subscribers discontinued at the end of the first or second year; and it is necessary constantly to purge the subscription list of non-paying subscribers, that it required constant effort to keep the list at the present standard; and accordingly, large as the additions have been, they have but little exceeded the number of names stricken from the list. A decrease of one hundred and thirty-seven subscribers, has occurred in the "Guardian" list, whilst a large addition has been made to the number of "Lesson Papers" printed. The "Review" shows an increase of seventeen, and the monthly "Child's Treasury," of thirty seven. The semi-monthly has lost over twelve hundred subscribers. No special reason can be assigned for this, as a continued decrease has been going forward for several years.

To meet a want, which has been deeply felt for some time in the Church, and which could not longer be disregarded, without serious detriment to

its interests, the Board felt constrained to commence the publication of a small weekly sheet for Infant Classes in Sunday-schools. They have named it, "Sunshine," and it has met with a favorable reception thus far, and the indications are that the receipts during the first year will be sufficient to cover the actual expenses incurred.

The Board again appointed a special committee from its own number, in which each of the three Synods was represented, to examine carefully into the condition of the Establishment. They spent the greater part of two days in their specific work. Their report is here incorporated, as the most accurate account that can be given of the result reached :

PHILADELPHIA, August 20th, 1879.

To the Reformed Church Publication Board :

Your committee appointed at the last meeting, to take an account of stock in store, and ascertain the financial condition of the Board, beg leave to report :

We have carefully gone over the list of books and goods in the Store, and examined into our Liabilities and Assets, with the following result. We find a considerable amount of stock on hand, coming down from former years, that is not saleable, and hence comparatively worthless. This we estimated at only half its cost value, and in a few instances, threw it out altogether. Other of the stock we threw off one fourth, one fifth, and on all of it in sum total, one tenth of its returned value. Our Book Agent, Mr. Taylor, was with us, and coincided with our judgment. We found a large number of "Reviews" and "Guardians," of former years still on hand. These we reduced one half from the estimate put on them last year, and still it is doubtful whether they can ever be sold for their present estimated value. We also found some books in sheets, that are worth but little, and hence estimated them at a low rate. It is the opinion of your committee, that greater care should be exercised in printing a less number of extra periodicals, especially of the "Review" and "Guardian," which have accumulated in such large numbers on our hands.

We find due on Book accounts over six thousand dollars; on subscriptions due from present subscribers to our periodicals, over thirteen thousand dollars, and due from old accounts of discontinued subscribers, nearly twelve thousand dollars, for about seventeen hundred dollars of which notes and due bills have been given. Thus it will be seen, that the total amount due the Board, on book account and subscriptions to periodicals, amounts to the sum of *over twenty-five thousand dollars*. This is a fearful loss in interest; but the worst of it is, that at least one third of this vast amount, or eight thousand dollars of it, had to be thrown out as not collectable. More care, we think, should be exercised in trusting those, not known to be good, and still more earnest efforts made to collect up outstanding claims. In saying all this, we have no design of reflecting upon the business capacity of our Superintendent or Book Agent. We believe they are both doing the very best they can for the interest of the Establishment. The fault is rather with our ministers and people, who buy books and subscribe for periodicals and do not pay for them. But the experience of the past should teach us to trust less, and be wider awake to our pecuniary interests.

We are sorry to say, that our liabilities have increased during the last eleven months, about \$2,500., whilst our assets have decreased about \$4,800. Of course, this is owing in part to the reductions made on stock on hand, and the throwing out of what are believed to be worthless

accounts. It will be remembered, also, that, when four years ago, the Synod elected a new Editor-in-chief, it was hoped, that the increased income to the establishment would meet the expenses of his salary, and that this expectation has been disappointed, so that a large part of our increased liabilities is owing to the demand made upon us to pay the salary of additional force on the "Messenger." Still, the fact stares us in the face, that we are losing money largely, and, that, unless our expenses can be brought nearer within our income, our existence as a Board will be only a matter of a few years. It is not within the province of the committee, as such, to suggest a remedy. We leave that to the united wisdom of the Board, and to the Synods represented in it. The total liabilities and assets, together with his detailed statement, will be found in the Superintendent's report.

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. LOVE,

G. S. GRIFFITH.

To provide as far as in their power, for a decrease of expenditures, the Board has made a general reduction on all the salaries of those employes in its service. As a means of further relieving the Board from financial pressure, it respectfully overtures the Synods represented in the Board, to recommend to the Classes and congregations within their bounds, to provide means for printing and distributing religious literature gratuitously, or at such reduced rates, as the Board may deem best to weak charges, Mission congregations, and other benevolent associations. Should this overture be granted, it further asks, that the Synod of the United States appoint a committee to prepare the manuscript for a tract on the "Duty and Privilege of giving to the support of the Benevolent Operations of the Church;"

That the Synod of the Potomac appoint a committee to prepare a tract on the "Duty of and Benefit to Individuals and Families Subscribing for and Reading our Church Periodicals."

That the Synod of Pittsburgh appoint a committee to prepare the manuscript for a tract on the "Duty and Advantages of full Church Membership;" each tract to contain not more than eight pages, and that the cost of printing them be paid out of the the fund raised for the free circulation of religious literature, and that all congregations within the bounds of the three Synods, which contribute to this fund, shall be gratuitously supplied with said tracts for distribution in their families.

With a view to extend the circulation of the "Guardian" and "Child's Treasury," the Board has determined upon a reduction of the price of these periodicals, to go into effect with the opening of the incoming year. As the income in the semi-monthly Child's Treasury in consequence of the falling off of its subscription list, is insufficient to cover the additional expenses incurred through it, the Board will discontinue its issue after the present year.

The Board appointed a committee to prepare a new price list of books published by it, and of all books on hand, putting such as are not saleable at greatly reduced rates. This committee is to report at the next meeting of the Board to be held in December next, and the new price list is to go into effect with the opening of the incoming year.

The time of service of G. S. Griffith and B. Wolff, Jr., as members of the Board will terminate with the present year. It will, therefore,

devolve upon the Synods they respectively represent, to fill the vacancies in the Board, which will thus occur.

Respectfully submitted in behalf of the Board,

D. W. GROSS, *President.*

SAML. R. FISHER, *Secretary.*

Philadelphia, August 29, 1879.

II. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATION.

The Standing Committee on Publication reported during the session of Friday Afternoon. The Report was received and engaged the attention of the Synod during the sessions of Friday Afternoon, Saturday Forenoon, and Saturday Afternoon. The Report was amended and adopted, and is as follows:

Your Committee on Publication respectfully beg leave to report:—Your Committee have bestowed careful attention and study upon the several documents placed in their hands. The subject matter contained therein was earnestly considered and discussed, and as the result of their deliberations, they would recommend to Synod the adoption of the following resolutions.

Resolved, That this Synod most respectfully declines concurring in the action of the Synod of the U. S., proposing changes in the editorial management of the *Messenger*.

Resolved, That in the judgment of this Synod the deficit, in view of which a change in the present editorial management is sought to be accomplished, is not to be remedied by such method, but rather by increased liberality in maintaining the present management, as it is.

Resolved, That the efficient measures inaugurated by the Board, at its late meeting, in the way of reduction of salaries, lessening of cost in the publications and material, and reduction of prices, give good promise that the end of the current year will show a favorable balance in its business operations.

Resolved, That this Synod calls upon the Classes and ministers and membership within her bounds, to put forth a decided and most vigorous effort to increase the circulation of our periodicals and the volume of the business of the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

S. N. CALLENDER,

JNO. G. NOSS,

W. AUG. GRING,

W. H. HERBERT,

JOHN M. HOFFMAN,

F. M. MCKEEHAN,

Committee.

The Standing Committee on Minutes of Synod reported, under item 17, the continuance of the Committee to prepare and publish, conjointly with a similar committee from the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, an edition of "Hymns for the Reformed Church," *with music*.

The Committee presented the following report, which was received and adopted, and the Committee was continued. The report is as follows :

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac.

DEAR BRETHREN:—Your Committee on the selection of music for the New Hymn Book respectfully report, that they have selected tunes for all the hymns from the beginning of the Book to Trinity Sunday, with the exception of some thirty ; and also report, that the Committee of the Synod of the United States has fully completed the selections for the remaining part of the Book. Very little more, therefore, is now required to place the work in the hands of the printer.

Respectfully submitted,

E. E. HIGBEE,
J. B. KERSCHNER.

Mercersburg, Pa., October 20th, 1879.

P. S.—We submit herewith the following expenses.

E. E. Higbee for one trip to Frederick,	\$ 5.40
E. E. Higbee “ “ “ “ Lancaster,	7.20
	<hr/>
	\$12.60
J. B. Kerschner for one trip to Frederick,	\$ 5.40
J. B. Kerschner “ “ “ “ Lancaster,	7.20
	<hr/>
	\$12.60

The Treasurer was, on motion, instructed to pay the foregoing bills.

The Standing Committee on Minutes of Synod reported, under item 16, that agreeably to the Charter of the Publication Board of the Reformed Church in the United States, it is rendered necessary for the Synod of the Potomac, at its present sessions, to elect a member of said Board for four years, in the place of Elder G. S. Griffith, whose term of service is about to expire. At the election held for members of the several Boards, Elder G. S. Griffith was re-elected to serve for the period of four years

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLICATION BOARD AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Elder Goldsboro S. Griffith,	4 years,	1883
“ Adam B. Wingerd,	3 “	1882

ARTICLE XXI.

MISCELLANEOUS.

During the session of Tuesday Afternoon, the Standing Committee on Nominations presented their report, which was received, amended, and adopted. The Stated Clerk was instructed to have two hundred and fifty tickets of these nominations printed for the use of the Synod,

and the election was made the order of the day for Tuesday Evening's session. At the time designated, the election took place. Revs. W. F. Colliflower, S. S. Miller, C. G. Fisher, and I. M. Motter were appointed tellers, who received the ballots, counted the votes, and furnished the President with the result of the election. This result will be found elsewhere, in connection with the action of the Synod on the Reports of the Boards of Education, Missions, Trustees of Synod, Sunday-schools, Publication, Peace Commissioners, and Regents of Mercersburg College.

The Standing Committee on Minutes of Synod reported, under item 18, the post-ponement, until the present annual meeting, of the election of Commissioners to the Peace Convention about to assemble in Harrisburg, Pa.

This item and item 6 in the Report of the Standing Committee on Overtures were referred to a special committee, consisting of Revs. J. O. Miller, G. H. Martin, F. F. Babner, and elders H. W. Shriver and M. Zimmerman. During the session of Tuesday Afternoon, this committee submitted the following report, which was received and adopted, to wit :

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of the Peace Commission to convene in Harrisburg, Pa., November 26th, 1879, and the appointment of commissioners to the same from this body, would respectfully report, that we deem it unnecessary for this Synod, at this time, to give any lengthy deliverance on the subject matter itself, after the discussion had a year ago at Hagerstown ; except, to say, that we acknowledge the good effects already of this contemplated Peace Commission upon the Church ; and, that we still favor this movement that looks in the interest of the peace of the Church.

We recommend, that the Synod do now proceed to the selection of four commissioners or delegates, two ministerial, and two lay—with their alternates, as designated by the General Synod, to represent this Synod in said Commission.

It is our opinion, that these delegates or commissioners should be selected from the majority and minority of this Synod, in the following ratio, namely : that the majority shall have one ministerial and two lay delegates or commissioners, with alternates ; and that the minority shall have one ministerial delegate or commissioner, and his alternate. And for this purpose, we nominate the following, from whom the Synod shall select who shall be *primarii*, and who *secundi* : namely from the majority as ministerial delegate or commissioner—Rev. Samuel N. Callender and Rev. Elnathan E. Higbee ; and from the minority, as ministerial delegate or commissioner—Rev. George W. Welker and Rev. George W. Glessner. Majority lay delegates, Elders Henry Wirt, Lewis H. Steiner, J. Taylor Motter, and John P. Reed.

In balloting, each member of the Synod shall vote for two ministers and two elders. And the one minister of the majority and the one minister of the minority having the highest number of votes shall be the *primarii*, and the others the *secundi*. And the two elders having the highest number of votes shall, in like manner, be the *primarii*, and the others the *secundi*.

We would further recommend, that in view of the important work committed to said Commission, this Synod advise and hereby does direct all its congregations and members to offer special prayer to the Great Head of the Church, on their behalf, when they shall be assembled in convention—such prayer to be made at the regular Lord's Day services and at the weekly meetings for prayer.

And further, we agree with the other Synods in the full conviction, that in order to carry out the spirit of the General Synod, it is necessary that the conclusions reached by the Peace Commission should be unanimous; and that nothing short of this, as coming from said Commission, will aid us in securing a real peace.

Respectfully submitted,

J. O. MILLER,
G. H. MARTIN,
F. F. BAHNER,
H. WIRT SHRIVER,
MICHAEL ZIMMERMAN,
Committee.

Accordingly, at the election for members of the several Boards of Synod, an election for Delegates or Commissioners to the Peace Convention to convene in Harrisburg, Pa., November 26th, A. D. 1879, was held, with the following result, to wit: Rev. Samuel N. Callender, D. D., Rev. Geo. Wm. Welker, D. D., and Elders Henry Wirt and Hon. Lewis H. Steimer, M. D., *Primarii*; and Rev. Elnathan E. Higbee, D. D., George W. Glessner, D. D., and Elders J. Taylor Motter, and John P. Reed, Esq., *Secundi*.

MERCERSBURG COLLEGE.

The Board of Regents of Mercersburg College presented their annual report to Synod, which was received, and then with item 3 of the Report of the Committee on Overtures was referred to a special committee, composed of Revs. W. Rupp, J. A. Hoffheims, C. G. Fisher, and Elders J. M. Hoffman and L. Markell. The report is as follows:

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF MERCERSBURG COLLEGE.

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac.

DEAR BRETHREN:—The Board of Regents of Mercersburg College, in submitting this their first report for your consideration, deem it proper to give a brief history of the College, in connection with a detailed statement of its present financial condition.

The College was chartered A. D. 1865. The property was purchased for six thousand and five hundred dollars (\$6,500), of which amount Mercersburg Classis took upon itself to furnish three thousand and five hundred dollars (\$3,500), leaving the balance for the Corporation to secure as best it could. To put the buildings in proper repair and to secure the necessary furniture for the rooms required in a short time an additional outlay of at least five thousand dollars (\$5,000), making the expense at the start eleven thousand and five hundred dollars (\$11,500).

The earnings of the School were insufficient to meet this expense, and the Institution therefore from the outset had to depend upon the charitable donations of the Church. At different times agents were sent into the field, meeting with more or less success; but at no time were the collections sufficient to diminish to any extent the original indebtedness. Besides this, the three thousand and five hundred dollars (\$3,500) which Mercersburg Classis had obligated itself to furnish came in by small dribs, and the whole amount has not yet been fully met.

In consequence of all this, the College for the first five or six years of its existence, although under the able management of Dr. Thomas G. Apple, and exercising the utmost economy, could not extricate itself from its burden of debt. Indeed, when the successor of Dr. Apple entered upon his work, the debt for current expenses including that for some additional furniture had reached the sum of five thousand and six hundred dollars (\$5,600), while the debt for the original purchase of property had been decreased only four thousand dollars (\$4,000), leaving the Institution involved to the amount of thirteen thousand and one hundred dollars (\$13,100).

Notwithstanding this, the College was able to go on, paying its Professors and the interest of its debt out of its own earnings and the charitable gifts of its friends. In reality for the past seven years the debt has been kept down very near to its original proportion, lessened rather than increased, but only by means of great labor and sacrifice. In the meantime also every possible effort has been made to secure help; but the donations from the Church were exceedingly small, not sufficient indeed to keep one Professor in the College. It may be said that for the past seven years the College has been left to depend to a very large extent upon what it could secure from its students, and upon the willingness of its Professors to work while their salaries were exceedingly small. What added still more to the difficulties was that this period was one of great and general financial depression, diminishing the number of students as well as the charitable donations of friends.

The Board of Regents, however feel gratified that they can present the following detailed statement of the financial condition of the Institution, putting the real assets at their very lowest estimate, and including all debts up to September 18, 1879.

MERCERSBURG COLLEGE, SEPTEMBER 18, 1879.

DR.		CR.	
To King Mortgage,.....	\$3,000.00	By Purchased Property,.....	\$6,500.00
“ Cook Judgment Note,....	2,000.00	“ Leased Property.....	10,000.00
“ E. E. Higbee,.....	2,879.00	“ Subscription Notes.....	11,000.00
“ Chambersburg Bank,....	1,327.00	“ Obligations of Students, 1,800.00	
“ J. B. Kerschner,.....	850.00	“ Library.....	500.00
“ Geo. F. Mull,.....	302.00	“ Apparatus,.....	400.00
“ J. H. Kershner,.....	240.00		
“ Coal Bill,.....	400.00		
“ H. Hause,.....	600.00		
“ Sundries,.....	500.00		
	\$12,098.00		\$30,200.00
Assets over Liabilities,.....			\$18,102.00

From this statement it can be seen that the debt of the College in 1879 is less than it was some seven years ago by a little over one thousand dollars (\$1,002) and that over four thousand dollars of it have been shifted from outside parties to the Professors of the College.

The literary work accomplished by the College during this short period now passed under review is probably well known to the Church. The Institution has graduated fifty-nine students, of which number twenty-seven have studied for the holy ministry. But very many students, before completing their full course, left for other Colleges, so that these statistics very inadequately represent the work which has been done. The Faculty of the College has been competent. The first President is now President of Franklin and Marshall College. The first Professor is now Professor in the same College. Another of its early Professors has become Superintendent of Schools in Minnesota, and still another Professor has very recently become assistant Professor of Chemistry in Cornell University. All this encourages the Board of Regents in the conviction that the labor and sacrifice gone through have not been for naught, and that, if the school must now close, it has accomplished sufficient to justify the efforts which have been made to sustain it.

It was felt by very many that the work of the College was too large and important to remain under charge of a single Classis; and in answer to an overture from Mercersburg Classis, simply expressing its willingness to surrender the College to the Synod of the Potomac, that Synod last year took the Institution under its care without a dissenting voice, and requested the Board of Regents to send an agent into this larger field. The Board found itself unable to secure a suitable agent; but by letters, and by solicitations of the President of the College, visiting the Church in person as time would allow him, it endeavored faithfully to awaken an interest in the Synod in behalf of the College, and to secure the financial aid so much needed. Hardly anything, however, was accomplished. On the contrary the sad conviction was forced upon those making the effort, that, notwithstanding the unanimous action of the Synod, there was but little disposition upon the part of the ministers of the Synod to sustain or make permanent the work at Mercersburg, either because it was thought that no such work was in reality needed by the Church, or, if needed, it was not under proper management to prove itself successful. Under this discouragement, together with the pressing demands of creditors who had already waited long and patiently, the year passed on through anxieties and gloom, affecting students and Professors and Regents, and still rendering everything more hopeless. Having looked in vain for help in every direction far and near, and receiving nothing adequate, the only alternative left seemed to be to suspend the School for a time at least, and pay the debt by collecting the dues of the College and such donations as could be secured, so that in case of resumption the Synod might be free and without burden.

The new Collegiate year upon which the College has now entered, as might be expected, started with still greater disadvantages than the preceding, the creditors becoming more anxious, the indebtedness increasing, and the opposition to the school showing itself more bold and outspoken. The filicitious satirical verse of Horace was sadly verified

“*Quanto perditior quisque est, tanto acrius urget.*”

While last year the roll of students numbered fifty-six, this year it started with only twenty-six, with but little likelihood that it will be much increased during the session. The President had confidently expected a much larger accession, but found to his great surprise that quite a large number of the students already in attendance had been written to and urged to go elsewhere, and that the field had been canvassed in the interest of another Institution. This state of things renders it absolutely impossible for the College to go on without endowment from the Synod.

The small amount of twenty-five thousand dollars, including in this the debt, would be in all probability amply sufficient, when added to that already secured, and to that which is expected from outstanding legacies.

The Faculty of the College seeing the necessities of the case, and wishing to give to the Synod the utmost freedom of re-organizing the Institution, have tendered their resignations to the Board, which resignations have been accepted, hoping that by suspending at the close of the present session, and thus avoiding any increase of debt, the way may be opened for an agent to go into the field and make one last and strong effort to save the Institution and make possible its early resumption of work in some form if the Synod shall be so disposed.

In concluding this report, your Board would recommend to the Synod the following action :

1. That the attention of the Synod be called to the fact that the terms of office of the following members of the Board of Regents have expired, viz: Elders A. B. Wingerd, A. R. Schnebly and L. Markell, and that it will be necessary for the Synod to fill these vacancies by election.

2. That the Synod be requested to commit the within report to a special Committee with instructions to report some definite action in the case at as early an hour as possible, for the consideration of this Synod.

Respectfully submitted,

E. E. HIGBEE,

by request of the Board.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON MERCERSBURG COLLEGE.

The special committee to whom the interests of Mercersburg College had been referred for consideration, presented their report to Synod during the session of Monday Forenoon, which was received, and held under consideration during the following three sessions of Synod. The request of the Alumni Association of Mercersburg College for one hour of Synod's time, in which to present the claims and interests of the college before Synod was granted and so occupied. The report of the special committee was so amended as to be almost entirely changed. The report, as amended and adopted, is as follows :

To the Synod of the Potomac :

Your Committee on Mercersburg College, would respectfully offer the following as their report.

From the Report of the Board of Regents we learn, that the Institution is indebted to the amount of \$12,098. The value of the assets, including leased property, is said to be \$30,200.00. How much of this may be available for the liquidation of the indebtedness, the committee is unable to determine. We learn further, that, in consequence of the embarrassed financial condition of the Institution, all the Professors have tendered their resignations, and that these have been accepted by the Board of Regents,—thus suspending the work of the college at the close of the present session, which commenced with the small number of twenty-six students. The Board also states that the term of office of three of the members expires, and that their places will have to be filled by election.

In view of these facts, the committee would respectfully recommend the following action :

Resolved, That the vacancies occurring in the Board of Regents be filled at this session of Synod.

Resolved, That the Board of Regents be directed to employ an agent to canvass the territory of this Synod for the purpose of raising funds for the immediate necessities of said College, and also for the further purpose of raising Twenty Thousand Dollars for the permanent endowment of the College, and to secure a Faculty such as may be necessary to conduct the Institution with the least possible expense.

Resolved, That the pastors and consistories in the bounds of this Synod be requested to co-operate with the agent thus sent out, and also with the Board of Regents to carry out these instructions and save the Institution, and so secure the establishment of Mercersburg College for the educational work of this Synod, if possible.

Resolved, That the Board of Regents, if forthcoming relief cannot be thus obtained, in the coming year, be empowered to dispose of such property, as can be dispensed with to the least detriment to the operations of the College, and so reduce its work, as to bring the expenses within its income.

Resolved, That the Board of Education of the Synod be directed to request the Board of Regents to discontinue the Post-Graduate Department or Course of Study, in said College.

Resolved, That this Synod hereby requests the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College to secure such change in the Charter of the College as shall put the election of the members of the Board necessarily in the hands of the Synod.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. RUPP,
J. A. HOFFHEINS,
CHAS. G. FISHER,
LOUIS MARKELL,
J. M. HOFFMAN,

Committee.

The following resolution was subsequently moved and adopted, to wit:

Resolved. That this Synod hereby expresses its high appreciation of the eminent ability, faithfulness, and devotion to the work of Christian education in the Reformed Church performed by the Rev. Dr. Higbee, and that it invokes God's blessing to rest upon him in the future, and also upon those who are associated with him in his labors in Mercersburg College.

At the election held for members of the different Boards of Synod, Andrew R. Schnebly, Louis Markell, and E. J. Bonebrake, Esq., were elected members of the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College for the term of three years. Rev. Wm. A. Gring was also chosen a member of the Board of Regents for one year, to fill the unexpired term of Rev. J. A. Peters, whose resignation the Synod had accepted.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Andrew R. Schnebly.....	3 years,	October,	1882
Louis Markell.....	3 "	"	1882
E. J. Bonebrake, Esq.....	3 "	"	1882
Rev. E. E. Higbee, D. D.....	2 "	"	1881
" J. S. Kieffer.....	2 "	"	1881
" D. M. Whitmore.....	2 "	"	1881
" Wm. A. Gring.....	1 "	"	1880
John L. Reifsnyder.....	1 "	"	1880
William Heyser.....	1 "	"	1880

The Standing Committee on Overtures, under item 9, reported a statement of the condition and wants of Bethany Orphans' Home, at Womelsdorf, Pa. The item was referred to a special committee, consisting of Revs. A. C. Geary, I. M. Motter, and Elder F. M. McKeehan. This committee, during the last session of Synod, submitted the following report, which was received and adopted :

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BETHANY ORPHAN HOME.

Your committee to whom was referred the "Report of the Board of Managers of Bethany Orphan Home," respectfully reports as follows :

The Board states that the Home has now been in existence for a period of fifteen years, and maintained 307 orphans, and received about \$150,000.00 from the Church and other sources toward its support.

During the past year, the Board received from the Church and State \$3,668.54—"the smallest amount received, during any year of its history, and about \$800.00 less than its expenditures;" apart from produce yielded by the farm belonging to the Home. Fifty-five orphans were at the Home during the year. The general health of its inmates has been good. There was but one death. Several orphans were confirmed on last Good Friday; and 106 since the organization of the congregation ten years ago by the present Superintendent, Rev. D. B. Albright.

A plan to liquidate the remaining indebtedness on the Home farm has been adopted, and is recommended by the Board, namely, that forty persons should contribute \$100.00 a piece. Four names have already been secured. In view of the foregoing statement, we offer the following resolutions for adoption, to wit :

Resolved, That the sacred cause of the orphans be and hereby is renewedly commended to the attention and liberality of the churches within our bounds.

Resolved, That our congregations and Sunday-schools be advised to devote at least their Christmas dues to this cause.

Resolved, That the plan of forty persons contributing \$100.00 each for the purpose of liquidating the indebtedness on the Home farm be earnestly commended to the churches and members within our bounds.

Respectfully submitted,

A. C. GEARY,
I. M. MOTTER,
F. M. MCKEEHAN,

Committee

LEGACY OF PHILIP BRECHBILL.

The Standing Committee on Overtures, under item 8, reported a communication from the consistory of the Reformed Church at Churchtown, Cumberland County, Pa., in which reference is made to the legacy of Philip Brechbill, praying the Synod to accept the bequest and carry into execution the desire and will of the testator.

The following resolutions were adopted in regard to this matter:

Resolved, That the Treasurer of Synod be empowered and directed to receive of and from Henry E. Brechbill, executor of the last will and testament of Philip Brechbill, deceased, the legacy bequeathed to the Synod, and in the name, place, and stead of the Synod sign, seal, and deliver, and acknowledge a release to the said Henry E. Brechbill, executor as aforesaid, for the said sum.

Resolved, That the Trustees of Synod take charge of said bequest or legacy, and apply the same as directed by the testator.

The authorities of the Maryland Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, located at Frederick City, kindly extended an invitation to the Synod to visit said Institution. The invitation was accepted, and, at 4 o'clock on Monday afternoon, the Synod in a body made the visit.

SOCIETY FOR THE RELIEF OF MINISTERS AND WIDOWS OF
MINISTERS.

The Society for the relief of disabled ministers and the widows of deceased ministers of the Reformed Church in the United States, through its Treasurer, submitted a statement, with a request that it be entered upon the Minutes of Synod, which was accordingly ordered to be done, to wit:

During the past year the Society made appropriations to the amount of \$765.00, among three disabled ministers and fifteen widows. The balance in the Treasury at present is \$447.45.

During the past year, a member of our Church in Western Pennsylvania left to the Society a legacy of \$1,000.00—an example worthy of commendation.

The Society hopes, that it will continue to receive the fostering care of the Synod, and suggests that, as heretofore, it requests all the churches under its care to take up, at least, one collection for the Society, during the year; and further, that it recommend that efforts be made in the churches to increase the principal of the Society by legacies, or other methods, so that larger appropriations may be made to those entitled to the help of the Society.

THEODORE APPEL, *Treasurer*.

The interests of the Society were commended to the churches under the care of the Synod.

An assessment of twenty-five cents per member was made to remunerate the sexton and meet incidental expenses. Revs. W. R. H. Deatrich, A. Shulenberger, and Elder D. Biser were appointed the committee to collect said assessment. At a subsequent session, the committee reported, as follows, which was received and adopted:

Your committee to collect twenty-five cents from each member of Synod begs leave to report, that the duty has been attended to, and the sum of \$31.25 collected and paid over to the *Pastor loci*.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. R. H. DEATRICH,
A. SHULENBERGER,
DANIEL BISER,

Committee.

On Saturday morning, a committee was appointed on leave of absence, consisting of Revs. J. H. Sykes, H. Wissler, and Elder S. B. Snively. The committee reported as follows, which was received and adopted:

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac:

Your committee on leave of absence would respectfully report, that quite a number of applications for leave of absence were received; and, after carefully considering each case, as each appeared, they granted leave of absence to the following persons:

Ministers.—J. M. Mickley, H. Tallhelm, R. R. Smith, D. N. Dittmar, H. F. Long, D. W. Ebbert, A. R. Kremer, A. Shulenberger, Dr. Glessner, A. G. Dole, and *Elders* J. Hoover, M. L. Emig, A. Herberlig, H. Wirt, E. Williard, E. Krone, A. D. Myers, A. H. Beitler, J. F. Crown, E. Roler, J. L. Rohrbach, J. M. Hoffman, A. Koons, and J. Welshans.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN H. SYKES,
HENRY WISSLER,
SAML. B. SNIVELY,

Committee.

ARTICLE XXII.

MINISTERIAL NECROLOGY.

The Standing Committee on Ministerial Necrology presents the following report, which was received and adopted, to wit:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MINISTERIAL NECROLOGY.

Your Committee on Ministerial Necrology, in making their report, desire to congratulate the Synod upon the fact, that, during the last Synodical year, (as also in the preceding one,) there has been but one death in the ranks of the ministry of Synod. Surely there is something in this exemption from loss by death to be profoundly thankful for, and of which it is our bounden duty to take special note.

The Rev. Nicholas E. Gilds, in the twenty-ninth year of his ordination, died suddenly at his home in Mechanicstown, Md., on the evening of the 5th of March, as he was preparing to go to his bed for the night,

from a disease of the heart, of the incurable nature of which he was aware, but had made known only to a few of his friends. Laying aside his garments, and putting off his mortal flesh, as it were in one act, he rests from his labors, and, life's fitful fever over, he sleeps well.

At the time of his death, he was in the sixtieth year of his age, having been born April 17th, A. D. 1819. He became a candidate for the ministry in Chambersburg, during the pastorate of Rev. H. L. Rice, of sainted memory, and for a short time pursued his studies at Marshall College, Mercersburg, Pa., but for the most part made his preparation for the Holy Ministry in a private way. He was licensed by the Virginia Classis in 1850, and in the following year, was ordained and installed as Pastor at Carrollton, Ohio, where he exercised his ministry for the space of three years. From thence he removed to Reinersburg, Clarion County, Pa., and remained there as Pastor of the charge for three years. Thence he was called to the pastorate of the St. Clairsville Charge, Bedford County, Pa., and continued his labors for nine years. From St. Clairsville he removed to Taneytown, Md., where he lived as Pastor of the Charge for two years, going thence to Mechanicstown, in what is supposed to be his native County (Frederick), where he prosecuted his ministerial work for nine years more—up to within two or three years of the time of his decease.

Doubtless these twenty-six years of preaching and pastoral work have been owned of the Lord and crowned with His benediction, "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of thy Lord."

The testimony of one who knew him well is this—"He was a good minister and neighbor, true to the golden rule, careful of the good name of his ministerial brethren, and never did he detract from them any merit or reputation, they may have succeeded in winning. He was true to his Church, her doctrines, customs, and traditions, and obedient to her authority."

In conclusion, your committee desire to say, that it is hardly probable, that the Synodical year, upon which we have now entered, will be distinguished by so large an exemption from death among our ministry. Indeed, this very fact, to wit, the smallest possible death rate for two consecutive years, renders it highly probable, that more than one minister will pass away from the ministry of this Synod, during the current year. If so, in the good Providence of our Lord, may it be in the midst of full and successful work, that each one, as he goes may be enabled joyfully to say, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day."

Respectfully submitted,

GEO. LEWIS STALEY, *Chairman.*

ARTICLE XXIII.

RESUMPTION AND CLOSE.

The following resolutions were moved and unanimously adopted:

VOTE OF THANKS.

Resolved. That the most cordial thanks of this Synod be and hereby are returned to the Pastor, Consistory, and members of the First or

Evangelical Reformed Church of Frederick City for the use of their church, in which to hold the present sessions of Synod, and for their kind entertainment and liberal hospitality extended to us, during our present sojourn amongst them.

Resolved, That the *Pastor loci* be requested to read the foregoing resolution from his pulpit, at his next Lord's Day service, and have it published in the daily paper of Frederick.

Resolved, That the Corresponding Secretary be instructed to return the thanks of the Synod to the management of the Pennsylvania, and Baltimore and Ohio Railroads for kindness in permitting the members of Synod to pass over their respective roads, at reduced rates of fare.

The Synodical Roll was then called, and the following members of Synod were found absent without permission: Revs. J. Ault, A. Warner, W. H. Herbert, E. G. Williams, F. S. Lindaman, and Elders Jacob G. March, Jacob Rickard, Henry Dietz, and George W. Hench of *Zion's Classis*; Elder Peter Zimmerman of *Maryland Classis*; Elder Henry Omwake of *Mercersburg Classis*; and Revs. H. St. J. Rinker, S. L. Whitmore, L. M. Hensell, and Elder John W. Yakey of *Virginia Classis*.

The minutes were then finally read and approved, and ordered to be engrossed.

ARTICLE XXIV.

ADJOURNMENT.

The following resolutions were adopted, during the session of Thursday afternoon, to wit:

Resolved, That the next annual meeting of Synod be *in General Convention*.

Resolved, That when we adjourn finally, it be to meet again in annual sessions in the Reformed Church of Woodstock, Shenandoah County, Virginia, on Wednesday Evening, October 13th, A. D. 1880, at 7 o'clock.

The Synod adjourned finally on Wednesday afternoon, October 29th, at 12½ o'clock, with chanting the Gloria in Excelsis, repeating the Apostles' Creed, joining in the Lord's Prayer, singing the doxology, and benediction by the President.

J. W. SANTEE, *President*.

WM. M. DEATRICK, *Stated Clerk*.

Official copy from the original Minutes.

WM. M. DEATRICK, STATED CLERK.

STATISTICAL REPORTS.

Ministers.	No. of Congregations.	Charges.	Members.		Baptisms.		Confirmations.	Certificates.	Communicants.	Dismissed.	Excommunicated.	Erasure of Names.	Deaths.	Sunday-schools.	Sunday-school Scholars.	Students for Missions.	Contributions.		Post-Office Address.
			Members.	Unconfirmed.	Infants.	Adults.											Beneficent Purposes.	Congregational Purposes.	
I. CLASS OF ZION.																			
Jacob Seehler,.....	4	Manheim,.....	460	170	24	..	22	..	440	..	..	..	4	8	200	..	..	\$ 175.00	Hanover, Pa.
Daniel Riegel,.....	2	Dillsburg,.....	230	.....	11	..	18	..	197	2	..	..	14	2	..	..	..	27.00	Dillsburg, Pa.
Jacob Ziegler,.....	..	Without Charge,.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	York, Pa.
Jacob O. Miller, D. D.,...	1	Trinity Church, York,	380	300	28	..	17	8	350	6	..	..	10	2	450	..	..	\$ 350.00	York, Pa.
Daniel Gring,.....	4	Shrewsbury,.....	440	200	36	2	30	..	391	2	..	..	15	6	200	1	..	330.00	Shrewsbury, Pa.
Wm. K. Zieber, D. D.,...	1	Hanover,.....	350	300	18	..	..	10	275	1	..	..	6	1	250	1	..	1350.00	Hanover, Pa.
John Ault,.....	4	Christ's Church,.....	1003	565	57	..	18	6	925	9	..	..	16	4	360	..	..	130.00	Littlestown, Pa.
Wm. R. H. Deatrich,.....	310	Mechanicsburg,.....	310	171	23	2	11	2	304	2	..	..	16	2	236	..	..	1175.00	Mechanicsburg, Pa.
Jacob D. Zehring,.....	5	Emanuel's,.....	957	400	40	8	63	3	859	4	..	..	30	9	400	..	..	800.00	Codorus, Pa.
Rinehart R. Smith,.....	6	Trinity,.....	272	198	53	1	12	1	227	..	..	..	13	7	209	..	..	10.00	York, Pa.
Aaron Wanner,.....	275	York Springs,.....	275	190	15	..	..	2	215	2	..	..	12	3	240	1	..	90.00	York, Pa.
Aaron Spangler,.....	440	Zion's Church, York,	440	200	25	..	..	9	225	6	..	..	11	1	110	1	..	900.00	York, Pa.
Francis S. Lindaman,.....	380	Zion's,.....	380	265	23	2	9	8	330	3	..	..	11	6	200	1	..	139.75	Blain, Pa.
Reuben Ranhauser,.....	120	Mt. Pleasant,.....	120	70	27	..	7	10	90	3	..	..	5	4	100	..	..	16.01	Dallastown, Pa.
Israel S. Weisz, D. D.,...	825	Paradise,.....	825	516	71	3	37	8	760	7	..	..	33	9	375	..	..	355.35	York, Pa.
Moses Kieffer, D. D.,...	345	Gettysburg,.....	345	240	16	2	21	19	330	8	2	..	7	1	130	..	..	180.00	Gettysburg, Pa.
Wm. H. Herbert,.....	330	Landsburg,.....	330	190	15	2	12	2	275	3	..	..	6	4	300	..	..	125.39	Landsburg, Pa.
Andrew J. Heller,.....	480	Conawago,.....	480	305	21	2	15	4	442	..	..	..	24	3	200	..	..	223.92	Arendtsville, Pa.
Geo. W. Glessner, D. D.,...	..	Without Charge,.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Shippensburg, Pa.
Wm. F. Colliflower,.....	671	Abbotstown,.....	671	650	34	..	9	..	600	14	..	..	20	7	395	2	..	74.64	New Oxford, Pa.
John Kretzing,.....	260	New Bloomfield,.....	260	195	9	..	6	..	211	6	..	..	6	3	295	..	..	1325.00	Newport, Pa.
U. Henry Heilman,.....	130	Duncannon,.....	130	100	9	..	7	5	100	1	..	..	2	2	150	..	..	34.58	Duncannon, Pa.
J. Marion Mickle,.....	114	Newburg,.....	114	76	15	2	6	7	111	4	..	..	6	1	103	..	..	28.00	Newburg, Pa.

E. Garver Williams,.....	4	Kreutz Creek,.....	175	100	30	4	127	4	160	...	\$ 105.00	\$ 625.00	Red Lion, Pa.	
Amos H. Kremer, D. D....	1	Carlisle,.....	220	176	5	4	14	2	155	...	20.20	2000.00	Carlisle, Pa.	
Frederick J. Sauerber,....	1	Heidelberg Ch., York,	174	140	4	1	5	145	3	1	225	1000.00	York, Pa.	
Wm. D. Lefever,.....	...	Without Charge,.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Littletown, Pa.	
Ambrose D. Gring,.....	...	Missionary to Japan,.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Yokohama, Japan.	
Geo. E. Addams,.....	4	Sulphur Springs,.....	179	85	5	5	5	150	2	4	100	294.70	Carlisle, Pa.	
Wm. H. Nanders,.....	2	Trinity Mission,.....	60	...	6	6	25	...	1	4	400	...	York, Pa.	
Sup. by Aaron Warner,....	1	Mt. Zion Cong.,.....	80	85	13	...	3	70	2	1	130	30.00	170.00	
Silas F. Lairy,.....	...	Asso. to Rev. Zehring	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Codorus, Pa.	
Samuel T. Wagner,.....	...	Licentiate,.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Landisburg, Pa.	
Silas M. Hench,.....	...	Licentiate,.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Ickesburg, Pa.	
Total, 33,.....	80	26,	9665	5887	651	31	363	130	8344	96	3	7	\$3283.64	\$24388.51
2. CLASS OF WRYLAMP.														
Joseph W. Santee, D. D.,	4	Cavetown,.....	380	145	20	13	23	11	335	1	...	...	\$ 110.30	\$3200.00
George L. Staley, D. D.,	1	St. Stephen's,.....	20	15	...	...	...	20	5	...	...	...	10.00	...
Edm'd R. Eschbach, D. D.	1	Evang. Reformed,.....	537	415	37	4	38	8	430	3	...	22	1443.21	2662.00
William Goodrich,.....	2	Clearyspring,.....	166	75	2	6	13	6	166	7	...	3	29.81	1800.00
Simon S. Miller,.....	2	Boonsboro,.....	178	128	14	3	9	2	160	4	...	4	93.56	850.00
J. Spangler Kiefer,.....	2	Hagerstown,.....	277	210	16	5	17	5	213	6	...	10	332.00	2000.00
Abner R. Kremer,.....	2	Emmitsburg,.....	367	205	37	1	7	1	283	8	...	9	61.50	3800.00
Mortimer L. Shuford,....	1	Resurrection,.....	120	60	10	4	4	102	...	...	2	1	14.72	500.00
P. Allison Long,.....	4	Taneytown,.....	364	360	20	4	18	10	295	6	5	22	70.00	1007.00
Joel T. Rossiter,.....	1	First Reformed,.....	335	131	23	2	27	15	298	13	1	19	373.00	2308.00
Nehemiah H. Syles,.....	4	Jefferson,.....	325	225	15	...	25	2	300	...	...	7	246.30	2000.00
Henry Wissler,.....	5	Mechanistown,.....	306	240	32	2	12	2	263	5	...	8	63.92	450.00
T. Franklin Hoffmeyer,...	1	Middletown,.....	360	160	32	1	16	1	306	7	...	7	364.88	1000.00
Ambrose C. Geary,.....	3	Mt. Moriah,.....	178	65	9	...	2	3	170	2	...	...	90.00	800.00
John G. Noss,.....	3	Westminster,.....	770	425	53	1	42	7	588	10	...	37	152.00	2175.00
Anthony Schulenberger,...	3	Mt. Pleasant,.....	118	71	11	5	24	4	110	...	...	2	25.85	1142.00
William Rupp,.....	3	Manchester,.....	428	358	40	...	5	1	380	3	...	13	90.15	1470.00

Ministers.	No. of Congregat. us.	Charges.	Members.		Baptisms.		Confirmations.	Verticrate.	Communicants.	Dismissed.	Excommunicated.	Deaths.	Sunday-schools.	Sunday-school Scholars.	Students for Ministry.	Contributions.		Post-Office Address.	
			Members.	Unconfirmed.	Infants.	Adults.										Beneficent Purposes.	Congregational Purposes.		
George B. Russell, D. D.,	1	Grace,	29	17	1	1	1	9	24	..	12	..	1	40	..	..	\$ 200.00	Washington, D. C.
Leighton G. Kremer,	1	Christ Church,	76	70	5	4	10	62	3	..	..	2	1	93	..	..	\$ 84.00	Hagerstown, Md.
Marton L. Froy,	1	St. Paul's,	77	35	4	12	10	70	1	..	..	1	118	..	..	\$ 22.00	Baltimore, Md.	
Conrad Clever,	1	Third Reformed,	169	70	7	17	6	130	5	..	..	1	193	..	..	\$ 30.00	Baltimore, Md.	
Vacant,	4	Glade,	350	245	40	3	325	2	..	..	15	6	360	..	..	..	\$ 120.00	Walkersville, Md.
Orange E. Lake,	..	Without Charge,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Walkersville, Md.
Charles H. Cohn,	..	Without Charge,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Reading, Pa.
Jonas B. Shontz,	..	Prison Chaplain,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Baltimore, Md.
Henry E. Cook,	..	Lieutenant,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Hagerstown, Md.
Total, 25	50	22.	5931	3826	428	53	333	116	5035	91	1	8	185	45	4155	3	\$3683.70	\$32500.00	
3. CLASSIS OF MERCERSBURG.																			
William M. Deatrick,	..	Without Charge,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	4	164	..	\$ 502.23	Mercersburg, Pa.
Isaac G. Brown,	3	Mercersburg,	346	323	18	5	18	14	335	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	\$ 1499.23	Mercersburg, Pa.
George R. Zacharias,	..	Disabled,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Upper Strasburg, Pa.
Elnathan E. Higbee, D. D.	1	College Church,	31	8	1	..	..	3	31	19	..	..	..	2	..	..	75.18	Mercersburg, Pa.
John H. Sykes,	1	Greencastle,	210	167	12	1	10	6	292	5	..	13	1	90	1	..	1051.39	Greencastle, Pa.	
Jacob B. Kerschner,	..	Prof. in Mer. College,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Mercersburg, Pa.
Albert G. Dole,	2	Huntingdon,	350	130	14	1	13	..	330	10	..	4	2	200	1	..	1000.00	Huntingdon, Pa.	
Elias D. Shoemaker,	..	Disabled,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Bedford, Pa.
Ellis N. Kremer,	3	Bedford,	310	206	10	..	3	5	271	4	..	6	3	190	..	..	1100.16	Bedford, Pa.
Milton H. Saugree,	3	Waterstreet,	362	165	16	..	27	8	352	7	..	4	2	210	3	..	336.18	Alexandria, Pa.	
Henry I. Comfort,	3	Grindstonehill,	180	130	4	1	6	3	155	5	..	7	2	170	..	..	700.00	Chambersburg, Pa.
Henry Miller,	..	Superannuated,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Waynesboro, Pa.

Jacob Hassler,.....	2 London; supply,.....	136	50	9	1	1	130	.....	2	110	.....	\$	51.50	\$	700.00	Mercersburg, Pa.	
David N. Dittmar,.....	4 St. Clairsville,.....	391	257	21	7	19	15	344	3	11	5	2	145	238.25	882.00	St. Clairsville, Pa.			
David M. Whitmore,.....	3 Friend's Cove,.....	283	175	24	1	22	2	267	7	.....	9	3	200	139.50	706.65	Charlesville, Pa.		
Frederick A. Rapley,.....	1 Clover Creek; supply,.....	120	55	18	5	29	18	105	17	.....	4	1	87	40.00	417.00	Martinsburg, Pa.		
John M. Sebick,.....	3 Orbisonia,.....	102	65	10	2	3	7	85	1	.....	.....	.....	67	45.00	534.00	Orbisonia, Pa.
William I. Stewart,.....	3 St. Thomas,.....	185	142	22	2	2	12	168	10	.....	6	1	112	101.70	476.28	St. Thomas, Pa.		
Isaac M. Motter,.....	2 Mount Alto,.....	172	85	11	.....	4	12	139	2	.....	2	2	253	286.50	850.00	Waynesboro, Pa.	
David W. Ebbert,.....	1 Shippensburg,.....	159	59	6	2	4	4	140	2	.....	7	1	100	93.00	730.00	Shippensburg, Pa.		
William C. Cremer,.....	1 Chambersburg,.....	297	215	11	2	16	9	240	2	.....	6	1	351	269.01	1561.89	Chambersburg, Pa.		
William A. Greig,.....	3 Sulphur Spring,.....	132	151	11	.....	4	1	105	6	.....	1	2	85	33.00	358.85	Mann's Choice, Pa.	
Franklin F. Babner,.....	3 Waynesboro,.....	396	235	16	11	22	45	289	5	.....	10	2	265	81.00	1790.00	Waynesboro, Pa.		
Henry F. Long,.....	4 Greenfield,.....	418	415	46	8	34	1	365	7	.....	10	4	339	10.00	500.00	Claysburg, Pa.		
J. David Miller,.....	2 Martinsburg,.....	253	120	12	4	24	18	213	8	.....	3	2	150	80.01	650.00	Martinsburg, Pa.		
Henry S. Garner,.....	3 Schellsburg,.....	250	193	24	.....	14	2	201	3	.....	3	8	105	41.32	689.69	Schellsburg, Pa.	
Cyrus H. Reiter,.....	4 Woodcock Valley,.....	313	194	51	4	49	17	305	12	.....	9	3	164	124.00	700.00	James Creek, Pa.		
J. Alvin Reber,.....	3 McConnellsburg,.....	124	76	15	2	12	3	106	.....	.....	6	1	45	20.39	418.76	McConnellsburg, Pa.	
Isaac N. Peightel,.....	2 Yellow Creek,.....	193	145	21	4	24	4	177	5	.....	8	2	140	100.56	485.50	Pattonsville, Pa.		
Daniel H. Leader,.....	5 Everett,.....	254	150	16	9	25	3	234	5	.....	7	4	165	130.00	885.00	Everett, Pa.		
Vacant,.....	1 Altoona,.....	308	267	40	1	17	23	234	9	.....	6	1	209	441.00	1200.00	Altoona, Pa.		
"	3 Hickory Bottom,.....	178	165	5	2	6	.....	156	1	.....	6	3	125	5.00	300.00	Heurietta, Pa.	
"	1 St. John's Church,.....	66	54	5	.....	2	.....	53	2	.....	1	1	55	33.50	237.50	Chambersburg, Pa.
George F. Mull,.....	1 Middleburg,.....	60	40	8	3	3	3	55	1	.....	1	1	35	11.03	400.52	State Line, Pa.		
John M. North,.....	"	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Mercersburg, Pa.
W. Wilberforce Deatrick,.....	"	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Mercersburg, Pa.
Samuel H. Eisenberg,.....	"	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Milton, Pa.
		McConnellstown, Pa.		
	Total, 34,.....	17	6579	4437	477	78	411	238	5807	167	0	49	161	57	4322	12	\$	3618.95	\$21980.95

4. CLASSIS OF VIRGINIA.

John C. Hensell,.....	3 Rockingham,.....	184	76	1	1	1	.....	140	.....	.....	3	100	.....	\$	60.00	.....	Mt. Crawford, Va.
Geo. H. Martin, D. D.,.....	4 Woodstock,.....	400	120	32	6	15	2	360	.....	.....	5	2	110	228.00	.....	.....	Woodstock, Va.

Ministers.	No. of Congregatns.	Charges.	Members.	Members Unconfirmed.		Baptisms.		Certificates.	Communicants.	Dismissed.	Excommunicated.	Deaths.	Sunday-schools.	Sunday-school Scholars.	Students for Minis'y.	Contributions.		Post-Office Address.	
				Members	Inconfirmed.	Infants.	Adults.									Beneficent Purposes.	Congregation Purposes.		
H. St. J. Rinker,	1	Lovettsville,	121	92	9	1	7	7	81	1	1	3	1	75	1	\$ 50.00	\$ 38.00	Lovettsville, Va.	
S. N. Callender, D. D.,	2	Mt. Crawford,	210	85	7	14	2	190	1	1	5	1	1	75	1	\$ 95.00	\$ 95.00	Pleasant Valley, Va.	
C. G. Fisher,	2	Winchester,	199	85	3	7	10	86	1	1	3	1	1	85	1	\$ 33.00	\$ 260.00	Winchester, Va.	
Henry Tallman,	3	Edenburg,	195	115	22	41	28	3	170	2	2	1	20	20	1	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	Edenburg, Va.	
John C. Bowman,	1	Shepherdstown,	115	55	12	1	1	2	90	2	2	7	1	105	1	\$ 70.00	\$ 70.00	Shepherdstown, W. Va.	
John A. Hoffbins,	1	Martinsburg,	227	141	12	4	13	10	194	5	1	7	1	100	1	\$ 104.30	\$ 104.30	Martinsburg, W. Va.	
A. J. Whitmore,	2	Middlebrook,	141	91	9	1	1	100	1	1	2	2	100	100	1	\$ 29.00	\$ 29.00	Middlebrook, Va.	
B. R. Carnahan,	1	Mill Creek,	241	163	16	3	9	1	213	5	1	4	1	68	1	\$ 42.37	\$ 322.00	Mt. Jackson, Va.	
Joseph S. Loost,		Without charge,																Bridgewater, Va.	
A. J. Bowers,		"																Weyer's Cave, Va.	
F. E. Vaundersloof,		"																Hendon, Va.	
Samuel L. Whitmore,		Lately ordained,																Middlebrook, Va.	
Lawrence M. Hensell,		"																Moyecheifer's Store, Va.	
Total, 15,	23	10,	1963	428	120	27	101	37	1624	16	0	2	41	14	898	1	\$ 720.67	\$ 1445.00	

5. CLASSIS OF NORTH CAROLINA.

G. William Welker,	3	Gaillard,	356	167	25	20	76	3	340	1	1	21	3	180	1	\$ 578.00	\$ 578.00	Shaw's Mills, N. C.
Jeremiah Ingold,	1	Hickory,	39	21	1	1	1	35	1	1	1	1	1	41	1	\$	\$	Hickory, N. C.
Thomas Long,	4	Upper Davidson,	180	90	15	10	44	172	1	1	1	4	4	4	1	\$	\$	Salem, N. C.
Jesse W. Cecil,	1	Moffitt's Grove,	42	18	2	2	2	42	1	1	1	1	3	140	1	\$	\$	Thomasville, N. C.
John Ingle,	3	Central Rowan,	147	80	13	13	13	2	140	2	1	1	3	140	1	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	Salisbury, N. C.
Jacob C. Clapp,	3	Catawba,	175	75	15	3	3	175	1	1	1	1	1	70	1	\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00	Newton, N. C.
Peter M. Trexler,	2	West Rowan,	292	160	32	12	12	250	1	1	1	2	2	102	1	\$ 343.00	\$ 343.00	China Grove, N. C.
Michael L. Hedrick,	4	Lower Davidson,	216	104	14	9	9	2	210	1	1	1	3	90	1	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	Silver Hill, N. C.
John A. Foil,	3	Lincoln,	203	83	15	2	16	1	200	1	1	3	2	60	1	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	Newton, N. C.

Julius H. Shuford, 3 Grace, 145 68 9 9 2 142 \$ 300.00 Hickory, N. C.
 Robert F. Crooks, 2 East Rowan, 380 185 10 2 40 3 300 1 1600.00 Heilig's Mills, N. C.

Total, 11. 29 11. 2175 1051 148 40 222 13 2006 5 0 1 29 21 786 4 \$ 40.00 \$ 4646.00

6. CLASSIS OF SAN FRANCISCO.

Frederick Fox, Without charge, \$ Harrisburg, Pa.
 Julius H. Krueger, 1 Salem Church, 24 36 12 2 9 14 1 23 6.00 \$ 250.00 Napa City, Cal.
 Julius Fuending, 2 1st Ref. and St. John's, 77 74 51 1 8 5 77 2 350 1 40.00 850.00 San Francisco, Cal.
 Conrad F. Waldecker, 1 1st Ref. Church, 91 80 48 28 31 91 1 65 56.00 1200.00 Stockton Cal.
 Louis J. Woerle, Alameda Mission, Alameda, Cal.
 Lewis C. Edmunds, Emporia, Kansas.

Total, 6. 4 4. 192 190 111 1 38 45 182 1 0 39 29 4 451 1 \$ 112.00 \$ 2500.00

7. CLASSIS OF PORTLAND-OREGON.

John Gantenbein, 3 Portland Charge, 110 105 30 4 44 70 9 4 1 50 \$ 17.00 \$ 1950.00 Portland, Oregon.
 J. Muehlhaup, 2 Salem " 40 33 10 20 35 1 1 15 2.50 Salem, Oregon
 J. Lange, 1 Meridian " 26 29 2 2 9 17 1 26 2.50 Canby, Oregon
 George Meethersheimer, Walla Walla Mission, Walla Walla, Wash. T.

Total, 4. 6 4. 176 167 42 0 6 73 122 9 0 0 5 3 91 0 \$ 22.00 \$ 1950.00

STATISTICAL SUMMARY.

Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States.

CLASSES.	Ministery.		Members.		Unconformed Members.		Baptisms.		Confirmations.	Certificate.	Communicants.	Dismissed.	Excommunicated.	Erasure of Names.	Deaths.	Sunday-schools.	Sunday-school Scholars.	Students for Ministry.	Contributions.	
	Ministery.	Members.	Unconformed Members.	Infants.	Adults.	Members.	Unconformed Members.	Infants.											Adults.	Beneficent Purposes.
Zion's,.....	33	9,665	5,887	651	31	363	130	8,344	96	3	...	289	100	6,073	7	\$ 3,283.54	\$ 24,388.51			
Maryland,.....	25	5,931	3,826	428	53	333	116	5,035	91	1	8	185	45	4,155	3	3,683.70	32,590.00			
Mercesburg,.....	34	6,579	4,437	477	78	411	238	5,807	167	..	49	161	57	4,322	12	3,618.95	21,980.95			
Virginia,.....	15	1,963	428	120	27	101	37	1,624	16	..	2	41	14	898	1	720.67	1,445.00			
North Carolina,.....	11	2,175	1,051	148	40	222	13	2,006	5	..	1	29	21	786	4	40.00	4,646.00			
San Francisco,.....	6	192	190	111	1	38	45	182	1	..	39	29	4	451	1	102.00	2,300.00			
Portland-Oregon,.....	4	176	167	42	...	6	73	122	9	..	...	5	3	91	...	22.00	1,950.00	
Total: 7 Classes,	128	26,681	15,986	1,977	230	1,474	652	23,120	385	4	99	739	244	16,776	28	\$11,470.86	\$ 89,300.46			
Synod of the United States, 3 Classes,....	206	65,607	37,755	5,352	351	3,524	1,010	50,789	590	7	333	2,289	496	38,036	61	\$19,824.00	\$183,955.00			
Synod of Ohio, 11 Classes,	145	29,954	10,221	1,861	546	2,162	984	17,662	380	21	484	558	232	17,744	19	9,089.00	112,854.00			
Synod of the North-West, 10 Classes,.....	158	21,509	15,327	3,063	42	1,996	1,331	17,209	366	116	339	844	209	14,037	27	17,342.90	109,997.00			
Synod of Pittsburgh, 5 Classes,.....	56	10,808	8,114	854	74	606	264	8,950	150	7	82	376	98	6,586	11	5,180.00	37,267.00			
German Synod of the East, 5 Classes,.....	42	9,183	5,759	1,538	15	606	396	7,513	97	79	79	325	40	5,709	3	3,332.00	66,025.00			
Grand Total: 6 Synods, 46 Classes,...	785	154,742	93,162	14,585	1,258	10,368	4,637	125,243	1,968	228	1,416	5,631	1,319	98,888	149	\$66,237.86	\$599,398.46			

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