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# JOURNAL

of the

TWENTY-SECOND SESSION

of the

# Holston Annual Conference

of the

Methodist Episcopal Church

IN RE-ORGANIZATION

held at

ATHENS, TENNESSEE

June 1-5, 1865

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JOHN F. SPENCE, Secretary

KNOXVILLE, TENN.

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BISHOP DAVIS W. CLARK, D.D., L.L.D.  
Cincinnati, Ohio.

Re. Oct. 7-23-59 ed.,



**WILLIAM G. BROWNLOW**  
Methodist Preacher, Editor, Governor and U. S. Senator  
Chairman committee calling famous convention.

## METHODIST CONVENTION CALLED

*May 27, 1864*

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The undersigned, members and ministers of the Methodist Church, respectfully invite Methodist preachers and laymen, who are loyal to the government of the United States, within the bounds of the Holston Conference, to meet them in Convention at Knoxville, on the first Thursday in July, to take into consideration the troubles, wants and interests of our Church; and also the action of the late General Conference at Philadelphia in regard to our wants and our condition growing out of the rebellion.

W. G. BROWNLOW.  
J. A. HYDEN.  
E. E. GILLENWATERS.  
W. T. DOWELL.  
WILLIAM CURETON.  
JAMES CUMMING.  
THOMAS RUSSELL.  
WILLIAM H. ROGERS.

## REPORT OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE.

This committee reported, in part, as follows:

Pursuant to public notice, a Convention of loyal Methodist laymen and preachers, local and traveling, convened in the City of Knoxville, Tenn., on the 7th of July, 1864, to take into consideration the wants, prospects and interests of the Methodist Church within the bounds of the Holston Annual Conference. The General Committee, to whom this subject was referred, have had the matter under serious and prayerful consideration, and beg leave to submit the following brief report:

"At an early period in this wicked rebellion the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, took her stand upon the treasonable and therefore false foundation of secession; her pulpits bellowed with more terrific thunder on the side of disunion than those of almost any other church, hurling fiery invectives at the Union and the North—carrying the most of her leading and influential ministers and members into the unhallowed embrace of treason. Under the administration of this, our former church, some of our ministers have been proscribed, some refused circuits and stations, and others expelled—all for opinion's sake, and because they were loyal to the United States. We have determined, therefore, no longer to live under the iron rule of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, or to be associated in our Church relations with the men who control the interest of said church and are likely to direct her future movements.

"It, therefore, remains for us and the loyal thousands of our brethren similarly situated, to do one of three things—either to remain in the wilderness (not of Judea, but of Dixie) and wander off into the mountains of sin and unbelief, whence we came; or, next, to form ourselves into a separate and independent organization; or, last of all, to seek a reunion with the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States, whose doctrine, usages and faith are in accord with ours, and in the enjoyment and practice of which we desire to live and die.

"We, therefore, report in favor of returning to the Methodist Episcopal Church, and asking, most respectfully, to be recognized by her and provided for, as the Holston Annual Conference, giving our loyal preachers the lead in our new organization, subject to the control and authority of the appointed heads of our church in the United States and to her Discipline.

1. Resolved, That the rebellion of the Southern States against the government of the United States was without any just and sufficient cause, and therefore what has followed is without any foundation in right, justice, or laws of the land, or in the wants and necessities of the people in this or any other country.

"2. Resolved, That all who willingly engaged in this rebellion, have, in the eyes of the Supreme Laws of the land, in the judgment of all enlightened nations, and especially in the feelings of every loyal heart of this vast continent, forfeited all the rights, privileges and immunities of the government of the United States.

"3. Resolved, That the loyal members and ministers of the Holston Conference are entitled in law to all property belonging to said ecclesiastical organization, and with the Divine Blessing we intend to claim and hold the same, and rebuild the waste places of Zion.

"4. Resolved, That the loyal people and preachers of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, within the bounds of the

## CONVENTION PROCEEDINGS.

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The Convention met in St. John's Protestant Episcopal Church, Knoxville, July 7, 1864. The following persons were present as delegates:

Messrs. James Murphy, James S. Hunt, F. Rule, D. B. Hunt, J. A. Ruble, Sr., A. R. Byington, Andrew Hutsell, J. W. Gibson, Elias Gibson, Dr. James Mahoney, James Baker, Alex. Kennedy, Wm. H. Hawk, G. W. Hawk, J. B. Sharp, James Plumley, W. W. Hawes, Daniel P. Gass, W. H. Finley, Jacob French, Michael French, Henry Harrison, William Cheney, W. H. Carter, J. H. Howell, Solomon Clapp, James Curry, James Grigsby, V. S. Lotspeich, A. C. E. Callen, J. C. Hankins, Benjamin Wells.

The following ministers, traveling and local: Revs. E. E. Gillenwaters, W. G. Brownlow, J. Albert Hyden, W. H. Rogers, W. C. Daily, E. Still, John Bower, W. T. Dowell, E. A. Atlee, T. P. Rutherford, T. A. Cass, E. Stockbridge, J. F. Morrison, T. H. Russell, Henry Walker, Wm. Crutchfield, Joseph Milburn, Spencer Henry, P. H. Reed, John Cox, James Cumming, Wm. Cureton, R. G. Blackburn. Forty-five in all.

The Convention was organized by the election of E. E. Gillenwaters, both a minister and a lawyer, and a man of eminent ability, as chairman, and R. G. Blackburn as secretary. By the proceedings of the Convention it appears that Governor Brownlow had recently visited Bishop Simpson at Philadelphia and Bishop Clark at Cincinnati, and that Rev. W. C. Daily had already been directing the work of reorganization in a tentative way in Bradley and other counties in lower East Tennessee. It was also made known that a canvas had been going on to ascertain the number of ministers in East Tennessee who were in sympathy with the movement, and it was reported in the Convention that sixty ordained ministers, traveling and local, were ready to enter the ranks of the proposed organized movement, and sixty-five others unordained. Also that about forty others whom it had not been possible to see, could be counted on. Various committees were appointed, and among them one of eleven representative men, called the General Committee, whose particular duty it was to consider and report as to the line of action to be chosen.



Holston Conference, constitute said Church, and this convention, acting for said church and people, hereby propose at the earliest day practicable, to transfer the same to the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States, and that a committee be appointed to complete the negotiations, subject to the approval of those transferred.

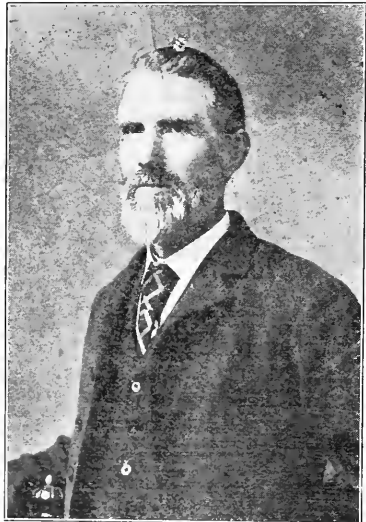
"5. Resolved, That ministers having charge of Circuits, Stations and Missions, and all who may have in the future, be instructed to propose to the churches in their respective charges to change their church relations from the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, by going en masse to the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States."

The report was unanimously adopted.

After this Convention the work of reorganizing Sunday schools and classes, circuits and stations, under the general direction of Rev. W. C. Daily, went on more systematically and more successfully than before, in anticipation of an early reorganization of the Conference itself. The time set for that event was not long after announced, and the place designated. It was to be at Athens, Tenn., June 1, 1865.



E. E. GILLENWATERS  
Chairman



R. G. BLACKBURN  
Secretary

Historic Convention

HOLSTON ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
Methodist Episcopal Church

Sessions of the Conference

Year	Time	Place	Bishop	Secretary
1824	Nov. 27	Knoxville, Tenn.....	Robt. R. Roberts..	John Tevis
1825	Oct. 20	Jonesboro, Tenn.....	{ Robt R. Roberts } Joshua Soule.....	Thos Stringfield
1826	Nov. 2	Abingdon, Va.....	Joshua Soule. ....	Thos. Stringfield
1827	Nov. 1	Knoxville, Tenn.....	Robt R Roberts..	Elbert F. Sevier
1828	Nov. 14	Jonesboro, Tenn.....	Joshua Soule.....	Elbert F. Sevier
1829	Dec. 24	Abingdon, Va.....	Joshua Soule.....	Elbert F. Sevier
1830	Nov. 4	Ebenezer, Tenn.....	{ Wm. McKendree } Joshua Soule.....	Elbert F. Sevier
1831	Nov. 10	Athens, Tenn.....	Elijah Hedding....	Elbert F. Sevier
1832	Nov. 15	Evensham, Tenn.....	John Emory.....	Thos. Stringfield
1833	Oct. 16	Kingsport, Tenn.....	Robt. R. Roberts..	Lew S. Marshall
1834	Oct. 8	Knoxville, Tenn.....	*John Henninger..	Lew S. Marshall
1835	Oct. 7	Abingdon, Va.....	Jas. O. Andrew ...	Lew S. Marshall
1836	Oct. 2	Madisonville, Tenn...	Thos. A. Morris ...	Lew S. Marshall
1837	Oct. 18	Reem's Creek, N. C....	Jas. O. Andrew....	Lew S. Marshall
1838	Nov. 13	Wytheville, Va.....	Jas. O. Andrew....	Lew S. Marshall
1839	Oct. 13	Greeneville, Tenn.....	*Thos. K. Catlett..	D. R McAnally
1840	Nov. 11	LaFayette, Ga.....	Thos. A. Morris...	Elbert F. Sevier
1841	Oct. 6	Rogersville, Tenn.....	*Samuel Patten....	Elbert F. Sevier
1842	Oct. 5	Knoxville, Tenn.....	Beverly Waugh....	Elbert F. Sevier
1843	Oct. 4	Abingdon, Va.....	Thos. A. Morris...	Elbert F. Sevier
1844	Oct. 9	Reem's Creek, N. C....	Edmund S. Janes..	Elbert F. Sevier

Holston Conference Reorganized

Year	Time	Place	Bishop	Secretary
1865	June 1	Athens, Tenn.....	D. W. Clark.....	J. F. Spence

## SPECIAL COMMITTEES.

Public Worship—W. C. Daily, J. L. Mann, J. S. Spence.

Education—D. E. Rowley, W. H. Rogers, P. C. Wilson.

Examination of Candidates for Admission—J. A. Hyden, W. H. Rogers, W. C. Daily.

Sunday Schools—T. S. Stivers, J. B. Little, J. W. Mann.

Necessitous Cases—W. C. Daily, Andrew Greer, William Milburn.

State of the Country—T. H. Pearne, J. P. Milburn, J. A. Hyden.

State of the Church—J. L. Mann, D. E. Rowley, J. F. Spence.

On Statistics—W. C. Daily, W. H. Rogers, R. G. Blackburn.

Examination Course of Study—D. E. Rowley, J. A. Hyden, J. W. Mann, Andrew Greer, J. F. Spence.

Conference Stewards—T. H. Russell, T. S. Stivers, J. B. Little.

## STANDING COMMITTEES FOR 1866.

Examination of Candidates for Admission—J. L. Mann, W. C. Daily, A. F. Shannon.

First Year Course—W. C. Graves, J. A. Hyden, T. H. Russell.

Second Year Course—J. F. Spence, G. A. Gordon, A. J. Greer.

Third Year Course—John W. Mann, S. D. Gaines, J. B. Fitzgerald.

Fourth Year Course—D. E. Rowley, T. S. Stivers, J. B. Little.

Examination of Candidates for Local Deacons Orders—T. H. Pearne, P. H. Reed.

Examination of Candidates for Local Elders Orders—E. E. Gillenwaters, W. H. Rogers, D. J. Alley.

## CONFERENCE ROLL.

Alley, John.	Hyden, J. A.
Blackburn, R. G.	Little, J. B.
Daily, W. C.	Long, W. R.
Crumley, T. D.	Mann, J. L.
Cumming, James.	Mann, J. W.
Drake, L. F.	Milburn, Joseph, Sr.
Dugan, W. H. H.	Milburn, William.
Forrester, John.	Pearne, T. H.
Fleming, David.	Reed, P. H.
Gaines, S. D.	Rowley, D. E.
Gillenwaters, E. E.	Rogers, W. H.
Gordon, G. A.	Russell, T. H.
Guthrie, R. H.	Rutherford, T. P.
Graves, W. C.	Shannon, A. F.
Greer, Andrew,	Spence, J. F.
Harwell, S. B.	Still, Elijah.
Hicks, G. M.	Stivers, T. S.
Huffaker, J. N. S.	Walker, T. S.

PROBATIONERS.

Burkitt, M. H. B.  
 Carter, Daniel.  
 Chambers, Phillip,  
 Crumley, H. J.  
 Fitzgerald, J. B.  
 Mahoney, John.

Moore, J. E.  
 Peace, J. W.  
 Stamper, J. H.  
 Walker, J. B.  
 Wilson, A. R.

APPOINTMENTS.

ATHENS DISTRICT.

J. Albert Hyden, Presiding Elder.  
 Athens—John W. Mann (L. W. Crouch).  
 Athens (Circuit)—John E. Moore.  
 Decatur (Circuit)—Joseph W. Peace.  
 Philadelphia—J. B. Little and J. H. Stamper.  
 Madisonville and Tellico—To be supplied.  
 Maryville—Thos. H. Russell.  
 Louisville—T. P. Rutherford.  
 Little River—To be supplied.  
 Kingston and Sulphur Springs—Samuel R. Harwell.  
 Montgomery (Circuit)—To be supplied.

Dr. E. Rowley, President of and Agent for Athens Female College and member of Athens Quarterly Conference; W. H. Rogers, Conference Agent for Sunday Schools, Educational Institutions and embarrassed churches, and member of Louisville Quarterly Conference.

CHATTANOOGA DISTRICT.

W. C. Dailey, Presiding Elder.  
 Chattanooga—T. S. Stivers.  
 Cleveland—J. L. Mann.  
 Cleveland and Benton—A. F. Shannon (E. Still, supply).  
 Charleston—P. H. Reed.  
 Hamilton and Washington—M. H. B. Burkitt, G. H. Gowan.  
 Pikeville and Jasper—John Alley, one to be supplied.  
 Ducktown—To be supplied.  
 Harrison and Lafayette—To be supplied.  
 Dalton—To be supplied.  
 Rome—To be supplied.  
 Atlanta—To be supplied.

JONESBORO DISTRICT.

L. F. Drake, Presiding Elder.  
 Jonesboro—To be supplied.  
 Jonesboro (Circuit)—To be supplied.  
 Elizabethton and Taylorsville—Harmon J. Crumley.  
 Blountville and Bristol—To be supplied.  
 Kingsport—S. D. Gaines.  
 Rheatown—Jos. Milburn.  
 Greeneville—To be supplied.  
 Morristown—W. C. Graves.  
 Fall Branch and Kingsport—To be supplied.  
 St. Clair—To be supplied.  
 Newport—Jas. Mahoney.

## HOLSTON CONFERENCE

North Carolina Circuit—A. R. Wilson, J. B. Fitzgerald.  
 William Milburn, Chaplain in the army and member of the  
 Rheatown Quarterly Conference.

## KNOXVILLE DISTRICT.

T. H. Pearne, Presiding Elder.

Knoxville (Station)—Jno. F. Spence.

Knoxville (Circuit)—Jos. P. Milburn.

Rogersville—E. E. Gillenwaters, G. M. Hicks, supply.

Sevierville Circuit)—T. D. Crumley.

Tazewell and Powells Valley—Barton R. Baker.

Maynardsville—T. S. Walker.

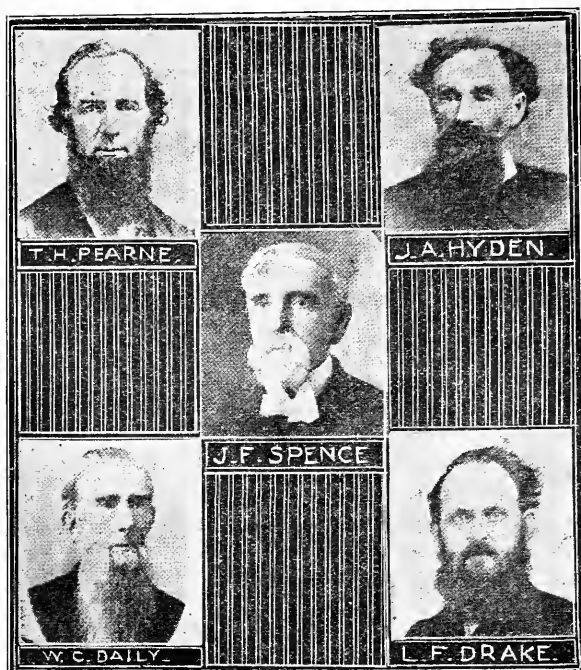
Rutledge—Phillip Chambers.

Jacksboro—John Forrester.

Clinton—John Mahoney.

Dandridge—Andrew Greer.

Sevierville—Daniel Carter.



J. F. SPENCE,  
Secretary of the Session.

Appointed Presiding Elders

T. H. PEARNE.  
W. C. DAILY.

J. A. HYDEN.  
L. F. DRAKE.

(In the reorganization answers are not found to all the disciplinary questions, so the editor doesn't attempt to furnish the answers in full, but sketches some items of information belonging to these questions.)

### TRANSFERS RECEIVED.

H. M. Burkett (on trial), W. C. Daily, G. A. Gordon, R. H. Guthrie (from the Kentucky Conference), T. H. Pearne (from Oregon Conference), J. F. Spence (Cincinnati Conference), L. F. Drake and T. S. Stivers (Ohio Conference.)

### RECEIVED FROM M. E. CHURCH, SOUTH.

D. E. Rowley, James Cummings, J. Albert Hyden, W. H. Rogers, John W. Mann, W. C. Graves, W. H. H. Dugan, William Milburn, Andrew Greer, J. B. Little, John Alley, T. H. Russell, J. L. Mann, R. G. Blackburn, J. N. S. Huffaker, P. H. Reed, A. F. Shannon, S. D. Gaines, E. E. Gillenwaters, S. B. Harwell, Joseph Milburn, Sr., John Forrester, David Flemming, F. D. Crumley, G. M. Hicks, T. S. Walker, T. P. Rutherford, W. R. Long, Elijah Still.

Superannuates—David Flemming, James Cumming, R. H. Guthrie, W. H. H. Dugan, E. E. Gillenwaters, S. B. Harwell.

Supernumeraries—R. G. Blackburn, J. S. Huffaker, W. R. Long, Elijah Still

Ordained as Deacons—Thos. P. Rutherford, Joseph P. Milburn, Joseph J. Yeager, John R. Hughes, Robert W. Hudson, Thos. R. West, James H. Young, Robert W. Boyd, William A. Marshall.

Ordained as Elders—Jonathan L. Mann, Thos. H. Russell, James B. Fitzgerald, H. J. Crumley, David Beavers, James W. Rogers.

Next session to be held at Greenville, Tenn.



## REORGANIZATION OF THE HOLSTON CONFERENCE OF THE M. E. CHURCH.

### PROCEEDINGS.

#### FIRST DAY.

A large number of ministers and members, heretofore, for the most part, connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, being assembled in the M. E. Church at Athens, Tenn., the meeting was called to order by Rev. Bishop D. W. Clark, who read the 126th Psalm and the 13th Chapter of John's gospel. The audience then joined in singing the hymn, "And Are We Yet Alive," after which the bishop led in prayer. The audience then joined in singing the hymn commencing "How beautiful are their feet," after which prayer was offered by Rev. James Cumming, senior member of the Holston Conference, and Rev. Dr. Poe, agent of the Western Book Concern.

The Bishop then proceeded to address the meeting, stating that in accordance with the request of a Convention of Ministers and Laymen of the M. E. Church, South, held in Knoxville July 7, 1864, he was here; and by the authority of the Methodist Episcopal Church, he had come to reorganize the Holston Conference of that church.

He then proceeded to explain the provisions of the General Conference of 1864—for the admission of Ministers from the Methodist Episcopal Church, South—and authorizing the organization of Annual Conferences in the South.

The Bishop then announced that he recognized the following brethren as members of the Holston Conference, viz; W. C. Daily, George A. Gordon, R. H. Guthrie, by transfer from the Kentucky Conference; T. A. Pearne, by transfer from the Oregon Conference; J. Fletcher Spence, by transfer from the Cincinnati Conference, and T. S. Stivers, by transfer from the Ohio Conference.

Rev. J. F. Spence was appointed secretary, pro tem. The president then took up the question list. And the following ministers were received under the provisions of the Discipline (see pages 83 and 84) from the M. E. Church, South, viz: Rev. D. E. Rowley, Rev. James Cumming, Rev. Albert Hyden, Rev. W. H. Rogers, Rev. John W. Mann, Rev. W. C. Graves, Rev. W. H. H. Duggan, Rev. Wm. Milburn, Rev. Andrew Greer, Rev. J. B. Little and Rev. John Alley, they being elders. Also Rev. T. H. Russell, Rev. J. L. Mann and Rev. R. G. Blackburn, they being deacons.

On motion Brothers Daily, Spence and J. L. Mann were appointed committee on public worship.

W. C. Graves was put in nomination and elected permanent Secretary of the Conference.

On motion, the time for assembling and adjourning of the Conference was fixed at 9:00 A. M. and 12:30 P. M.

On motion, the Bar of the Conference was fixed within the first Row of Columns.

The Conference then proceeded to raise the following committees:

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION: Brothers Rowley, Rogers and Wilson.

COMMITTEE ON EXAMINATION OF CANDIDATES FOR ADMISSION: Brothers Hyden, Rogers and Daily.

COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS: Brothers Stivers, Little and J. W. Mann.

COMMITTEE ON NECESSITOUS CASES: Brothers Daily, Greer, and Milburn.

COMMITTEE ON STATE OF THE COUNTRY: Brothers Pearne, Milburn and Hyden.

COMMITTEE ON STATE OF THE CHURCH: Brothers J. L. Mann, Rowley and Spence.

COMMITTEE ON STATISTICS: Brothers Daily, Rogers and Blackburn.

COMMITTEE ON EXAMINATION COURSE OF STUDY: The following brethren were appointed by the chair: Rowley, Hyden, Mann, J. W. Greed and Spence.

COMMITTEE ON CONFERENCE STEWARDS: T. H. Russell, Stivers and Little.

On motion, Conference adjourned to meet tomorrow morning at 9:00 o'clock.

#### SECOND DAY.

Athens, Tenn., June 2, 1865.

The Conference was opened by Rev. J. Albert Hyden, who read the 12th Chapter of Romans, announced the hymn beginning "Thy us, O God, and search the ground," and offered prayer.

The minutes of the previous session were read and approved. Rev. W. C. Graves, permanent secretary, then came forward and asked to be relieved from the duties of the office on account of physical disability. On motion, the request was granted, and Rev. J. Fletcher Spence was elected permanent secretary of the Conference.

The First Question was then taken up, and under the provisions of the Discipline, the following brethren were received from the M. E. Church, South, viz: J. N. S. Huffaker, P. H. Reed, Augustine F. Shannon, S. D. Gaines, E. E. Gillenwaters, S. B. Harwell, Joseph Milburn, Sr, John Forrester, they being elders.

On motion, Rev. David Fleming was recognized and received as superannuate.

On motion, Rev. F. D. Crumly was recognized and received, he being a deacon.

The following brethren were received as remaining on trial, viz: H. M. B. Burkitt, by transfer from the Kentucky Conference; and G. M. Hicks, T. S. Walker, T. P. Rutherford, Joseph P. Milburn, from the Church, South.

The name of the Rev. James Mahoney was presented, objections being made to the passage of his character. By consent, the case was laid over.

A number of visiting brethren being present, viz: Rev. Dr. A. Poe, Agent M. E. Book Concern; Chaplain Black, of the Kentucky Conference; Chaplain Drake, of the Ohio conference, and were severally introduced to the Conference. After which the Rev. Dr. Poe, of the Western Book Concern, addressed the Conference at length on Personal Experience and the Circulation of Religious Literature.

On motion, Brothers Gillenwaters and Huffaker were added to the Committee of Examination on the Course of Study.

After which the announcements were made by the several committees, and the Conference adjourned to meet on tomorrow morning at 9:00 o'clock.

### THIRD DAY.

Athens, Tenn., June 3, 1865.

Conference convened at the appointed hour, was opened by Rev. W. C. Graves with the usual religious services.

The minutes of the previous session were read and approved.

The Conference then proceeded to grant a superannuated relation to the Rev. James Cumming, R. H. Guthrie and W. H. H. Duggan.

The President then took up the 4th Question, Who are the Deacons? T. P. Rutherford and J. P. Milburn were presented as proper persons, and after due examination were elected to Deacons orders and received into full connection.

The following brethren were then presented on recommendation for local Deacons orders, viz.: Josiah J. Yeager, John B. Hughes, R. W. Hudson, Wm. Marshall, T. R. West, James Young, and R. W. Boyd, were severally elected. Thos. S. Walker was presented—there being objections—case laid over.

The names of John H. Stamper, Adam Thompson, Warner W. Hawes and James Payne were presented to the Conference, but afterwards withdrawn.

The chair then took up the question, Who are Candidates for Elders orders in the traveling connection? Brothers Jonathan L. Mann and Thos. H. Russell were duly elected.

The following brethren were represented and elected to local orders, viz.: Stephen Sharotz, James B. Fitzgerald, Harmon J. Crumley, David Beavers, Samuel Bogart, Abel R. Wilson and James W. Rogers.

On motion Brothers J. B. Fitzgerald and A. R. Wilson were received on trial into the Traveling Connection.

The case of Rev. James Mahoney was recalled. All objections being withdrawn, on motion he was received.

The chair then recalled the First Question. And the following brethren were represented and admitted on trial, viz.: Phillip Chambers, John E. Moore, J. H. Stamper, J. W. Peace, Daniel Carter, and John Mahoney.

Rev. E. E. Gillenwaters presented a paper declaratory of the principles of action for the government of the Conference in the reception of members. The paper being read, was called for item by item and adopted, after which it was adopted as a whole.

See papers marked "A" on file.

Rev. T. H. Pearne moved that the Conference adjourn; that it adjourn to meet on Monday morning at 8 o'clock.—Carried.

Report on "State of Country" was presented by Rev. T. H. Pearne and unanimously adopted.

See "Report" marked "B" on file.

On motion the secretary was instructed to furnish a copy of the report on "State of Country," also of the paper presented by E. E. Gillenwaters for publication in the Western Christian Advocate, Nashville Times and Press, and Knoxville Whig. After which the chair indulged certain members and visitors of the Conference in singing a little. Brother Drake, of the Ohio Conference, led in singing the Battle Hymn of the Republic.

Committee on Public Worship made their announcements. Conference adjourned.

#### FOURTH DAY.

Conference Day.

Athens, Tenn., June 4, 1865.

Sunday School meeting 9:00 a. m., Rev. Jno. F. Spence, presiding.

Addresses were made by Chaplains Black, Hyden and Gibson, and T. H. Pearne and John F. Spence.

At 10:30 a. m., Bishop, D. D., LL. D., preached an effective sermon to an immense audience that was sometimes transported by the eloquence and fervor of the speaker.

At the close of the sermon occurred the ordination of eight deacons.

Afternoon service, 3:00 p. m. Sermon by Rev. T. H. Pearne, of Oregon.

Following the sermon six elders were ordained.

#### FIFTH DAY.

Athens, Tenn., June 5, 1865.

Conference convened this morning at 8 o'clock. The usual religious services were conducted by Rev. W. H. Rogers.

The Bishop announced the transfer of L. F. Drake from the Ohio Conference.

The chair presented the certificates of ordination of the following named persons, ordained by him on the 4th inst., viz.: Thos. P. Rutherford, Jos. P. Milburn, Joseph J. Yeager, John R. Hughes, Robert W. Hudson, Thos. R. West, James H. Young, Robert W. Boyd, Wm. A. Marshall, Deacons; and Jonathan Mann, Thos. H. Russell, James B. Fitzgerald, H. J. Crumley, David Beavers, James W. Rogers, Elders. (The following simply Elders-elect): Stephen Sharotz, Samuel Bogart and Abel R. Wilson.

Rev. E. E. Gillenwaters and S. B. Harwell were granted supernumerary relations with appointments. Brothers R. G. Blackburn and J. H. S. Huffaker were granted supernumerary relations without appointments.

Rev. John W. Mann was appointed by the chair to preach the annual missionary sermon, and T. S. Stivers alternate.

On motion, Wm. R. Long was recognized on certificate from the M. E. Church, South, received and granted a supernumerary relation without appointment. Also, Rev. Elijah, still on certificate,

was recognized, received and granted supernumerary relations with appointment.

To the question, "Where will you have the next Conference?" Greenville being put in nomination, on motion, was fixed as the next seat of the Holston Conference.

On motion Brothers Harmon J. Crumley and J. B. Walker were admitted on trial.

Committee on Statistics presented report; on motion was adopted. (See report marked "C.")

Report of Committee on Sunday Schools was read and adopted. (See report marked "D.")

Committee for Examination of Candidates for admission: J. L. Mann, W. C. Daily, and A. F. Shannon.

Committee First Year: W. C. Graves, J. A. Hyden and Thos. H. Russell.

Committee Second Year Course: Jno. F. Spence, G. A. Gordon and A. J. Greer.

Committee Third Year: John W. Mann, S. D. Gaines and J. B. Fitzgerald.

Committee Fourth Year Course: Erastus Rowley, T. S. Stivers and J. B. Little.

Committee to examine candidates for local Deacons Orders: T. H. Pearne, P. H. Reed.

Committee Local Elders Orders: E. E. Gillenwaters, W. H. Rogers and G. J. Alley.

The Committee on Education presented their report through Brother P. C. Wilson; on motion report was adopted. (See report marked "E.")

On motion a committee on educational interests of the Church was raised, with power to appoint an Agent to go abroad. Said committee consists of Brothers J. Albert Hyden, Jno. F. Spence and T. H. Pearne and Dr. E. Rowley (ministers), Col. Stanley, Prof. P. C. Wilson and C. L. Hoss (laymen).

Committee on state of Church gave verbal report and were released.

On motion Rev. L. W. Couch was received from the M. E. Church, South, into the traveling connection.

Report of Board of Conference Stewards was read and adopted. (See report marked "F.")

A paper was presented by R. G. Blackburn and was unanimously adopted and ordered to be published in the Knoxville Whig, Nashville Times and Press, and The Western Christian Advocate. (See paper marked "G.")

On motion a committee of five were raised on Church affairs, viz.: W. H. Rogers, W. C. Daily, Albert Hyden, Patterson and Foster.

J. W. Mann presented a resolution embodying the thanks of the Conference to the citizens of Athens for their kindness and liberality in entertaining the members of the Conference.

On motion a note of thanks was presented to Bishop Clark, President of the Conference, for the kind and forbearing spirit manifested toward the members of the Conference throughout its entire session.

The Bishop then read the appointments. See list.

On motion the Conference adjourned with the usual religious devotions.

D. W. CLARK, President.

JOHN F. SPENCE, Secretary.

Athens, Tenn., June 5, 1865.

## PRINCIPLES OF ACTION PERTAINING TO RECEPTION OF MEMBERS.

### REPORT "A."

Whereas, It is expected by the Loyal Methodists of the South, and especially of East Tennessee, that in the reorganization of the Holston Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church strict inquiry will be made touching the opinions concerning, and relations to, the late rebellion, of applicants for admission and recognition as accredited ministers, and that said opinions and relations will shape, to a greater or less extent, our official action in these cases; we therefore deem it necessary to state briefly the general principles controlling us in the premises; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That it is the sense of this body that those who entered into the late rebellion and imbibed the spirit thereof, are guilty of a crime sufficient to exclude them from the kingdom of grace and glory, and must not be admitted into this Conference, save upon full confession and thorough repentance.

Resolved, 2. That those ministers who abandoned their work and their homes, and absconded the country upon the approach of the national flag, have so far forfeited claim to our confidence and Christian fellowship; that they should not be recognized by members of this Conference as accredited ministers till they shall have been restored by the proper authorities of the Church.

Resolved, 3. That in the reception of preachers into this body constant regard will be had, not only to their personal qualifications and claims upon our Christian kindness and charity, but also to the opinions, feelings, and wishes of our people, and none ought to be admitted whose conduct, during the late rebellion, has been such as to make them odious to the masses, and whose usefulness as ministers of the Gospel has been sacrificed to the unholy cause of treason and rebellion.

Resolved, 4. That, while we feel constrained thus to indicate what is now the necessary policy of this Conference, we, with hopeful hearts, look forward to the time, and hope it is not far distant, when general confidence, friendship and good-will shall be one in heart, one in purpose, and one in our great work and labor of love.

### REPORT "B."

The Holston Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in resuming the place she occupied among her sister annual conferences up to 1844, takes a decided position of loyalty, and heartily agrees with them in their outspoken antagonism to slavery. Our people have given costly proof of their devotion to the National Government, and by their votes slavery in Tennessee has been buried beyond, as we trust, a hope of resurrection. In assuming this position, this Conference makes for herself a very different record from that of the Holston Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, touching these questions. That Conference, held in this place in 1862, expelled one of its members "for joining the enemies of his country;" that is, being a loyal citizen and aiding his government in suppressing rebellion. It suspended another of its members for a similar cause. In an

elaborate report, presented by John N. McTyeire, on these cases, and others similarly accused, "the continued agitation of the subject of slavery" by the Churches North is falsely assigned as the cause of the late wicked rebellion. We say "falsely," because it was not the agitation of the slavery question, but the ineradicable tendencies and vices of the system itself which brought about the unhappy events which have transpired.

The report also openly avows and advocates the rightfulness of the late attempted disruption of the United States, and gravely urges "the duty of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, alike because of her historical antecedents and her doctrinal peculiarities touching Southern institutions generally, and this institution—slavery—especially, to be found arrayed side by side with the great masses of the Southern people in religiously contending in part for the same rights—political, civil, and religious—for the security of which they were compelled, in 1844, to adopt measures for a separate and independent ecclesiastical organization." \* \* \* "But now that these questions—abstract political questions of secession and rebellion—have assumed a concrete form, and under the inspiration of abolition fanaticism, have kindled the fires of the most brutal and ruthless war ever known in the history of man, involving every interest, political and religious, held to be most sacred and absolutely vital to the present and future weal of our people, it is the deliberate conviction of your committee that no patriot, no Christian, and, least of all, no Christian minister who claims to be a citizen of the Confederate States of America, and who is presumed to be even partially acquainted with the merits of this unhappy controversy, can throw the weight of his opinions, words, or acts into the scale of our enemies against us with moral impunity, or with a conscience void of offense toward God and his fellow-countrymen."

Such treasonable deliverance, by a body of ministers in the nineteenth century, and in the United States, as well as the apparent spirit in which they were adopted, and the intolerant, relentless and bitter persecutions of which they were followed, justly produce surprise and astonishment; for they present a most humiliating fact in the history of a religious organization—a fact from which it would seem all good, true, patriotic and Christian men must turn away with ineffable shame and regret.

In view of the foregoing facts and considerations, it is therefore

Resolved, That we hail, with intense, inexpressible pleasure and profound gratitude to God the triumph of the national arms over a gigantic, unprovoked and wicked rebellion; the dispersion of the rebel armies which crimsoned the land with the blood of our sons and brothers, swept our homes with desolation, and filled our hearts with anguish; the established unity and integrity of our country and government, and also the assured future of our priceless national heritage of peace and liberty, civilization and religion.

Resolved, That, as contributive to these results, we cherish with liveliest interest the hope, and we will labor with earnest zeal to realize its functions, that soon the banners of true Methodism, loyal to country, to freedom, to right, and to God, shall wave in triumph over the whole country, from east to west, and from north to south, as now waves the banner of the Republic.

## REPORTS OF CONFERENCE.

## STATISTICS.

## REPORT "C."

Numbers of members, report from stations and circuits  
the Holston Conference June 5, 1865, Athens, Tennessee.

Number of Church Members.....	5,146
Number of deaths .....	11
Number of Sunday Schools .....	49
Number of Officers and Teachers.....	336
Number of Scholars in Conference.....	2,425
Number of Volumes in Libraries.....	1,179