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OF THE

GENERAL CONFERENCE

OF THE

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH,

HELD IN PHILADELPHIA, PA.,

1864.

EDITED BY

REV. WILLIAM L. HARRIS, D.D.,

SECRETARY OF THE CONFERENCE.



New York:

PUBLISHED BY CARLTON & PORTER,

200 MULBERRY-STREET.

1864.

List of Delegates by Conferences Elected

Reserves.
 SETH H. BEALE,
 BENJAMIN B. BYRNE.

ERIE.
 CALVIN KINGSLEY,
 RICHARD A. CARUTHERS,
 JAMES W. LOWE,
 MOSES HILL,
 RUSSELL H. HURLBURT,
 WILLIAM F. WILSON,
 NIBAM NORTON.

Reserves.
 JOSEPH LESLIE,
 GEORGE W. CLARKE,
 EDWIN J. L. BAKER.

GENESEE.
 ALBERT D. WILBOE,
 THOMAS CARLTON,
 JOHN B. WENTWORTH,
 JAMES M. FULLER.

Reserves.
 E. E. CHAMBERS,
 SCHUYLER SEAGER.

ILLINOIS.
 HENRY F. KOENEKE,
 ROBERT E. GUTHRIE,
 WM. H. H. MOORE,
 ASA S. M'COY,
 ISAAC C. KIMBER,
 JAMES P. DIMMITT.

Reserves.
 SAMSON SHINN,
 LEVI C. PITNER,
 WILLIAM E. JOHNSON.

INDIANA.
 GEORGE W. WALKER,
 JAMES HILL,
 JAMES H. NOBLE,
 WILLIAM M'K. HESTER.

Reserves.
 DANIEL M'INTYRE,
 CYRUS NUTT.

IOWA.
 CHARLES ELLIOTT,
 THOMAS E. CORKHILL,
 WILLIAM F. COWLES.

Reserves.
 EDMUND H. WABING,
 JOHN H. POWER.

KANSAS.
 HUGH D. FISHER,
 JOSEPH DENISON.

Reserves.
 LORENZO D. PRICE,
 GEORGE W. PADDOCK.

KENTUCKY.
 LEMUEL M. REEVES,
 ISAAC F. HARRISON.

Reserve.
 WILLIAM A. DOTSON.

MAINE.
 CHARLES F. ALLEN,
 GEORGE WEBBER,
 JOSEPH COLBY,
 HENRY M. BLAKE.

Reserves.
 ASAH EL MOORE,
 CHARLES MUNGER.

MICHIGAN.
 THOMAS H. SINEX,
 HENRY PENFIELD,
 FRANCIS B. BANGS,
 HORACE HALL.

Reserves.
 HIRAM LAW,
 ISRAEL COGSHALL.

MINNESOTA.
 BENJAMIN F. CRABY,
 DANIEL COBB,
 HENRY ROTH,
 JABEZ BROOKS.

Reserves.
 JAMES F. CHAFFEE,
 CYRUS BROOKS.

MISSOURI AND ARKANSAS.
 SAMUEL HUFFMAN,
 NATHAN SHUMATE.

Reserve.
 JOSEPH H. HOPKINS.

NEBRASKA.
 HENRY T. DAVIS,
 JASON G. MILLER.

Reserves.
 HIRAM BURCH,
 MARTIN PRITCHARD.

NEWARK.
 ISAAC W. WILEY,
 NICHOLAS VANSANT,
 ALEXANDER L. BRICE,
 JONATHAN T. CRANE,
 STACEY, W. HILLIARD.

Reserves.
 CROOK S. VANCELEVE,
 JOHN S. PORTER.

NEW ENGLAND.
 JAMES PORTER,
 DAVID SHERMAN,
 JOHN H. TWOMBLY,
 JOSEPH CUMMINGS,
 MINER RAYMOND,
 RALPH W. ALLEN.

Reserves.
 LORENZO R. THAYER,
 GILBERT HAYEN.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

JAMES PIKE,
ELISHA ADAMS,
JAMES THURSTON,
ALBERT C. MANSON.

Reserves.

ORLANDO H. JASPER,
DUDLEY P. LEAVITT.

NEW JERSEY.

SAMUEL Y. MONROE,
CHAS. H. WHITECAR,
WILLIAM E. PERRY,
ABRAHAM K. STREET.

Reserves.

EDWARD H. STOKES,
JEFFERSON LEWIS.

NEW YORK.

RANDOLPH S. FOSTER,
DAVIS W. CLARK,
M. D'C. CRAWFORD,
PAUL R. BROWN,
WILLIAM H. FERRIS,
LUCIUS H. KING,
JOSEPH B. WAKELEY,
JOHN W. LINDSAY.

Reserves.

ARCHIBALD C. FOSS,
CHARLES K. TRUE,
HENRY J. FOX.

NEW YORK EAST.

DANIEL CURRY,
JOHN MILEY,
EDWIN E. GRISWOLD,
ROBERT M. HATFIELD,
GEO. W. WOODRUFF,
BENJAMIN PILSBURY,

Reserves.

WILLIAM C. HOYT,
SEYMOUR LANDON.

NORTH INDIANA.

REUBEN D. ROBINSON,
WILLIAM H. GOODE,
ORANGE V. LEMON,
JOHN V. R. MILLER.

Reserves.

MILTON MAHIN,
SAMUEL N. CAMPBELL.

NORTH OHIO.

EDWARD THOMSON,
JACOB ROTHWEILER,
ADAM POE,
G. W. BRECKENRIDGE,
HENRY WHITEMAN.

Reserves.

WILLIAM C. PEIRCE,
EDWARD R. JEWETT.

N. W. INDIANA.

AARON WOOD,
GEORGE M. BOYD,
JACOB M. STALLARD,
JOHN L. SMITH.

Reserves.

ALLEN A. GEE,
JAMES JOHNSON.

N. W. WISCONSIN.

CHAUNCEY HOBART,
THOMAS C. GOLDEN.

Reserves.

WILLIAM HAMILTON,
WILLIAM M. OSBORNE.

OHIO.

BARZILLAI N. SPAHR,
JOSEPH M. TRIMBLE,
JOHN W. WHITE,
A. M. ALEXANDER,
FREDERICK MERRICK.

Reserves.

SOLOMON HOWARD,
LEVI CUNNINGHAM.

ONEIDA.

ALBERT S. GRAVES,
WILLIAM H. OLIN,
JOHN T. WRIGHT,
DANIEL W. BRISTOL,
EDWARD G. ANDREWS,
DANIEL A. WHEDON.

Reserves.

WILLIAM N. COBB,
LUKE C. QUEAL.

OREGON.

JAMES H. WILBUR,
THOMAS H. PEARNE.

Reserves.

CALVIN S. KINGSLEY,
JOHN FLINN.

PHILADELPHIA.

JOSEPH CASTLE,
JAMES CUNNINGHAM,
JOHN P. DURBIN,
DAVID W. BARTINE,
ADAM WALLACE,
GEORGE BARTON,
JOSEPH MASON,
WILLIAM M'COMBS.

Reserves.

GOLDSMITH D. CARROW,
WILLIAM L. GRAY.

PITTSBURGH.

SAMUEL H. NESBIT,
ISAAC N. BAIRD,
DAVID L. DEMPSEY,
ISRAEL C. PERSHING,
CHARLES A. HOLMES,
JAMES HENDERSON,
WILLIAM A. DAVIDSON.

Reserves.

HIRAM MILLER,
SIMON P. WOOLF.

PROVIDENCE.

DANIEL WISE,
SAMUEL C. BROWN,
WILLIAM H. RICHARDS,
DAVID PATTEN.

Reserves.

GEORGE W. BREWSTER,
GEO. M. CARPENTER.

ROCK RIVER.

LUKE HITCHCOCK,
THOMAS M. EDDY,
GEO. L. MULFINGER,
JOHN DEMPSTER,
WILLIAM F. STEWART,
SAMUEL A. W. JEWETT.

Reserves.

FREDERICK SCHULER,
WILLIAM T. HARLOW,
CHARLES C. BEST.

S. E. INDIANA.

WILLIAMSON TERRILL,
GILES C. SMITH,
THOMAS H. LYNCH,
JOHN H. BARTH.

Reserves.

THOMAS BOWMAN,
FRANCIS A. HESTER.

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS.

PHILIP KUHLE,
NELSON E. OCHLEIGH,
ALFRED B. NISBET,
JAMES B. CORNINGTON.

Reserves.

WILLIAM CLIFFE,
JOTHAM A. SCARRITT.

TROY.

WILLIAM GRIFFIN,
OREN GREGG,
BOSTWICK HAWLEY,
STEPHEN D. BROWN,
JOSEPH E. KING,
DESEVIGNIA STARKS.

Reserves.

CHESTER F. BURDICK,
ELISHA WATSON.

UPPER IOWA.

RICHARD W. KEELER,
H. W. HOUGHTON,
HENRY FIGENBAUM,
GEORGE CLIFFORD,
ALPHA J. KYNETT.

Reserves.

JOHN C. AYRES,
SAMUEL PANCOAST.

VERMONT.

PUTNAM P. RAY,
ANDES T. BULLARD,
M'KENDEE PETTY,
DAVID B. M'KENZIE.

Reserves.

WILLIAM D. MALCOM,
ZINAH H. BROWN.

WESTERN IOWA.

SANFORD HAINES,
DAVID N. SMITH.

Reserves.

BENNETT MITCHELL,
RICHARD S. ROBINSON.

WESTERN VIRGINIA.

JOHN W. REGER,
JAMES DRUMMOND,
JAMES L. CLARK.

Reserves.

ALEXANDER MARTIN,
THOMAS H. MONROE.

WEST WISCONSIN.

MATTHEW BENNETT,
JAMES LAWSON.

Reserves.

ALFRED H. WALTER,
JOSEPH C. ASPENWALL.

WISCONSIN.

HENRY BANNISTER,
SAMUEL C. THOMAS,
CALEB D. PILLSBURY,
MATTHIAS HIMERAUGH.

Reserves.

JOSEPH H. JENNE,
WESSON G. MILLER.

WYOMING.

GEORGE PECK,
REUBEN NELSON,
HORATIO R. CLARK,
HENRY BROWNSCOMBE.

Reserves.

KING ELWELL,
ZECHARIAH PADDOCK.

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF DELEGATES.

A.

- 1 ADAMS, ELISHA, New Hampshire.
- 2 ALEXANDER, AUGUSTINE M., Ohio.
- 3 ALLEN, CHARLES F., Maine.
- 4 ALLEN, RALPH W., New England.
- 5 ANDREWS, EDWARD G., Oneida.
- 6 ARMSTRONG, JOHN W., Black River.

B.

- 7 BAIRD, ISAAC N., Pittsburgh.
- 8 BAKER, GARDNER, Black River.
- 9 BANGS, FRANCIS B., Michigan.
- 10 BANNISTER, HENRY, Wisconsin.
- 11 BARTH, JOHN H., Southeastern Indiana.
- 12 BARTINE, DAVID W., Philadelphia.
- 13 BARTON, GEORGE, Philadelphia.
- 14 BENNETT, MATTHEW, West Wisconsin.
- 15 BENSON, HENRY C., California.
- 16 BIGELOW, WILLIAM E., Detroit.
- 17 BINGHAM, ISAAC S., Black River.
- 18 BLAKE, HENRY M., Maine.
- 19 BOYD, GEORGE M., Northwest Indiana.
- 20 BRECKENRIDGE, GEORGE W., North Ohio.
- 21 BRICE, ALEXANDER L., Newark.
- 22 BRISTOL, DANIEL W., Oneida.
- 23 BROOKS, JABEZ, Minnesota.
- 24 BROWN, PAUL R., New York.
- 25 BROWN, SAMUEL C., Providence.
- 26 BROWN, STEPHEN D., Troy.
- 27 BROWNSCOMBE, HENRY, Wyoming.
- 28 BRUCE, ELI C., Black River.
- 29 BULLARD, ANDES T., Vermont.

C.

- 30 CARLTON, THOMAS, Genesee.
- 31 CARUTHERS, RICHARD A., Erie.
- 32 CASTLE, JOSEPH, Philadelphia.

- 33 CHENOWETH, GEORGE D., East Baltimore.
- 34 CHURCH, ALBERT, East Maine.
- 35 CLARK, DAVIS W., New York.
- 36 CLARK, HORATIO R., Wyoming.
- 37 CLARK, JAMES L., Western Virginia.
- 38 CLIFFORD, GEORGE, Upper Iowa.
- 39 COBB, DANIEL, Minnesota.
- 40 COBLEIGH, NELSON E., Southern Illinois.
- 41 COLBY, JOSEPH, Maine.
- 42 CONGDON, SYLVESTER L., E. Genesee.
- 43 CORKHILL, THOMAS E., Iowa.
- 44 CORRINGTON, JAMES B., Southern Illinois.
- 45 COWLES, WILLIAM F., Iowa.
- 46 CRANE, JONATHAN T., Newark.
- 47 CRARY, BENJAMIN F., Minnesota.
- 48 CRAWFORD, MORRIS D'C., New York.
- 49 CUMMINGS, JOSEPH, New England.
- 50 CUNNINGHAM, JAMES, Philadelphia.
- 51 CURRY, DANIEL, New York East.

D.

- 52 DAVIDSON, WILLIAM A., Pittsburgh.
- 53 DAVIS, HENRY T., Nebraska.
- 54 DEMPSEY, DAVID L., Pittsburgh.
- 55 DEMPSTER, JOHN, Rock River.
- 56 DENISON, JOSEPH, Kansas.
- 57 DIMMITT, JAMES P., Illinois.
- 58 DRUMMOND, JAMES, Western Virginia.
- 59 DURBIN, JOHN P., Philadelphia.
- 60 DUSTIN, MIGHILL, Cincinnati.

E.

- 61 EDDY, THOMAS M., Rock River.
- 62 ELLIOTT, CHARLES, Iowa.
- 63 ERWIN, JAMES, Black River.

*Alphabetical List of Delegates.***F.**

- 64 FERRIS, WILLIAM H., New York.
 65 FIEGENBAUM, HENRY, Upper Iowa.
 66 FISHER, HUGH D., Kansas.
 67 FOOTE, JOHN B., Black River.
 68 FOSTER, RANDOLPH S., New York.
 69 FULLER, JAMES M., Genesee.

G.

- 70 GARDNER, THOMAS C., Detroit.
 71 GEORGE, AUGUSTUS C., East Tennessee.
 72 GOLDEN, THOMAS C., Northwest Wisconsin.
 73 GOODE, WILLIAM H., North Indiana.
 74 GOODWIN, WM. H., East Genesee.
 75 GRAVES, ALBERT S., Oneida.
 76 GREGG, OREN, Troy.
 77 GRIFFIN, WILLIAM, Troy.
 78 GRISWOLD, EDWIN E., New York East.
 79 GURLEY, LEONARD B., Central Ohio.
 80 GUTHRIE, ROBERT E., Illinois.

H.

- 81 HAINES, SANFORD, Western Iowa.
 82 HALL, HORACE, Michigan.
 83 HAMLIN, BENJAMIN B., East Baltimore.
 84 HANEX, RICHARD, Central Illinois.
 85 HARDIN, WILLIAM, East Baltimore.
 86 HARRIS, WILLIAM L., Central Ohio.
 87 HARRISON, ISAAC F., Kentucky.
 88 HATFIELD, ROBERT M., New York East.
 89 HAWLEY, BOSTWICK, Troy.
 90 HENDERSON, JAMES, Pittsburgh.
 91 HESTER, WILLIAM M'K., Indiana.
 92 HIBBARD, FREEBORN G., East Genesee.
 93 HILL, JAMES, Indiana.
 94 HILL, MOSES, Erie.
 95 HILLIARD, STACEY W., Newark.
 96 HIMEBAUGH, MATTHIAS, Wisconsin.
 97 HITCHCOCK, LUKE, Rock River.
 98 HOBART, CHAUNCEY, Northwest Wisconsin.
 99 HOLMES, CHARLES A., Pittsburgh.
 100 HOUGHTON, HORATIO W., Upper Iowa.

101 HUFFMAN, SAMUEL, Missouri and Arkansas.

102 HUNTER, WILLIAM H., Central Illinois.

103 HURLBURT, RUSSELL H., Erie.

J.

104 JERVIS, KASIMIR P., East Genesee.

105 JEWETT, SAMUEL A. W., Rock River.

K.

106 KEELER, RICHARD W., Upper Iowa.

107 KIMBER, ISAAC C., Illinois.

108 KING, JOSEPH E., Troy.

109 KING, LUCIUS H., New York.

110 KINGSLEY, CALVIN, Erie.

111 KOENEKE, HENRY F., Illinois.

112 KUHLE, PHILIP, Southern Illinois.

113 KYNETT, ALPHA J., Upper Iowa.

L.

114 LANAHAN, JOHN, Baltimore.

115 LAWSON, JAMES, West Wisconsin.

116 LEMON, ORANGE V., North Indiana.

117 LINDSAY, JOHN W., New York.

118 LOWE, JAMES W., Erie.

119 LYNCH, THOMAS H., Southeastern Indiana.

M.

120 M'CAHE, LORENZO D., Cincinnati.

121 M'COMBS, WILLIAM, Philadelphia.

122 M'COY, ASAHIEL S., Illinois.

123 M'KENZIE, DAVID, Vermont.

124 M'MURRAY, JACOB S., East Baltimore.

125 MAGEE, ANDREW, Central Illinois.

126 MANSON, ALBERT C., New Hampshire.

127 MASON, JOSEPH, Philadelphia.

128 MERRICK, FREDERICK, Ohio.

129 MILEY, JOHN, New York East.

130 MILLER, JASON G., Nebraska.

131 MILLER, JOHN V. R., North Indiana.

132 MONROE, SAMUEL Y., New Jersey.

133 MOODY, GRANVILLE, Cincinnati.

134 MOORE, WILLIAM H. H., Illinois.

135 MORGAN, NICHOLAS J. B., Baltimore.

136 MULFINGER, GEORGE L., Rock River.

137 MUNSSELL, OLIVER S., Central Illinois.

N.

- 138 NAST, WILLIAM, Cincinnati.
- 139 NELSON, ALEXANDER, Central Ohio.
- 140 NELSON, REUBEN, Wyoming.
- 141 NESBIT, SAMUEL H., Pittsburgh.
- 142 NISBET, ALFRED B., Southern Illinois.
- 143 NOBLE, JAMES H., Indiana.
- 144 NORTON, NIRAM, Erie.

O.

- 145 OLIN, WILLIAM H., Oneida.
- 146 OWEN, ISAAC, California.

P.

- 147 PATTEN, DAVID, Providence.
- 148 PEARNE, THOMAS H., Oregon.
- 149 PECK, GEORGE, Wyoming.
- 150 PECK, JESSE T., California.
- 151 PENFIELD, HENRY, Michigan.
- 152 PERRY, WILLIAM E., New Jersey.
- 153 PERSHING, ISRAEL C., Pittsburgh.
- 154 PETTY, M'KENDREE, Vermont.
- 155 PHELPS, ELISHA P., Baltimore.
- 156 PIKE, JAMES, New Hampshire.
- 157 PILCHER, ELIJAH H., Detroit.
- 158 PILSBURY, BENJAMIN, New York East.
- 159 PILLSBURY, CALEB D., Wisconsin.
- 160 POE, ADAM, North Ohio.
- 161 PORTER, JAMES, New England.

R.

- 162 RAY, PUTNAM P., Vermont.
- 163 RAYMOND, MINER, New England.
- 164 REED, SETH, Detroit.
- 165 REESE, THOMAS M., East Baltimore.
- 166 REEVES, LEMUEL M., Kentucky.
- 167 REGER, JOHN W., Western Virginia.
- 168 REID, JOHN M., East Genesee.
- 169 REILEY, JAMES M'K., East Baltimore.
- 170 RICHARDS, WILLIAM H., Providence.
- 171 ROBINSON, REUBEN D., North Indiana.
- 172 ROTH, HENRY, Minnesota.
- 173 ROTHWEILER, JACOB, North Ohio.

S.

- 174 SHERMAN, DAVID, New England.
- 175 SHUMATE, NATHAN, Missouri and Arkansas.
- 176 SINEX, THOMAS H., Michigan.
- 177 SMART, JAMES S., Detroit.
- 178 SMITH, DAVID N., Western Iowa.
- 179 SMITH, GILES C., Southeastern Indiana.
- 180 SMITH, JOHN L., Northwestern Indiana.
- 181 SMITH, MOSES, Cincinnati.
- 182 SPAHR, BARZILLAI N., Ohio.
- 183 STALLARD, JACOB M., Northwest Indiana.
- 184 STARKS, DESEVIGNIA, Troy.
- 185 STEWART, WILLIAM F., Rock River.
- 186 STREET, ABRAHAM K., New Jersey.
- 187 STROUT, GEORGE D., East Maine.

T.

- 188 TERRILL, WILLIAMSON, Southeastern Indiana.
- 189 THOMAS, SAMUEL C., Wisconsin.
- 190 THOMSON, EDWARD, North Ohio.
- 191 THURSTON, JAMES, New Hampshire.
- 192 TIPPETT, CHARLES B., East Baltimore.
- 193 TRIMBLE, JOSEPH M., Ohio.
- 194 TWOMBLY, JOHN H., New England.

V.

- 195 VANSANT, NICHOLAS, Newark.

W.

- 196 WAKELEY, JOSEPH B., New York.
- 197 WALKER, GEORGE W., Indiana.
- 198 WALLACE, ADAM, Philadelphia.
- 199 WARDWELL, LORENZO D., East Maine.
- 200 WEBBER, GEORGE, Maine.
- 201 WENTWORTH, JOHN B., Genesee.
- 202 WHEDON, DANIEL A., Oneida.
- 203 WHITE, LAFAYETTE D., Black River.
- 204 WHITE, JOHN W., Ohio.
- 205 WHITECAR, CHARLES H., New Jersey.
- 206 WHITEMAN, HENRY, North Ohio.
- 207 WILBOR, ALBERT D., Genesee.

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|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 208 WILBUR, JAMES H., Oregon. | 214 WOODRUFF, GEO. W., New York East. |
| 209 WILEY, ISAAC W., Newark. | 215 WRIGHT, JOHN T., Oneida. |
| 210 WILSON, THOMAS H., Central Ohio. | |
| 211 WILSON, WILLIAM F., Erie. | |
| 212 WISE, DANIEL, Providence. | |
| 213 WOOD, AARON, Northwest Indiana. | 216 YOUNG, WILLIAM, Cincinnati. |

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF RESERVE DELEGATES.

A.

- 1 ASPINWALL, JOSEPH C., West Wisconsin.
2 AYRES, JOHN C., Upper Iowa.

B.

- 3 BAKER, EDWIN J. L., Erie.
4 BEALE, SETH H., East Maine.
5 BEST, CHARLES C., Rock River.
6 BOWMAN, THOMAS, S. E. Indiana.
7 BREWSTER, GEORGE W., Providence.
8 BROOKS, CYRUS, Minnesota.
9 BROWN, ZINAH H., Vermont.
10 BURCH, HIRAM, Nebraska.
11 BURDICK, CHESTER F., Troy.
12 BYRNE, BENJAMIN B., East Maine.

C.

- 13 CAMPBELL, SAMUEL N., North Indiana.
14 CARPENTER, GEORGE M., Providence.
15 CARROW, GOLDSMITH D., Philadelphia.
16 CHAFFEE, JAMES F., Minnesota.
17 CHAMBERS, EBENEZER E., Genesee.
18 CHANDLER, JOHN, Central Illinois.
19 CLARKE, GEORGE W., Erie.
20 CLIFFE, WILLIAM, Southern Illinois.
21 COBB, WILLIAM N., Oneida.
22 COGSHALL, ISRAEL, Michigan.
23 CUNNINGHAM, LEVI, Ohio.

D.

- 24 DANIEL, JOHN, California.
25 DENNIS, JOHN, East Genesee.
26 DOTSON, WILLIAM A., Kentucky.

E.

- 27 EDWARDS, WILLIAM B., Baltimore.
28 ELWELL, KING, Wyoming.

F.

- 29 FLINN, JOHN, Oregon.
30 FOSS, ARCHIBALD C., New York.
31 FOWBLE, JOHN W., Cincinnati.
32 FOX, HENRY J., New York.

G.

- 33 GAVITT, ELNATHAN C., Central Ohio.
34 GEE, ALLEN A., Northwest Indiana.
35 GERE, JOHN A., East Baltimore.
36 GRAY, WILLIAM L., Philadelphia.

H.

- 37 HAMILTON, WILLIAM, Northwest Wisconsin.
38 HARLOW, WILLIAM T., Rock River.
39 HAVEN, GILBERT, New England.
40 HESTER, FRANCIS A., Southeastern Indiana.
41 HOPKINS, JOSEPH H., Missouri and Arkansas.
42 HOSMER, WILLIAM, East Genesee.
43 HOWARD, SOLOMON, Ohio.
44 HOYT, WILLIAM C., New York East.
45 HUNT, ISAAC L., Black River.

J.

- 46 JASPER, ORLANDO H., New Hampshire.
47 JENNE, JOSEPH H., Wisconsin.
48 JEWITT, EDWARD R., North Ohio.

- 49 JOHNSON, JAMES, Northwest Wisconsin.
 50 JOHNSON, WILLIAM E., Illinois.
 51 JOSLIN, THOMAS J., Detroit.

K.

- 52 KINGSLEY, CALVIN S., Oregon.
 53 KLEIN, JOHN A., Cincinnati.

L.

- 54 LANDON, SEYMOUR, New York East.
 55 LAW, HIRAM, Michigan.
 56 LAWDER, WILLIAM H., Cincinnati.
 57 LEAVITT, DUDLEY P., New Hampshire.
 58 LESLIE, JOSEPH, Erie.
 59 LEWIS, JEFFERSON, New Jersey.

M.

- 60 M'INTYRE, DANIEL, Indiana.
 61 MAHIN, MILTON, North Indiana.
 62 MALCOM, WILLIAM D., Vermont.
 63 MARTIN, ALEXANDER, Western Virginia.
 64 MILLER, HIRAM, Pittsburgh.
 65 MILLER, WESSON G., Wisconsin.
 66 MITCHELL, BENNETT, Western Iowa.
 67 MITCHELL, THOMPSON, East Baltimore.
 68 MONROE, THOMAS H., Western Virginia.
 69 MOORE, ASAHIEL, Maine.
 70 MORGAN, LITTLETON F., Baltimore.
 71 MUNGER, CHARLES, Maine.

N.

- 72 NUTT, CYRUS, Indiana.

O.

- 73 OSBORNE, WILLIAM M., Northwest Indiana.

P.

- 74 PADDOCK, GEORGE W., Kansas.
 75 PADDOCK, ZECHARIAH, Wyoming.

- 76 PANCOAST, SAMUEL, Upper Iowa.
 77 PEIRCE, WILLIAM C., North Ohio.
 78 PITNER, LEVI, Illinois.
 79 PORTER, JOHN S., Newark.
 80 POWER, JOHN H., Iowa.
 81 PRICE, LORENZO D., Kansas.
 82 PRITCHARD, MARTIN, Nebraska.

Q.

- 83 QUEAL, LUKE C., Oneida.

R.

- 84 ROBINSON, RICHARD S., Western Iowa.

S.

- 85 SCARRITT, JOTHAM A., Southern Illinois.
 86 SCHULER, FREDERICK, Rock River.
 87 SEAGER, SCHUYLER, East Genesee.
 88 SEWALL, THOMAS, Baltimore.
 89 SHINN, SAMSON, Illinois.
 90 SMITH, GEORGE, Detroit.
 91 STOKES, EDWARD H., New Jersey.
 92 SUMMERS, HENRY, Central Illinois.

T.

- 93 THAYER, LORENZO R., New England.
 94 THOMAS, ELEAZER, California.
 95 TRUE, CHARLES K., New York.

V.

- 96 VANCELEVE, CROOK S., Newark.

W.

- 97 WALTER, ALFRED H., West Wisconsin.
 98 WARING, EDMUND H., Iowa.
 99 WATSON, ELISHA, Troy.
 100 WELLS, WESLEY J., Central Ohio.
 101 WOLF, SIMON P., Pittsburgh.
 102 WRIGHT, BENJAMIN S., Black River.

1	Mr. [Name]	Mr. [Name]
2	Mr. [Name]	Mr. [Name]
3	Mr. [Name]	Mr. [Name]
4	Mr. [Name]	Mr. [Name]
5	Mr. [Name]	Mr. [Name]
6	Mr. [Name]	Mr. [Name]
7	Mr. [Name]	Mr. [Name]
8	Mr. [Name]	Mr. [Name]
9	Mr. [Name]	Mr. [Name]
10	Mr. [Name]	Mr. [Name]
11	Mr. [Name]	Mr. [Name]
12	Mr. [Name]	Mr. [Name]
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21	Mr. [Name]	Mr. [Name]
22	Mr. [Name]	Mr. [Name]
23	Mr. [Name]	Mr. [Name]
24	Mr. [Name]	Mr. [Name]
25	Mr. [Name]	Mr. [Name]
26	Mr. [Name]	Mr. [Name]
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94	Mr. [Name]	Mr. [Name]
95	Mr. [Name]	Mr. [Name]
96	Mr. [Name]	Mr. [Name]
97	Mr. [Name]	Mr. [Name]
98	Mr. [Name]	Mr. [Name]
99	Mr. [Name]	Mr. [Name]
100	Mr. [Name]	Mr. [Name]

John F. [Name] Secretary
 [Name] Treasurer

JOURNAL
OF THE
GENERAL CONFERENCE,
1864.

MONDAY MORNING, MAY 2.

May 2.

THE FOURTEENTH DELEGATED GENERAL CONFERENCE of the METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH in the United States of America assembled in Union Church, in the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on the second day of May, Anno Domini eighteen hundred and sixty-four.

FIRST DAY.
Morning.

Bishops present, THOMAS A. MORRIS, EDMUND S. JANES, LEVI SCOTT, MATTHEW SIMPSON, OSMON C. BAKER, and EDWARD R. AMES.

At nine o'clock Bishop Janes called the Conference to order, and Bishop Morris conducted the opening religious services, consisting of reading the 84th Psalm, singing the 219th hymn, and prayer. Bishop Janes continued the religious services by reading the latter part of the 20th chapter of the Acts of the Apostles and the 237th hymn. The hymn having been sung, George Peck and Charles Elliott led the devotions of the Conference in prayer.

Opening of the session.

On motion of Moses Hill, William L. Harris, Secretary of the last General Conference, was invited forward to receive the credentials of the delegates, and to act as Secretary till a permanent organization was effected.

The list of Conferences being called, certificates of election were presented as follows:

Baltimore Conference.

BALTIMORE.

JOHN LANAHAN,

NICHOLAS J. B. MORGAN,

ELISHA P. PHELPS.

Erie Conference.

CALVIN KINGSLEY, MOSES HILL,
 RICHARD A. CARUTHERS, RUSSELL H. HURLBURT,
 JAMES W. LOWE, WILLIAM F. WILSON,
 NIRAM NORTON.

May 2.
 First Day.
 Morning.
 ERIE.

Genesee Conference.

ALBERT D. WILBOR, JOHN B. WENTWORTH,
 THOMAS CARLTON, JAMES M. FULLER.

GENESEE.

Illinois Conference.

HENRY F. KOENEKE, ASA S. M'COY,
 ROBERT E. GUTHRIE, JAMES P. DEMMITT,
 WILLIAM H. H. MOORE, SAMSON SHINN.

ILLINOIS.

Indiana Conference.

GEORGE W. WALKER, JAMES H. NOBLE,
 JAMES HILL, WILLIAM M'K. HESTER.

INDIANA.

Iowa Conference.

CHARLES ELLIOTT, THOMAS E. CORKHILL,
 WILLIAM F. COWLES.

IOWA.

Kansas Conference.

HUGH D. FISHER, JOSEPH DENISON.

KANSAS.

Kentucky Conference.

LEMUEL M. REEVES, ISAAC F. HARRISON.

KENTUCKY.

Maine Conference.

CHARLES F. ALLEN, JOSEPH COLBY,
 GEORGE WEBBER, HENRY M. BLAKE.

MAINE.

Michigan Conference.

THOMAS H. SINEX, FRANCIS B. BANGS,
 HENRY PENFIELD, HORACE HALL.

MICHIGAN.

Minnesota Conference.

BENJAMIN F. CARY, HENRY ROTH,
 DANIEL COBB, JABEZ BROOKS.

MINNESOTA.

Missouri and Arkansas Conference.

SAMUEL HUFFMAN, NATHAN SHUMATE.

MISSOURI AND
ARKANSAS.**Nebraska Conference.**

HENRY T. DAVIS, JASON G. MILLER.

NEBRASKA.

May 2.
FIRST DAY.
Morning.
NEWARK.

Newark Conference.

ISAAC W. WILEY,	ALEXANDER L. BRICE,
NICHOLAS VANSANT,	JONATHAN T. CRANE,
	STACEY W. HILLIARD.

NEW ENGLAND.

New England Conference.

JAMES PORTER,	JOSEPH CUMMINGS,
DAVID SHERMAN,	MINER RAYMOND,
JOHN H. TWOMBLEY,	RALPH W. ALLEN.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

New Hampshire Conference.

JAMES PIKE,	JAMES THURSTON,
ELISHA ADAMS,	ALBERT C. MANSON.

NEW JERSEY.

New Jersey Conference.

SAMUEL Y. MONROE,	WILLIAM E. PERRY,
CHARLES H. WHITECAR,	ABRAHAM K. STREET.

NEW YORK.

New York Conference.

• RANDOLPH S. FOSTER,	WILLIAM H. FERRIS,
• DAVIS W. CLARK,	LUCIUS H. KING,
• MORRIS D'C. CRAWFORD,	JOSEPH B. WAKELEY,
PAUL R. BROWN,	JOHN W. LINDSAY.

NEW YORK EAST.

New York East Conference.

DANIEL CURRY,	ROBERT M. HATFIELD,
JOHN MILEY,	GEORGE W. WOODRUFF,
EDWIN E. GRISWOLD,	BENJAMIN PILSBURY.

NORTH INDIANA.

North Indiana Conference.

REUBEN D. ROBINSON,	ORANGE V. LEMON,
WILLIAM H. GOODE,	JOHN V. R. MILLER.

NORTH OHIO.

North Ohio Conference.

EDWARD THOMSON,	ADAM POE,
JACOB ROTHWEILER,	G. W. BRECKENRIDGE,
	HENRY WHITEMAN.

NORTHWEST INDIANA.

Northwest Indiana Conference.

AARON WOOD,	JACOB M. STALLARD,
GEORGE M. BOYD,	JOHN L. SMITH.

NORTHWEST WISCONSIN.

Northwest Wisconsin Conference.

CHAUNCEY HOBART,	THOMAS C. GOLDEN.
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Ohio Conference.

May 2.
FIRST DAY.
Morning.

OHIO.

BARZILLAI N. SPAHR, JOHN W. WHITE,
JOSEPH M. TRIMBLE, A. M. ALEXANDER,
FREDERICK MERRICK.

Oneida Conference.

ONEIDA.

ALBERT S. GRAVES, DANIEL W. BRISTOL,
WILLIAM H. OLIN, EDWARD G. ANDREWS,
JOHN T. WRIGHT, DANIEL A. WHEDON.

Oregon Conference.

OREGON.

JAMES H. WILBUR, THOMAS H. PEARNE.

Philadelphia Conference.

PHILADELPHIA.

JOSEPH CASTLE, ADAM WALLACE,
JAMES CUNNINGHAM, GEORGE BARTON,
JOHN P. DURBIN, JOSEPH MASON,
DAVID W. BARTINE, WILLIAM M'COMBS.

Pittsburgh Conference.

PITTSBURGH.

SAMUEL H. NESBIT, ISRAEL C. PERSHING,
ISAAC N. BAIRD, CHARLES A. HOLMES,
DAVID L. DEMPSEY, JAMES HENDERSON,
WILLIAM A. DAVIDSON.

Providence Conference.

PROVIDENCE.

DANIEL WISE, WILLIAM H. RICHARDS,
SAMUEL C. BROWN, DAVID PATTEN.

Rock River Conference.

ROCK RIVER.

LUKE HITCHCOCK, WILLIAM F. STEWART,
THOMAS M. EDDY, SAMUEL A. W. JEWETT.
GEORGE L. MULFINGER, WILLIAM T. HARLOW.

Southeastern Indiana Conference.SOUTHEASTERN
INDIANA.

WILLIAMSON TERRILL, THOMAS H. LYNCH,
GILES C. SMITH, JOHN H. BARTH.

Southern Illinois Conference.SOUTHERN ILLI-
NOIS.

PHILIP KUHL, ALFRED B. NISBET,
NELSON E. COBLEIGH, JAMES B. CORRINGTON.

May 2.**FIRST DAY.***Morning.***TROY.****Troy Conference.**

WILLIAM GRIFFIN,	STEPHEN D. BROWN,
OREN GREGG,	JOSEPH E. KING,
BOSTWICK HAWLEY,	DESEVIGNIA STARKS.

UPPER IOWA.**Upper Iowa Conference.**

RICHARD W. KEELER,	HENRY FIEGENBAUM,
HORATIO W. HOUGHTON,	GEORGE CLIFFORD,
ALPHA J. KYNETT.	

VERMONT.**Vermont Conference.**

PUTNAM P. RAY,	DAVID B. M'KENZIE,
ANDES T. BULLARD,	WILLIAM D. MALCOM.

WESTERN IOWA.**Western Iowa Conference.**

SANFORD HAINES,	DAVID N. SMITH.
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WESTERN VIRGINIA.**Western Virginia Conference.**

JOHN W. REGER,	JAMES DRUMMOND,
JAMES L. CLARK.	

WEST WISCONSIN.**West Wisconsin Conference.**

MATTHEW BENNETT,	JAMES LAWSON.
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WISCONSIN.**Wisconsin Conference.**

HENRY BANNISTER,	CALEB D. PILLSBURY,
SAMUEL C. THOMAS,	MATTHIAS HIMEBAUGH.

WYOMING.**Wyoming Conference.**

• GEORGE PECK,	HORATIO R. CLARKE,
• REUBEN NELSON,	HENRY BROWNSCOMBE.

Reserve Delegates.**Samson Shinn.**

Samson Shinn presented a certificate of election as a reserve delegate from the Illinois Conference, and was admitted to a seat instead of Isaac C. Kimber, delegate elect, deceased.

Wm. A. Dotson.

William A. Dotson presented a certificate of election as a reserve delegate from the Kentucky Conference, and was admitted to a seat instead of Isaac F. Harrison, delegate elect, who is absent.

Wm. T. Harlow.

William T. Harlow presented a certificate of election as a reserve delegate from the Rock River Conference, and was admitted to a seat instead of John Dempster, delegate elect, deceased.

William D. Malcom presented a certificate of election as a reserve delegate from the Vermont Conference, and was admitted to a seat instead of M'Kendree Petty, delegate elect, who is absent.

May 2.
FIRST DAY.
Morning.
W. D. Malcom.

The roll was called, and one hundred and eighty-one members answered to their names; whereupon the Chair declared that a quorum of the delegates elect were present, and the Conference proceeded to business.

On motion of Lucius H. King, William L. Harris was elected Secretary of the General Conference by acclamation.

Election of Secretary.

On motion of Thomas Carlton, the Secretary was authorized to nominate four assistant secretaries, to be elected by the Conference.

Elijah H. Pilcher moved that a committee of three be appointed to draft rules for the government of the Conference.

Committee to draft Rules.

Reuben Nelson moved as a substitute that the rules of the last session be amended by so changing the tenth rule as to require members to be in their places when they address the president, and then adopt them as the rules of the present session. The substitute was laid on the table, and the original motion prevailed.

On motion of Davis W. Clark, the rules of last session were enacted to be in force till others are adopted.

On motion of Elijah H. Pilcher, the following resolution was adopted, namely:

Standing Committees ordered.

Resolved, That the following standing committees be appointed, consisting of one from each Annual Conference, to be nominated by the delegations respectively, and elected by the Conference, namely:

1. On Episcopacy.
2. On Itinerancy.
3. On Boundaries.
4. On the Book Concern.
5. On Slavery.
6. On Missions.
7. On Education.
8. On Lay Delegation.
9. On Sunday-Schools and Tract Cause.
10. On Revisals.
11. On the German Work.
12. State of the Country.

James Drummond moved the adoption of the action of the last General Conference in relation to a Committee to try Appeals.

To Try Appeals.

May 2.
FIRST DAY.
Morning.

James M. Fuller moved to amend so that the committee shall consist of fifteen members. This amendment was laid on the table, and the original motion prevailed. By this action the following order was established:

I. The Committee on Appeals shall be a standing committee.

II. It shall consist of one member from each delegation, to be nominated by their respective delegations. The parties may challenge for cause, and the committee may excuse members for cause in any given case, only so that not less than two thirds of the whole shall remain for the trial of each case.

III. The question of entertaining the Appeals shall be determined by the Committee to Try Appeals.

IV. The order of procedure in the trial of referred appeal cases shall be as follows:

1. Present the Appeal.
2. Determine what members of the Committee on Appeals, not less than two thirds of the whole, shall hear and try the case, a majority of whom shall decide.
3. Read the findings of the case.
4. Motion to admit.
5. State the grounds of the Appeal.
6. Read the Minutes and documents.
7. Appellant's defense.
8. Reply of the delegates.
9. Appellant's reply to the delegates.
10. Decision.

Horatio R. Clark moved the adoption of the following resolution, namely:

Resolution of H. R. Clark on Duties of Standing Committees.

Resolved, That the foregoing Standing Committees, except that on Appeals, consisting of one delegate from each Annual Conference, be divided into three classes: Those belonging with the first class shall, after organization, have their regular meetings on Monday and Thursday of each week; those of the second class on Tuesday and Friday; and those of the third class, on Wednesday and Saturday. These committees may employ such sub-committees, to facilitate business as they shall deem best, and may hold extra sessions as often as desirable; but at the regular meetings all the business done by sub-committees and at extra sessions shall be reported, and be subject to such action as the whole committee shall see fit to take.

Resolution laid on the table.

On motion of Lucius H. King, the resolution was laid on the table.

Afternoon session.

On motion of James Porter, it was ordered that when Conference adjourn it adjourn to meet at three o'clock this afternoon.

On motion of James Porter, the following resolution was adopted, namely:

Daily Advocate furnished the members of the Conference.

Resolved, That the Agents of the Book Concern be directed to furnish to each of the Bishops, of the delegates from foreign bodies, of the delegates composing this body, and of the Conference reporters, a copy of the Daily Christian Advocate gratuitously.

Bishop Janes announced that the delegates of the British Wesleyan Conference would arrive in the city this afternoon. Whereupon, on motion of Richard Haney, ten o'clock to-morrow morning was fixed upon as the time when the Conference would receive them, and the Chair was requested to appointed a committee of five to introduce them to the Conference.

On motion of George Peck, a Committee on the Christian Commission, to consist of fifteen members, was ordered.

On motion of Reuben Nelson, the following special committees, to consist of seven members each, were ordered, namely :

On the Bible Cause.

On Temperance.

On Temporal Economy.

On Pastoral Address.

On Expenses of Delegates.

On Freedmen.

On motion of James Porter, the following resolution was adopted, namely :

Resolved, That Dr. Harris, the Secretary of this Conference, be appointed editor of the Journal, and that he be instructed to furnish the Book Agents at New York a copy for the press as soon as practicable, with a copious index.

May 2.

FIRST DAY.

Morning.

Delegates of the British Wesleyan Conference announced.

A Committee, and a time fixed to receive them.

Committee on the Christian Commission ordered.

Special committees ordered.

The Chair announced the following committees, namely :

On Reception of British Delegates: John P. Durbin, Richard Haney, George Webber, Joseph M. Trimble, and Daniel Curry.

On Rules of Conference: Elijah H. Pilcher, Reuben Nelson, and James Pike.

On motion of Alpha J. Kynett, the Committee ordered on the Christian Commission was also constituted a Committee on the Sanitary Commission.

The following resolution, offered by James Porter, was adopted, namely :

Resolved, That the Bar of the Conference be a line running across the house at the third pillar from the pulpit, and that the Committee which may be appointed on Public Worship be required to see that it be so far respected as to allow the members of the Conference the necessary convenience for attending to the business which may come before them.

Secretary appointed editor of the Conference Journal.

Committee on the Reception of British Delegates.

Committee on the Rules of Conference.

Sanitary Commission constituted.

Bar of Conference.

May 2.
FIRST DAY.
Morning.

The following preamble and resolutions, submitted by Edward Thomson, were adopted unanimously by a rising vote, namely:

Resolution concerning Bishop Morris.

Whereas, Our beloved senior superintendent, Thomas A. Morris, has completed his half century of ministerial service, a service scarcely interrupted by sickness, and rendered in various relations, pastoral, editorial, and episcopal, and with uniform acceptance, and which brings him to his seventieth year, with a reputation unsullied, an eye undimmed, and a natural force which, though abated, is still strong; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That we recognize with gratitude the hand of God in prolonging the life and preserving the health, the mind, and the fair fame of our venerable superintendent.

Resolved, 2. That Bishop Morris is hereby respectfully requested to preach before the Conference, at some period convenient for him, a discourse noting the progress of the Church during his past ministerial life, with such observations and counsels as the review may suggest to him.

Motion to assign seats to members of Conference.

Benjamin F. Crary moved that the sittings in the Conference room be assigned to the respective delegations by lot.

Laid on table.

On motion of Charles A. Holmes, this motion was laid on the table.

The American flag to be raised over the church.

On motion of James B. Corrington, the trustees of this church were requested to display the flag of the United States over the building during the sessions of this body. This motion was adopted unanimously by a rising vote.

On motion of Thomas Carlton, the session was extended.

Fast-day appointed.

Granville Moody moved that next Friday be set apart as a day of fasting and prayer to Almighty God on behalf of our country in this hour of her peril, and that the occasion be observed by appropriate religious services morning, afternoon, and evening in the several Methodist Churches in this city, and that our people throughout the country be requested to observe similar services on that day in their several places of religious worship.

Motion to refer.

Kasimir P. Jarvis moved to refer the matter to the Committee on the State of the Country, which motion was, on motion of William H. Olin, laid on the table.

Motion to lay on table.

Kasimir P. Jarvis then moved to lay the motion on the table till to-morrow; but the motion to lay on the table did not prevail, and the original motion was adopted.

On motion of Granville Moody, a committee of three was ordered to make necessary arrangements for the Fast-day services.

Nathan Shumate stated that Dr. Elliott had a beautiful flag presented to him by the loyal ladies of St. Louis, and moved that it be suspended in the church during the deliberations of this body, and the motion prevailed.

The Secretary nominated four assistant secretaries, as follows, namely: George W. Woodruff, of New York East Conference; Henry Brownscombe, of Wyoming Conference; Israel C. Pershing, of Pittsburgh Conference; and James Hill, of Indiana Conference; and they were elected.

Israel C. Pershing declined serving, whereupon he was excused, and Kasimir P. Jarvis, of East Genesee Conference, was elected in his stead.

On motion, Conference adjourned.

The Doxology was sung, after which the Benediction was pronounced by Benjamin F. Crary.

May 2.

FIRST DAY.

Morning.

Committee of Arrangements ordered.

Dr. Elliott's flag to be suspended in the church.

Assistant secretaries nominated.

Conference adjourned.

MONDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 2.

Afternoon.

Conference met at three o'clock, pursuant to adjournment, Bishop Janes in the chair.

Opening Conference.

Religious services, consisting of reading the Scriptures, singing, and prayer, were conducted by John Lanahan.

The roll was called in the order of conferences, and a quorum being present, Conference proceeded to business.

Roll called.

On motion of the Secretary, the reading of the Journal was postponed till to-morrow morning.

Reading of Journal deferred.

On motion of James Hill, the order of business was suspended to enable the Conference to appoint the standing committees.

Nominations were then made and confirmed as follows, namely:

Standing Committees appointed.

COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY.

Episcopacy.

Joseph M. Trimble, *Ch'n*, Ohio.

Thomas M. Eddy, *Sec'y*, Rock River.

Nicholas J. B. Morgan, Baltimore.

May 2.
FIRST DAY.
Afternoon.

James Erwin,	Black River.
Isaac Owen,	California.
Richard Haney,	Central Illinois.
William L. Harris,	Central Ohio.
William Young,	Cincinnati.
Thomas C. Gardner,	Detroit.
J. M'K. Reiley,	East Baltimore.
Freeborn G. Hibbard,	East Genesec.
Albert Church,	East Maine.
Moses Hill,	Erie.
Thomas Carlton,	Genesec.
William H. H. Moore,	Illinois.
James H. Noble,	Indiana.
Charles Elliott,	Iowa.
Hugh D. Fisher,	Kansas.
Isaac F. Harrison,	Kentucky.
George Webber,	Maine.
Thomas H. Sinex,	Michigan.
Benjamin F. Crary,	Minnesota.
Nathan Shumate,	Missouri and Arkansas.
Henry T. Davis,	Nebraska.
Jonathan T. Crane,	Newark.
David Sherman,	New England.
Elisha Adams,	New Hampshire.
Samuel Y. Monroe,	New Jersey.
Randolph S. Foster,	New York.
Daniel Curry,	New York East.
William H. Goode,	North Indiana.
Henry Whiteman,	North Ohio.
Aaron Wood,	Northwest Indiana.
Chauncey Hobart,	Northwest Wisconsin.
Daniel W. Bristol,	Oneida.
James H. Wilbur,	Oregon.
Joseph Castle,	Philadelphia.
Charles A. Holmes,	Pittsburgh.
Daniel Wise,	Providence.
Williamson Terrill,	Southeastern Indiana.
James B. Corrington,	Southern Illinois.
Desevignia Starks,	Troy.
Horatio W. Houghton,	Upper Iowa.
Andes T. Bullard,	Vermont.
Sanford Haines,	Western Iowa.

James Drummond,	Western Virginia.
Matthew Bennett,	West Wisconsin.
Henry Bannister,	Wisconsin.
George Peck,	Wyoming.

May 2.
FIRST DAY.
Afternoon.

COMMITTEE ON ITINERANCY.

Itinerancy.

John M. Reid, <i>Chairman</i> ,	East Genesee.
Alexander Nelson, <i>Sec.</i> ,	Central Ohio.
John Lanahan,	Baltimore.
John B. Foote,	Black River.
Jesse T. Peck,	California.
William H. Hunter,	Central Illinois.
Granville Moody,	Cincinnati.
Seth Reed,	Detroit.
Thomas M. Reese,	East Baltimore.
Lorenzo B. Wardwell,	East Maine.
Russell H. Hurlburt,	Erie.
Albert D. Wilbor,	Genesee.
Samson Shinn,	Illinois.
George W. Walker,	Indiana.
William F. Cowles,	Iowa.
Joseph Denison,	Kansas.
Lemuel M. Reeves,	Kentucky.
Charles F. Allen,	Maine.
Henry Penfield,	Michigan.
Jabez Brooks,	Minnesota.
Samuel Huffman,	Missouri and Arkansas.
Jason G. Miller,	Nebraska.
Alexander L. Brice,	Newark.
John H. Twombly,	New England.
James Pike,	New Hampshire.
Charles H. Whitecar,	New Jersey.
Lucius H. King,	New York.
Edwin E. Griswold,	New York East.
Reuben D. Robinson,	North Indiana.
Jacob Rothweiler,	North Ohio.
Aaron Wood,	Northwest Indiana.
Thomas C. Golden,	Northwest Wisconsin.
Barzillai N. Spahr,	Ohio.
Albert S. Graves,	Oneida.
James H. Wilbur,	Oregon.
David W. Bartine,	Philadelphia.

May 2.
FIRST DAY.
Afternoon.

Samuel H. Nesbit,	Pittsburgh.
Samuel C. Brown,	Providence.
Samuel A. W. Jewett,	Rock River.
Giles C. Smith,	Southeastern Indiana.
Philip Kuhl,	Southern Illinois.
William Griffin,	Troy.
Richard W. Keeler,	Upper Iowa.
David B. M'Kenzie,	Vermont.
David N. Smith,	Western Iowa.
James Drummond,	Western Virginia.
James Lawson,	West Wisconsin.
Caleb B. Pillsbury,	Wisconsin.
Reuben Nelson,	Wyoming.

Boundaries.

COMMITTEE ON BOUNDARIES.

Richard Haney, <i>Ch'n</i> ,	Central Illinois.
William M'K. Hester, <i>Sec</i> ,	Indiana.
Elisha P. Phelps,	Baltimore.
Lafayette D. White,	Black River.
Henry C. Benson,	California.
Leonard B. Gurley,	Central Ohio.
William Young,	Cincinnati.
James S. Smart,	Detroit.
William Harden,	East Baltimore.
John M. Reid,	East Genesee.
Lorenzo D. Wardwell,	East Maine.
William F. Wilson,	Erie.
Albert D. Wilbor,	Genesee.
Robert E. Guthrie,	Illinois.
Thomas E. Corkhill,	Iowa.
Hugh D. Fisher,	Kansas.
Lemuel M. Reeves,	Kentucky.
Henry M. Blake,	Maine.
Horace Hall,	Michigan.
Daniel Cobb,	Minnesota.
Nathan Shumate,	Missouri and Arkansas.
Henry T. Davis,	Nebraska.
Stacey W. Hilliard,	Newark.
Ralph W. Allen,	New England.
Albert C. Manson,	New Hampshire.
Abraham K. Street,	New Jersey.
William H. Ferris,	New York.

Daniel Curry,	New York East.
Orange V. Lemon,	North Indiana.
George W. Breckenridge,	North Ohio.
George M. Boyd,	Northwest Indiana.
Thomas C. Golden,	Northwest Wisconsin.
Joseph M. Trimble,	Ohio.
John T. Wright,	Oneida.
Thomas H. Pearne,	Oregon.
Joseph Mason,	Philadelphia.
David L. Dempsey,	Pittsburgh.
William H. Richards,	Providence.
George L. Mulfinger,	Rock River.
Williamson Terrill,	Southeastern Indiana.
Alfred B. Nisbet,	Southern Illinois.
Stephen D. Brown,	Troy.
Alpha J. Kynett,	Upper Iowa.
Andes T. Bullard,	Vermont.
David N. Smith,	Western Iowa.
John W. Reger,	Western Virginia.
James Lawson,	West Wisconsin.
Samuel C. Thomas,	Wisconsin.
Henry Brownscombe,	Wyoming.

May 2.
FIRST DAY.
Afternoon.

COMMITTEE ON THE BOOK CONCERN.

Book Concern.

Charles B. Tippet, <i>Ch'n</i> ,	East Baltimore.
Benjamin F. Crary, <i>Sec'y</i> ,	Minnesota.
Nicholas J. B. Morgan,	Baltimore.
Isaac S. Bingham,	Black River.
Isaac Owen,	California.
William H. Hunter,	Central Illinois.
Thomas H. Wilson,	Central Ohio.
Granville Moody,	Cincinnati.
Elijah H. Pilcher,	Detroit.
William H. Goodwin,	East Genesee.
Lorenzo B. Wardwell,	East Maine.
Calvin Kingsley,	Erie.
Albert D. Wilbor,	Genesee.
Robert E. Gathrie,	Illinois.
William M'K. Hester,	Indiana.
Charles Elliott,	Iowa.
Joseph Denison,	Kansas.
Isaac F. Harrison,	Kentucky.

May 2.
FIRST DAY.
Afternoon.

Joseph Colby,	Maine.
Francis B. Bangs,	Michigan.
Samuel Huffman,	Missouri and Arkansas.
Jason G. Miller,	Nebraska.
Stacey W. Hilliard,	Newark.
Ralph W. Allen,	New England.
Elisha Adams,	New Hampshire.
Samuel Y. Monroe,	New Jersey.
John W. Lindsay,	New York.
Edwin E. Griswold,	New York East.
Orange V. Lemon,	North Indiana.
Edward Thomson,	North Ohio.
John L. Smith,	Northwest Indiana.
Thomas C. Golden,	Northwest Wisconsin.
Joseph M. Trimble,	Ohio.
Daniel A. Whedon,	Oneida.
Thomas H. Pearne,	Oregon.
William M'Combs,	Philadelphia.
Isaac N. Baird,	Pittsburgh.
Samuel C. Brown,	Providence.
Samuel A. W. Jewett,	Rock River.
Thomas H. Lynch,	Southeastern Indiana.
Philip Kuhl,	Southern Illinois.
Joseph E. King,	Troy.
Horatio W. Houghton,	Upper Iowa.
Putnam P. Ray,	Vermont.
David N. Smith,	Western Iowa.
James Drummond,	Western Virginia.
Matthew Bennett,	West Wisconsin.
Samuel C. Thomas,	Wisconsin.
Reuben Nelson,	Wyoming.

Slavery.

COMMITTEE ON SLAVERY.

Benjamin F. Crary, <i>Ch'n</i> ,	Minnesota.
Daniel Wise, <i>Sec'y</i> ,	Providence.
Elisha P. Phelps,	Baltimore.
Eli C. Bruce,	Black River.
Henry C. Benson,	California.
Andrew Magee,	Central Illinois.
Alexander Nelson,	Central Ohio.
Mighill Dustin,	Cincinnati.
James S. Smart,	Detroit.

Jacob S. M'Murray,	East Baltimore.
Freeborn G. Hibbard,	East Genesee.
George D. Strout,	East Maine.
Richard A. Caruthers,	Erie.
James M. Fuller,	Genesee.
James P. Dimmitt,	Illinois.
James H. Noble,	Indiana.
Thomas E. Corkhill,	Iowa.
Joseph Denison,	Kansas.
Lemuel M. Reeves,	Kentucky.
Joseph Colby,	Maine.
Henry Penfield,	Michigan.
Nathan Shumate,	Missouri and Arkansas.
Henry T. Davis,	Nebraska.
Nicholas Vansant,	Newark.
John H. Twombly,	New England.
James Thurston,	New Hampshire.
Abraham K. Street,	New Jersey.
Paul R. Brown,	New York.
Robert M. Hatfield,	New York East.
John V. R. Miller,	North Indiana.
George W. Breckenridge,	North Ohio.
George M. Boyd,	Northwest Indiana.
Thomas C. Golden,	Northwest Wisconsin.
Barzillai N. Spahr,	Ohio.
Edward G. Andrews,	Oneida.
Thomas H. Pearne,	Oregon.
George Barton,	Philadelphia.
David L. Dempsey,	Pittsburgh.
William T. Harlow,	Rock River.
Williamson Terrill,	Southeastern Indiana.
Alfred B. Nisbet,	Southern Illinois.
Oren Gregg,	Troy.
George Clifford,	Upper Iowa.
William D. Malcom,	Vermont.
Sanford Haines,	Western Iowa.
John W. Reger,	Western Virginia.
James Lawson,	West Wisconsin.
Caleb D. Pillsbury,	Wisconsin.
Horatio R. Clark,	Wyoming.

May 2.
FIRST DAY.
Afternoon.

May 2.
FIRST DAY.
Afternoon.
Missions.

COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

William H. Goode, <i>Ch'n</i> ,	North Indiana.
Isaac W. Wiley, <i>Sec'y</i> ,	Newark.
John Lanahan,	Baltimore.
Gardner Baker,	Black River.
Henry C. Benson,	California.
Andrew Magee,	Central Illinois.
William L. Harris,	Central Ohio.
William Nast,	Cincinnati.
Seth Reed,	Detroit.
George D. Chenoweth,	East Baltimore.
Augustus C. George,	East Genesee.
Lorenzo D. Wardwell,	East Maine.
Moses Hill,	Erie.
Thomas Carlton,	Genesee.
Asa S. M'Coy,	Illinois.
James Hill,	Indiana.
William F. Cowles,	Iowa.
Joseph Denison,	Kansas.
Lemuel M. Reeves,	Kentucky.
Henry M. Blake,	Maine.
Francis B. Bangs,	Michigan.
Henry Roth,	Minnesota.
James Shumate,	Missouri and Arkansas.
Henry T. Davis,	Nebraska.
Miner Raymond,	New England.
James Thurston,	New Hampshire.
William E. Perry,	New Jersey.
Morris D'C. Crawford,	New York.
Robert M. Hatfield,	New York East.
Adam Poe,	North Ohio.
John L. Smith,	Northwest Indiana.
Chauncey Hobart,	Northwest Wisconsin.
Augustine M. Alexander,	Ohio.
William H. Olin,	Oneida.
James H. Wilbur,	Oregon.
John P. Durbin,	Philadelphia.
Charles A. Holmes,	Pittsburgh.
David Patten,	Providence.
Luke Hitchcock,	Rock River.
John H. Barth,	Southeastern Indiana.

Nelson E. Cobleigh,	Southern Illinois.
Stephen D. Brown,	Troy.
George Clifford,	Upper Iowa.
David B. M'Kenzie,	Vermont.
Sanford Haines,	Western Iowa.
John W. Reger,	Western Virginia.
James Lawson,	West Wisconsin.
Henry Bannister,	Wisconsin.
Horatio R. Clark,	Wyoming.

May 2.
FIRST DAY.
Afternoon.

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

Education.

Frederick Merrick, <i>Ch'n</i> ,	Ohio.
Jabez Brooks, <i>Sec'y</i> ,	Minnesota.
N. J. B. Morgan,	Baltimore.
John W. Armstrong,	Black River.
Jesse T. Peck,	California.
Oliver S. Munsell,	Central Illinois.
Alexander Nelson,	Central Ohio.
Lorenzo D. M'Cabe,	Cincinnati.
Thomas C. Gardner,	Detroit.
Benjamin B. Hamlin,	East Baltimore.
John M. Reid,	East Genesee.
Albert Church,	East Maine.
Calvin Kingsley,	Erie.
John B. Wentworth,	Genesee.
Asa S. M'Coy,	Illinois.
Wm. M'K. Hester,	Indiana.
Charles Elliott,	Iowa.
Joseph Denison,	Kansas.
Isaac F. Harrison,	Kentucky.
Charles F. Allen,	Maine.
Thomas H. Sinex,	Michigan.
Samuel Huffman,	Missouri and Arkansas.
Jason G. Miller,	Nebraska.
Isaac W. Wiley,	Newark.
Joseph Cummings,	New England.
Albert C. Manson,	New Hampshire.
Abraham K. Street,	New Jersey.
Davis W. Clark,	New York.
Benjamin Pilsbury,	New York East.
Reuben D. Robinson,	North Indiana.
Adam Poe,	North Ohio.

May 2.
FIRST DAY.
Afternoon.

Aaron Wood,	Northwest Indiana.
Chauncey Hobart,	Northwest Wisconsin.
Albert S. Graves,	Oneida.
Thomas H. Pearne,	Oregon.
James Cunningham,	Philadelphia.
Israel C. Pershing,	Pittsburgh.
David Patten,	Providence.
William B. Harlow,	Rock River.
Giles C. Smith,	Southeastern Indiana.
Nelson E. Cobleigh,	Southern Illinois.
Bostwick Hawley,	Troy.
Richard W. Keeler,	Upper Iowa.
William D. Malcom,	Vermont.
Sanford Haines,	Western Iowa.
James L. Clark,	Western Virginia.
Matthew Bennett,	West Wisconsin.
Henry Bannister,	Wisconsin.
Reuben Nelson,	Wyoming.

Lay Delegation.

COMMITTEE ON LAY DELEGATION.

Edward Thomson, <i>Ch'n</i> ,	North Ohio.
Henry C. Benson, <i>Sec'y</i> ,	California.
Elisha P. Phelps,	Baltimore.
Lafayette D. White,	Black River.
Richard Haney,	Central Illinois.
Leonard B. Gurley,	Central Ohio.
Mighill Dustin,	Cincinnati.
William E. Bigelow,	Detroit.
William Hardin,	East Baltimore.
Sylvester Congdon,	East Genesee.
Albert Church,	East Maine.
Niram Norton,	Erie.
James M. Fuller,	Genesee.
Samson Shinn,	Illinois.
James Hall,	Indiana.
Thomas E. Corkhill,	Iowa.
Hugh D. Fisher,	Kansas.
Lemuel M. Reeves,	Kentucky.
George Webber,	Maine.
Horace Hall,	Michigan.
Daniel Cobb,	Minnesota.
Nathan Shumate,	Missouri and Arkansas.

Henry T. Davis,	Nebraska.
Stacey W. Hilliard,	Newark.
James Porter,	New England.
James Thurston,	New Hampshire.
Samuel Y. Monroe,	New Jersey.
Randolph S. Foster,	New York.
John Miley,	New York East.
John V. R. Miller,	North Indiana.
Jacob M. Stallard,	Northwest Indiana.
Thomas C. Golden,	Northwest Wisconsin.
John W. White,	Ohio.
Edward G. Andrews,	Oneida.
James H. Wilbur,	Oregon.
Adam Wallace,	Philadelphia.
William A. Davidson,	Pittsburgh.
William H. Richards,	Providence.
Thomas M. Eddy,	Rock River.
Giles C. Smith,	Southeastern Indiana.
Alfred B. Nisbet,	Southern Illinois.
Bostwick Hawley,	Troy.
Horatio W. Houghton,	Upper Iowa.
Putnam P. Ray,	Vermont.
Sanford Haines,	Western Iowa.
James L. Clark,	Western Virginia.
Matthew Bennett,	West Wisconsin.
Matthias Himebaugh,	Wisconsin.
George Peck,	Wyoming.

May 2.
FIRST DAY.
Afternoon.

ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS AND TRACT CAUSE.

James Porter, <i>Ch'n</i> ,	New England.
O. S. Munsell, <i>Sec'y</i> ,	Central Illinois.
Elisha P. Phelps,	Baltimore.
John B. Foote,	Black River.
Isaac Owen,	California.
Thomas H. Wilson,	Central Ohio,
Moses Smith,	Cincinnati.
Elijah H. Pilcher,	Detroit.
George D. Chenoweth,	East Baltimore.
William H. Goodwin,	East Genesee.
George D. Strout,	East Maine.
Richard A. Caruthers,	Erie.
Thomas Carlton,	Genesee.

Sunday-Schools
and Tracts.

May 2.
FIRST DAY.
Afternoon.

Henry F. Koeneke,	Illinois.
George W. Walker,	Indiana.
William F. Cowles,	Iowa.
Joseph Denison,	Kansas.
Isaac F. Harrison,	Kentucky.
Henry M. Blake,	Maine.
Horace Hall,	Michigan.
Daniel Cobb,	Minnesota.
Samuel Huffman,	Missouri and Arkansas.
Jason G. Miller,	Nebraska.
Alexander L. Brice,	Newark.
Albert C. Manson,	New Hampshire.
Charles H. Whitecar,	New Jersey.
Joseph B. Wakeley,	New York.
George W. Woodruff,	New York East.
Reuben D. Robinson,	North Indiana.
Henry Whiteman,	North Ohio.
Jacob M. Stallard,	Northwest Indiana.
Chauncey Hobart,	Northwest Wisconsin.
Augustine M. Alexander,	Ohio.
John T. Wright,	Oneida.
James H. Wilbur,	Oregon.
Adam Wallace,	Philadelphia.
Isaac N. Baird,	Pittsburgh.
Daniel Wise,	Providence.
William F. Stewart,	Rock River.
John H. Barth,	Southeastern Indiana.
Alfred B. Nisbet,	Southern Illinois.
Bostwick Hawley,	Troy.
Henry Fiegenbaum,	Upper Iowa.
David B. M'Kenzie,	Vermont.
David N. Smith,	Western Iowa.
James L. Clark,	Western Virginia.
James Lawson,	West Wisconsin.
Samuel C. Thomas,	Wisconsin.
Reuben Nelson,	Wyoming.

Revisals.

COMMITTEE ON REVISALS.

Davis W. Clark, <i>Ch'n</i> ,	New York.
Samuel C. Brown, <i>Sec'y</i> ,	Providence.
John Lanahan,	Baltimore.
John W. Armstrong,	Black River.

Jesse T. Peck,	California.
Oliver S. Munsell,	Central Illinois.
Thomas H. Wilson,	Central Ohio.
Moses Smith,	Cincinnati.
William E. Bigelow,	Detroit.
Jacob S. M'Murray,	East Baltimore.
Kasimir P. Jervis,	East Genesee.
George D. Strout,	East Maine.
Niram Norton,	Eric.
James M. Fuller,	Genesee.
William H. H. Moore,	Illinois.
George W. Walker,	Indiana.
Charles Elliott,	Iowa.
Joseph Denison,	Kansas.
Lemuel M. Reeves,	Kentucky.
George Webber,	Maine.
Francis B. Bangs,	Michigan.
Jabez Brooks,	Minnesota.
Daniel Huffiman,	Missouri and Arkansas.
Henry T. Davis,	Nebraska.
Nicholas Vansant,	Newark.
Miner Raymond,	New England.
James Pike,	New Hampshire.
William E. Perry,	New Jersey.
John Miley,	New York East.
William H. Goode,	North Indiana.
Henry Whiteman,	North Ohio.
John L. Smith,	Northwest Indiana.
Chauncey Hobart,	Northwest Wisconsin.
Frederick Merrick,	Ohio.
Daniel W. Bristol,	Oneida.
Thomas H. Pearne,	Oregon.
James Cunningham,	Philadelphia.
William A. Davidson,	Pittsburgh.
Luke Hitchcock,	Rock River.
Thomas H. Lynch,	Southeastern Indiana.
James B. Corrington,	Southern Illinois.
William Griffin,	Troy.
Alpha J. Kynett,	Upper Iowa.
Putnam P. Ray,	Vermont.
Sanford Haines,	Western Iowa.
James L. Clark,	Western Virginia.

May 2.
FIRST DAY.
Afternoon.

May 2.
FIRST DAY.
Afternoon.

Matthew Bennett,	West Wisconsin.
Matthias Himebaugh,	Wisconsin.
Horatio R. Clark,	Wyoming.

German Work.

COMMITTEE ON THE GERMAN WORK.

George Peck, <i>Ch'n</i> ,	Wyoming.
Israel C. Pershing, <i>Sec'y</i> ,	Pittsburgh.
Nicholas J. B. Morgan,	Baltimore.
Eli C. Bruce,	Black River.
Isaac Owen,	California:
Andrew Magee,	Central Illinois.
Alexander Nelson,	Central Ohio.
William Nast,	Cincinnati.
James S. Smart,	Detroit.
Benjamin B. Hamlin,	East Baltimore.
Kasimir P. Jervis,	East Genesee.
Albert Church,	East Maine.
James W. Lowe,	Erie.
Thomas Carlton,	Genesee.
Henry Bennett,	Illinois.
James H. Noble,	Indiana.
William F. Cowles,	Iowa.
Hugh D. Fisher,	Kansas.
Lemuel M. Reeves,	Kentucky.
Charles F. Allen,	Maine.
Thomas H. Sinex,	Michigan.
Henry Roth,	Minnesota.
Nathan Shumate,	Missouri and Arkansas.
Jason G. Miller,	Nebraska.
Isaac W. Wiley,	Newark.
David Sherman,	New England.
Elisha Adams,	New Hampshire.
William E. Perry,	New Jersey.
John W. Lindsay,	New York.
John Miley,	New York East.
John V. R. Miller,	North Indiana.
Jacob Rothweiler,	North Ohio.
Aaron Wood,	Northwest Indiana.
Chauncey Hobart,	Northwest Wisconsin.
John W. White,	Ohio.
William H. Olin,	Oneida.
James H. Wilbur,	Oregon.

Joseph Mason,	Philadelphia.
William H. Richards,	Providence.
George L. Mulfinger,	Rock River.
John H. Barth,	Southeastern Indiana.
Philip Kuhl,	Southern Illinois.
Oren Gregg,	Troy.
Henry Fiegenbaum,	Upper Iowa.
William D. Malcom,	Vermont.
David N. Smith,	Western Iowa.
John W. Reger,	Western Virginia.
James Lawson,	West Wisconsin.
Matthias Himebaugh,	Wisconsin.

May 2.
FIRST DAY.
Afternoon.

COMMITTEE ON THE STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

State of the
Country.

Joseph Cummings, <i>Ch'n</i> ,	New England.
Granville Moody, <i>Sec'y</i> ,	Cincinnati.
John Lanahan,	Baltimore.
Isaac S. Bingham,	Black River.
Jesse T. Peck,	California.
Oliver S. Munsell,	Central Illinois.
Leonard B. Gurley,	Central Ohio.
Thomas C. Gardner,	Detroit.
Thomas M. Reese,	East Baltimore.
Augustus C. George,	East Genesee.
George D. Strout,	East Maine.
James W. Lowe,	Erie.
John B. Wentworth,	Genesee.
Asa S. M'Coy,	Illinois.
George W. Walker,	Indiana.
William F. Cowles,	Iowa.
Hugh D. Fisher,	Kansas.
Lemuel M. Reeves,	Kentucky.
Joseph Colby,	Maine.
Thomas H. Sinex,	Michigan.
Daniel Cobb,	Minnesota.
Samuel Huffiman,	Missouri and Arkansas.
Jason G. Miller,	Nebraska.
Nicholas Vansant,	Newark.
James Pike,	New Hampshire.
Charles H. Whitecar,	New Jersey.
Joseph B. Wakeley,	New York.
George W. Woodruff,	New York East.

May 2.
FIRST DAY.
Afternoon.

Orange V. Lemon,	North Indiana.
Edward Thomson,	North Ohio.
George M. Boyd,	Northwest Indiana.
Chauncey Hobart,	Northwest Wisconsin.
John W. White,	Ohio.
William H. Olin,	Oneida.
Thomas H. Pearne,	Oregon.
William M'Combs,	Philadelphia.
James Henderson,	Pittsburgh.
David Patten,	Providence.
William F. Stewart,	Rock River.
Giles C. Smith,	Southeastern Indiana.
Nelson E. Cobleigh,	Southern Illinois.
Joseph E. King,	Troy.
Richard W. Keeler,	Upper Iowa.
William D. Malcom,	Vermont.
Sanford Haines,	Western Iowa.
John W. Reger,	Western Virginia.
James Lawson,	West Wisconsin.
Caleb D. Pillsbury,	Wisconsin.
Horatio R. Clark,	Wyoming.

Appeals.

COMMITTEE ON APPEALS.

One of the Bishops, <i>Ch'n.</i>	
One of the Secretar's, <i>Sec'y.</i>	
Nicholas J. B. Morgan,	Baltimore.
Gardner Baker,	Black River.
Henry C. Benson,	California.
William H. Hunter,	Central Illinois.
Thomas H. Wilson,	Central Ohio.
Lorenzo D. M'Cabe,	Cincinnati.
William E. Bigelow,	Detroit.
Charles B. Tippet,	East Baltimore.
Sylvester L. Congdon,	East Genesee.
Albert Church,	East Maine.
William F. Wilson,	Erie.
John B. Wentworth,	Genesee.
James P. Dimmitt,	Illinois.
James Hill,	Indiana.
Thomas E. Corkhill,	Iowa.
Hugh D. Fisher,	Kansas.
Isaac F. Harrison,	Kentucky.

George Webber,	Maine.
Henry Penfield,	Michigan.
Jabez Brooks,	Minnesota.
Nathan Shumate,	Missouri and Arkansas.
Jason G. Miller,	Nebraska.
Jonathan T. Crane,	Newark.
Joseph Cummings,	New England.
James Pike,	New Hampshire.
William E. Perry,	New Jersey.
Paul R. Brown,	New York.
Benjamin Pillsbury,	New York East.
John V. R. Miller,	North Indiana.
George W. Breckenridge,	North Ohio.
Jacob M. Stallard,	Northwest Indiana.
Thomas C. Golden,	Northwest Wisconsin.
Augustine M. Alexander,	Ohio.
Daniel A. Whedon,	Oneida.
James H. Wilbur,	Oregon.
David W. Bartine,	Philadelphia.
Samuel H. Nesbit,	Pittsburgh.
David Patten,	Providence.
William F. Stewart,	Rock River.
Thomas H. Lynch,	Southeastern Indiana.
James B. Corrington,	Southern Illinois.
Desevignia Starks,	Troy.
Alpha J. Kynett,	Upper Iowa.
Andes T. Bullard,	Vermont.
David N. Smith,	Western Iowa.
James L. Clark,	Western Virginia.
Matthew Bennett,	West Wisconsin.
Caleb B. Pillsbury,	Wisconsin.
Henry Brownscombe,	Wyoming.

May 2.
FIRST DAY.
Afternoon.

A motion by John M. Reid, to meet at eight o'clock this evening for the purpose of organizing the committees, was laid on the table, on motion of Ralph W. Allen, by a vote of 102 to 68.

On motion, Conference adjourned.

After the Doxology was sung, the Benediction was pronounced by William H. Goode.

May 3.

SECOND DAY.

Morning.

TUESDAY MORNING, MAY 3.

The Conference assembled at half past eight o'clock A.M., Bishop Simpson in the chair.

Opening of Conference.

The religious services, consisting of reading the fifth chapter of Matthew, singing, and prayer, were conducted by John W. Armstrong, of the Black River Conference.

Calling of Roll dispensed with.

On motion of James M. Fuller, the calling of the roll was dispensed with for the remainder of the session unless otherwise ordered.

Journal read and approved.

The Journal of yesterday's morning session was read and approved.

The Journal of the afternoon session was read and approved.

On motion of Elijah H. Pilcher, the order of business was suspended to enable the Committee on Rules of Order to report.

Committee on Rules of Order reported.

The committee presented their report.

Amendment adopted.

A motion was made to adopt the report; whereupon Lucius H. King moved that the words "in his place" be stricken out from the tenth rule.

The amendment prevailed by a vote of 124 to 57.

Jonathan T. Crane moved to add to the thirteenth rule the words, "when a motion is lost by a tie vote, a motion to reconsider must come from the negative."

Subject laid on the table to receive the British Delegates.

On motion of Isaac N. Baird, the whole subject was laid on the table, to take up the order of the day, namely: The reception of delegates from the British and Irish Conferences.

John P. Durbin, Chairman of the Committee of Reception, now introduced Rev. W. L. Thornton, M.A., Delegate from the British Conference, to Bishop Morris, who introduced him to the other bishops and the Conference.

Rev. Robinson Scott, D.D., Delegate from the Irish Conference, was introduced in the same form.

Rev. Mr. Thornton presented the Address of the British Conference, which was read by the Secretary. [For Address, see *Appendix B, I.*]

Rev. Mr. Thornton then addressed the Conference.
[See *Appendix B*, X.]

May 3.
SECOND DAY.
Morning.

The following resolutions, signed by Edward Thomson and Lucius H. King, were then adopted, namely:

Resolved, 1. That we have listened with profound pleasure and sympathy to the address of the British Conference and to the supplementary discourse of the Rev. W. L. Thornton, M.A., the delegate from that body.

Resolutions relating to British Delegate.

Resolved, 2. That the address of the British Conference be referred to a select committee of five to draft a reply.

Resolved, 3. That we extend to the Rev. Mr. Thornton our most cordial Christian greetings, and tender him our hearty thanks for his able address, so full of sound sentiment, touching the great interests of our Church and country.

Resolved, 4. That Rev. Mr. Thornton be requested to furnish for publication a copy of his eloquent address to this body,

Rev. Dr. Scott presented the address of the Irish Conference, and also a letter from the College Committee and President of the Irish Conference commissioning Dr. Scott "to devote himself to the completion of the fund for the increase of Wesleyan Agency in Ireland." [See *Appendix B*, III and IV.]

After they were read, on motion of Daniel Curry, an address from Dr. Scott to this body was made a special order for to-morrow morning, ten o'clock.

Kasimir P. Jervis moved that when Conference adjourns it shall be to meet at three o'clock P. M.

Samuel H. Nesbit moved to amend by inserting two and a half instead of three, which amendment, on motion of James S. Smart, was laid on the table, and the original motion prevailed.

The report of Committee on Rules was then taken up. Daniel Curry offered as a substitute for the pending amendment of Jonathan T. Crane the following: "It shall be in order for any member voting with the prevailing side to move a reconsideration," which substitute was adopted.

Report of Committee on Rules resumed.

Rule No. 13 as thus amended was adopted, and the report as a whole was then adopted, as follows:

RULES.

1. The Conference shall meet at eight and a half o'clock A. M., and adjourn at twelve M.; but may alter the time of meeting and adjournment at their discretion.

2. The President shall take the chair precisely at the hour to which the Conference stood adjourned, and cause the same to be opened by the reading of the Scriptures, singing, and prayer; and on the appearance of a quorum of "two thirds of the representatives

Rules of Order.

May 3.
SECOND DAY.
Morning.

of all the annual conferences," shall have the Journals of the preceding session read and approved, and the business of the Conference shall proceed in the following order, namely:

(1.) Petitions, Memorials, and Appeals; in calling for which the Annual Conferences shall be named in alphabetical order.

(2.) Reports, first of the standing, and then of the select committees.

(3.) Miscellaneous business.

3. The President shall decide all questions of order subject to an appeal to the Conference; but in case of such appeal the question shall be taken without debate.

4. He shall appoint all committees not otherwise specially ordered by the Conference.

5. On assigning the floor to any member of the Conference he shall distinctly announce the name of the member to whom it is assigned, and the Conference he represents.

6. All motions or resolutions introduced by any member shall be reduced to writing, if the President, Secretary, or any two members request it.

7. When a motion or resolution is made and seconded, or a report presented, and is read by the Secretary or stated by the President, it shall be deemed in possession of the Conference; but any motion or resolution may be withdrawn by the mover at any time before amendment or decision.

8. All motions to postpone or to lay on the table shall be taken without debate.

9. No new motion or resolution shall be entertained until the one under consideration is disposed of, which may be done by adoption or rejection, unless one of the following motions should intervene, which motions shall have precedence in the order in which they are placed, namely: Indefinite postponement, laying on the table, reference to a committee, postponement to a given time, amendment or a substitute, which also may be amended.

10. When any member is about to speak in debate, or to deliver any matter to the Conference, he shall rise and respectfully address the President.

11. No member shall be interrupted when speaking, except by the President to call him to order when he departs from the question, or uses personalities or disrespectful language; but any member may call the attention of the President to the subject when he deems a speaker out of order, and any member may explain if he thinks himself misrepresented.

12. No person shall speak more than twice on the same question, nor more than fifteen minutes at one time, without leave of the Conference; nor shall any person speak more than once until every member choosing to speak shall have spoken.

13. When any motion or resolution shall have been acted upon by the Conference, it shall be in order for any member who voted with the prevailing side to move a reconsideration.

14. No member shall absent himself from the service of the Conference without leave, unless he is sick or unable to attend.

15. No member shall be allowed to vote on any question who is not within the bar at the time when such question is put by the President, except by leave of the Conference when such member has been necessarily absent.

16. Every member who is within the bar at the time the question is put shall give his vote, unless the Conference for special reasons excuse him.

17. No resolution altering or rescinding any rule of Discipline shall be adopted until it shall have been in the possession of the Conference at least one day.

18. It shall be in order for any member to call for the yeas and nays on any question before the Conference, and if the call be sustained by twenty-five members present, the vote thereon shall be taken by yeas and nays.

19. It shall be in order to move that the question be taken without further debate on any measure pending before the General Conference, except in cases in which character is involved; and if sustained by a vote of *two thirds*, the question shall be so taken.

20. A motion to adjourn shall always be in order, and shall be decided without debate.

The Secretary presented the certificates of delegates from the Kentucky Conference, namely: Lemuel M. Reeves and Isaac F. Harrison.

May 3.
SECOND DAY
Morning.

Delegates of Kentucky Conference take their seat.

On motion of Daniel Curry, Isaac F. Harrison was substituted for William A. Dotson on all the committees on which he had been appointed.

I. F. Harrison appointed on committees.

On motion of Davis W. Clark, it was ordered that nine members shall constitute a quorum of any standing committee.

Quorum of committees.

On motion of Reuben Nelson, it was ordered that the rules and the names of the several standing committees, when such committees shall have been organized, be printed in pamphlet form, and a copy be furnished to each member of the Conference.

Rules and committees to be printed in pamphlet form.

A motion, offered by Hugh D. Fisher, that eight be added to the Committee on Freedmen, and that the interests of the white refugees from the states in rebellion be submitted to such committee, did not prevail.

James M'Kendree Reiley moved that a committee of five be appointed, to be denominated the Committee on Colored Membership; pending the consideration of which the Conference adjourned by limitation of time.

Conference adjourned.

After the Doxology was sung, the Benediction was pronounced by Elijah H. Pilcher.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 3.

Afternoon.

Conference met at three o'clock, pursuant to adjournment, Bishop Scott in the chair.

Opening of session.

The religious services were conducted by Jesse T. Peck, of the California Conference.

The Journal of this morning was read and approved.

Journal read.

On motion of James S. Smart, the order of business was suspended.

May 3.
SECOND DAY.
Afternoon.

Joseph Mason submitted the following resolution, which was adopted, namely :

Committee on
Public Worship.

Resolved, That the presiding elders of the North and South Philadelphia Districts, and the pastors of the Union, St. George's, Fifth-street, Emory, Ebenezer, Wharton-street, and Kensington Churches, Philadelphia, and of the Third-street Church in Camden, be a Committee on Public Worship.

David Patten submitted the following resolution, namely :

Committee on
Centenary of
American
Methodism or-
dered.

Resolved, That a committee of seven be appointed to consider and report a plan for the appropriate observance of the approaching Centenary of American Methodism.

Samuel H. Nesbit moved to amend by constituting the committee of one from each delegation, which amendment, on motion of William H. Ferris, was laid on the table, and the resolution was adopted.

On motion of Elijah H. Pilcher, the following resolutions were adopted :

Instructing
committees
reporting
changes in the
Discipline.

Resolved, 1. That all committees reporting changes of Discipline recite not only the page, part, chapter, section, and line proposed to be amended, but also the amended paragraph complete..

Duplicates of
resolutions and
reports or-
dered.

Resolved, 2. That committees be and are hereby directed to furnish duplicates of their reports, and persons offering resolutions are requested to furnish duplicates of the same.

Standing Com-
mittees organ-
ized.

On motion of Jesse T. Peck, Conference proceeded to organize the Standing Committees.

Freborn G. Hibbard moved the adoption of the following resolution, namely :

Resolved, That when the standing Committees are announced they shall severally have leave to retire and organize by appointing a Chairman and Secretary, and report their organization to the Conference.

Alpha J. Kynett offered the following substitute, namely :

Resolved, That the list of standing Committees be called, and that a temporary chairman be appointed to call said committees together for permanent organization ;

which substitute was laid on the table, and the resolution was adopted.

Committee on
Episcopacy or-
ganized.

The Committee on Episcopacy retired, and organized by appointing Joseph M. Trimble Chairman, and Thomas M. Eddy Secretary.

On motion of Edwin E. Griswold, the action of the Conference relating to the organization of the Standing Committees was so far modified as to permit the Conference to proceed with its business during the absence of the committees.

The Committee on Itinerancy retired for the purpose of organization.

George D. Chenoweth offered the following resolution, which was adopted, namely:

Resolved, That any member of this body presenting any petition, memorial, or any other paper which should go to any one of the Standing Committees, he shall name the committee to which he would have it referred, and, if there be no objection, it shall be so referred without any vote being taken thereon.

On motion of the Secretary, the following resolutions were adopted, namely:

Resolved, That each member of this body, presenting memorials, petitions, and other papers for reference, shall prepare the paper by writing in a plain hand on the back of it the following items in the following order, namely:

1. Name of the member presenting the paper.
2. Conference from which it comes.
3. Pastoral charge of the Conference sending it.
4. Subject to which it relates.
5. First name on the petition.
6. Number of other petitioners.
7. The committee to which he desires it referred.

Resolved, That the foregoing resolution be published in connection with the Rules of Conference.

On motion of Elijah H. Pilcher, the vote suspending the order of business was reconsidered, and, on motion of Daniel Curry, was laid on the table.

The list of Conferences was then called for the presentation of petitions and memorials, and they were presented as follows:

CENTRAL ILLINOIS.

Oliver S. Munsell presented a petition from the Ministerial Association of La Salle District for District Conferences, signed by H. Ritchie and ten others, and it was referred to the Committee on Revisals.

EAST BALTIMORE.

Jacob S. M'Murray presented certain resolutions from the East Baltimore Conference relating to Bap-

May 3.

SECOND DAY.

Afternoon.

Order for organizing Standing Committees modified.

Method of referring documents.

Documents for reference to be prepared.

How prepared.

List of Conferences called.

CENTRAL ILLINOIS.

EAST BALTIMORE.

May 3.
SECOND DAY.
Afternoon.

tized Children, and they were referred to the Committee on Revisals.

MICHIGAN.

MICHIGAN CONFERENCE.

Thomas H. Sinex presented a memorial from Marshall District concerning District Conferences, and it was referred to the Committee on Revisals.

NEW ENGLAND.

NEW ENGLAND CONFERENCE.

Ralph W. Allen presented a resolution of the Quarterly Conference of Chester Station in favor of Extending the Time of Ministerial Service, and it was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

NEW YORK
EAST.

NEW YORK EAST CONFERENCE.

On motion of Daniel Curry, so much of the Journal as relates to Lay Delegation was referred to the Committee on that subject; and so much of the Journal of 1864 as relates to Boundaries was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

NORTH INDI-
ANA.

NORTH INDIANA CONFERENCE.

William H. Goode presented a resolution of the North Indiana Conference on Printing Hymn Books in Raised Letters for the Blind, and it was referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.

NORTHWEST
INDIANA.

NORTHWEST INDIANA CONFERENCE.

On motion of John L. Smith, so much of the Journal as relates to Lay Delegation was referred to the committee on that subject.

NORTHWEST
WISCONSIN.

NORTHWEST WISCONSIN CONFERENCE.

On motion of Chauncey Hobart, so much of the Journal as relates to the Extension of the Time of Ministerial Service was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

PROVIDENCE.

PROVIDENCE CONFERENCE.

On motion of Daniel Wise, so much of the Journal as relates to the Alteration of the Constitution of the

Sunday-School Union was referred to the Committee on Sunday-Schools and Tract Cause.

May 3.
SECOND DAY.
Afternoon.

ROCK RIVER CONFERENCE.

ROCK RIVER.

Luke Hitchcock presented a memorial from the editor of the Swedish paper in the Northwest in relation to sending two additional Missionaries to Sweden, and the publication of a religious paper in that country, and it was referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.

WYOMING CONFERENCE.

WYOMING.

On motion of Henry Brownscombe, so much of the Journal of 1864 as relates to Lay Delegation was referred to the committee on that subject.

On motion of John Miley, the bishops were respectfully requested to invite Charles Elliott and George Peck to occupy seats on the platform, and Bishop Scott, on behalf of himself and colleagues, extended to them the invitation.

Charles Elliott and George Peck invited to a seat on the platform.

Isaac Owen presented the appeal of William Willmot, of the California, and Desevignia Starks the appeal of Henry T. Johns, of the Troy Conference, and they were referred to the Committee on Appeals.

Appeals of Wm. Willmot,

H. T. Johns, and

Welcome Smith.

Henry Brownscombe presented the appeal of Welcome Smith, of the Wyoming Conference, but in consequence of the absence of the appellant he subsequently withdrew it.

Thomas Carlton moved that it is the sense of this Conference that no action ought to be taken in case of an appeal, unless the appellant be present either in person or by attorney.

Pending the consideration of this motion the Committee on Itinerancy came into Conference, and reported their organization by the appointment of John M. Reid Chairman, and Alexander Nelson Secretary.

Committee on Itinerancy organized.

Charles A. Holmes moved that the Conference do now adjourn, but the motion did not prevail.

The Committee on Boundaries retired with instructions to report their organization at the next session.

James Hill moved that when the Conference adjourn it shall be to meet at eight o'clock this evening, but the motion was lost by a vote of 55 to 97.

May 3.
SECOND DAY.
Afternoon.
Conference ad-
journed.

On motion, Conference adjourned.
After singing the Doxology, the Benediction was pronounced by David Patten.

May 4.
THIRD DAY.
Morning.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, MAY 4.

Conference met this morning, Bishop Baker in the chair.

Opening of Con-
ference.

The usual religious services were conducted by Richard Haney, of Central Illinois Conference.

Journal read
and approved.

The Journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Pastor of Ger-
man Church
added to Com-
mittee on Pub-
lic Worship.

On motion of Henry F. Koeneké, the pastor of the German Church in this city was added to the Committee on Public Worship.

Committee on
Boundaries re-
ported their
Officers.

The Committee on Boundaries reported their organization by the appointment of Richard Haney Chairman, and William M'K. Hester Secretary.

Visitors from
Canada intro-
duced.

Bishop Morris introduced to the Conference Rev. Bishop Richardson and Rev. Thomas Webster, of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada.

On motion of Daniel Curry, it was ordered that the standing committees, as they shall be severally called, have leave to retire for organization, except during the address of Dr. Scott, the Irish delegate, and that the Conference meanwhile proceed with the regular order of business.

Committee on
Book Concern
retired for Or-
ganization.

The Committee on the Book Concern was called, and retired for organization.

Delegate from
Nebraska Con-
ference arrived
and took his
seat.

Jason G. Miller, of Nebraska Conference, presented his certificate of election as a delegate to this body, and took his seat.

List of Confer-
ences called.

The Chair called the list of conferences for the presentation of petitions and memorials, and they were presented as follows, namely :

CALIFORNIA.

CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE.

On motion of Henry C. Benson, so much of the Journal as relates to Lay Delegation was referred to the Committee on Lay Delegation ; so much as relates to the Extension of Time of Ministerial Service, to the Committee on the Itinerancy ; so much as relates to the Residence of a Bishop on the Pacific Coast, to the Committee on Episcopacy.

On motion of Jesse T. Peck, so much of the Journal as relates to a Conference in Nevada was referred to the Committee on Boundaries; and so much as relates to the California Christian Advocate, to the Committee on the Book Concern.

May 4.
THIRD DAY.
Morning.

CENTRAL ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.

CENTRAL ILLINOIS.

Richard Haney presented the appeal of Rumsey Smithson, and it was referred to the Committee on Appeals.

On motion of Oliver S. Munsell, so much of the Journal as relates to Lay Delegation was referred to the Committee on Lay Delegation; so much as relates to modification of the Presiding Elder's Office was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy; and so much as relates to a Swedish Paper to the Committee on the Book Concern. He also presented a memorial from La Salle District Ministerial Association, on the "mode of taking depositions," signed by Rev. H. Ritchie and ten others, and it was referred to the Committee on Revisals; and a memorial from La Salle Station, asking a change of Conference Boundaries, signed by E. H. Holland and nine others, and it was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

CENTRAL OHIO CONFERENCE.

CENTRAL OHIO.

On motion of William L. Harris, so much of the Journal as relates to superannuated preachers living out of the bounds of other conferences was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

CINCINNATI CONFERENCE.

CINCINNATI.

On motion of William Nast, so much of the Journal as relates to German Conferences was referred to the Committee on the German Work.

On motion of William Young, so much of the Journal as relates to the Election of Presiding Elders, and to the Extension of the Time of Ministerial Service, was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

DETROIT CONFERENCE.

DETROIT.

On motion of Thomas C. Gardner, so much of the Journal as relates to Lay Delegation, State of the

May 4.
THIRD DAY.
Morning.

Country, and Slavery, was referred to the committees on those subjects respectively.

EAST BALTI-
MORE,

EAST BALTIMORE CONFERENCE.

On motion of William Harden, so much of the Journal as relates to Lay Delegation and Boundaries was appropriately referred.

On motion of Jacob S. M'Murray, so much of the Journal as relates to Slavery, Revision of Discipline, and State of the Country, was referred to the respective committees on those subjects.

EAST GENESEE

EAST GENESEE CONFERENCE.

On motion of John M. Reid, so much of the Journal as relates to Boundaries and Extension of Time was respectively referred to the Committees on Boundaries and on Itinerancy.

On motion of Sylvester L. Congdon, so much of the Journal as relates to Lay Delegation was referred to the Committee on Lay Delegation.

GENESEE.

GENESEE CONFERENCE.

On motion of John B. Wentworth, so much of the Journal as relates to Lay Delegation and Extension of Time was referred to the Committees on Lay Delegation and Itinerancy respectively.

ILLINOIS.

ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.

On motion of Asa S. M'Coy, so much of the Journal as relates to Extension of Time was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy, and that relating to Lay Delegation to the Committee on Lay Delegation.

On motion of William H. H. Moore, so much of the Journal as relates to Changing the Time of Holding the General Conference was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

INDIANA.

INDIANA CONFERENCE.

On motion of James Hill, so much of the Journal as relates to Boundaries, Lay Representation, Cente-

nary of Methodism, and State of the Country, was appropriately referred.

May 4.
THIRD DAY.
Morning.

KANSAS CONFERENCE.

KANSAS.

On motion of Hugh D. Fisher, so much of the Journal as relates to German Conferences was referred to the Committee on the German Work; that relating to Lay Delegation, to the Committee on that subject; and that relating to Extension of Time, to the Committee on Itinerancy.

MAINE CONFERENCE.

MAINE.

On motion of George Webber, so much of the Journal as relates to Lay Delegation was referred to the Committee on Lay Delegation.

MICHIGAN CONFERENCE.

MICHIGAN.

On motion of Thomas H. Sinex, so much of the Journal as relates to members of Annual Conferences attending Biblical Institutes was referred to the Committee on Revisals.

MINNESOTA CONFERENCE.

MINNESOTA.

On motion of Jabez Brooks, so much of the Journal as relates to Lay Delegation and the German Work was referred to the appropriate committees.

Daniel Cobb presented a memorial, signed by Levi Gleason and seventeen others, asking that a Book Depository be established in St. Paul, and it was referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.

MISSOURI AND ARKANSAS CONFERENCE.

MISSOURI AND
ARKANSAS.

On motion of Nathan Shumate, so much of the Journal as refers to a Division of the Conference was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

NEWARK CONFERENCE.

NEWARK.

On motion of Isaac W. Wiley, so much of the Journal as relates to the Supernumerary Relation was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

May 4.

THIRD DAY.

Morning.

NEW ENGLAND CONFERENCE.

NEW ENGLAND.

On motion of David Sherman, so much of the Journal as relates to Slavery and Lay Delegation was referred to the appropriate committees.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

NEW HAMPSHIRE CONFERENCE.

On motion of James Pike, so much of the Journal as relates to Lay Delegation, Extension of Time, and rearrangement of Discipline, was referred respectively to the committees on Lay Delegation, Itinerancy, and Revisals.

NEW JERSEY.

NEW JERSEY CONFERENCE.

On motion of Charles H. Whitecar, so much of the Journal as relates to the Supernumerary Relation was referred to the Committee on Revisals.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK CONFERENCE.

On motion of Randolph S. Foster, so much of the Journal as relates to Boundaries, Lay Delegation, Slavery, and the German Work, was referred to the respective committees on those subjects; and that relating to the Pastoral Relation, and the Resolutions from Poughkeepsie District in relation to Trustees, were referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

Morris D'C. Crawford presented sundry resolutions from the Board of Managers of the Missionary Society, and they were referred to the Committee on Missions.

NEW YORK EAST.

NEW YORK EAST CONFERENCE.

On motion of Daniel Curry, so much of the Journal as relates to Slavery and the State of the Country was appropriately referred.

NORTH INDIANA.

NORTH INDIANA CONFERENCE.

On motion of John V. R. Miller, so much of the Journal as relates to Lay Delegation and State of the Country was referred to the appropriate committees.

William H. Goode presented the appeal of J. T. Donahoo, with accompanying papers, and it was referred to the Committee on Appeals.

May 4.
THIRD DAY.
Morning.

Appeal of J. T.
Donahoo.

NORTH OHIO CONFERENCE.

NORTH OHIO.

George W. Breckenridge presented a memorial from the Quarterly Conference of Port Clinton Circuit, on the subject of Boundaries, and it was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

NORTHWEST WISCONSIN CONFERENCE.

NORTHWEST
WISCONSIN.

On motion of Chauncey Hobart, so much of the Journal as relates to the Reception into our Church of Ministers from the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada was referred to the Committee on Revisals.

OHIO CONFERENCE.

OHIO.

On motion of Barzillai N. Spahr, so much of the Journal as relates to Lay Delegation and the State of the Country was referred to the appropriate committees.

ONEIDA CONFERENCE.

ONEIDA.

On motion of Albert S. Graves, so much of the Journal as relates to Extension of Time and Modification of the Presiding Elder's Office was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

On motion of William H. Olin, so much of the Journal as relates to the Supernumerary Relation and Lay Delegation was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy and Lay Delegation respectively.

OREGON CONFERENCE.

OREGON.

On motion of James H. Wilbur, so much of the Journal as relates to the State of the Country, Slavery, Lay Delegation, and Appeals, was referred to the respective committees on those subjects; and so much as relates to the Pacific Christian Advocate, to the Committee on the Book Concern.

May 4.
THIRD DAY.
Morning.
PITTSBURGH.

PITTSBURGH CONFERENCE.

On motion of Samuel H. Nesbit, so much of the Journal as relates to Lay Delegation, to the Pittsburgh Christian Advocate, to the Extension of Time, and to the Supernumerary Relation, were referred to the respective Committees on Lay Delegation, on the Book Concern, on Itinerancy, and on Revisals.

NORTHWEST IN-
DIANA.

NORTHWEST INDIANA CONFERENCE.

On motion of George M. Boyd, so much of the Journal as relates to Lay Delegation was referred to the committee on that subject.

IOWA.

IOWA CONFERENCE.

William F. Cowles presented a memorial, signed by Rev. E. H. Waring, asking for a change of Discipline, and it was referred to the Committee on Revisals.

PROVIDENCE.

PROVIDENCE CONFERENCE.

Daniel Wise presented the report and memorial of the Sunday-School Union, and it was referred to the Committee on Sunday-Schools and the Tract Cause.

ROCK RIVER.

ROCK RIVER CONFERENCE.

On motion of George L. Mulfinger, so much of the Journal as relates to the German Work was referred to the Committee on the German Work.

On motion of Thomas M. Eddy, so much of the Journal as relates to Lay Delegation was referred to the Committee on Lay Delegation.

SOUTHEASTERN
INDIANA.

SOUTHEASTERN INDIANA CONFERENCE.

On motion of Williamson Terrill, so much of the Journal as relates to Boundaries, Lay Delegation, and the German Work, was appropriately referred.

Giles C. Smith presented the appeal of William H. Sheets, and it was referred to the Committee on Appeals.

On motion of the Secretary, it was ordered that when portions of Journals are referred, it shall be the duty of the member of the Committee on Itinerancy from the Conference concerned to furnish the several committees with copies of the parts respectively referred.

Committee on Book Concern reported that they had organized by appointing Charles B. Tippet Chairman, and Benjamin F. Cray Secretary.

The Committee on Slavery was called, and retired for organization.

The call of Conferences was resumed.

May 4.

THIRD DAY.

Morning.

Members of the Committee on Itinerancy to make extracts from Journal when called for.

Committee on Book Concern organized.

Committee on Slavery called.

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS.

On motion of James B. Corrington, so much of the Journal as relates to the State of the Country was referred to the committee on that subject; and on motion of Philip Kuhl, so much as relates to the German Work was referred to the Committee on the German Work.

TROY CONFERENCE.

TROY.

On motion of Bostwick Hawley, so much of the Journal as relates to Lay Delegation was referred to the committee on that subject; and so much as relates to the Reoccupation of Southern Territory was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

UPPER IOWA CONFERENCE.

UPPER IOWA.

On motion of Richard W. Keeler, so much of the Journal as relates to the German Work, State of the Country, and Lay Delegation, was appropriately referred.

VERMONT CONFERENCE.

VERMONT.

On motion of Andes T. Bullard, so much of the Journal as relates to Lay Delegation, State of the Country, and Slavery, was referred to the appropriate committees.

WESTERN IOWA CONFERENCE.

WESTERN IOWA.

On motion of David N. Smith, so much of the Journal as relates to Boundaries was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

May 4.

THIRD DAY.

Morning.

WESTERN VIRGINIA.

WESTERN VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.

On motion of James Drummond, so much of the Journal as relates to the Supernumerary Relation and to the Extension of Time was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy; that relating to a Change of the Name of the Conference, to the Committee on Boundaries; that relating to Procuring a Building in Pittsburgh for the Depository and Pittsburgh Advocate, to the Committee on the Book Concern; that relating to Lay Delegation, to the committee on that subject; and that relating to Insurance of Church Property, to the Committee on Temporal Economy.

WYOMING.

WYOMING CONFERENCE.

On motion of Reuben Nelson, so much of the Journal as relates to the Extension of Time was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

Committee of Arrangements for Fast-day appointed.

Bishop Baker announced the following Committee of Arrangements for Fast-day Services, namely: Granville Moody, David W. Bartine, and Samuel Y. Monroe.

List of Conferences called for miscellaneous business.

The list of Conferences was called for the presentation of miscellaneous business.

BLACK RIVER.

BLACK RIVER CONFERENCE.

Gardner Baker submitted the following resolution, which was adopted, namely:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to take into consideration the expediency of altering the Discipline, Part II, chap. ii, § 11, quest. 1, p. 82, by adding after the words "Wesleyan Connection in Europe or Canada," the words "or from the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada." And in the answer to said question, after the words "British, Irish, or Canada Conference," the words "or a Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada." So that the question and answer will read,

Quest. 1. In what manner shall we receive those ministers who may come to us from the Wesleyan Connection in Europe or Canada, or from the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada?

Ans. If they come properly accredited from either the British, Irish, or Canada Conference, or from a Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, they may be received according to such credentials, provided they give satisfaction to an annual conference of their willingness to conform to our Church government and usages.

CINCINNATI.

CINCINNATI CONFERENCE.

The following resolution, signed by William Young and Mighill Dustin, was adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of seven be appointed, to report a plan of trusteeship in behalf of the General Conference, to represent the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States of America, and by virtue of their corporate powers secure and hold all bequests made to the Church for benevolent purposes.

As a matter of privilege, John P. Durbin offered the following resolution, and it was adopted, namely :

Resolved, That every motion, report, and communication to the Conference, being first reduced to writing, shall be passed to the Secretary, to be by him read to the Conference; unless the Conference shall, when such paper is offered, request the proposer of the paper to read it to the Conference.

DETROIT CONFERENCE.

Thomas C. Gardner submitted the following resolution, and after a motion to lay it on the table was lost by a vote of 82 to 98, it was adopted, namely :

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of amending the Discipline, chapter iii, § 1, quest. 3, ans. 3, page 93, by adding these words: "Nor any preacher in the district work more than four years in eight," so that the whole paragraph shall read, "Provided also, that with the exceptions above named he shall not continue a preacher in the same appointment more than two years in six, nor any preacher in the district work more than four years in eight."

The Committee on Slavery reported that they had organized by appointing Benjamin F. Crary Chairman, and Daniel Wise Secretary.

On motion of Daniel Curry, the order of the day was taken up, and Dr. Robinson Scott addressed the Conference; after which, on motion of Edward Thomson, the following resolutions were adopted, namely :

Resolved, That the Conference has listened with deep interest to the Address of the Irish Conference, and of the Rev. Robinson Scott, its delegate.

Resolved, That the Address of the Irish Conference be referred to the same Committee to which the Address of the English Conference was referred to draft a reply.

Resolved, That so much of the Address of the delegate from Ireland as refers to the donation to Irish Methodism be referred to the Committee on the Centenary of Methodism.

Resolved, That we reciprocate the kind expression of the Irish representative, and tender him a cordial welcome to the Conference, to American Methodism, and to the United States.

The Committee on Missions was called and retired to organize.

The call of Conferences was resumed.

May 4.

THIRD DAY.

Morning.

Trustees of General Conference ordered.

Resolutions, etc., to be presented to the Conference in writing, and read by the Secretary.

DETROIT.

Committee on Slavery organized.

Dr. Scott addressed the Conference.

Committee on Missions retired to organize.

May 4.

THIRD DAY.

Morning.

EAST BALTI-
MORE.

EAST BALTIMORE CONFERENCE.

James M^K. Reiley offered the following resolution, which was adopted, namely :

Work among
the People of
Color.

Resolved, That a committee of seven be appointed on the State of the Work among the People of Color.

Committee on
Missions or-
ganized.

The Committee on Missions reported that they had organized by appointing William H. Goode Chairman, and Isaac W. Wiley Secretary.

Committee on
Education
called.

The Committee on Education was called, and retired to organize.

The call of Conferences was resumed.

INDIANA.

INDIANA CONFERENCE.

On motion of James Hill, the following resolutions were adopted, namely :

Deputation to
the General
Conference of
African M. E.
Church.

Whereas, The General Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church is now in session in this city ; and

Whereas the Church represented in said Conference was once a part of the Methodist Episcopal Church ; and

Whereas said Church has been deprived of our Christian sympathy and fraternity for many years ; and

Whereas they have claims upon us for our sympathy and prayers and recognition of them as a Christian Church : therefore,

Resolved, That a deputation, consisting of five members of this body, be sent from this General Conference to the General Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church to convey to them our fraternal greetings, and an expression of our Christian sympathy.

Resolved, That we will cordially receive a similar deputation from said Conference should it be their pleasure to appoint it.

MINNESOTA.

MINNESOTA CONFERENCE.

On motion of Benjamin F. Crary, the following resolution was adopted, namely :

Resolved, That the Committee on Episcopacy be requested to inquire into the expediency of dividing our work into Episcopal Districts, and of designating the place where each bishop shall reside.

NEW ENGLAND.

NEW ENGLAND CONFERENCE.

On motion of John H. Twombly, the following resolution was adopted, namely :

Bishops invited
to make sug-
gestions.

Resolved, That the bishops be and hereby are respectfully requested to make such communication and suggestions to this General Conference as they may deem desirable or necessary, at such time as may be most convenient for them.

John H. Twombly offered the following resolution, namely :

May 4.
THIRD DAY.
Morning.

Resolved, That the Standing Committees be, and hereby are, instructed to report to the Conference their action on all the resolutions referred to them for consideration, and that they do this at their earliest convenience ;

which, on motion of George D. Chenoweth, was laid on the table.

On motion of Benjamin F. Crary, it was agreed that when Conference adjourn it shall be to three o'clock this afternoon.

Afternoon ses-
sion ordered.

NEW YORK CONFERENCE.

NEW YORK.

William H. Ferris offered the following resolution, which was adopted, namely :

Resolved, That we respectfully request the Committee on Revisals to take into consideration the propriety of so changing the Discipline, Part II, § 4, quest. 1, ans. 1, as to make it read,

Question 1. Of whom shall the Quarterly Conference be composed ?

Answer 1. Of all the traveling and local preachers, exhorters, stewards, class-leaders, and trustees of the circuit or station, and the first male superintendent of our Sunday-schools, being members of our Church.

NEW YORK EAST CONFERENCE.

NEW YORK
EAST.

Daniel Curry submitted the following resolution, and it was adopted, namely :

Whereas, It appears by the Journal of the New York East Conference that Rev. W. H. Norris discharged the office of Presiding Elder of the Long Island District of that Conference at five successive sessions: therefore,

Resolved, That the Committee on the Episcopacy inquire and report by what authority said Presiding Elder so acted during any part of the fifth year.

Daniel Curry also moved the following resolution, namely :

Resolved, That the Committee on Boundaries be requested to consider the expediency, whenever practicable, of conforming the boundaries of Annual Conferences to State lines.

Moses Hill moved to lay it on the table, which motion was lost, and the resolution was adopted.

NORTH OHIO CONFERENCE.

NORTH OHIO.

Henry Whiteman offered the following resolutions, which were adopted, namely :

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of amending the Rule, chap. x, § ii, rule iv,

May 4.
THIRD DAY.
Morning.

p. 132, by striking out at the close of answer 2 the words "shall be expelled" and inserting "be brought to trial as for other immoralities," so that it shall read: "Any person refusing to abide by such judgment shall be tried as for other immoralities."

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of amending the Rule, chap. x, § ii, rule v, p. 133, by striking out the words "excluded the Church," and inserting the words "be brought to trial as for other immoralities;" so that the Rule may read, commencing in the 10th line, "in case the debtor refuses to comply, he shall be brought to trial as for other immoralities."

PITTSBURGH.

PITTSBURGH CONFERENCE.

Charles A. Holmes offered the following resolution, which was adopted, namely:

British Dele-
gate invited to
preach.

Resolved, That the Rev. William L. Thornton, M.A., is hereby respectfully requested to preach a sermon before this General Conference at some time during the session convenient to himself.

PROVIDENCE.

PROVIDENCE CONFERENCE.

Samuel C. Brown offered the following resolution, which, on motion of William H. Goode, was laid on the table, namely:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to take into consideration the propriety of so changing the Discipline on the subject of the appointment of stewards as to make them elective by the Churches instead of nominative by the preacher and elective by the Quarterly Conference.

ROCK RIVER.

ROCK RIVER CONFERENCE.

On motion of Thomas M. Eddy the following resolution was adopted, namely:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire and report what modifications, if any, are needed in the order of public worship to secure uniformity and greater solemnity in the worship of the sanctuary.

SOUTHEASTERN
INDIANA.

SOUTHEASTERN INDIANA CONFERENCE.

Thomas H. Lynch offered the following resolution, which was adopted, namely:

Resolved, That in order to avoid unnecessary conflict in the sessions of the committees ordered by this Conference, the chairmen of the several standing committees meet immediately after organization and arrange the times and places of meeting.

WYOMING.

WYOMING CONFERENCE.

Henry Brownscombe offered the following resolution, which was adopted, namely:

Resolved, That the superintendents be and they are hereby respectfully requested to deliver their Quadrennial Address, should it suit their convenience, on to-morrow, at ten o'clock A.M.

May 4.
THIRD DAY.
Morning.

The Committee of Arrangements for Fast-day Services submitted their report, which was adopted, as follows :

Report of Committee of Arrangements for Fast-day.

The committee to make arrangements for the observance of the day of fasting and prayer, in view of our present condition as a nation, appointed by the General Conference for Friday next, the sixth instant, respectfully report :

They recommend that public religious services be held at the hours of half past ten in the morning, three in the afternoon, and a quarter before eight o'clock in the evening, in three of our churches in this city, namely: in Union, the seat of General Conference; Green-street, in Green above Fourth; and Salem, at the corner of Lombard and Juniper.

At the UNION.—*Morning*: Bishop Morris to preside.

Opening Address by presiding officer.

Prayer.

Address by Dr. Calvin Kingsley, of the Erie Conference.

Prayer.

Address by Dr. Thomson, of the North Ohio Conference.

Prayer.

Afternoon: Bishop Janes to preside.

Opening Address by presiding officer.

Prayer.

Address by Dr. Charles Elliott, of the Iowa Conference.

Prayer.

Address of Dr. Jesse T. Peck, of California.

Prayer.

Evening: Rev. George Webber, of Maine Conference, to preside.

Opening Address by presiding officer.

Prayer.

Address by Rev. Nicholas J. B. Morgan, of Baltimore Conference.

Prayer.

Address by Rev. Robert M. Hatfield, of New York East Conference.

Prayer.

At GREEN-STREET.—*Morning*: Bishop Scott to preside.

Opening Address by presiding officer.

Prayer.

Address by Dr. Randolph S. Foster, of New York Conference.

Prayer.

Address by Dr. Joseph Cummings, of New England Conference.

Prayer.

Afternoon: Bishop Simpson to preside.

Opening Address by presiding officer.

Prayer.

Address by Rev. James M'K. Reiley, of East Baltimore.

Prayer.

Address by Dr. Daniel Wise, of Providence Conference.

Prayer.

May 4.
THIRD DAY.
Morning.

Evening: Rev. Granville Moody, of Cincinnati Conference, to preside.

Opening Address by presiding officer.

Prayer.

Address by Dr. John M. Reid, of East Genesee Conference.

Prayer.

Address by Dr. Thomas M. Eddy, of Rock River Conference.

Prayer.

At SALEM.—*Morning:* Bishop Baker to preside.

Opening Address by presiding officer.

Prayer.

Address by Rev. Joseph B. Wakeley, of New York Conference.

Prayer.

Address by Rev. Nathan Shumate, of Missouri and Arkansas Conference.

Prayer.

Afternoon: Bishop Ames to preside.

Opening Address by presiding officer.

Prayer.

Address by Rev. Isaac W. Wiley, M.D., of Newark Conference.

Prayer.

Address by Rev. Charles A. Holmes, of Pittsburgh Conference.

Prayer.

Evening: Dr. Joseph M. Trimble, of Ohio Conference, to preside.

Opening Address by presiding officer.

Prayer.

Address by Rev. Samuel D. Brown, of Troy Conference.

Prayer.

Address by Rev. Moses Hill, of Erie Conference.

Prayer.

It is suggested that each service continue an hour and a half.

Other exercises, not mentioned in this programme, are left to the judgment of the presiding officer. Respectfully submitted,

GRANVILLE MOODY,
DAVID W. BARTINE,
SAMUEL Y. MONROE,
Committee.

Committee on
Education or-
ganized.

The Committee on Education reported that they had organized, by appointing Frederick Merrick Chairman, and Jabez Brooks Secretary.

Committee on
Lay Delega-
tion called.

The Committee on Lay Delegation was called, and retired for organization.

Conference Ad-
journed.

On motion of Edwin E. Griswold, Conference ad-journed.

After singing the Doxology, the Benediction was pronounced by James B. Corrington.

May 4.
THIRD DAY.
Afternoon.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 4.

Conference met at three o'clock, pursuant to adjournment, Bishop Ames in the chair.

Opening of
Conference.

The usual religious services were conducted by Leonard B. Gurley, of the Central Ohio Conference.

The Journal of this morning was read and approved.

Journal read.

The Committee on Lay Delegation reported that they had organized, by appointing Edward Thomson Chairman, and Henry C. Benson Secretary.

Committee on
Lay Delegation
organized.

On motion of Gardner Baker, the order of business was suspended for the purpose of introducing the Rev. James Gardiner and Rev. Samuel Morrison, Delegates from the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada. They were then presented to the Conference by Bishop Ames, and their credentials were read by the Secretary.

Delegates of the
M. E. Church
in Canada in-
troduced.

The order of business was resumed, and the list of Conferences was called for the presentation of petitions, memorials, and appeals, and they were presented and referred, as follows:

List of Confer-
ences called.

BLACK RIVER CONFERENCE.

BLACK RIVER.

On motion of John W. Armstrong, so much of the Journal as relates to Lay Delegation was referred to the Committee on Lay Delegation; and, on motion of Isaac S. Bingham, so much as relates to the Division of the Conference to the Committee on Boundaries; and, on motion of James Erwin, so much as relates to Slavery, the Christian Commission, and the State of the Country, was referred to the committees respectively on those subjects; and so much as relates to the Extension of Time was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

CENTRAL ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.

CENTRAL ILLI-
NOIS.

On motion of Richard Haney, so much of the Journal as relates to the Supernumerary Relation was referred to the Committee on Revisals; and so much as relates to the State of the Country was referred to the Committee on the State of the Country.

May 4.THIRD DAY.
Afternoon.EAST BALTI-
MORE.

EAST BALTIMORE CONFERENCE.

On motion of Charles B. Tippet, so much of the Journal as relates to the Supernumerary Relation was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

On motion of Lucius H. King, it was ordered that all matters relating to the Supernumerary Relation be referred to the Committee on Itinerancy, and that this order shall apply to all matters on that subject hitherto referred to other committees.

ERIE.

ERIE CONFERENCE.

On motion of Calvin Kingsley, so much of the Journal as relates to Boundaries, State of the Country, Lay Delegation, and the Christian Commission was referred to the committees on those subjects respectively.

ILLINOIS.

ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.

William H. H. Moore presented a Certificate of Concurrence of the Illinois Conference with the action of the New Jersey Conference on the Supernumerary Relation, and it was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

INDIANA.

INDIANA CONFERENCE.

William M'K. Hester presented memorials relating to Conference Boundaries, as follows: One from the preachers on Evansville District, signed by William M'K. Hester and twelve others; one from preachers on New Albany District, signed by D. M'Intire and ten others; one from the Quarterly Conference of Centenary Charge, New Albany; one from Wesley Chapel Quarterly Conference, New Albany; one from Roberts and M'Kendree Chapels Quarterly Conference; one from John-street Charge, New Albany; and one from Lanesville Circuit Quarterly Conference; and they were referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

James H. Noble presented memorials as follows on the subject of Conference Boundaries: One from Bedford, signed by A. Turner and seven official members; one from Orangeville Quarterly Conference, signed by Harvey Denny and others; one from Brownstown

Quarterly Conference; one from Leesville Quarterly Conference; one from Orleans and Mitchell Quarterly Conference; one from the Quarterly Conferences of Clarksburgh, Bloomfield, Poole, and Wickliffe; one from Houston Circuit, signed by W. L. Boston and sixteen others; and one from the preachers of Mitchell District, signed by I. N. Thompson and thirteen others; and they were referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

May 4.
THIRD DAY.
Afternoon.

KANSAS CONFERENCE.

KANSAS.

On motion of Hugh D. Fisher, so much of the Journal as relates to the State of the Church was referred to the Committee on Missions; and so much as relates to the Enlargement of the Central Christian Advocate was referred to the Committee on the Book Concern; and so much as relates to the Residence of a Bishop West of the Mississippi was referred to the Committee on Episcopacy.

KENTUCKY CONFERENCE.

KENTUCKY.

On motion of Lemuel M. Reeves, so much of the Journal as relates to Boundaries was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

MAINE CONFERENCE.

MAINE.

On motion of Charles F. Allen, so much of the Journal as relates to the Supernumerary Relation and to the State of the Country was referred to the appropriate committees.

MINNESOTA CONFERENCE.

MINNESOTA.

Benjamin F. Crary presented two memorials asking that a Book Depository be established at St. Paul; one from the preachers of St. Paul District Preachers' Association; and one from Rochester charge, signed by W. A. Chambers and ten others, and they were referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.

NEBRASKA CONFERENCE.

NEBRASKA.

On motion of Henry T. Davis, so much of the Journal as relates to Slavery, Lay Delegation, and State of

May 4.
THIRD DAY.
Afternoon.
 Appeal of Isaac
 Chivington.

the Country was referred to the committees severally on those subjects; and the Appeal of Isaac Chivington was referred to the Committee on Appeals.

NEWARK.

NEWARK CONFERENCE.

Stacey W. Hilliard presented a petition from Mount Zion charge asking that they be transferred to New Jersey Conference, and it was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

**NEW HAMP-
SHIRE.**

NEW HAMPSHIRE CONFERENCE.

On motion of Elisha Adams, so much of the Journal as relates to the Form of a Letter of Church Membership was referred to the Committee on Revisals.

NEW JERSEY.

NEW JERSEY CONFERENCE.

On motion of William E. Perry, so much of the Journal as relates to the State of the Country, and to the Sanitary Commission and Christian Commission, was referred to the respective Committees on those subjects.

NORTH OHIO.

NORTH OHIO CONFERENCE.

On motion of Edward Thomson, so much of the Journal as relates to Lay Delegation, State of the Country, and the German Work was referred to the proper Committees.

**NORTHWEST
WISCONSIN.**

NORTHWEST WISCONSIN CONFERENCE.

Thomas C. Golden presented a memorial, signed by Rev. J. E. Springer and nine others of Eau Claire Quarterly Conference, asking a change of the General Rule on Slavery, and it was referred to the Committee on Slavery.

ONEIDA.

ONEIDA CONFERENCE.

On motion of Albert S. Graves, so much of the Journal as relates to the Northern Christian Advocate was referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.

PHILADELPHIA.

PHILADELPHIA CONFERENCE.

On motion of Joseph Castle, so much of the Journal as relates to Church Records, Supernumerary Relation,

and Examining Committees, and Lectures, was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy; and so much as relates to a Branch Book Concern, and to a Church paper in Philadelphia, to the Committee on the Book Concern; and so much as relates to a division of the Conference, to the Committee on Boundaries.

May 4.
THIRD DAY.
Afternoon.

PROVIDENCE CONFERENCE.

PROVIDENCE.

On motion of Samuel C. Brown, so much of the Journal as relates to Lay Delegation to the Committee on Lay Delegation.

SOUTHEASTERN INDIANA CONFERENCE.

SOUTHEASTERN
INDIANA.

On motion of Giles C. Smith, so much of the Journal as relates to the Centenary of Methodism was referred to the committee on that subject. He also presented a memorial from Madison District Ministerial Association on Boundaries, and it was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

WESTERN IOWA CONFERENCE.

WESTERN
IOWA.

On motion of Sanford Haines, so much of the Journal as relates to the State of the Country was referred to the committee on that subject.

WEST WISCONSIN CONFERENCE.

WEST WISCON-
SIN.

On motion of Matthew Bennett, so much of the Journal as relates to Church Records was referred to the Committee on Revisals; and so much as relates to Members of Conferences attending Biblical Institutes was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

WISCONSIN CONFERENCE.

WISCONSIN.

On motion of Caleb D. Pillsbury, so much of the Journal as relates to a Danish Paper was referred to the Committee on the Book Concern; and so much as relates to the Supernumerary Relation, to the Committee on Itinerancy.

He also presented the appeal of A. P. Allen, and it was referred to the Committee on Appeals.

Appeal of A. P.
Allen.

WYOMING CONFERENCE.

WYOMING.

On motion of Horatio R. Clark, so much of the Journal as relates to Slavery was referred to the Com-

May 4.
THIRD DAY.
Afternoon.

mittee on Slavery; and so much as relates to the Northern Christian Advocate, to the Committee on the Book Concern.

WESTERN VIR-
GINIA.

WESTERN VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.

On motion of James Drummond, so much of the Journal of 1864 as relates to the State of the Country was referred to the committee on that subject.

CALIFORNIA.

CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE.

Henry C. Benson presented a memorial from A. Bland on the subject of Boundaries, and it was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

NEW YORK
EAST.

NEW YORK EAST CONFERENCE.

Daniel Curry presented a memorial from Daniel Ayers and G. P. Disosway on Infant Baptism, etc., and it was referred to the Committee on Sunday-Schools.

Conferences
called for mis-
cellaneous
business.

On motion of the Secretary, it was ordered that henceforth, at the close of the call for petitions, memorials, and appeals, the roll of Conferences be called in order for the presentation of miscellaneous business.

The Chair called the list of Conferences, and miscellaneous business was presented and acted upon as follows:

BLACK RIVER.

BLACK RIVER CONFERENCE.

Isaac S. Bingham offered the following resolution, and it was referred to the Committee on the Book Concern:

Resolved, That the Book Agents at New York be instructed to supply all orders made for the Sunday-School Advocate without regard to the time when the order is made.

CALIFORNIA.

CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE.

On motion of Henry C. Benson the following resolution was adopted, namely:

Resolved, That the Committee on Missions be instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing for the election by this Conference of an Assistant Missionary Secretary for the Conferences and work upon the Pacific coast.

MICHIGAN CONFERENCE.

May 4.
THIRD DAY.
Afternoon.
MICHIGAN.

Henry Penfield submitted the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the propriety of striking out the word "men" and inserting "persons" in the answer to quest. 1, chap. ix, page 124, so that it shall read, "They shall be persons of solid piety," etc.

NEW JERSEY CONFERENCE.

NEW JERSEY.

Samuel Y. Monroe offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee on Itinerancy be instructed to prepare such amendments to the Discipline as may be necessary to restore the Supernumerary Relation, and report the same early to this body.

A motion of Kasimir P. Jervis to lay the resolution on the table was lost, after which Thomas H. Lynch moved so to amend the resolution as to make it one of inquiry rather than instruction. Pending the discussion of the amendment, the mover withdrew the resolution.

The Committee on Sunday-Schools and Tract Cause reported that they had organized by appointing James Porter Chairman, and Oliver S. Munsell Secretary.

The Committee on Revisals was called, and retired for organization.

The Chair announced the following special committees, namely:

Committee on the Christian Commission: George Peck, James Erwin, Joseph M. Trimble, Seth Reed, Robert M. Hatfield, Jonathan T. Crane, Benjamin F. Crary, James M. Fuller, Thomas E. Corkhill, Richard Haney, Joseph Colby, John Lanahan, Samuel H. Nesbit, Orange V. Lemon, John W. Reger.

Committee on the Pastoral Address: Calvin Kingsley, Joseph Castle, Jesse T. Peck, Leonard B. Gurley, Elisha Adams, Nelson E. Cobleigh, William H. Ferris.

Committee on the Expenses of Delegates: John H. Twombly, William H. Olin, Desevignia Starks, Henry Penfield, Robert E. Guthrie, Caleb D. Pillsbury, Abraham K. Street.

Committee on the Bible Cause: Daniel Curry, James M'K. Reiley, Alpha J. Kynett, Ralph W. Allen, Philip Kuhl, Henry C. Benson, Charles A. Holmes.

Committee on Sunday-Schools and Tracts organized.

Committee on Revisals called out for organization.
Special Committees.

Christian Commission.

Pastoral Address. Ad-

Expenses of Delegates.

Bible Cause.

- May 4.** *Committee on the Temperance Cause:* Thomas M. Eddy, John V. R. Miller, William M'Combs, Samuel C. Brown, Augustus C. George, Putnam P. Ray, Henry Whiteman.
- THIRD DAY.**
Afternoon.
Temperance.
- Freedmen.** *Committee on Freedmen:* Edward Thomson, George Webber, Samuel Y. Monroe, John L. Smith, Thomas H. Lynch, John W. Lindsay, James B. Corrington, Calvin Kingsley.
- Temporal Economy.** *Committee on Temporal Economy:* James Porter; Gardner Baker, Charles B. Tippet, Morris D'C. Crawford, Luke Hitchcock, Chauncey Hobart, James Hill.
- Reply to the British and Irish Delegates.** *Committee on the Reply to the British and Irish Wesleyan Conferences:* Edward Thomson, Charles Elliott, Joseph Cummings, John M. Reid, Isaac N. Baird.
- Centenary of American Methodism.** *Committee on the Centenary of American Methodism:* David Patten, John P. Durbin, Thomas Carlton, Adam Poe, Joseph M. Trimble, Jesse T. Peck, Joseph B. Wakeley.

On motion of Morris D'C. Crawford, the Conference ordered that when the Committee on Revisals shall report its organization, then the Committees on the German Work and on the State of the Country shall be called and permitted to retire for organization, and report the result of their action to-morrow morning.

The Chair resumed the call of Conferences for the presentation of miscellaneous business.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK CONFERENCE.

William H. Ferris offered the following resolution, which was adopted, namely:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be respectfully requested to inquire into the propriety of so altering the Discipline, chap. i, § 4, as to introduce the following question into the list of questions to be asked the Quarterly Conference: "Is the rule of Discipline respecting spirituous liquors observed?"

PITTSBURGH.

PITTSBURGH CONFERENCE.

Isaac N. Baird offered the following resolutions, which were adopted, namely:

Resolved, That the Committee on Sunday-Schools is requested to inquire into the expedience of so changing the Discipline as to make the following the third answer to the question on page 207: "What shall we do for the moral and religious instruction of children?"

☞ It shall be the duty of each presiding elder to bring the subject of Sunday-schools before the first Quarterly Conference of each year; and said Conference shall proceed to appoint a Committee of not less than three nor more than nine, to be called the Sunday-School Committee, whose duty it shall be to aid the preachers and officers of schools in procuring suitable teachers, and promoting in all proper ways the attendance of children, and in raising money to meet the expenses of the school or schools of the charge.

Resolved, That the fourth question, page 57, in proceedings of Quarterly Conferences be conformed to the above change, being made to read, "Who constitute the Sabbath-School Committee?"

May 4.

THIRD DAY.

Afternoon.

ROCK RIVER CONFERENCE.

ROCK RIVER.

Thomas M. Eddy offered the following resolution, which was adopted, namely:

Resolved, That Rev. James Hill be Railroad Certificate Secretary for Indiana and Central Ohio.

On motion of Samuel A. W. Jewett, the following resolution was adopted, namely:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the propriety of so changing the order of questions for Quarterly Conferences, page 57 Discipline, that all those questions which are only used in the business of the fourth Quarterly Conference be placed last in the list of questions.

WEST WISCONSIN CONFERENCE.

WEST WISCON-
SIN.

James Lawson offered the following resolution, which was adopted, namely:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be requested to consider the propriety of so altering ans. 3, quest. 5, § 4, chap. 1, Part I, page 57, to read: "Is there a written report of the number and state of the Sabbath-schools, of the religious instruction of the children, and is the rule in reference to baptized children attended to?"

On motion of James W. Lowe, it was ordered that the Committee on the German Work meet for organization immediately after the adjournment of Conference, and that the Committee on the State of the Country meet for the same purpose to-morrow morning at eight o'clock.

The Committee on Revisals reported an organization by the appointment of Davis W. Clark Chairman, and Samuel C. Brown Secretary.

Committee on
Revisals or-
ganized.

The Committees on the German Work and on the State of the Country were then called, and, on motion, the Conference adjourned. After the Doxology was sung, the Benediction was pronounced by James Drummond.

May 5.

FOURTH DAY.

THURSDAY MORNING, MAY 5, 1864.

Conference met this morning, Bishop Morris in the chair.

Opening Conference. The religious services were conducted by William Young, of the Cincinnati Conference.

Journal read and approved. The Journal of yesterday afternoon was read and approved.

Committee on German Work organized. The Committee on the German Work reported that they had organized by appointing George Peck Chairman, and Israel C. Pershing Secretary.

Committee on State of the Country organized. The Committee on the State of the Country reported an organization by the election of Joseph Cummings Chairman, and Granville Moody Secretary.

Additional Secretary appointed. On motion of the Secretary, Richard W. Keeler, of the Upper Iowa Conference, was appointed Assistant Secretary.

Places of Meetings of Committees. Joseph M. Trimble reported the places of meeting for the several Standing Committees, as agreed upon by the chairmen thereof; and, on motion of Davis W. Clark, it was ordered that the report be printed in the pamphlet containing Rules of Order, list of Standing Committees, etc.

Address of the Canada Conference read. On motion of Lucius H. King, the order of business was suspended, and the Address from the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada was read by the Secretary. [For Address, see *Appendix B*, VI.]

Delegates of Canada Conference address the Conference. Rev. James Gardiner and Rev. Samuel Morrison, delegates, and Rev. Bishop Richardson, a visitor, all of the Canadian Methodist Episcopal Church, then addressed the Conference.

Address of Canada Conference referred. On motion of John M. Reid, the Address of the Conference was referred to the Committee appointed to reply to the Addresses from the British and Irish Wesleyan Conferences.

Change in Committee on Expenses of Delegates. John H. Twombly, at his own request, was excused from serving on the Committee on Expenses of Delegates; and, on his motion, David Sherman was appointed in his stead.

Address of the Bishops read. On motion of Daniel Wise, the order of the day was taken up, and Bishop Scott read the Quadrennial

Address of the Bishops. [For Address of the Bishops, see *Appendix A, I.*]

May 5.
FOURTH DAY.

The following resolution, offered by Samuel C. Brown, was accepted by Lucius H. King as a substitute for one offered by himself relating to the same subject, and it was adopted :

Order to print.

Resolved, That the Book Agents be instructed to print ten thousand copies of the Episcopal Address in pamphlet form, and that the same be distributed *pro rata* among the delegates of this body, according to the number of delegates from each Conference.

On motion of Thomas Carlton, it was ordered that the Address be published in the Advocate, and in all our Church papers.

Isaac S. Bingham moved the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That this General Conference request that all the pastors of our Church read the Episcopal Address, this day made to the Conference, to all their congregations on Sunday, or other day of public worship, at as early a day as possible ;

but the motion was lost by a vote of 64 to 92.

On motion of Jesse T. Peck, different portions of the Address of the Bishops were referred, as follows :

So much as relates to Episcopal Supervision in Africa, to the Committee on Missions ; so much as relates to Schools and Colleges, to the Committee on Education ; so much as relates to Lay Delegation, to the Committee on Lay Delegation ; so much as relates to German Conferences, to the Committee on the German Work ; so much as relates to Destitute Fields in the South, to the Committee on Missions ; so much as relates to the Reception of Ministers and Members from the South, to the Committee on Revisals ; and so much as relates to the Centenary of Methodism, to the Committee on the Centenary of Methodism.

Parts referred.

He also moved that so much as contains the Recommendation that no Members shall be admitted who are Slaveholders, or who are Tainted with Treason, be referred to the Committee on Revisals ; but, on motion of Calvin Kingsley, it was referred to the Committee on Slavery.

On motion of Lucius H. King, so much of the Address as relates to the State of the Country, to Sunday-

May 5.
FOURTH DAY.

schools, and to the Book Concern, was referred to the committees on those subjects respectively; and so much as relates to Biblical Institutes was referred to the Committee on Education.

The following resolution, offered by John M. Reid, was adopted :

Death of Rev.
A. Bewley.

Resolved, That the Committee on the State of the Country be requested to consider whether anything should be done in view of the lamentable death of Anthony Bewley.

On motion of Adam Poe, Jacob Rothweiler was added to the Committee on the Christian and Sanitary Commissions.

Bostwick Hawley submitted the following preamble and resolution, and they were adopted :

Committee on
Revision of
Ritual ordered.

Whereas but two members—namely, Davis W. Clark and Freeborn G. Hibbard—of the committee to whom were referred the Revised Rituals by the General Conference of 1860, with instructions to hold over and report to this General Conference, are present and members of this body; and

Whereas said committee did invite the delegates of this, as also of the last General Conference, to make to them any suggestions and additional revisions; therefore,

Resolved, That the Committee on the Rituals be increased by the addition of five to its original number; and when so enlarged, that they give opportunity for the reception of such suggestions as may be made by members of this body.

On motion of John M. Reid, all matters relating to the Reoccupation of Southern Territory, heretofore otherwise referred, were now referred to the Committee on Missions.

James M^rK. Reiley offered the following resolution, and it was adopted :

Resolved, That so much of the Bishops' Address as refers to the Religious Wants of the Colored People be referred to the committee on that subject.

Addresses of
1860 to Corresponding
Bodies to be Published.

The Secretary stated that the last General Conference gave direction that addresses sent to corresponding bodies should not be published till after they were received by those to whom they were sent, and that those addresses were therefore still unpublished; whereupon Davis W. Clark moved that they be published in an Addendum to the Journal of the present General Conference, and the motion prevailed. [See *Addendum*.]

Address of the
Foreign German
Mission Conference
presented.

John P. Durbin presented the Address of the Foreign German Mission Conference to this General Con-

ference, and on his motion it was referred to the Committee on Missions.

Gardner Baker moved that when Conference adjourn it shall be till 8½ o'clock Saturday morning, and the motion prevailed.

Asahel S. M'Coy offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Public Worship be requested to appoint a General Conference Love-feast in this Church on next Sabbath morning at 8½ o'clock, and that our beloved senior Bishop Morris be requested to conduct the services.

Adam Poe presented the report of the Book Agents, and Joseph M. Trimble the report of the Book Committee, of the Western Book Concern; and Thomas Carlton presented the report of the Book Agents, and Gardner Baker the report of the Book Committee, of the Book Concern at New York; and they were referred to the Committee on the Book Concern. [For the foregoing Reports, see *Appendix C*, I, II, III, and IV.]

Daniel Wise presented the Report of the Tract Society, and it was referred to the Committee on Sunday-Schools and Tract Cause. [For Report, see *Appendix L*, I.]

Conference adjourned. After the Doxology was sung the Benediction was pronounced by Rev. W. L. Thornton, delegate from the British Conference.

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Reports of the Book Agents and Committees presented and referred.

Report of the Tract Society presented and referred.

Conference adjourned.

SATURDAY MORNING, MAY 7.

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FIFTH DAY.

Conference met this morning, Bishop Janes in the chair.

The usual religious services were conducted by Thomas C. Gardner, of the Detroit Conference.

Thomas H. Pearne, of the Oregon Conference, appeared and took his seat as a member of this body.

The Chair called the list of Conferences for the presentation of petitions, memorials, and appeals; and they were presented and referred as follows, namely:

Opening Conference.

T. H. Pearne appeared and took his seat.

List of Conferences called for petitions, memorials, and appeals.

\\ BALTIMORE CONFERENCE.

BALTIMORE.

Nicholas J. B. Morgan presented a memorial from sundry charges of colored members in Baltimore city,

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signed by Rev. Joseph Young and thirty-one others, nearly all of whom are preachers, asking for the rights and privileges of an Annual Conference, and remonstrating against all attempts to separate them from the Methodist Episcopal Church, and it was referred to the Committee on the State of the Work among the People of Color.

CALIFORNIA.

CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE.

Isaac Owen presented a memorial from the preachers of Washoe District against the construction of a new Conference at this time in that territory, and it was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

CENTRAL OHIO.

CENTRAL OHIO CONFERENCE.

Thomas H. Wilson presented the memorial of James S. Cunningham and thirty-two others, members of Woodgrove Society, asking to be transferred to the Ohio Conference, and it was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

William L. Harris presented a communication from the Sunday-School Union, and it was referred to the Committee on Sunday-Schools and Tract Cause.

CINCINNATI.

CINCINNATI CONFERENCE.

William Nast presented a memorial from H. Henke, and others of the German Ohio District; asking certain changes in the Discipline, and it was referred to the Committee on Revisals.

Moses Smith presented a memorial, with accompanying documents, from the Ladies' Home Mission of the City of Cincinnati, asking for a change in the Discipline, and it was referred to the Committee on Missions.

EAST BALTIMORE.

EAST BALTIMORE CONFERENCE.

Benjamin B. Hamlin presented a memorial on boundaries, from Russel M'Murray and seventy others, and it was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

Charles B. Tippet presented a memorial from Dr. G. C. M. Roberts, asking a donation of books for the American Methodist Historical Society, and it was referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.

He also presented a memorial from T. A. Goodwin concerning the Central Christian Advocate, and it was referred to the same committee.

May 7.
FIFTH DAY.

ERIE CONFERENCE.

ERIE.

Richard A. Caruthers presented two memorials on Boundaries: One from Henry Smith and twenty-three others, and one from O. S. Wolf and twenty-seven others, and they were referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.

ILLINOIS.

James P. Dimmitt presented the appeal of B. F. Northcot, and it was referred to the Committee on Appeals.

Appeal of B. F.
Northcot.

On motion of Robert E. Guthrie, so much of the Journal as relates to the State of the Country was referred to the committee on that subject; and on motion of Henry F. Koeneke, so much as relates to the German Work was referred to the Committee on the German Work.

INDIANA CONFERENCE.

INDIANA.

George W. Walker presented a remonstrance from Rockport District against any change of boundaries; and James Hill presented remonstrances of like import, one from Morgantown Circuit, and one from the Quarterly Conference of Williamsburgh Circuit, signed by nineteen members of Quarterly Conference, and they were all referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

IOWA CONFERENCE.

IOWA.

On motion of Thomas E. Corkhill, so much of the Journal as relates to changes in the Discipline was referred to the Committee on Revisals.

KANSAS CONFERENCE.

KANSAS.

Joseph Denison presented the memorial of the Conference on Missionary Work and Episcopal Superintendence in Kansas, and it was referred to the Committee on Missions.

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FIFTH DAY.
MICHIGAN.

MICHIGAN CONFERENCE.

- On motion of Thomas H. Sinex, so much of the Journal as regards the trial of a member of Conference and the taking of testimony was referred to the Committee on Revisals. He also presented a memorial from R. Sapp, on Revision of Discipline, and it was referred to the same committee.

Henry Penfield presented a memorial from Niles, on the subject of Lay Delegation, and it was appropriately referred.

MINNESOTA.

MINNESOTA CONFERENCE.

On motion of Jabez Brooks, so much of the Journal as relates to Scandinavian Publications was referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.

NEW ENGLAND.

NEW ENGLAND CONFERENCE.

Joseph Cummings presented a memorial, from the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, in relation to Missions, and it was referred to the Committee on Missions.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK CONFERENCE.

William H. Ferris presented the memorial of Charles D. Wood and thirty-two others asking a change of boundary, and it was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

NEW YORK
EAST.

NEW YORK EAST CONFERENCE.

On motion of Edwin E. Griswold, so much of the Journal as relates to Church Extension, together with a paper on that subject, was referred to the Committee on Temporal Economy; and so much as relates to Church Records was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

NORTH INDI-
ANA.

NORTH INDIANA CONFERENCE.

Orange V. Lemon presented a memorial from members of the four Indiana Conferences at Indianapolis, and from ninety others, asking that the Churches in that city be put into one Conference, and it was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

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FIFTH DAY.

NORTH OHIO.

NORTH OHIO CONFERENCE.

Henry Whiteman presented the memorial of Y. C. Case and other official members of Crestline Station, Central Ohio Conference, asking to be transferred to North Ohio Conference, and it was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

NORTHWEST WISCONSIN CONFERENCE.

NORTHWEST
WISCONSIN.

So much of the Journal as relates to Boundaries was, on motion of Thomas C. Golden, referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

OHIO CONFERENCE.

OHIO.

Joseph M. Trimble presented a memorial from S. C. Frampton and eight others on the subject of Church Trustees, and it was referred to the Committee on Revisals; and on his motion, so much of the Journal as relates to the subject of Temporal Economy was referred to the Committee on Temporal Economy.

Bishop Morris presented the complaint of Joseph Counts, of Chillicothe, Ohio, against the decision of the president of the Ohio Conference, at its session in 1863, on a question of law, and it was referred to the Committee on Episcopacy.

Complaint of
Joseph Counts.

OREGON CONFERENCE.

OREGON.

James H. Wilbur presented the appeal of G. M. Berry, and it was referred to the Committee on Appeals.

Appeal of G. M.
Berry.

PHILADELPHIA CONFERENCE.

PHILADELPHIA.

William M'Combs presented a memorial from J. Pastorfield and four others, members of the Philadelphia Conference, on the Present Mode of Examining Character in Open Conference, and it was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

James Cunningham presented a memorial from J. B. M'Cullough, of the Philadelphia Conference, concerning Changes of Discipline, and it was referred to the Committee on Revisals.

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FIFTH DAY.
ROCK RIVER.

ROCK RIVER CONFERENCE.

Samuel A. W. Jewett presented a memorial of E. Q. Fuller on plan of Quarterly Conference Business, and it was referred to the Committee on Revisals; and on his motion, so much of the Journal as relates to the Adoption of a Swedish Paper in Chicago was referred to the Committee on the Book Concern; and so much as relates to Libraries for Adult Members of our Sunday-Schools was referred to the Committee on Sunday-Schools and Tract Cause; and so much as relates to the Examination of Church Records to the Committee on Revisals.

Thomas M. Eddy presented a memorial from Wabash Avenue Church, Chicago, on Extension of Time, and it was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

William T. Harlow presented a memorial from Mendota District on a Plan for District Conferences, and it was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

SOUTHEASTERN
INDIANA.

SOUTHEASTERN INDIANA CONFERENCE.

On motion of Williamson Terrill, so much of the Journal as relates to the Reception of Ministers and Members from the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, was referred to the Committee on Revisals.

Giles C. Smith presented two memorials from Connersville District Ministerial Association on the subject of Boundaries, and one on Extension of Time, and they were referred to the Committees on Boundaries and Itinerancy respectively. He also presented a memorial from the Quarterly Conference of Jeffersonville Station on the case of William H. Sheets, and it was referred to the Committee on Appeals.

Case of W. H.
Sheets to Com-
mittee on Ap-
peals.

TROY.

TROY CONFERENCE.

Stephen D. Brown presented two memorials on Boundaries: One from the Troy Annual Conference, and one from ministers and laymen on Burlington and St. Albans Districts, and they were referred to the Committee on Boundaries. He also presented sundry petitions from the bounds of Vermont Conference asking to be restored to the Troy Conference, as follows:

One petition from Lincoln, signed by C. A. Stevens and thirteen others; one from Starksborough, signed by S. D. Holcomb and ten others; one from Williston, signed by Theodore Cady and three others; one from Monkton, signed by James Dart and fifteen others; one from Hinesburgh, signed by A. J. Corey and sixteen others; one from Ripton, signed by Ira Boynton and thirteen others; one from Burlington, signed by J. K. Gray and seventeen others; one from Bristol, signed by Stillman White and nine others; one from Salisbury, signed by E. Farnsworth and four others; one from Weybridge, signed by Jason Stowe and nine others; one from Bridport and Shoreham, signed by J. Grovenor and eighteen others; one from Middleburgh, signed by M. Ludlum and forty-seven others; and the resolutions of Sheldon Quarterly Conference, and they were all referred to the Committee on Boundaries. He also presented a memorial from State-street Church, Troy, signed by L. R. Avery and twenty-two others, on Extension of Time of Ministerial Service; on Modification of the Presiding Eldership; and one on Lay Delegation. The two former were referred to the Committee on Itinerancy, and the latter to the Committee on Lay Delegation.

Oren Gregg presented a memorial on Boundaries from Swanton, Vermont Conference, signed by D. E. Brundage and eighteen others, and it was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

UPPER IOWA CONFERENCE.

UPPER IOWA.

Alpha J. Kynett presented four memorials from Davenport District: One on Episcopal Districts, which was referred to the Committee on Episcopacy; one on Extension of Time, which was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy; one on Lay Delegation, which was referred to the Committee on Lay Delegation; and one asking a Revision of the Chapter on the Means of Grace, and it was referred to the Committee on Revisals.

WEST WISCONSIN CONFERENCE.

WEST WISCONSIN.

Matthew Bennett presented a petition relative to the line between the West and Northwest Wisconsin

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Conferences, signed by A. Brunson and ten others, of the Prairie du Chien District, and it was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

Appeal of J. L.
Williams.

On motion of James Lawson, so much of the Journal as relates to the Appeal of J. L. Williams from the Decision of Elmore Yocum, a chairman appointed by the bishop in a select number, was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy; and so much as relates to Boundaries, to the Committee on Boundaries.

WISCONSIN.

WISCONSIN CONFERENCE.

Remonstrances
against Change
of Conference
Boundaries.

Samuel C. Thomas presented remonstrances against any Change in Conference Boundaries, as follows: One from Spring-street, Milwaukee, signed by H. W. Goodall and ten other official members; one from Summerfield Station, Milwaukee, signed by Edward Emery and five other official members; one from Asbury Charge, Milwaukee, signed by P. M. Peterson and five other official members; one from William H. Sampson and sixteen others, all the pastors of Milwaukee District; one from Empire; one from Cascade, signed by William Ford and four others; one from Kewanee and Gibson, signed by William Stevens and thirty-nine others; one from Iron Bridge, signed by A. Butler and seventeen others; one from Cascade, signed by William Mitchell and twenty-five others; one from Neosho, signed by P. M. Putnam and seventeen others; one from Waukesha, signed by T. D. Cook and nine others; one from West Granville, signed by S. S. Clark and ten others; one from Oconomowoc, signed by G. H. Simmons and eight others; one from White-water, signed by Daniel Smith and ten others; one from Mequon, signed by H. L. Chamberlain and seven others; one from Rome, signed by F. M. Holbrook and six others; and one from Lamartine, signed by Nathaniel Swift and fourteen others; and they were all referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

Matthias Himebaugh presented a memorial from the pastors of Appleton District, and also one from the following thirteen quarterly conferences, namely: Waukan, Berlin, Onaro, Oshkosh, Appleton, Neenah, Menasha, Green Bay, New London, Depere, Medina,

Nekima, and Ogdensburgh, against any change of Conference Boundaries, signed by R. Hurlburt and one hundred and fourteen other official members, and they were referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

On motion of Henry Bannister, so much of the Journal as relates to Conference Boundaries was referred to the Committee on Boundaries; and so much as relates to the Bishops' Decisions, to the Committee on Episcopacy.

The Chair presented a memorial from the India Mission, and it was referred to the Committee on Missions; also one from J. T. Hildreth on the Use of Tobacco, and at the request of the petitioner it was referred to the Committee on Slavery.

Reports of standing committees being in order, Frederick Merrick, Chairman of the Committee on Education, made the following report, which was adopted:

The Committee on Education ask leave to report in part. They offer for adoption by the Conference the following resolution:

Resolved, That an educational meeting be held during the present session of the Conference, at such time and place as may be fixed upon by the Committee on Education; and that the same committee make the necessary arrangements for holding said meeting.

William H. Goode, Chairman of the Committee on Missions, submitted Report No. I on the subject of Missions, and, on motion of Isaac N. Baird, it was laid on the table to be printed. He also reported back a resolution of the Board of Managers of the Missionary Society relating to the German Work, and it was referred to the committee on that subject.

Charles B. Tippett, Chairman of the Committee on the Book Concern, reported back a memorial from the editor of the Swedish Paper in the Northwest, relating to Swedish Missionaries and a Swedish Paper, and it was referred to the Committee on Missions.

The list of Conferences was called for the presentation of miscellaneous business, and the following resolutions were offered and acted upon, as follows:

BLACK RIVER CONFERENCE.

Gardner Baker offered the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of altering the Discipline, Part II, § 12, page 85,

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Memorial from
the India Mis-
sion.
Also on the Use
of Tobacco.

Report of
Standing Com-
mittees.
Education.

Committee on
Missions.
Report No. I.

Committee on
Book Concern.

List of Confer-
ences called for
Resolutions,
etc.

BLACK RIVER.

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FIFTH DAY.

by adding after the words "method of meeting a class," in the fourth paragraph, the following: "and to report quarterly to the quarterly conference the spiritual condition of the classes severally, and the average number of attendance at the class-meetings." So that the whole paragraph shall read as follows: "To appoint all the leaders, to change them when he sees it necessary, and to examine each of them with all possible exactness, at least once a quarter, concerning his method of meeting a class, and to report quarterly to the quarterly conferences the spiritual condition of the classes severally, and the average attendance at the class-meetings."

Resolved, 2. That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of altering the Discipline, Part II, chap. i, § 4, page 58, by inserting among the questions to be asked in Quarterly Conferences the following:

Are the rules respecting classes and class-meetings strictly observed?

Williamson Terrill offered the following substitute for the question in the second resolution:

Has the Rule concerning "members of our Church who willfully and repeatedly neglect to meet their class" been faithfully administered by the pastor?

On motion of William H. Ferris, the substitute was laid on the table, and the resolution was adopted.

Isaac S. Bingham offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of changing the time of the session of the General Conference, so that it shall meet on the first day of November instead of the first of May, quadrennially from the first of November next, and report thereon at an early day of this session.

CALIFORNIA.

CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE.

On motion of Isaac Owen, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be requested to inquire into the propriety of so amending the Discipline in Part II, chap. v, § 2, and page 108, as to strike out the word "accused" in question 5, and insert the word "reported;" and to strike out the words in the answer to said question, "The Conference shall investigate the case, and if it appear that the complaint be well founded, and," and insert the words "and if;" and after the word "consent" insert "by a two thirds vote," so that the whole paragraph shall read:

Quesl. 5. What shall be done when a minister is reported of being so unacceptable, inefficient, or secular, as to be no longer useful in his work?

Ans. If the accused will not voluntarily retire, the Conference may locate him without his consent by a two thirds vote, without a formal charge and trial.

Henry C. Benson offered the following resolution, and it was adopted, namely:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be requested to inquire into the expediency of reporting a rule embracing in substance the following:

That when a preacher of our Church shall have withdrawn or been deposed from the ministry, and afterward shall have been licensed by a Quarterly Conference, he shall not be employed as a supply in the itinerant work without permission by special vote of the Quarterly or the Annual Conference of which he shall last have been a member prior to the surrender of his ministerial authority.

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CENTRAL ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.

CENTRAL IL-
LINOIS.

Oliver S. Munsell offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Sunday-Schools and Tracts be instructed to inquire into and report upon the causes that have led our Sunday-Schools so largely to pass by our own publications in the purchase of libraries, and also into the best method of remedying the evil.

CINCINNATI CONFERENCE.

CINCINNATI.

William Nast submitted the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to consider and report upon the expediency of so adding to the Discipline. Part I, chap. i, § 3, quest. 3, ans. 2, as that it shall read as follows:

Let them be encouraged to attend class, and to give regular attendance upon all the means of grace, according to their age, capacity, and religious experience. But it is not expedient to admit them to the sacrament of the Lord's supper till they shall have been admitted on probation, and shall have given satisfactory evidence to the pastor of their knowledge of the nature and design of the institution, and of their faith in Christ.

Also the same, ans. 3, so that it shall read as follows:

Whenever they shall have attained an age sufficient to understand the obligations of religion, and shall give evidence of a desire to flee from the wrath to come, and to be saved from their sins, their names shall be enrolled in the list of probationers proper; and if they shall continue to give evidence of a principle and habit of piety, and after they have received full instruction on the Catechism by the pastor, and have passed a satisfactory examination on the same before the congregation, they may be admitted into full membership in our Church, on the recommendation of a leader with whom they have met at least six months in class, by publicly assenting before the Church to the baptismal covenant, and also the usual questions on doctrines and Discipline.

The following resolution, offered by Granville Moody, was referred to the Committee on the State of the Country:

Resolved, That in President Lincoln's "Proclamation of Emancipation" we recognize a measure of high military necessity for the protection of our National existence—the highest statesmanship in aiming a blow at the root of American Slavery, which is the cause and furnishes the resources of the wicked rebellion which

President's
Proclamation.

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has inaugurated open deadly war upon our civil institutions; and we recognize the voice of God providentially saying to this nation, as formerly to the ancient Israelites, "Break off every yoke and let the oppressed go free."

On motion of Mighill Dustin, the following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to take into consideration the propriety of striking out the words "two delegates" in the last clause of the Second Restrictive Rule, Part II, § 2, page 46, and inserting "one delegate," so that the clause shall read, "And provided, also, that no Conference shall be denied the privilege of one delegate."

DETROIT.

DETROIT CONFERENCE.

Seth Reed offered the following resolution, and it was adopted :

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the propriety of inserting in the Discipline a rule requiring each preacher who administers the ordinance of baptism to give to the person baptized, or to the parents or guardians of the child baptized, a certificate of the baptism, setting forth the names of the parties, the dates, places, etc.

William E. Bigelow submitted the following resolution :

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be directed to inquire into the expediency of repealing the act of the last General Conference adopting the present order of business for Quarterly Conference, and of restoring the former usage upon that subject.

William H. Hunter moved to amend by striking out the words, "restore the former usage."

Thomas C. Golden moved to lay the amendment on the table, whereupon Reuben Nelson moved to suspend the order of the day; which motion having prevailed, he offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Additional rule
for the govern-
ment of Con-
ference.
Rules.

Resolved, That the following be added to the Rules for the government of the Conference, namely :

When any member shall introduce a motion or resolution referring any subject, without instruction, to a committee, its reference shall be determined without debate.

Order of busi-
ness resumed.

The order of business was then resumed, and the resolution as offered by William E. Bigelow was adopted.

The following resolutions, offered by James S. Smart, were adopted :

Resolved, That the Committee on Boundaries be instructed to inquire into the expediency of so changing the boundary of the Detroit Conference as to make that portion of it lying in the upper peninsula of Michigan conform to the state line.

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Resolved, That the Committee on the Book Concern be instructed to inquire into the expediency of establishing a Book Depository at Detroit, Michigan.

EAST GENESEE CONFERENCE.

EAST GENESEE.

The following resolution, offered by John M. Reid, was, on motion of Mighill Dustin, laid on the table :

Resolved, That at the close of the next week the first call for memorials, etc., shall be suspended.

The following resolution, offered by Augustus C. George, was adopted by a vote of 87 to 59 :

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of so amending the Discipline that it shall no longer be required of Stewards "to register the marriages and baptisms; and to be subject to the bishops, the presiding elder of their district, and the elder, deacon, and traveling preachers of their circuit."

He also offered the following resolutions, which were adopted :

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of inserting in the Discipline a distinct section, defining the powers and duties of the Leaders' Meeting.

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of striking out the words, "or in our institutions of learning," in Part II, chap. ii, § 10, page 81, so that the whole paragraph shall read :

Then if he give us satisfaction, after he has been employed two successive years in the regular itinerant work on circuits or stations, which is to commence from his being received on trial, etc.

Resolved, That the Committee on Episcopacy be instructed to inquire into the expediency of amending the Discipline in Part II, chapter iii, § 1, on page 93, by adding to the third answer the words :

He shall also have authority to leave an effective member of an Annual Conference without an appointment if his Conference shall so advise.

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of so amending the Discipline that paragraph eight in Part II, chapter iv, § 1, page 100, shall read as follows :

To advise the bishop presiding at his Conference in regard to the appointments; and to give him, when absent, all necessary information, by letter, of the state of his district.

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing for a *District Quarterly Conference*, which shall be a Court of Appeals for lay members, have original jurisdiction over local preachers, and recommend them, when approved, to the Annual Conference for ordination, or admission into the traveling connection.

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The following resolution, offered by Augustus C. George, was lost by a vote of 60 to 85 :

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of so amending the Discipline that the presiding elders may be stationed, and supported as the other preachers, except that expenses incurred in needful official visitations shall be met by the charge or charges requiring their services.

On motion of Sylvester L. Congdon, the following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of so amending Part II, chap. x, § 1, of the Discipline as to make the answer to question 2, page 128 prescribe a form of examination for candidates for admission into the Church in full connection.

INDIANA.

INDIANA CONFERENCE.

William M'K. Hester offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be requested to consider the propriety of changing the Discipline, page 38, quest. 1, ans. 1, so that instead of reading, "singing, prayer, the reading of a chapter out of the Old Testament, and another out of the New, and preaching," it may read as follows :

"Let the morning service consist of singing, prayer, the reading of a portion of Scripture from the Old Testament, and also from the New, and preaching,"

Also same page, quest. 1, ans. 2, so as to read :

"Let the afternoon service consist of singing, prayer, the reading of the Scriptures, and preaching."

IOWA.

IOWA CONFERENCE.

Thomas E. Corkhill offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be requested to so change the N. B. in chap. vi, Part II, page 112 of the Discipline as to read :

Whenever a preacher on trial, or a local preacher, is selected by the bishops for a mission, or is appointed by civil or military authority chaplain in the Army or Navy, he may, if the former be elected by an Annual Conference, or the latter be recommended by the Quarterly Conference of which he is a member, ordain him for said work.

The following resolution, offered by William F. Cowles, was lost by a vote of 73 to 95 :

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be requested to inquire into the expediency of so changing the Discipline as to make the attendance on class-meeting *voluntary*, and not a test of membership.

May 7.

FIFTH DAY.

KANSAS.

KANSAS CONFERENCE.

Joseph Denison offered the following preamble and resolution, which were adopted, namely :

Whereas, In the territory of New Mexico there is now a population of ninety thousand Mexicans and Americans, besides Indians; and

Whereas, There is now not one Protestant minister among them engaged in the work of the ministry; and

Whereas, The territory of Arizona, with about the same population, is in much the same condition: therefore

Resolved, That the Committee on Missions be requested to take into serious consideration, and report to the General Conference, the necessity and propriety of establishing a Mission and Mission School in each of these territories.

Hugh D. Fisher offered the following resolution, which was adopted, namely :

Resolved, That the Journals of the Rocky Mountain Conference be committed to the care of Joseph Denison, a delegate from Kansas Conference, and that various parts of said Journals be by him furnished to the several committees to whom they may be referred.

Journals of
Rocky Mountain
Conference.

MICHIGAN CONFERENCE.

MICHIGAN.

Henry Penfield offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the Committee on Boundaries be instructed to inquire into the expediency of so altering the boundaries of the Michigan Conference by striking out all after the word "line," so that it shall read: "The Michigan Conference shall include all that part of the State of Michigan lying west of the principal meridian line." (*Discipline*, p. 254.)

Horace Hall offered the following resolution, and it was adopted :

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of striking out of the Discipline the words, "Appointed by the Quarterly Conference," Part V, chap. i, § 2, ans. 1, page 232, so that it will read: "And to settle the same on trustees, according to the Deed of Settlement published in our form of Discipline."

MISSOURI AND ARKANSAS CONFERENCE.

MISSOURI AND
ARKANSAS.

Samuel Huffman offered the following resolutions, which were adopted :

Resolved, That the Committee on the Book Concern be instructed to inquire into the expediency of establishing a Depository of our books at St. Louis, Mo., to meet the necessities and wants of the great Southwest, now in the providence of God demanding our lit-

May 7.
FIFTH DAY.

erature and ministry; and also to inquire into the necessity of enlarging the Central Christian Advocate, published at St. Louis, so as to make it in all respects equal to the Western and Northwestern Christian Advocates.

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of admitting ministers who may come to us from the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and shall give to an Annual Conference satisfactory evidence of their loyalty to the Government of the United States on the same conditions as now provided in the Discipline for the admission of ministers who come to us from the Wesleyan Connection in Europe and Canada.

NEWARK.

NEWARK CONFERENCE.

Nicholas Vansant offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to consider the expediency of so altering the Discipline, Part II, chap. x, § 1, quest. 1, ans. 1, page 127, as to make it read after the word "baptized," "and shall, on examination by the minister in charge, before the Church, assent to the baptismal covenant, and give satisfactory assurances," etc.

The following resolution, offered by Jonathan T. Crane, was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire whether there exists in the laws of our Church any obstacle to the reception into the various Annual Conferences of as many colored preachers as will supply the colored Churches established or to be established among us.

NEW ENGLAND.

NEW ENGLAND CONFERENCE.

David Sherman offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be requested to consider the propriety of incorporating the section on the Origin of the Methodist Episcopal Church, page 13 of the Discipline, in the Bishops' Address on page 5, after the words "Eastern States," in the eighth line from the top, and before the paragraph beginning, "We esteem," etc.

Ralph W. Allen offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Itinerancy be requested to take into consideration the propriety of recommending such a change in the Discipline as will allow a minister to remain three years in the same charge.

The following resolutions, offered by John H. Twombly, were referred to the Committee on Revisals for consideration:

Resolved, That the phrase "the preacher in charge having the right to nominate," in the third item in the answer to quest. 4, § 4,

chap. i, Part II, page 55, of the Discipline, be stricken out, so that the whole item shall read, "to appoint stewards, and to examine the characters of exhorters annually, and recommend them, if approved, for renewal of license."

Resolved, That the twelfth item in the answer to quest. 1, § 12, chap. ii, Part II, page 85, of the Discipline, namely, "to examine the accounts of all the stewards," be stricken out, and that items 13, 14, 15, 16, etc., be numbered 12, 13, 14, 15, etc., respectively.

May 7.
Fifth Day.

NEW JERSEY CONFERENCE.

NEW JERSEY.

The following resolution, offered by Samuel Y. Monroe, was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Itinerancy be requested to give an early examination to the action referred to them from various Annual Conferences on the subject of the Supernumerary Relation; to inquire what amendments to the Discipline are necessary to restore said relation, and report the same at an early day for the consideration of this body.

NEW YORK CONFERENCE.

NEW YORK.

Joseph B. Wakeley offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Episcopacy be instructed to inquire whether the rule limiting the term of ministerial service has been observed in the letter and the spirit during the last four years.

John W. Lindsay offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be requested to inquire into the expediency of adding on page 92, Part II, chap. iii, § 1, line 18 of the Discipline after "state prisons," the words "to houses of refuge and other corrective or charitable institutions;" so that the clause read, "chaplains to state prisons, to houses of refuge, and other corrective or charitable institutions, and chaplains in the army and navy."

NEW YORK EAST CONFERENCE.

NEW YORK
EAST

Daniel Curry offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Book Concern be instructed to inquire into the expediency of depositing with each Annual Conference a copy of the General Minutes from the beginning; also a copy of the Journals of all the General Conferences.

The following resolution, offered by Daniel Curry, was lost:

Resolved, That when we adjourn, we adjourn to meet on Monday next at 2 o'clock P. M.

The following resolution, offered by Daniel Curry, was laid on the table by a vote of 106 to 40:

May 7.

FIFTH DAY.

Final Adjourn-
ment lost.*Resolved*, That we will adjourn finally on or before Saturday, May 28.

George W. Woodruff offered the following resolution:

Time of electing
General Con-
ference Offi-
cers lost.*Resolved*, That the elections for officers to be chosen by this General Conference be made the order of the day for Tuesday morning, May 17, at ten o'clock.

A motion to lay the resolution on the table was lost by a vote of 74 to 80.

Mighill Dustin moved to amend by striking out "seventeenth" and inserting "twenty-fourth." The amendment was laid on the table.

John P. Durbin moved to amend by striking out "seventeenth" and inserting "twentieth," but the amendment was laid on the table; and, on motion of John M. Reid, the whole subject was indefinitely postponed.

NORTH INDI-
ANA.

NORTH INDIANA CONFERENCE.

On motion of William H. Goode, the resolution offered by Samuel C. Brown on Wednesday morning, May 4, and which was then laid on the table, was taken up and referred to the Committee on Revisals.

William H. Goode offered the following resolutions, which were adopted:

Resolved, 1. That a committee of three be appointed by the Chair, to be known as the Committee on Church Tenures, to whom shall be referred all propositions respecting the tenures to our church property.*Resolved*, 2. That said committee be instructed, with the aid of such legal counsel as may be deemed necessary, to prepare and present for the consideration of this Conference an abbreviated form for the conveyance of church property, to take the place of the tedious and obsolete forms now contained in the Discipline and in the Appendix, and known as the "Deed of Settlement;" carefully guarding the uses and trusts to the Methodist Episcopal Church, according to our economy and usage, as now declared in the old form.*Resolved*, 3. That said committee be further instructed to prepare and submit to this Conference a uniform method of appointing trustees for our meeting-houses and parsonages, whether in the creation of new boards or the filling of vacancies, and defining their term of office.

All with due reference to the existing laws of the several states and territories.

On motion of the Secretary, the time of the session was extended.

May 7.
FIFTH DAY.
NORTH OHIO.

NORTH OHIO CONFERENCE.

George W. Breckenridge offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Book Concern be requested to inquire into the propriety of limiting the amount of profits to be retained in the hands of the Book Agents, and of requiring annual dividends.

Henry Whiteman offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of amending the Discipline, page 42, chap. ii, § 3, and answer to question 4, "How often shall we permit serious persons, who are not of our Church, to meet in class?" by striking out the words "at every other meeting of the class in every place let no stranger be admitted. At other times they may, but—" so that the answer will read, "The same person not above twice or thrice."

NORTHWEST INDIANA CONFERENCE.

NORTHWEST IN-
DIANA.

George M. Boyd offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Slavery be instructed to inquire into the expediency of recommending in their report the alteration of the General Rule so as to read, "The buying, selling, or holding human beings as property."

OHIO CONFERENCE.

OHIO.

Joseph M. Trimble offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be requested to inquire into the propriety of inserting a rule in our Discipline requiring the records of the Quarterly Conferences to be sent to the Annual Conferences to be examined by a committee appointed for such purpose.

Barzillai N. Spahr offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be requested to inquire into the propriety of so amending the Discipline, Part II, chap. x, § 2, page 128, as to provide for suspending persons for certain grades of improper conduct.

ONEIDA CONFERENCE.

ONEIDA.

Albert S. Graves offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Temporal Economy be requested to inquire into the expediency of so altering the answer to the question, "How shall the Presiding Elders be supported?" (Discipline,

May 7.
FIFTH DAY.

Part II, chap. iv, § 2,) by striking out all that follows the clause "according to their several ability," and substituting "and the stewards of each charge shall provide by such methods as they may judge best to meet such amount," that the whole answer will be, "There shall be annually, in every district, a meeting composed of one steward from each circuit and station, to be selected by the Quarterly Conference, whose duty it shall be, with the advice of the Presiding Elder, (who shall preside in such meeting,) to make an estimate of the amount necessary to furnish a comfortable support to the Presiding Elder, and to apportion the same, including house rent and traveling expenses, among the different circuits and stations in the district, according to their several ability; and the stewards of each charge shall provide, by such methods as they may judge best, to meet such amount."

OREGON.

OREGON CONFERENCE.

Thomas H. Pearne offered the following resolutions, which were adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Missions be instructed to inquire into the expediency of giving the Pacific Conferences a representative in the General Mission Committee.

Resolved, That the Committee on Boundaries be instructed to inquire into the expediency of erecting an annual conference in the Territory of Idaho.

PROVIDENCE.

PROVIDENCE CONFERENCE.

Daniel Wise offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Sunday-Schools and Tract Cause be and hereby are requested to inquire into the expediency of so amending the Discipline as to make it the duty of Quarterly Conferences to annually appoint tract committees, whose duty it shall be to devise and execute plans for local tract circulation.

David Patten offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of inserting in the Discipline, chap. i, § 3, page 48, the following question and answer, namely:

Quest. What are the powers of a *Mission* Annual Conference?

Ans. All the rights, powers, and privileges of other Annual Conferences, excepting that of sending delegates to the General Conferences, and of drawing an annual dividend from the avails of the Book Concern and Chartered Fund, and of voting on constitutional changes proposed in the Discipline.

PITTSBURGH.

PITTSBURGH CONFERENCE.

James Henderson offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Slavery be requested to inquire into the expediency of so changing the item in the General Rules, Part I, chap. ii, paragraph 2, on the subject of buying or selling

men, women, and children with an intention to enslave them, be so changed as to read: "The buying, selling, or holding men, women, or children in a state of slavery."

May 7.
FIFTH DAY.

William A. Davidson offered the following resolution, which, on motion of Randolph S. Foster, was laid on the table:

Resolved, That it is not proper for the Standing Committees to receive any communication, either written or verbal, except by permission of the Conference.

ROCK RIVER CONFERENCE.

ROCK RIVER.

Samuel A. W. Jewett offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire and report as to the expediency of striking out the word "Super-numerary" in chap. i, § 2, page 47 of the Discipline.

The following resolution, offered by Thomas M. Eddy, was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Episcopacy be instructed to consider and report as to the expediency of providing for the ordination in the interval of the Annual Conference, of proper persons chosen as chaplains in the army, and if expedient, to report provisions for such ordination.

TROY CONFERENCE.

TROY.

Desevignia Starks offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Itinerancy be instructed to consider the propriety of making the presiding elders elective by the Annual Conferences, and report the result of their considerations to this Conference.

The following resolution, offered by Bostwick Hawley was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Episcopacy be and hereby are instructed to inquire and report whether it be in accordance with the general usage of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with the spirit of her economy, and with the law of the same given in the Discipline, Part II, chap. iii, § 1, in answer to question 3, and in chap. iv, § 1, that on the decease of a presiding elder in the interim of Annual Conferences, a bishop divide for the remainder of the year the district into two or more sub-districts, and appoint thereto as many presiding officers having power to perform all the duties of presiding elders in Quarterly Conferences, and to represent in the ensuing Annual Conference the preachers within their several sub-districts, they the meanwhile retaining their positions as preachers in charge of the circuit or station to which they were previously appointed.

May 7.
FIFTH DAY.
UPPER IOWA.

UPPER IOWA CONFERENCE.

Richard W. Keeler offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Missions be instructed to inquire into the expediency of forming a "General Church Extension Society," with a view of securing more ample Church accommodations in the newer portions of our work, and also to assist feeble societies, and report at an early day.

WESTERN VIRGINIA.

WESTERN VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.

James Drummond offered the following preamble and resolution, which were adopted:

Whereas, The Discipline, page 212, requires presiding elders to ask in "each session of the Quarterly Conference" the following questions, namely:

"What has been done by the Mission Committee toward raising funds for the support of Missions?"

"Have the Sunday-schools been organized into Missionary Societies?"

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be requested to consider the expediency of adding these to the list of questions found on pages 57 and 58, to be asked in Quarterly Conferences.

The following resolutions, offered by John W. Reger, were adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the propriety of so amending answer 10 to question 1 of the Discipline, page 85, as to make it read, "That the preacher in charge be required to make a written report of his circuit or station every quarter to his presiding elder, and that it be entered on the Journals of the Quarterly Conference."

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the propriety of adding the following question to those found on pages 57 and 58 relating to Quarterly Conference business: "Have the General Rules been read in each society during the past quarter?"

WISCONSIN.

WISCONSIN CONFERENCE.

Caleb D. Pillsbury offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be requested to inquire into the expediency of making Disciplinary provision for permitting young men who are members of Annual Conferences to a course of study in Biblical Institutes, without forfeiting their relation to their Conference. And also for admitting students on trial in Annual Conferences, allowing them one year's trial while students when not less than that length of time is passed in the Institute subsequent to admission on trial.

WYOMING CONFERENCE.

May 7.
FIFTH DAY.
WYOMING.

Reuben Nelson offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of such revision of the Discipline as shall provide for a Court to try Appeals from the action of Annual Conferences, which court shall hold annual sessions.

The following resolutions, offered by Horatio R. Clark, were adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of amending the Discipline, Part II, chap. viii, § 1, page 116, by adding the following, namely: "And no member of the Church shall be at liberty to preach without such license."

Resolved, That the Committee on the Ritual be instructed to inquire into the propriety of omitting all reference to the manipulation of the elements in the prayer of consecration as recorded in the Discipline, Part II, chap. ii, pages 153, 154.

On motion of George Peck, Daniel Wise was added to the Committee on the Christian Commission.

Daniel Wise added to Committee on the Christian Commission.

In response to the invitation extended to Bishop Morris by resolution, adopted on the first day of the session, to preach at his convenience a semi-centennial sermon before this body, the Chair announced that the contemplated services would be held on next Tuesday, at 10½ o'clock A. M.

Bishop Morris to preach to the Conference.

The Chair announced also that the delegate from the Wesleyan Conference in England, the Rev. William L. Thornton, M.A., in response to a resolution inviting him thereto, would preach before this Conference on Monday, the 16th inst., at 10½ o'clock A. M.

W. L. Thornton to preach to the Conference.

Bishop Baker announced the following special committees, namely:

Special Committees.

Committee to Report a Plan of Trusteeship for the General Conference: William Young, Elijah H. Pilcher, Albert Church, Williamson Terrill, James Lawson, John Miley, Kasimir P. Jervis.

Trusteeship for the General Conference.

Deputation to the African Methodist Episcopal Church: James Hill, Nicholas Vansant, John W. Armstrong, Daniel Wise, James Cunningham.

Deputation to the African M. E. Church.

Committee on the State of the Work among the People of Color: James M'K. Reiley, Edwin E. Griswold, James Drummond, John Lanahan, Adam Wallace, Samuel Huffman, Mighill Dustin.

State of the Work among People of Color.

May 7.
FIFTH DAY.
Ritual.

Committee on the Ritual: Davis W. Clark, Freeborn G. Hibbard, Bostwick Hawley, William A. Davidson, Charles F. Allen, Daniel W. Bristol, George Mulfinger.

Conference adjourned.

On motion of Daniel W. Bristol, Conference adjourned. The Doxology was sung, and Conference closed with prayer by Daniel W. Bristol.

May 9.
SIXTH DAY.
Opening of Conference.

MONDAY MORNING, MAY 9.

Conference met this morning at half past eight o'clock A. M., Bishop Janes in the chair. The usual religious services were conducted by Charles B. Tipsett, of East Baltimore Conference.

The Journal of Saturday was read and approved.

Rev. John Carroll introduced.

Bishop Morris introduced to the Conference the Rev. John Carroll, a delegate from the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Canada. The credentials of his appointment, and also of the appointment of S. S. Nelles, D.D., a delegate from the same body, were presented and read.

Credentials of S. S. Nelles, D.D., presented.

On motion of Daniel W. Bristol, the order of business was suspended, and the following preamble and resolution, offered by Thomas C. Golden, were, on motion of Kasimir P. Jervis, referred to the Committee on the State of the Country:

State of the Country.

Whereas, It is a well-known fact that the Methodist Episcopal Church was the first to tender its allegiance to the Government under the Constitution in the days of Washington; and

Whereas the fair record of the Church has never been tarnished by disloyalty; and

Whereas our ministers and people are truly and deeply in sympathy with the Government in its efforts to put down rebellion and set the captives free; therefore

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed, whose duty it shall be to proceed to Washington, and to present to the President of these United States, in a suitable address, the assurances of our Church that we are with him heart and soul in the present struggle for human rights and free institutions.

And, on motion of Daniel W. Bristol, the committee was instructed to report in relation thereto at the earliest moment.

Order of business taken up.

On motion of Edwin E. Griswold, the order of business was resumed, and the list of Conferences was called for the presentation of petitions, memorials, and appeals.

May 9.
SIXTH DAY.
BLACK RIVER.

BLACK RIVER CONFERENCE.

On motion of John B. Foote, so much of the Journal as relates to General Conference action in regard to Sunday-Schools was referred to the Committee on Sunday-Schools and Tract Cause; and, on motion of James Erwin, so much as relates to Division of the Conference was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

CENTRAL OHIO CONFERENCE.

CENTRAL OHIO.

Leonard B. Gurley presented a remonstrance against a change of line between the Central Ohio and North Ohio Conferences, signed by H. S. Camp and thirteen other official members of Galion Station, and it was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

CINCINNATI CONFERENCE.

CINCINNATI.

Moses Smith presented a petition from Edgar Conkling relating to Class-meetings, and it was referred to the Committee on Revisals.

EAST GENESEE CONFERENCE.

EAST GENESEE.

Kasimir P. Jervis presented a memorial on Boundaries, and it was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

GENESEE CONFERENCE.

GENESEE.

On motion of Albert D. Wilbor, so much of the Journal as relates to a Union of the Northern Christian Advocate with the Christian Advocate and Journal was referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.

ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.

ILLINOIS.

Robert E. Guthrie presented a memorial from Rev. George Rutledge on a Financial Plan for the Use of Stewards, and it was referred to the Committee on Temporal Economy.

INDIANA CONFERENCE.

INDIANA.

James H. Noble presented a remonstrance against a Change of Conference Boundaries from the preachers of Greencastle District, and it was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

May 9.
SIXTH DAY.
IOWA.

IOWA CONFERENCE.

Thomas E. Corkhill presented a memorial from the African Zion Church, and it was referred to the Committee on Missions.

KANSAS.

KANSAS CONFERENCE.

Joseph Denison presented a memorial from C. Carpenter and seven others on the subject of Boundaries, and it was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

MINNESOTA.

MINNESOTA CONFERENCE.

Benjamin F. Crary presented a petition from Princeton, Minnesota, signed by H. I. Shaffner and twenty-eight others, asking that a Book Depository be established at St. Paul, and it was referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.

Daniel Cobb presented a similar petition from Conrad Rheil and twenty-four others, and it was similarly referred.

PHILADELPHIA.

PHILADELPHIA CONFERENCE.

James Cunningham presented a memorial from Rev. J. Neill asking that the General Conference order that there be but two relations, Effective and Supernumerary, and it was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

PITTSBURGH.

PITTSBURGH CONFERENCE.

Samuel H. Nesbit presented the financial exhibit of the Pittsburgh Christian Advocate, and it was referred to the Committee on the Book Concern. [See *Appendix C*, V.]

ROCK RIVER.

ROCK RIVER CONFERENCE.

Thomas M. Eddy presented a memorial from the Trustees of the Garrett Biblical Institute, and it was referred to the Committee on Education.

He also presented a memorial of the pastors and official members of Chicago, asking extension of time, and it was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

TROY.

TROY CONFERENCE.

William Griffin presented the action of the Esperance Quarterly Meeting Conference on Negotiations between

Pastors and People concerning the Pastoral Relation, and it was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy; and, on his motion, so much of the Journal as proposes to strike the word "superannuated" from the Discipline and substitute the word "supernumerary" in its stead, was referred to the same committee; and so much as relates to Transfers to the Committee on Re-visals.

May 9.
SIXTH DAY.

VERMONT CONFERENCE.

VERMONT.

Andes T. Bullard presented sundry memorials on the subject of Boundaries, as follows, namely: One from Enosburgh, signed by Austin Fuller and thirty-four others; one from West Berkshire, signed by John K. Whitney and twenty others; one from Bakersfield, signed by Rev. Alexander Field and eighteen others; one from Richmond, signed by Rev. W. Mooney and five others; one from Franklin, signed by W. C. Robie and thirty-four others; one from Cambridge, signed by M. O. Heath and three others; one from Elmore, signed by L. H. Doty and twenty-four others; one from St. Albans Bay, signed by James H. Curry and eight others; one from Montgomery, signed by A. S. Sampson and twenty others; one from Eden, signed by L. N. Ferrand and two others; one from Isle La Motte, signed by Rev. W. H. Dean and three others; one from Hyde Park, signed by S. A. Spicer and eleven others; one from Ripford and East Berkshire, signed by Rev. J. Powell and nineteen others; two from Alburgh, one signed by Z. S. Haines and sixteen others, the other signed by H. J. Moore and eleven others; and one from Danville District, signed by A. T. Bullard; and they were referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

Putnam P. Ray presented a memorial on Boundaries from Stowe, signed by Z. H. Brown; and another on the same subject from Williston, signed by Hiram Phelps and eleven others; and they were referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

WESTERN VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.

WESTERN VIR-
GINIA.

James Drummond presented a memorial on Boundaries from R. D. Callihan and seven others, and it was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

May 9.
SIXTH DAY.
WEST WISCONSIN.
SIN.

WEST WISCONSIN CONFERENCE.

James Lawson presented memorials on Boundaries, as follows: One each from the Quarterly Conferences of Mineral Point, Darlington, and Fayette; one from Beetown, signed by C. Bushnell and seven others; one from Platteville, signed by J. C. Aspinwall and fifteen others; one from State Line, signed by James Hightshoe and fourteen others; one from Shellsburgh, signed by E. Tasker and twenty-four others; one from Elk Grove, signed by William Barrett and eleven others; and one from Monroe, signed by E. M'Ginley and eight others; and they were referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

WISCONSIN.

WISCONSIN CONFERENCE.

Samuel C. Thomas presented a memorial from Wau-pacca, on Boundaries, signed by W. Scott and three others, and it was referred to the Committee on Boundaries; and Caleb D. Pillsbury presented a similar memorial from Racine District, signed by A. C. Manwell and seven other preachers, and it was referred to the same committee.

Reports of
Standing Com-
mittees.

Reports from Standing Committees being in order, John M. Reid, Chairman, submitted report No. I from the Committee on Itinerancy, and it was adopted, as follows:

Itinerancy.
Report No. I.
Case of O. B.
Knudson.

The Committee on Itinerancy, having examined that part of the Journal of the West Wisconsin Conference which relates to the case of O. B. Knudson, referred to them for consideration, would report that, as it appears, charges and specifications were preferred against the said brother, and referred by the Conference for trial to a select number of nine, according to the Discipline, with a chairman appointed by the bishop. On the assembling of the select number, their chairman, without the consent of the committee, dismissed the case, on account of informality and indefiniteness in the charges and specifications. Notice was given that the action in the case would be brought before this General Conference. Your committee recommend for adoption the following:

Complaint may
not be dis-
missed by a
Chairman.

Resolved, That the select number appointed to try accused members of an Annual Conference act in the case in the stead and with the powers of the Conference itself, and its chairman is in the place of the bishop. It is therefore improper for the chairman in such a case to dismiss a complaint.

Miscellaneous
Business.

The list of Conferences was called for the presentation of miscellaneous business, and resolutions were presented and acted on, as follows:

BLACK RIVER CONFERENCE.

May 9.
SIXTH DAY.
BLACK RIVER.

Gardner Baker offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the bishops be respectfully requested to state to this General Conference, at their earliest convenience, whether in their opinion the state of the work is such as to require an addition to the present number of bishops, and if any, how many.

Additional
Bishops.

John B. Foote offered the following resolutions, and they were adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of amending the Discipline so as to allow a bishop to appoint a member of an annual conference as missionary to the army or navy.

Missionaries for
the Army or
Navy.

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of changing the Discipline, chap. x, § 1, quest. 1, ans. 1, page 127, by inserting "leaders' meeting of circuit or station" in place of "leader," and "attended class-meeting" in place of "met." So that the amended paragraph shall read, "Let none be received into the Church until they have attended class-meeting at least six months on trial, and have been recommended by the leaders' meeting of the circuit or station, and have been baptized."

Leaders' Meet-
ing.

Eli C. Bruce offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be requested to inquire into the propriety of inserting in the Discipline, Part II, chap. i, § 4, quest. 5, after the fourteenth inquiry in the order of Quarterly Conference business, page 58, the two following inquiries: "Who constitute the stewards for the ensuing year?" and "Who is the recording steward?" Also of closing the paragraph in brackets, on page 58, with the words "are called up." So that the whole amended portion will read as follows:

Amendments
to the Disci-
pline.

"15. Who constitute the stewards for the ensuing year?"

"16. Who is the recording steward?"

"17. Who is the district steward?"

"18. Is there any other business?"

[In answer to this, at the fourth Quarterly Conference, the examination of local preachers, exhorters, and stewards, and the licensing of local preachers and exhorters, and recommendations to the Annual Conference for orders or for admission into the traveling connection, are called up.]

CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE.

CALIFORNIA.

Jesse T. Peck offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

In accordance with the suggestions of the California Annual Conference,

Resolved, That the Committee on the Book Concern be and hereby are instructed to inquire into the expediency of amending the Discipline by adding the following as paragraph (9), page 223:

Book Commit-
tee on the Pa-
cific Coast.

"(9.) There shall be a Book Committee, consisting of three members of the California Conference, two members of the Oregon Con-

May 9.
SIXTH DAY.

ference, and one member for each Annual Conference which may be constituted on the Pacific Coast, to be appointed by these Conferences respectively, who shall sustain an advisory relation to the San Francisco Methodist Book Depository. They shall furnish such information to the Book Agents at New York, and make such suggestions to them and their agent in San Francisco as the interests of the depository may require, and they shall make annual reports of the condition and wants of said depository to each of the said Conferences, and once in four years to the General Conference."

CINCINNATI.

CINCINNATI CONFERENCE.

Moses Smith offered the following preamble and resolution, and they were adopted:

Conference of Appeals.

Whereas, At several General Conferences attention has been called to the organization of a Conference of Appeals; be it therefore

Resolved, That the Chair appoint a committee of seven to take into consideration the propriety of organizing such Conference, to meet in the intervals of the sessions of the General Conference.

DETROIT.

DETROIT CONFERENCE.

William E. Bigelow offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

Neglect of means of grace.

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be directed to inquire into the expediency of amending the Discipline by striking out the words "to meet their class" after the word "neglect" from quest. 3, § 3, chap. ii, on page 41, and substituting in their place "the regularly appointed means of grace," so that the question shall read: "What shall we do with those members of our Church who willfully and repeatedly neglect the regularly appointed means of grace?"

EAST BALTIMORE.

EAST BALTIMORE CONFERENCE.

Charles B. Tippet offered the following resolutions, and they were adopted:

Ministers and bishops salaries.

Resolved, That the Committee on Temporal Economy be requested to inquire into the expediency of a change in the manner of estimating and paying the salaries of the bishops, and the widows and orphans of deceased bishops.

Resolved, That the Committee on Temporal Economy be instructed to inquire into the expediency of restoring to its proper place in the Discipline the paragraph in relation to the collection of salaries by law, which paragraph was stricken out four years ago.

Jacob S. M'Murray offered the following resolutions, and they were adopted:

New Ritual on Baptism.

Resolved, That the Committee on the Ritual be instructed to consider the propriety of amending the proposed new Ritual for the Baptism of Infants, page 12, so that instead of the words, "We do therefore solemnly admonish," etc., it shall read:

("Do you therefore solemnly engage to fulfill these duties so far as in you lies?

"*Ans.* I will endeavor so to do, the Lord being my helper.")

Resolved, That the Committee on the Tenure of Church Property be instructed to inquire into the expediency of inserting a clause in the Discipline recommending all boards of Trustees as early as practicable to secure an act of incorporation.

May 9.
SIXTH DAY.
Incorporation
of Trustees.

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of so amending the Discipline, § 2, Part II, page 128, as to designate the different grades of Church penalties corresponding to the different grades of offense.

Church Penalties.

EAST GENESEE CONFERENCE.

EAST GENESEE.

Augustus C. George offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Episcopacy be instructed to report to this Conference at an early day whether, in the judgment of the Committee, the bishops have authority, under the present rule of discipline, to appoint a presiding elder to the charge of a station or circuit.

Stationing presiding elders.

Sylvester L. Congdon offered the following preamble and resolution, which were adopted:

Whereas, Many of our people in some parts of our work desire a modification of the presiding eldership, therefore

Resolved, That the Committee on the Itinerancy be instructed to inquire into the practicability and expediency of so changing the duties of the presiding elder as to render it possible for him to be stationed as are the other preachers.

ERIE CONFERENCE.

ERIE.

Russell H. Hurlburt offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the propriety of inserting in the Discipline a rule requiring every preacher who shall solemnize a marriage to furnish to the parties a certificate of the same, with date, place, witnesses, etc.

Marriage Certificates.

GENESEE CONFERENCE.

GENESEE.

John B. Wentworth offered the following preamble and resolutions, which were adopted:

Inasmuch as our General Rules, which require those who join our societies to abstain from doing any harm, and to do all possible good both to the bodies and the souls of men, are a sufficient condemnation of the great crimes of piracy, robbery, murder, and adultery, without any specific enumeration of these crimes, and, hence do, without specific mention, still more emphatically condemn the greater crime of Slavery, which is the sum of all these villainies: and since, by the speedy destruction of this system of unmitigated wrong and cruelty, which we anticipate as a necessary result of the declared policy of the government in the prosecution of the war, and the reconstruction of the rebellious states, any special inhibition of slavery and slaveholding incorporated in the Constitution of our Church must soon become obsolete, and could have no practical

Rule on Slavery.

May 9.
SIXTH DAY.

effect, but only serve as a memorial of the former complicity of Church and State with this stupendous wrong, by which the civilization and Christianity of the nineteenth century in our country have become lastingly disgraced, without the use of extraordinary means for perpetuating their shame: therefore

Resolved, 1. That the Committee on Slavery be instructed carefully to consider the wisdom and propriety of recommending in their forthcoming report, not any amendment of our present Rule on Slavery, but an elimination of that Rule, by the action of this Conference and the concurrent action of a constitutional majority in the Annual Conferences.

Resolved, 2. That the Committee on Slavery be also instructed to consider whether there cannot be, by this conference, and before any change can be effected in the General Rules, such an interpretation of these Rules, and such statutory enactments introduced into the Discipline in answer to the question "What shall be done for the extirpation of the evil of Slavery?" as shall, without doing any violence to the letter or spirit of our constitutional law, forbid the admission of slaveholders into our communion, and also require the expulsion of any of this class of sinners who may now chance to be members of our Church.

ILLINOIS.

ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.

Robert E. Guthrie offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

Leaders' Meeting.

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to consider the propriety of preparing a list of questions in the Discipline for the use of leaders' meetings, so as to secure uniformity in the order of business in those meetings.

Samson Shinn offered the following resolutions, and they were adopted:

Admission to love-feast.

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the propriety of striking out of the Discipline questions 4 and 5, with their answers, of § 3, chap. ii, Part I, page 42, commencing, "How often shall we permit," etc.

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the propriety of striking out ans. 2, quest. 1, chap. ii, § 12, Part II, page 84, which reads as follows: "To renew the tickets for the admission of members into love-feast quarterly."

INDIANA.

INDIANA CONFERENCE.

George W. Walker offered the following resolutions, which were adopted:

Support of Superannuates.

Resolved, That the Committee on Temporal Economy be requested to inquire into the expediency of changing the Discipline, page 56, § 4, quest. 4, item 9, by adding, "Taking into account the amount of his or her income for the current year," so that the whole paragraph shall read:

"It shall be the duty of each Quarterly Conference of each charge within whose bounds a superannuated preacher, or widow or child of a deceased preacher may reside, to appoint a committee, whose duty it shall be to make an estimate of the amount

necessary to assist such preacher, widow, or child to obtain a comfortable support, *taking into account the amount of his or her income for the current year*, and such estimate shall be sent up to the annual conference with which such claimant may be connected, and subject to the action of said annual conference."

May 9.
SIXTH DAY.

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be requested to inquire into the expediency of changing the Discipline, page 66, § 3, quest. 3, item 3, by erasing "exercise" and inserting "constant sense," so that the paragraph shall read:

Means of Grace.

"These may be used without fruit. But there are some means which cannot, namely: watching, denying ourselves, taking up our cross, *constant sense* of the presence of God."

The following resolutions, offered by William M^rK. Hester, were adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be requested to consider the propriety of so changing the answer to quest. 5, page 57, of the Discipline that it may read as follows:

Disciplinary questions for Quarterly Conferences.

Ans. We inquire,

1. Are there any complaints?
2. Are there any appeals?
3. Is there any change desired in the Board of Stewards?
4. What amount is estimated for the support of the pastors of this charge the present year?
5. What amount has been received for the support of the pastors the present quarter?
6. Is there a written report on Sabbath-schools, and the religious instruction of children?
7. Are there any further reports,
 - (1.) From the pastor?
 - (2.) From the stewards?

[NOTE.—The stewards shall report (1) the whole quarterly claim; (2) deficiency past quarter; (3) amount received; (4) total deficiency or overplus; (5) amount paid to pastor; (6) amount paid to presiding elder.]

- (3.) From trustees?
- (4.) From committees?
8. Is there any miscellaneous business?
9. What amounts have been contributed this year,
 - (1.) For missions?
 - (2.) For the Sunday-School Union?
 - (3.) For the tract cause?
 - (4.) For conference claimants?
10. How many subscribers have been obtained for our periodicals?
11. Are the Church records properly kept?
12. Who constitute the committees for the ensuing year?
 - (1.) The Estimating Committee?
 - (2.) The Sunday-School Committee?
 - (3.) The Mission Committee?
13. Who is the District Steward?

[The examination of local preachers and exhorters, and recommendations to annual conferences for orders or for admission into the traveling connection, shall take place under the eighth question at the fourth quarterly conference; the licensing of local preachers at any quarterly conference.]

N. B. Question 4 is asked only at the first quarterly conference; questions 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 at the last quarterly conference.

May 9. *Resolved*, That the Committee on Slavery be requested to inquire into the expediency of recommending in their Report the change of the General Rule on Slavery so as to read as follows: "Slavery: the buying, selling, or holding of a human being as a chattel."

KANSAS.

KANSAS CONFERENCE.

Hugh D. Fisher offered the following resolutions, and they were adopted:

Committee on Freedmen. *Resolved*, That Calvin Kingsley be added to the Committee on Freedmen.

Ordination of Chaplains. *Resolved*, That the Committee on Revisals be requested to inquire into the expediency of so changing the Discipline, page 112, chap. 6, N. B., that it will read: "Whenever a preacher on trial is selected by a bishop for a mission, or by the proper executive, military, or state authorities for a chaplaincy in the army, navy, hospitals, or prisons, he may, if elected by an Annual Conference, with the approbation of a bishop, be ordained by him before his probation ends."

MICHIGAN.

MICHIGAN CONFERENCE.

Horace Hall presented the following resolutions, and they were adopted:

Mode of making appointments. *Resolved*, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the propriety of inserting in the Discipline the following words: "In associate counsel with the presiding elders of the Conference," Part II, chap. 3, § 1, quest. 3, ans. 3, page 92, so that it will read, "To fix the appointments of the preachers in associate counsel with the presiding elders of the Conference."

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the propriety of inserting in the Discipline the following words: "And advise with them at the Annual Conferences in fixing the appointment of the preachers," Part II, chap. iv, § 1, quest. 4, ans. 8, page 100, so that it will read: "To attend the bishops when present in his district, and to give them, when absent, all necessary information by letter of the state of his district, and advise with them at the Annual Conference in fixing the appointments of the preachers."

Francis B. Bangs offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

Committee of Trial. *Resolved*, That the Committee on Episcopacy be instructed to inquire as to the right of a Committee of Trial, appointed by an Annual Conference, to hold a session during the intervals of Conference for trial of any of its members.

MINNESOTA.

MINNESOTA CONFERENCE.

Daniel Cobb offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

The presiding eldership. *Resolved*, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of so altering the Discipline, treating of the ap-

pointment of presiding elders and their work, that the several Annual Conferences shall be at liberty to modify their relation to their work, and the work itself within their respective bounds, as shall best harmonize with their varied circumstances and demands.

May 9.
SIXTH DAY.

NEWARK CONFERENCE.

NEWARK.

Alexander L. Brice offered the following preamble and resolution :

Whereas, There is a general disposition in a large portion of our work to establish stations; and

Pulpit exchanges.

Whereas, This tends to undermine the itinerancy and promote congregationalism, and thereby destroy the connectional unity of our Church; therefore

Resolved, That the Committee on Itinerancy be requested to inquire into the expediency of making arrangements for a frequent and regular exchange of pulpits in all our work.

Thomas C. Gardner moved to lay the preamble on the table, and the motion prevailed by a vote of 79 to 44, after which the resolution was adopted.

Stacey W. Hilliard submitted the following resolutions :

Resolved, That in all practicable cases we give it as our judgment that no change of boundary lines should be perfected without the knowledge and consent of the Conferences geographically interested.

Conference Boundaries and State Lines.

Resolved, That this General Conference declare this principle of change as its rule of action.

James Drummond moved to lay the resolution on the table, but the motion was lost; whereupon, on motion of Benjamin Pilsbury, it was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

On motion of Nicholas Vansant, the following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be requested to consider the propriety of amending the Discipline, Part II, chap. x, § 2, answer to question 1, page 128, by inserting the following clause after the word "taken," namely: "When the circumstances of the case demand it the presiding elder of the district may appoint a preacher to preside during the trial; but his jurisdiction shall cease with the verdict of the committee."

Trial of ministers.

NEW ENGLAND CONFERENCE.

NEW ENGLAND.

On motion of John H. Twombly, the following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of adding to the exceptions in the third item

Ordination of Chaplains, etc.

May 9.
SIXTH DAY.

in the answer to quest. 2, § 1, chap. iii, Part II, page 93 of the Discipline the following phrase, namely: "Or to the national service in the Army or Navy," so that the two last exceptions shall read as follows: "And also when requested by an Annual Conference to appoint a preacher for a longer time than two years to any seminary of learning not under our care, or to the national service in the Army or Navy."

NEW JERSEY.

NEW JERSEY CONFERENCE.

Samuel Y. Monroe offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Relation of the Church to public schools.

Resolved, That the Committee on Education be instructed to take into consideration the relation of our denomination to the subject of public schools, and suggest what measures, if any, are necessary to secure our proportionate influence and control in their management and instruction.

NEW YORK EAST.

NEW YORK EAST CONFERENCE.

Edwin E. Griswold offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Relation of baptized children.

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of so extending the section in our Discipline "On the relation of baptized children to the Church" as to provide for the formation of classes of catechumens.

The proposal is that serious minded children, and children professing to be regenerated, instead of being entered at once on probation and put under ordinary leaders, shall be put in small classes by themselves under the guidance and instruction of persons of intelligence and piety—females where it is possible—preparatory to their being admitted on trial.

Daniel Curry offered a series of resolutions, as follows; and, on his motion, they were referred to the Committee on Episcopacy:

Plan of Episcopal districts.

Resolved, That, in order to the more effective supervision of the affairs of the Church, and especially the pastoral visitation of the work, by the bishops, during the intervals between the sessions of the annual conferences, the number of bishops should be increased, and the work so distributed that appropriate fields of pastoral oversight may be assigned to the bishops severally during each quadrennial term between the sessions of the General Conference.

Resolved, That the Committee on Episcopacy, with the advice and assistance of the bishops, distribute the work into portions, over each of which one of the bishops shall have the special but not exclusive oversight, and within or near to which such bishop should be expected to reside, said portions to be made up, as far as may be, of contiguous conferences.

Resolved, That the annexed plan of distributing the annual conferences for the pastoral oversight of the bishops severally, as provided for in the above resolution, is respectfully submitted for the consideration of the Committee on Episcopacy and the General Conference, namely:

No. I.		
	Preachers.	Members.
East Maine	98	10,431
Maine.....	124	12,599
New England.....	195	19,338
New Hampshire.....	126	12,231
Providence.....	117	15,581
Vermont	145	14,329
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	805	84,779

May 9.
SIXTH DAY.

No. II.		
New York.....	265	37,771
New York East.....	192	30,781
Troy.....	207	26,093
Newark	151	22,834
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	815	117,479

No. III.		
New Jersey.....	139	25,514
Philadelphia	264	59,429
East Baltimore.....	233	36,991
Baltimore	91	21,263
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	727	143,197

No. IV.		
Black River.....	207	22,475
Oneida	187	20,145
Wyoming.....	109	16,079
East Genesee.....	195	22,334
Genesee	117	9,029
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	815	90,062

No. V.		
Erie	228	28,209
Pittsburgh.....	241	42,433
Western Virginia.....	87	14,391
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	556	85,032

No. VI.		
Ohio	146	32,338
Cincinnati	184	30,297
North Ohio.....	146	18,340
Central Ohio.....	119	16,667
Kentucky.....	18	2,271
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	613	99,913

No. VII.		
Indiana	114	24,236
Southeastern Indiana.....	109	21,264
North Indiana.....	128	26,686
Northwestern Indiana.....	121	19,239
Detroit.....	147	15,994
Michigan	132	15,313
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	731	122,732

May 9.
SIXTH DAY.

No. VIII.

	Preachers.	Members.
Southern Illinois.....	128	19,097
Illinois.....	179	29,284
Central Illinois.....	146	18,273
Rock River.....	197	21,836
Wisconsin.....	143	11,801
West Wisconsin.....	64	7,503
Northwest Wisconsin.....	35	2,491
	<hr/> 792	<hr/> 110,285

No. IX.

Minnesota.....	117	7,292
Upper Iowa.....	147	14,345
Iowa.....	103	16,971
Western Iowa.....	46	6,798
Nebraska.....	16	1,603
Missouri and Arkansas.....	33	4,371
Kansas.....	70	5,793
	<hr/> 532	<hr/> 57,173

No. X.

California.....	96	4,510
Oregon.....	45	2,753
	<hr/> 141	<hr/> 7,263

No. XI.

Foreign Missions.....
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[It is suggested that, if thought advisable, No. V may be distributed: Erie to No. IV, Western Virginia to No. III, and Pittsburgh to No. VI.]

Benjamin Pilsbury offered the following resolutions, which were adopted :

Amendments
to Discipline.

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals are hereby requested to consider the expediency of striking out of the Discipline the second paragraph of the answer to the first question, Part II, chap. ii, § 12, page 84.

Resolved, That the Committee on Temporal Economy are hereby requested to consider the propriety of striking out of the Discipline the twenty-first and twenty-second paragraphs of the answer to quest. 1, Part II, chap. ii, § 12, page 87.

NORTHWEST
INDIANA.

NORTHWEST INDIANA CONFERENCE.

John L. Smith offered the following resolutions, and they were adopted :

Committee of
Trial.

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be requested to examine and report upon the expediency of so amending the Discipline, Part II, chap. x, § 2, quest. 1, page 128, by inserting after "a select number" the words "of not less than five," so that it shall read, "a select number of not less than five."

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be requested to examine and report upon the expediency of so amending the Discipline, Part I, chap. ii, § 3, as to substitute for the present heading of the section, "Class-meetings, Love-feasts, and other Means of Grace."

Also to insert in quest. 3 of § 3, after the word "neglect," "the ordinances of God," so that the question shall read: "What shall we do with those members of our Church who willfully and repeatedly neglect the ordinances of God?"

Also to strike out all of said section after the words, "let them be," and insert the word "expelled," so that that portion of ans. 2 to quest. 3 shall read: "And if they be found guilty of willful neglect by a decision of a majority of the members before whom their case is brought, let them be expelled."

May 9.
SIXTH DAY.
Neglect of worship.

NORTHWEST WISCONSIN CONFERENCE.

NORTHWEST
WISCONSIN.

Chauncey Hobart offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the committee of seven on Court of Appeals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of adding a third section to the Discipline, Part II, chap. v, page 111, for the purpose of securing to our bishops the right of trial and appeal, and of securing to members of Annual Conferences a less tardy mode of disposing of cases of appeal.

Trial of bishops.

SECTION III.

Method of trying a bishop when accused of immorality, and of trying an appeal from the decision of an Annual Conference, by which a member has been censured, admonished, suspended, or expelled.

Quest. 1. What shall be done when a bishop shall be accused of immorality, or when a member of an Annual Conference shall appeal from the decision of Conference, or committee of Conference, by which he has been admonished, censured, suspended, or expelled?

Ans. 1. The several Annual Conferences at each session shall elect not less than three, or more than nine delegates, who shall serve until the next ensuing Annual Conference; whose duty it shall be severally, when convened as hereinafter set forth, (1) to investigate all charges, and (2) to hear and finally determine all appeals which may be properly brought before them.

2. When a member of an Annual Conference shall have been censured, suspended, or expelled, and appeals from the decision of the Conference, it shall be the duty of the bishop presiding, assisted by one or more of his colleagues, within a reasonable time to call together not less than nine or more than fifteen delegates at some convenient place, nine of whom shall constitute a quorum, who shall hear and finally determine all cases brought before them.

3. The bishop shall fix the time and place for trying the appeal, of which notice shall be given by him to the appellant, and a bishop who did not preside at the trial shall preside at the appeal, and shall appoint a secretary, whose duty it shall be to keep correct minutes of the trial; which minutes, when approved and signed by the bishops, secretary, and members of the Court of Appeals, shall be filed with the papers of the Conference from whose decision the appeal was taken.

4. One or more of the members of the Conference, as it may direct, from whose decision an appeal has been taken, shall appear in behalf of the Conference. The secretary of the Conference shall furnish the testimony taken at the trial, which shall be transmitted by the bishop to the Court of Appeals.

May 9.
SIXTH DAY.

5. When a bishop shall be accused of immorality, and the charges and specifications have been properly made out, and signed by at least two elders of our Church, it shall be the duty of the senior unaccused bishop (1) to furnish the accused with a copy of the charges and specifications, and (2) to call together at least twenty-five delegates at some convenient place, who, in connection with the other bishops, shall constitute a Judicial Conference, who shall investigate the case, and shall acquit, suspend, or expel the accused, proper notice having been given to the accused of the time and place of meeting of said Conference.

6. The senior unaccused bishop shall fix the time and place of holding the Judicial Conference, and shall call its members together. The Conference, after it has assembled, shall elect its own president, whose duty it shall be to preside at the trial, to appoint a secretary, to see that correct minutes of the trial are kept, and to transmit the same to the next General Conference.

7. In case of suspension or expulsion, the accused shall have the right of appeal to the next General Conference.

8. The expenses accruing in carrying out the provisions of this section shall be paid by collections taken up for that purpose.

ONEIDA.

ONEIDA CONFERENCE.

Albert S. Graves offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

**Stationed
Preachers to
Solemnize
Matrimony.**

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be requested to inquire into the expediency of so altering the Discipline as to authorize probationers in our Conferences, who are not ordained deacons and have charge of stations or circuits, to solemnize the rite of matrimony in those states where the civil laws so allow.

Daniel A. Whedon offered the following preamble and resolution :

**Extension of
Pastoral Term.**

Whereas, A great diversity of opinion exists in the Church respecting the propriety of any change in the Discipline, so as to allow a longer period than two years of pastoral service upon the same station; and

Whereas it is believed that a large and respectable portion of our ministers and people desire an extension to at least five years, in the opinion that anything less will be insufficient; while another large and respectable portion fear the effects of any extension whatever upon our system of itinerancy; therefore

Resolved, That the Committee on Itinerancy be instructed to inquire into the expediency of suspending, during the next quadrennial term, the rule of Discipline in Part II, chap. iii, § 1, quest. 3, ans. 3, page 92, which reads as follows: "Provided he shall not allow any preacher to remain in the same station more than two years successively."

On motion of William H. Goode, the resolution was laid on the table by a vote of 103 to 49.

Daniel A. Whedon offered the following resolutions, and they were adopted :

**Raising Sup-
plies.**

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals consider the propriety of so altering the Discipline, Part V, chap. i, § 1, paragraph 1; page 230, by striking out the word "above-mentioned," that it shall read, "the more effectually to raise the amount necessary to meet the allowances," etc.

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the propriety of amending the Discipline, Part V, chap. i, § 3, quest. 1, ans. 1, page 234, by striking out all of said answer after the word "unavoidable."

May 9.
SIXTH DAY.
Church Building.

OREGON CONFERENCE.

OREGON.

The following preamble and resolution, offered by Thomas H. Pearne, were referred to the Committee on Missions:

Whereas, The Board of Managers of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church are possessed of about forty-five or fifty acres of land in Salem, Oregon, which lands should be used for the advancement of our cause in Oregon; and

Missionary
Property in
Oregon.

Whereas, It was the well-understood intention of Rev. George Gary, while superintendent of the Oregon Mission, that they should be so applied; and

Whereas, The Wallamet University is in great need of an endowment fund; and

Whereas, The disposition of said lands for such an endowment fund would be most appropriate and useful; therefore

Resolved, That the Board of Managers of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church be and they are hereby authorized, so far as this General Conference may authorize, to convey to the trustees of the Wallamet University in Salem, Oregon, all the lands in and near Salem, Oregon, now belonging to the said Board of Managers; the said lands and their avails to be used by the trustees of the said Wallamet University as an endowment fund, the interest only of which shall be expended for the support of said institution.

Wallamet Uni-
versity.

PHILADELPHIA CONFERENCE.

PHILADELPHIA.

Joseph Castle presented the following invitation, which, on motion of Lucius H. King, was accepted:

UNION LEAGUE HOUSE, May 9, 1864.

TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

Invitation to
visit the
Union League
Rooms.

GENTLEMEN,—I am instructed by the Board of Directors of the Union League of Philadelphia to invite you to visit the League House at any time that may be convenient to you during your session in this city. If no other time may be more agreeable to you, we would respectfully suggest Monday evening, at eight o'clock, as a time when you will be welcomed by the largest assemblage of our members.

The Union League of Philadelphia cannot be insensible to the wisely patriotic course pursued by the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and we desire to testify to your body the sympathy which we feel for your opinions.

With the profoundest respect, I remain your obedient servant,

GEORGE H. BOKER, *Sec'y U. L., Phila.*

Joseph Castle presented the following communication, which, on motion of Miner Raymond, was referred to a committee consisting of the delegation of the Philadelphia Conference:

May 9.
SIXTH DAY.
Photograph of
General Con-
ference.

PHILADELPHIA, May 2, 1864.

TO THE BISHOPS AND MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF
THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

DEAR BRETHREN,—The undersigned having been present at the opening of Conference, had suggested to his mind the propriety of having a picture of the scene presented, would respectfully ask permission to have the interior of the church photographed during the session of the Conference. If my request should be granted, I pledge myself to give one half of the net proceeds of sale to the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Yours respectfully, THOMAS COCHRAN.

Joseph Mason offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Building
Churches in
proximity.

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of introducing a rule into the Discipline to prevent the building of churches in such close proximity as to interfere with their efficiency, which is a growing evil in many parts of our work; and in cases of dispute upon this point, whether it would not be well to appoint in each presiding elder's district a board, composed of an equal number of ministers and laymen, to whom such cases may be referred.

PITTSBURGH.

PITTSBURGH CONFERENCE.

James Henderson offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Boundaries of
Pittsburgh.

Resolved, That the Committee on Boundaries be instructed to inquire into the expediency of so changing the boundary of the Pittsburgh Conference as to include in said Conference the cities of Zanesville and Marietta.

ROCK RIVER.

ROCK RIVER CONFERENCE.

Samuel A. W. Jewett offered the following resolutions, which were adopted :

Evening serv-
ice.

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire and report as to the expediency of so changing answer 3 to quest. 1, § 1, chap. ii, as to provide for the reading of the Scriptures in the evening service.

Youth's depart-
ment in S. S.
Advocate.

Resolved, That the Committee on the Book Concern be requested to consider the propriety of adding to the Sunday-School Advocate a department more especially adapted to the youth and larger scholars of our Sunday-Schools, and report to this Conference.

Thomas M. Eddy offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Appointment
of agents.

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be requested to consider and report as to the expediency of amending ans. 3, quest. 3, chap. iii, Part II of the Discipline, by adding at its close the words "and agents of benevolent institutions," so that the closing sentences shall read, "and also to appoint an agent or agents for the benefit of our literary institutions, an agent for the German Publishing Fund, and agents of benevolent institutions."

Luke Hitchcock offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

May 9.
SIXTH DAY.

Resolved, That the Committee on Sunday-Schools be requested to consider the subject of the attendance of the children of our Sunday-Schools on public worship; also whether some recommendation by this Conference, requesting and providing for the teachers to accompany their classes when practicable, would not further this desirable object.

Sunday-school children at public worship.

William T. Harlow offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the propriety of adding the following question and answer to the list of questions in chap. viii, § 3, page 118, namely:

Unacceptable preachers.

Quest. 4. What shall be done when a local elder or deacon has, from any cause, become so unacceptable that the exercise of his ministerial functions is an injury to the circuit or station to which he belongs?

Ans. 1. The Quarterly Conference shall, if in their judgment such complaint is well founded, affectionately advise the local elder or deacon to desist.

2. In case the local elder or deacon refuses to comply with such advice, the Quarterly Conference may, by a vote of two thirds of the members present and voting, deprive him of his ministerial office.

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS.

Alfred B. Nisbet offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be requested to consider the expediency of inserting in the Discipline a rule to prevent persons that are tainted with treason toward the United States of America from becoming members of the Church.

Non-admission of traitors.

TROY CONFERENCE.

TROY.

Stephen D. Brown offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Episcopacy be instructed to consider the expediency of substituting the following for quest. 4, § 3, chap. i, Part II, page 49 of the Discipline, so that it shall read:

Presidency of the Annual Conference.

Quest. 4. Who shall preside at the Annual Conferences?

Ans. The bishop. In case no bishop be present, a member of the Conference appointed by the bishop shall preside. But if no appointment is made, or the person appointed do not attend, the Conference shall elect a president by ballot without debate.

Bostwick Hawley offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the propriety of altering the Discipline, Part II, chap. ii, § 12, by striking out the last clause of rule 7, page 88, and adding these words, to wit: "and give to each probationer a copy (Tract No. 497) of the Articles of Religion and General Rules with Scripture

Duties of preachers in charge.

May 9.
SIXTH DAY.

Proofs," so that it shall read: "To read the Rules of the Society, with the aid of the other preachers, once a year in every congregation, and give to each probationer a copy (Tract No. 497) of the Articles of Religion and General Rules with Scripture Proofs."

WEST WISCONSIN.

WEST WISCONSIN CONFERENCE.

Matthew Bennett offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Extension of pastoral term.

Resolved, That the Committee on Itinerancy be instructed to inquire into the expediency of so altering the Discipline that our bishops may appoint a preacher to the same charge for the third year when they may deem it necessary to do so, *provided* the Annual Conference of which the preacher is a member shall concur, after having the facts in the case laid before it.

WYOMING.

WYOMING CONFERENCE.

Henry Brownscombe offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Examination of character.

Resolved, That the Committee on revisals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of substituting for quest. 10, on page 50, which reads, "Are all the preachers blameless in life and conversation?" the following: "Were all the preachers' characters examined?"

Reuben Nelson offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the regular call of the Conferences for memorials and resolutions be dispensed with after Thursday, the 12th inst.

Conference adjourned.

And pending a motion to lay it on the table, Conference adjourned by expiration of time, a motion to extend the session having been lost.

The Doxology was sung, after which the Benediction was pronounced by Edwin E. Griswold.

May 10.
SEVENTH DAY.

TUESDAY MORNING, MAY 10.

Conference met this morning at half past eight o'clock, Bishop Scott in the chair.

Opening of Conference.

The usual religious services were conducted by John M. Reid, of the East Genesee Conference.

The Journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Ebenezer E. Chambers, reserve delegate from Genesee, appeared and took his seat.

The certificate of the election of Ebenezer E. Chambers, a reserve delegate of the Genesee Conference, was presented, and he was admitted to a seat as a member of this body in place of James M. Fuller, who is absent in consequence of sickness and death in his family, and

on motion of Albert D. Wilbor, he was substituted for the absent delegate on the several committees.

May 10.
SEVENTH DAY.

The list of conferences was called for the presentation of petitions, memorials, and appeals, and they were presented and referred, as follows:

List of Confer-
ences called.

CINCINNATI CONFERENCE.

CINCINNATI.

Lorenzo D. M'Cabe presented a memorial from Union Chapel, Cincinnati, and it was referred to the Committee on Episcopacy; and, on motion of Calvin Kingsley, the official correspondence relating to the same matter was referred to the same committee.

Union Chapel.

William Nast presented memorials relating to German Annual Conferences, as follows: One from H. Heibold and nineteen others; one from G. Blum and twenty-one others; one from I. Heinlein and twenty-seven others; one from A. Loebenstein and forty-five others; one from J. Jauch and thirteen others; one from G. P. Schaefer and thirty-two others; one from C. H. Dinger and twenty others; one from C. Vogel and fifteen others; one from C. Frank and twelve others; one from M. Hauft and thirty-four others; and one from W. Dressler and seventy others; and they were referred to the Committee on the German Work.

EAST BALTIMORE CONFERENCE.

EAST BALTI-
MORE.

On motion of George D. Chenoweth, so much of the Journal as relates to missions was referred to the Committee on Missions.

Benjamin B. Hamlin presented the latest statistics of the Mission in India, and they were referred to the Committee on Missions.

ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.

ILLINOIS.

Henry F. Koeneke presented memorials relating to German Annual Conferences, as follows: One from M. Adolph and fifty others; one from V. Ammon and eleven others; one from C. A. Bussman and nine others; and they were referred to the Committee on the German Work.

May 10.
SEVENTH DAY.
KANSAS.

KANSAS CONFERENCE.

Hugh D. Fisher presented memorials relating to German Annual Conferences, as follows: One from I. T. Seyfer and twenty others; one from J. Maegly and thirteen others; one from M. Rapp and sixteen others; one from H. H. Klingenberg and twenty-two others; one from C. Schlotzhauer and twenty-five others; and they were referred to the Committee on the German Work.

MINNESOTA.

MINNESOTA CONFERENCE.

Henry Roth presented memorials relating to German Annual Conferences, as follows: One from C. Bipes and seven others; one from H. Frank and ten others; and one from H. Sanders and eighteen others; and they were referred to the Committee on the German Work.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK CONFERENCE.

Randolph S. Foster presented a memorial on Church music, and, on his motion, it was referred to a select committee of three.

Davis W. Clark presented a memorial from Johann Schlager and fifteen others on German Annual Conferences, and it was referred to the Committee on the German Work.

NEW YORK
EAST.

NEW YORK EAST CONFERENCE.

Daniel Curry presented a letter from Rev. Laban Clark, in relation to bishops and their work, and it was referred to the Committee on Episcopacy.

NORTH OHIO.

NORTH OHIO CONFERENCE.

Jacob Rothweiler presented memorials in relation to German Annual Conferences, as follows: One from J. Baesel and nineteen others; one from J. Delken and eighteen others; one from H. Lippard and eighteen others; one from G. Hannes and twenty-seven others; one from I. V. Jarhaus and seventy others; one from J. Schwitzgoebel and twenty others; one from C. Wentz and six others; and one from J. Behrens and three others; and they were referred to the Committee on the German Work.

PITTSBURGH CONFERENCE.

May 10.
SEVENTH DAY.
PITTSBURGH.
Appeal of I. N.
M'Abree.

Samuel H. Nesbit presented the appeal of I. N. M'Abree, and it was referred to the Committee on Appeals.

ROCK RIVER CONFERENCE.

ROCK RIVER.

George L. Mulfinger presented memorials relating to German Annual Conferences, as follows: One from C. A. Loeber and fifteen others; one from H. Wegner and twenty others; one from L. Schmidler and twenty-two others; one from P. M. Haag and thirty-seven others; and one from G. Eisenmeyer and nineteen others; and they were referred to the Committee on the German Work.

SOUTHEASTERN INDIANA CONFERENCE.

SOUTHEASTERN
INDIANA.

Thomas H. Lynch presented a memorial, signed by Omer Toucey and seventeen others, and it was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

John Barth presented memorials relating to German Annual Conferences, as follows: One from H. J. Wakerlin and twenty-nine others; one from V. Eberhard and ninety-seven others; one from G. H. Grabhorn and twenty others; one from Elias Weber and twenty-five others; one from P. Doerr and forty-four others; one from Jacob Becker and twenty-one others; one from F. Niehaus and twenty-two others; one from John Zimmerman and seven others; and one from Peter Grub and fifteen others; and they were referred to the Committee on the German Work.

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.

SOUTHERN IL-
LINOIS.

Philip Kuhl presented memorials relating to German Annual Conferences, as follows: One from Philip C. Reuter and twenty-one others; one from F. Tiemann and sixteen others; one from W. Wilkening and seventeen others; one from I. G. Kost and twenty-seven others; one from W. Schulze and nineteen others; one from John Meyer and twenty others; one from A. J. Scheele and sixteen others; one from B. Wittenbach and thirty-seven others; one from I. H. Grannemann;

May 10. and one from E. H. Kriege and twenty-seven others;
SEVENTH DAY. and they were referred to the Committee on the German Work.

WISCONSIN.

WISCONSIN CONFERENCE.

Samuel C. Thomas presented the following memorials on Boundaries, as follows; One from Plover Station, signed by all the members of the official board; one from Stevens's Point District, signed by M. D. Warner and nine other pastors of that district; and one from Stevens's Point Station, signed by all the members of the Quarterly Conference, remonstrating against any change in Conference lines; and they were referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

The order of business having been suspended for the purpose, on motion of Samuel Y. Monroe, Conference directed that hereafter the presentation of petitions, memorials, and appeals shall be made during the call of Conferences for miscellaneous business.

Standing Committees called.

Reports of Standing Committees being in order, Joseph M. Trimble, Chairman of the Committee on Episcopacy, reported back a resolution relating to the matter of giving a bishop authority to leave an effective member of a Conference without an appointment, if his Conference shall so advise, and recommended that it be referred to the Committee on Itinerancy, and it was referred accordingly.

Book Concern.
Report No. I.

Charles B. Tippet, Chairman of the Committee on the Book Concern, submitted Report No. I, and it was adopted, as follows:

Depositing General Minutes with Conferences not expedient.

The Committee on the Book Concern have considered the resolution referred to them of "depositing with each Annual Conference a copy of the General Minutes, and also the Journals of all the General Conferences," and report that it is inexpedient to do so.

Committee on Ritual report in part.
Report No. I.

Davis W. Clark, Chairman of the Committee on Revision of the Church Ritual, presented Report No. I, comprising, 1. A form for receiving persons into the Church after probation; 2. A form for laying the corner-stone of a church; and, 3. A form for the dedication of a church; and, on motion of Calvin Kingsley, the report was accepted, laid on the table under the rule, and ordered to be printed.

Rev. Dr. Taylor, one of the Secretaries of the American Bible Society, was introduced, and addressed the Conference in relation to the interests of that society.

MAY 10.
SEVENTH DAY.
Dr. Taylor.

The following resolution, offered by John M. Reid, was adopted:

Resolved, That we have heard with the greatest pleasure the communications of the Rev. Dr. Taylor, Secretary of the American Bible Society, and that we heartily reciprocate the kindly greetings which he bears us from that noble institution.

Bible Society.

On motion of Daniel Curry, Bishop Janes was granted leave of absence to attend the anniversary of the American Bible Society on Thursday next, in the city of New York.

Thomas E. Corkhill offered the following preamble and resolutions, and they were adopted:

Whereas, It has pleased Almighty God to grant to our arms most signal success in the struggles of the past few days; and

Whereas, The President has, in devout recognition of Divine interposition, called upon all patriots, at their homes, in their places of public worship, and wherever they may be, to unite in common thanksgiving and prayer; therefore

Resolved, That we regard this as a most favorable sign of the times, and recognize with most profound gratitude the goodness of God in giving to us at this hour of our country's peril a chief magistrate so richly endowed with intelligence and virtue, and so willing to recognize the overruling power of the God of heaven.

Resolved, That we will appropriate a season at the close of the sermon to be delivered by our senior bishop this morning to this most reasonable service.

Resolutions relating to the Thanksgiving Proclamation.

Frederick Merrick, Chairman of the Committee on Education, appointed at the last General Conference, and directed to report to this body, submitted a report, which was read; and, on motion of Jesse T. Peck, it was referred to the Committee on Education. [For Report, see *Appendix K*, II.]

The list of Conferences was called for the introduction of miscellaneous business, and the following resolutions were offered and acted on, as follows:

List of Conferences called for Miscellaneous Business.

BLACK RIVER CONFERENCE.

BLACK RIVER.

Lafayette D. White offered the following preamble and resolution, which were adopted:

Whereas, The circulation of our own literature among the masses of the people is a work of vast importance, and is really essential to the growth and permanent prosperity of our Church; and

Whereas, It is often impossible for those who would engage in the spread of our books to realize a sufficient profit to sustain them in the work; therefore

Circulation of our Literature.

May 10.
SEVENTH DAY.

Resolved, That the Committee on the Book Concern be and hereby are instructed to consider the propriety of authorizing and requiring the Book Agents to supply those Methodist colporteurs who come to them with suitable vouchers, at the largest discount allowed to any parties.

CALIFORNIA.

CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE.

Isaac Owen offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Complaints.

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be requested to inquire into the propriety of so amending the section on Quarterly Conferences, § 5, page 53, as to define the meaning of the word "complaints" in quest. 1, page 57, and so amend the order of proceeding in the Quarterly Conferences as to embrace by appropriate questions and answers all business belonging to Quarterly Conferences as contained in the Discipline, with suitable references by section and page where the business may be found.

CENTRAL OHIO.

CENTRAL OHIO CONFERENCE.

Leonard B. Gurley offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Receiving
Members.

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals inquire into and report on the expediency of amending the Discipline, chap. x, § 1, on receiving members into the Church, by striking out of answer 1 the word "six" and inserting in place thereof "three," so that it will read:

"Let none be received into the Church until they are recommended by a leader with whom they have met at least three months on trial."

The Chair announced the following Committee:

Committee on
Church Tenures.

Committee on Church Tenures: William H. Goode, Stephen D. Brown, Moses Hill.

Semi-centennial
Sermon by
Bishop Morris.

On motion of the Secretary, the order of the day was taken up, which was a semi-centennial sermon by the senior superintendent, Rev. Bishop Morris. Conference joined in singing the 484th hymn, after which prayer was offered by Charles Elliott. The bishop read a part of the 59th chapter of Isaiah, and the Conference sung the 569th hymn.

The bishop announced as his text the 21st verse of the 59th chapter of Isaiah, from which he preached an instructive and intensely interesting discourse on the SPIRIT OF METHODISM. [See *Appendix A*, II.]

At the close of the sermon the venerable Father Boehm, former traveling companion of Bishop Asbury, led the devotions of the Conference in prayer.

The following resolution, offered by James Porter, **May 10.**
was then adopted: **SEVENTH DAY.**

Resolved, That the thanks of this Conference are hereby tendered to our worthy senior bishop for his able and interesting semi-centennial sermon, and that he be earnestly requested to furnish a copy for publication. **Sermon to be published.**

The hour of adjournment having come, Conference closed with prayer, offered by George Peck. **Conference adjourned.**

WEDNESDAY MORNING, MAY 11.

Conference met this morning at half past eight o'clock, Bishop Simpson in the chair. **May 11.**
EIGHTH DAY.
Opening of Conference.

The usual religious services were conducted by Albert Church, of the East Maine Conference.

The Journal of yesterday was read and approved. **Journal read and approved.**

Reports of standing committees being in order, Davis W. Clark, chairman of the Committee on Revisals, presented Report No. I, comprising five items: the *first*, relating to the Mode of Receiving Ministers from the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada; the *second*, defining who may be members of a Quarterly Conference; the *third*, relating to the Ordination of Preachers on trial in certain cases; the *fourth*, concerning the Duty of Pastors to the Baptized Children of the Church; and the *fifth*, to the Reception of such Children on Probation. As all these items propose changes in the Discipline, they lie on the table under the rule, and Conference ordered that they be printed. **Reports of Standing Committees.**
Revisals.
Report No. I.

Charles B. Tippet, chairman of the Committee on the Book Concern, reported back a resolution concerning a Department in the Sunday-School Advocate for the benefit of the Youth and Larger Scholars of our Sunday-Schools, and recommended that it be referred to the Committee on Sunday-Schools and Tract Cause, and it was referred accordingly. **Book Concern.**

He also submitted Report No. II, and it was adopted as follows: **Report No. II.**

The Committee on the Book Concern have had under consideration the memorial of Dr. Roberts in behalf of the "American Methodist Historical Society," and report that it is not expedient to comply with the request. **Memorial of Dr. Roberts.**

May 11.
EIGHTH DAY.
Itinerancy.
Report No. II.

John M. Reid, chairman of the Committee on Itinerancy, submitted Report No. II, in two parts: the *first* relating to an Extension of the Time of Ministerial Service in the same Charge, and the *second* part to the Mode of Examining the Character of Preachers in Conference.

Minority Report.

A minority report on Extension of Time, signed by Lucius H. King and nine others of the committee, was read, and they were both laid on the table to be printed. [For Minority Report, see *Appendix E*, VIII.]

Missions.
 Report No. II.

William H. Goode, chairman of the Committee on Missions, submitted Report No. II, relating 1. To the Mission Conference in Germany, 2. To Assistant Secretaryships for the Missionary Society, and 3. To the Contingent Fund of the Board of Managers of the Missionary Society. The report was laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

He also reported back a paper received from Germany concerning the Republication of certain German Books, and also a communication from Germany relating to the Tract Cause, with a recommendation that they be referred to the Committee on the Book Concern, and they were referred accordingly.

Ritual.
 Report No. II.

Davis W. Clark, chairman of the Committee on Revision of the Ritual, submitted Report No. II, comprising a Form of Solemnization of Matrimony, and an Order for the Burial of the Dead. It lies on the table under the rule.

Committee on German Hymn Book.

William Nast, chairman of a Committee on a German Hymn Book, appointed by the last General Conference, submitted a report, which, on motion of Jacob Rothweiler, was referred to the Committee on the German Work, with instruction to examine the manuscript Hymn Book. [For Report, see *Appendix O*, I.]

Conferences called for miscellaneous business.

The list of Conferences was called for the introduction of miscellaneous business, and matters were introduced and referred as follows:

BALTIMORE.

BALTIMORE CONFERENCE.

On motion of Nicholas J. B. Morgan, so much of the Journal as relates to Loyalty to the Government was referred to the Committee on the State of the Country.

May 11.
EIGHTH DAY.
CALIFORNIA.

CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE.

Jesse T. Peck presented certain papers from William Wilmot, and they were referred to the Committee on Missions.

CINCINNATI CONFERENCE.

CINCINNATI.

Mighill Dustin offered the following preamble and resolution, and they were adopted :

Whereas, The present Chapter on Slavery has been interpreted by those high in authority to be merely advisory ; therefore

Resolved, That the Committee on Slavery be instructed to inquire into the expediency of so changing or modifying said chapter as to make it unequivocally prohibitory of slaveholding.

EAST BALTIMORE CONFERENCE.

EAST BALTI-
MORE.

On motion of George D. Chenoweth, so much of the Journal as relates to Sunday-Schools was referred to the Committee on Sunday-Schools and Tract Cause.

On motion of Charles B. Tippett, the following preamble and resolution were adopted :

Whereas, A custom has of late years grown up among us in some places of negotiating for appointments between Churches and ministers, and in other places of applying for ministers by name to be stationed among them, thereby interfering with the legitimate prerogatives of the Episcopacy—a custom founded in selfishness, and proven by experience to be unjust, ungenerous, irritating, and subversive of the itinerant system ; and

Whereas, In the judgment of some of the wisest and best of our ministers and laymen, the time has come to apply a corrective, and put an end to all such irregular proceedings ; therefore

Resolved, 1. That the Committee on the Itinerancy be directed to consider the expediency of providing by disciplinary statute against the repetition of all such irregularities and report.

Resolved, 2. That we recognize the right of stewards and trustees to represent to the appointing power the general condition of their respective charges, and the number of preachers necessary for the pastoral work, but that the bishop be left untrammelled in following the dictates of his own "godly judgment" in the responsible work of making the appointments.

James M^oK. Reiley presented several papers relating to the Religious Interests of the Colored People, and they were referred to the committee on that subject.

ERIE CONFERENCE.

ERIE.

Niram Norton offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

May 11.
EIGHTH DAY.

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to consider the expediency of amending the first part of ans. 1, quest. 1, § 1, chap. x, page 127 of the Discipline, so that it shall read as follows: "Let none be received into the Church until they are recommended by a leader with whom they have met in class at least three months as probationers and have been baptized; and shall, on examination by the preacher in charge before the society, express a cordial approval of the doctrines and discipline of the Church."

James W. Lowe offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of altering the Discipline, Part I, § 3, ans. 2, page 41, so as to read, "If they do not amend, let him who has the charge of the circuit or station bring their case before the leader's meeting; or the leaders and stewards of the society, who shall lay them aside, and the preacher shall show that they are excluded for a breach of our rules, and not for immoral conduct. Nevertheless, the person thus excluded may complain to the ensuing Quarterly Conference."

INDIANA.

INDIANA CONFERENCE.

James Hill presented a memorial from Wesley Chapel Quarterly Conference, on the subject of Boundaries, and it was referred to the Committee on Boundaries; and, on his motion, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the propriety of so changing the answer to quest. 1, § 4, chap. i, Part II, page 53, to wit, "Of whom shall the Quarterly Conferences be composed?" as to read thus:

"*Ans.* Of all the traveling and local preachers, exhorters, stewards, trustees, and class-leaders of the circuit or station, and the first male superintendents of our Sunday-schools, being members of our Church, and approved by the Quarterly Conference, and of such male members of our Church as shall be elected to membership by the Quarterly Conference, and none else."

And that ans. 5, § 1, chap. iv, Part II, page 99, be so changed as to read: "To be present at, as far as practicable, and to hold all the quarterly meetings, and to call together, at each quarterly meeting, a Quarterly Conference consisting of all the traveling and local preachers, exhorters, stewards, trustees, and class-leaders of the circuit or station, and the first male superintendents of our Sunday-schools, being members of our Church, and approved by the Quarterly Conference, and such male members of our Church as shall be elected to membership by the Quarterly Conference, and none else."

On motion of George W. Walker, so much of the Journal as relates to the State of the Country was referred to the committee on that subject.

May 11.
EIGHTH DAY.
ILLINOIS.

ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.

William H. H. Moore presented a memorial from George Rutledge relating to Order of Quarterly Conference Business, and it was referred to the Committee on Revisals.

Asa S. M'Coy presented the following resolutions, which were adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the necessity of inserting in the Discipline a form of questions to be used in the admission of members into the Church, both on trial and into full connection. And of requiring ministers admitting members into the Church to use invariably the form of questions laid down in the Discipline.

Resolved, That the Committee on Episcopacy be directed to inquire into the propriety of inserting in line 2 of ans. 3, quest. 3, § 1, chap. iii, the words, "with the advice of the presiding elders," so that the whole question and answer shall read:

"*Quest.* What are the duties of a bishop?"

"*Ans.* To fix the appointments of the preachers, with the advice of the presiding elders."

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of so altering ans. 1, § 1, chap. x, page 127 of the Discipline so that it shall read: "And shall, on examination by the minister in charge before the Church, give satisfactory assurances both of their saving faith in Christ," and their willingness to observe and keep the rules of the Church.

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the propriety of substituting for ans. 1, quest. 1, § 12, Part II, page 84, the following: "He shall have the oversight of the other preachers in his circuit."

Resolved, That the same committee inquire whether it is not expedient to strike out ans. 2 to same question, which reads: "To renew the tickets for the admission of members into love-feast" quarterly.

Resolved, That the Committee on Itinerancy be instructed to inquire into the necessity of requiring the presiding elders to consult with the preachers in regard to their appointments, as well as with the Churches in regard to the ministers who are to be sent to them.

James P. Dimmitt offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Itinerancy be instructed to inquire into the expediency of striking out paragraph 4, § 2, Part V, pp. 233, 234, which reads as follows: "Any preacher who shall refuse to occupy the house which may be provided for him by the stewards, shall thereby forfeit his claim on the stewards to the amount of said house rent."

KANSAS CONFERENCE.

KANSAS.

On motion of Hugh D. Fisher, the following preamble and resolution were adopted:

May 11.
EIGHTH DAY.

Whereas, In God's providence, by the march of our armies, and our good President's "Emancipation Proclamation," hundreds of thousands of those who at the commencement of the war were slaves, have obtained their freedom, and are thrown homeless, ignorant, and destitute, without the means of self-support or instruction, upon the charities of the loyal people of these States; and

Whereas, The "Boston Educational Association," the "Western Freedmen's Aid Commission," the "National Freedmen's Relief Association," the "Northwestern Freedmen's Relief Association," the "Pennsylvania Freedmen's Relief Association," and the "Western Sanitary Commission," with numerous auxiliary societies, have been organized for the purpose of relieving the various wants of this increasingly large, helpless, and suffering class of people; and

Whereas, Their appeals to the public have been responded to by the contribution of hundreds of thousands of dollars in cash and clothing, with other material and educational help, by the loyal and Christian people; and

Whereas, We have reason to believe that the societies above named have expended the means thus placed at their disposal for the benefit of the needy judiciously and honestly; therefore

Resolved, That the Committee on Freedmen be requested to express our gratitude to and confidence in the societies laboring for the alleviation of the woes of the freedmen, and to all persons who have given help to this cause.

We rejoice to know that the above named societies have promptly met, as far as practicable, the numerous calls from white refugees, and that the Western Sanitary Commission, occupying slave soil, has given part of its energies, and specially obtained means for these laudable objects.

We would request the committee to express our hearty commendation of these societies, and the object for which they labor, and recommend their claims to all lovers of our common humanity.

MISSOURI AND
ARKANSAS.

MISSOURI AND ARKANSAS CONFERENCE.

Nathan Shumate offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Episcopacy be instructed to inquire into the propriety of altering the Discipline, Part II, chap. iv, § 1, quest. 4, ans. 3, which reads: "To change, receive, and suspend preachers in his district during the intervals of the conferences, and in the absence of the bishop, as the Discipline directs," by adding: "Provided, however, that a presiding elder shall not change a preacher in his district from a charge to which he has been appointed by the bishop and appoint him to another to which he could not be legally appointed by the bishop."

NEBRASKA.

NEBRASKA CONFERENCE.

Henry T. Davis offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Temporal Economy be requested to inquire into the expediency of creating a Church Extension Society, on a similar basis of the Missionary Society of our Church.

NEW ENGLAND CONFERENCE.

May 11.
EIGHTH DAY.
NEW ENGLAND.

John H. Twombly offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to consider the expediency of amending the Discipline, by substituting for the answer to quest. 2, chap. ix, Part II, page 124, the following, namely, "Annually by the Quarterly Conference," so that the question and answer shall read as follows:

"*Quest. 2.* How are the stewards to be appointed?"

"*Ans.* Annually, by the Quarterly Conference."

NEW HAMPSHIRE CONFERENCE.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Elisha Adams offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of striking out the words, "Appointed by the Quarterly Conference," in Part V, chap. i, § 2, of the Discipline, so that ans. 1, page 232 shall read: "It is recommended by the General Conference to the traveling preachers to advise our friends in general to purchase a lot of ground in each circuit, and to build a preacher's house thereon, and to furnish it with at least heavy furniture, and to settle the same on trustees, according to the deed of settlement published in our form of Discipline."

NEW JERSEY CONFERENCE.

NEW JERSEY.

William E. Perry offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Itinerancy be instructed to inquire into and define the exact duties of class leaders to their members, and the relations of the office to the itinerancy, the pastor, and stewards of the Church, and report the same to this Conference.

NEW YORK CONFERENCE.

NEW YORK.

Morris D'C. Crawford presented a memorial, from H. J. Baker and others, relating to Boundaries, and it was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

Davis W. Clark presented a memorial from Rev. Dr. True in relation to Baptized Children, and it was referred to the Committee on Revisals.

NEW YORK EAST CONFERENCE.

NEW YORK EAST.

Daniel Curry offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Episcopacy examine and report on the following subjects:

May 11.
EIGHTH DAY.

1. Does the law of the Church limiting the time during which a bishop may appoint a traveling preacher to the same work, apply also to the appointment of superannuated and local preachers?

2. Does the limitation of the appointing power in the bishops apply also to presiding elders?

Robert M. Hatfield offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be requested to consider, and report to this Conference at their earliest convenience, the propriety of so amending the Discipline, Part II, chap. x, § 2, page 129, by adding after the words "Witnesses from without shall not be rejected," the following: "The accused shall have the right to call to his assistance, as counsel, any member in good and regular standing in the Methodist Episcopal Church."

John Miley offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee upon the Revisal of the Ritual be instructed to inquire into the expediency of selecting suitable Scripture lessons for funerals, to be placed in connection with the burial service.

**NORTH INDI-
ANA.**

NORTH INDIANA CONFERENCE.

John V. R. Miller offered the following resolutions, which were adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of adding another answer to quest. 1, § 12, chap. ii, page 84 of the Discipline, to be numbered and read as follows: "4. To class the members according to their respective places of abode. To allow not more than twenty in a class wherever practicable." The other answers to be numbered accordingly.

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of changing the Discipline, on page 129, Part II, chap. x, § 2, and paragraph 2, under question, "How shall an accused member be brought to trial?" commencing with the sixth line of the paragraph, by adding after the word "church," "especially in ordinary violations of any of the General Rules." So that it will read, "or disobedience to the order and discipline of the Church, especially in ordinary violations of any of the General Rules."

NORTH OHIO.

NORTH OHIO CONFERENCE.

Jacob Rothweiler offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on the German Work inquire into the propriety of appointing a Committee of Correspondence, to correspond with or visit the General Conference of Evangelical Associations in reference to a union of that Church with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and report to this Conference.

NORTHWEST INDIANA CONFERENCE.

May 11.
EIGHTH DAY.
NORTHWEST
INDIANA.

John L. Smith offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the election of bishops (if any shall be elected) and General Conference officers be made the order of the day for Friday, the 20th inst., immediately after the reading of the Journal. Elections.

OHIO CONFERENCE.

OHIO.

Frederick Merrick presented a memorial from F. A. Seaborn, of Zanesville, in relation to Trustees holding Church Property, and it was referred to the Committee on Church Tenures; and, on his motion, so much of the Bishops' Address as relates to the subject of Education was referred to the Committee on Pastoral Address.

ONEIDA CONFERENCE.

ONEIDA.

William H. Olin presented a memorial from J. T. Alden relating to the Journal of the Black River Conference, and it was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

OREGON CONFERENCE.

OREGON.

James H. Wilbur presented a document relating to the Pacific Christian Advocate, which, with so much of the Journal as relates to the same subject, was referred to the Committee on the Book Concern. And, at his request, he was excused from serving on the Committee on Episcopacy, and Thomas H. Pearne was appointed in his stead.

The following resolution, offered by Thomas H. Pearne, was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Episcopacy be instructed to inquire and report at an early day as to the propriety of fixing upon the Pacific Coast as the residence of one of our general superintendents.

PHILADELPHIA CONFERENCE.

PHILADELPHIA.

Adam Wallace presented a memorial from a Committee of the Philadelphia Conference, asking that a Book Depository be established in the city of Philadelphia, and it was referred to the Committee on the

May 11.
EIGHTH DAY.

Book Concern. He also presented a memorial from colored local preachers, signed by Isaac Henson and sixteen others, asking that a Colored Mission Annual Conference be established, and it was referred to the Committee on the State of the Work among the People of Color.

PROVIDENCE.

PROVIDENCE CONFERENCE.

David Patten presented a memorial from the Biblical Institute at Concord, New Hampshire, and it was referred to the Committee on Education. [See *Appendix K*, III.]

William H. Richards offered the following resolutions, which were adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Itinerancy be instructed to inquire into the propriety of inserting in the Discipline, page 92, chap. iii, § 1, quest. 3, ans. 3, last line but one on the page, the following words: "editors of religious papers under the patronage of at least two Annual Conferences." So that the article may read, "the presidents, principals, or teachers of seminaries of learning, which are or may be under our superintendence; editors of religious papers under the patronage of at least two Annual Conferences," etc.

Resolved, That the Committee on Sunday-Schools be instructed to inquire into the propriety of inserting in the Discipline, page 205, Part IV, § 1, quest. 1, ans. 1, the following phrase: "and also to the children once in three months." So that the article may read as follows: "to preach on the subject of Sunday-schools and religious instruction in each congregation at least once in six months, and also to the children once in three months."

ROCK RIVER.

ROCK RIVER CONFERENCE.

Thomas M. Eddy presented a memorial from Evans-ton Quarterly Conference, on Extension of Time, signed by O. H. Tiffany, Chairman, and it was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

SOUTHEASTERN
INDIANA.

SOUTHEASTERN INDIANA CONFERENCE.

On motion of Giles C. Smith, Williamson Terrill was granted leave of absence to attend the anniversary of the American Bible Society, to be held next Thursday in the city of New York.

John H. Barth presented a memorial relating to German Annual Conferences, signed by Anthony Halderbach and sixteen others, and it was referred to the Committee on the German Work.

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.

May 11.
EIGHTH DAY.
SOUTHERN ILLINOIS.

Philip Kuhl presented a memorial relating to German Annual Conferences, signed by John H. Brune and thirty-six others, and it was referred to the Committee on the German Work.

Nelson E. Cobleigh offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the Committee on the Book Concern be instructed to inquire into the expediency and importance of establishing a branch book depository at St. Louis, Missouri, in order to meet more fully and more promptly the wants of the Church in the South-west.

Also, that the same committee inquire into the importance of so enlarging and improving the Central Christian Advocate as to make it equal in all respects to the Western Christian Advocate, published at Cincinnati, Ohio.

TROY CONFERENCE.

TROR.

Oren Gregg offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be requested to consider the propriety of inserting the following resolution in the Discipline as an appendix :

Resolved, That it is the judgment of this General Conference that it is the privilege and duty of a committee or ecclesiastical court, in the trial of a member or preacher, to say what the crime is which has been clearly shown in the investigation of the charges and specifications, though it may differ in degree of criminality from what is alleged. *Provided*, however, that no new issues shall be raised without charges in due form being preferred, and suitable notice being given to the accused of such charges.

Stephen D. Brown presented the following memorials from within the bounds of the Vermont Conference, on the subject of Boundaries, namely : One from Shelburn, signed by R. Rogers and forty others ; one from Charlotte, signed by A. H. Tupper and nine others ; one from Ferrisburgh, signed by J. Walker and thirty others ; one from Winooski, signed by S. H. Weston and seven others ; one from First Church, Burlington, signed by A. H. Blair and five others ; and one from Burlington District, signed by W. W. Atwater and thirteen other preachers ; and they were referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

William Griffin presented a memorial from Albany, signed by George S. Chadbourn and ten others, and it was referred to the Committee on Episcopacy.

May 11.
 BOSTON DAY.
 VERMONT.

VERMONT CONFERENCE.

Andes T. Bullard presented memorials relating to Boundaries, as follows: One from Putnam P. Ray, presiding elder of Montpelier District; one from St. Albans, signed by A. Hagar and five others; one from Colchester, signed by Charles Collins and eight others; one from Underhill, signed by C. Niles and fifteen others; and one from Starksborough and Jericho, signed by Sidney Sayles and thirty-eight others; and they were referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

WEST WISCONSIN.

WEST WISCONSIN CONFERENCE.

James Lawson presented a memorial from Dodgeville Circuit, signed by R. Dudgeon and twenty others, and it was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

WISCONSIN.

WISCONSIN CONFERENCE.

Samuel C. Thomas presented a memorial from the Ministerial Association of Milwaukee District, asking the General Conference to allow and authorize the Wisconsin Annual Conference to reconsider its action in the case of Samuel W. Martin, and it was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

Samuel W.
 Martin.

Matthias Himebaugh presented a memorial relating to a Change of the Ritual, and it was referred to the Committee on Revision of the Ritual. He also offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Temporal Economy be instructed to inquire into the propriety of substituting the following, or its substance, in the place of ans. 3 to quest. 7 of § 3, chap. I, Part II, on page 52 of Discipline:

"(3.) Every Annual Conference shall provide for the support of their superannuated preachers, the widows and orphans of preachers, as follows; namely, \$150 per annum for each superannuated preacher; ditto and wife, \$250; and if they have one or more children under sixteen years of age, \$300. For each widow, \$150 per annum during her widowhood, provided she sustains a good moral character. And for each orphan child under sixteen years of age, \$50 per annum. Each Annual Conference having a right to increase but not to diminish said amounts, shall secure the same to said claimants, unless they shall relinquish their claims on the grounds that they are able to live comfortably without them, or shall otherwise forfeit them in the manner hereafter described.

"(4.) The Conference stewards shall (1) ascertain the whole amount of claims of said superannuated preachers, the widows and orphan children of preachers for the past year; then (2) proceed forthwith

to levy a tax on the receipts of the effective preachers during the same year, sufficient to meet the claims aforesaid. *Provided*, however, that no preacher shall be taxed on a less sum than \$200, nor more than \$500 per annum. Said tax shall be paid to said Conference stewards during the session of the Conference when it was levied, and may be raised by the preachers as the 'fifth collection.'

"(5.) If any effective preacher shall fail to pay his proportion of said tax levied by said Conference stewards, the secretary of the Conference shall keep a record of said failure, and said preacher shall thereby forfeit all claims for himself and family upon the funds of the Conference, raised as above, for as many years as he has failed to pay his tax as aforesaid; said forfeiture to take effect upon his first claim."

WYOMING CONFERENCE.

The Chair presented the appeal of Welcome Smith, and it was referred to the Committee on Appeals.

The following communication was received from the bishops, and was referred to the Committee on Episcopacy:

TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE,—In reply to the resolution which you have adopted, inquiring whether in the opinion of the bishops the state of the work is such as to require an addition to their number, I am instructed to say, that in their judgment the interests of the Church demand the appointment of two additional members for the superintendency of the work in the United States and Territories, and of two missionary bishops—one for our missions in Europe and Asia, and the other for our missions in Africa.

O. C. BAKER, *Secretary of Board of Bishops.*

On motion of William H. Goode, the report of the Committee on Missions, No. I, which was presented and laid on the table May 7th, was taken up and read.

Gardner Baker moved to adopt the first resolution. Daniel Curry moved to amend by inserting immediately after the word "shall" the words "with the concurrence of the presiding bishop." On motion, the amendment was laid on the table by a vote of 84 to 40.

Reuben Nelson moved to reconsider the vote by which the amendment was laid on the table. A motion of James Drummond to lay the motion to reconsider on the table did not prevail, and the vote was reconsidered, and the motion to lay the amendment on the table was lost.

William Hardin moved the previous question, and the motion was sustained by a vote of 122 to 34; and the amendment was adopted, and the resolution as amended was adopted.

May 11.
EIGHTH DAY.

WYOMING.

Appeal of Welcome Smith.

Increase of the Number of Bishops.

Report No. I on Missions taken up.

Mission Conferences to act with concurrence of the Bishop.

May 11.

СБОРНІЙ ДЕНЬ.

Episcopal Visitation of Foreign Missions.

The second and third resolutions were read and adopted.

Charles A. Holmes moved that the fourth resolution, relating to Episcopal Visitation of our Principal Foreign Missions as often at least as once in four years, be laid on the table, but the motion did not prevail. Daniel Curry moved to strike out the word "four" and substitute "two;" and, on motion of Mighill Dustin, the motion to strike out was laid on the table by a vote of 84 to 66. After which, on motion of Sylvester L. Congdon, the fourth resolution was laid on the table for the present.

The resolutions of the report as amended and as adopted are as follows:

Report No. I of the Committee on Missions.

Foreign Missions to be organized into Annual Conferences.

India Mission Conference.

Bishops may organize Mission Conferences.

Conference in India.

Invitation to visit Independence Hall.

The Committee on Missions beg leave to submit the following report in part:

1. *Resolved*, That, in the judgment of this General Conference, our Foreign Missions should be organized into Mission Annual Conferences so soon as their condition severally shall render such organization proper, and that such Mission Conferences shall, with the concurrence of the presiding bishop, possess all the rights, powers, and privileges of other Annual Conferences, excepting that of sending delegates to the General Conference, and of drawing their annual dividends from the avails of the Book Concern and the Chartered Fund, and of voting on constitutional changes proposed in the Discipline.

2. *Resolved*, That this General Conference organize the Missions in India into a Mission Annual Conference, with powers limited as above.

3. *Resolved*, That the General Conference authorize the bishops to organize any other of our Foreign Missions into Mission Conferences, subject to the above limitations, when in their judgment it is desirable and practicable.

[See *Appendix J, I.*]

On motion of William H. Goode, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Boundaries be instructed to provide for the organization of a Mission Conference in India, pursuant to recommendation of the report just adopted.

The following letter of invitation was received and read:

DEPARTMENT OF CITY PROPERTY.

PHILADELPHIA, May 10, 1864.

JOHN WETHERILL AND OTHERS OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CONFERENCE.

GENTLEMEN,—On behalf of the Committee of City Property of the City of Philadelphia, to whose custody is committed the charge of Independence Hall, the members of the Conference are cordially in-

vited to visit the Hall on Friday next, 13th instant, at twelve o'clock, or on any other day or hour that may be most convenient to the Conference. Please communicate to us whether this invitation is accepted by the Conference, and if the time is convenient for them.

Very respectfully yours,

JOSHUA SPERING, *Ch'n of Com.*

I most cheerfully concur in the above invitation, and will afford every convenience to make the visit pleasant and agreeable.

JOHN W. LEIGH, *Commissioner of City Property.*

May 11.
EIGHTH DAY.

On motion of Stacey W. Hilliard, the invitation was accepted for Thursday next at twelve o'clock M.

Invitation accepted.

An invitation was also received from the Board of Managers of the House of Refuge, as follows:

DR. JOSEPH PARRISH:

DEAR SIR,—The Board of Managers of the House of Refuge have requested me in their name to invite the members of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church to visit that institution any afternoon they may select, except on Saturday and Sunday, (visits on those days being contrary to a rule of the Board.)

May 5, 1864.

THOMAS EARP, *President.*

Invitation to visit House of Refuge.

On motion of Thomas E. Corkhill, the invitation was accepted for Tuesday next at two o'clock P. M.

Invitation accepted.

An invitation was also received from the Pennsylvania Institution for the Instruction of the Blind, as follows:

PENNSYLVANIA INSTITUTION FOR THE INSTRUCTION OF THE BLIND.

May 10, 1864.

The members of the General Conference and their friends are respectfully invited to a special exhibition of the musical and other exercises of the pupils of this institution on Thursday evening, 12th instant, at a quarter before eight o'clock.

Should Thursday not be convenient to the Conference, Saturday evening would suit the Institution.

Very respectfully,

WILLIAM CHAPIN, *Principal.*

Invitation to visit the Institution for the Blind.

On motion, the invitation was accepted, and the thanks of the Conference were tendered to the parties extending the foregoing invitations severally.

Invitation accepted.

Bishop Morris presented a memorial from L. S. Jacoby, and five others of the German Mission Conference, on the Time of Probation in Mission Conferences, and it was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

Memorial on the German Mission Conference.

Bishop Baker announced the following committees:

Committee on Conference of Appeals: Moses Smith, William F. Wilson, Francis B. Bangs, William Har-

Committee on Conference of Appeals.

May 11.

EIGHTH DAY.

Committee on
Church Music.Reception of
the deputation
from the Afri-
can M. E.
Church fixed.

din, Horatio W. Houghton, Daniel Cobb, David B. M'Kenzie.

Committee on Church Music: Randolph S. Foster, Thomas C. Gardner, Daniel A. Whedon.

On motion of James Hill, the Conference made the reception of the deputation from the General Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church the order of the day for Friday next at eleven o'clock A. M.

On motion, Conference adjourned.

The Doxology was sung, after which the Benediction was pronounced by Joseph B. Wakeley.

May 12.

NINTH DAY.

Opening of Con-
ference.Journal read
and approved.Report of the
Standing Com-
mittee.Episcopacy.
Report No. I.Divisions of
Presiding El-
der's Districts
in the Interval
of Conferences.

THURSDAY MORNING, MAY 12.

Conference met this morning at half past eight o'clock, Bishop Baker in the chair.

The usual religious services were conducted by Thomas H. Sinex, of the Michigan Conference.

The Journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Aaron Wood moved a suspension of the rules to enable him to introduce a motion to change the time of meeting from half past eight to nine o'clock A. M., but the motion to suspend did not prevail.

Reports from Standing Committees being in order, Joseph M. Trimble, Chairman of the Committee on Episcopacy, presented Report No. I, comprising three items: one relating to the matter of dividing Presiding Elders' Districts in the interval of the sessions of an Annual Conference; one relating to the Appointment of Presiding Elders to pastoral charges; and one relating to the power of a Presiding Elder to give a Certificate of withdrawal to Superannuated Preachers in certain cases; and the report was adopted as follows:

FIRST ITEM.—Among the matters referred to this committee, with instructions to examine and report, are the following:

"Is it in accordance with the general usage of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with the spirit of her economy, and with the law of the same given in the Discipline, Part I, chap. iii, § 1, in answer to question 3, and in chap. iv, § 1, that on the decease of a presiding elder in the interim of an Annual Conference, a bishop may divide the district into two or more sub-districts, and appoint thereto as many presiding officers, having power to perform all the duties of presiding elders in Quarterly Conferences, and to represent in the ensuing Annual Conference the preachers in charge of the circuits or stations to which they were personally appointed?"

We find among the duties of the bishops the following: to form the districts according to his judgment, (Discipline, answer 2, page 92.) The same authority (see Discipline, page 98) declares the presiding elders are to be chosen by the bishop, thus referring the whole power in determining the size of the district, the number of its charges, and the selection of the presiding elders to the bishop. We, therefore, answer the question thus:

He has the legal right to arrange the district according to his own judgment.

SECOND ITEM.—*Resolved*, That the Committee on Episcopacy be instructed to report to this Conference at an early day whether, in the judgment of the Committee, the bishops have authority, under the present rule of Discipline, to appoint a presiding elder to the charge of a circuit or station.

We answer, in our judgment, they have such right.

THIRD ITEM.—The following question and answer are from the Journal of the Central Illinois Conference, and were referred to the Committee: "When a superannuated member of a sister Conference, residing in the bounds of our Conference, concludes to withdraw from the Church, can the presiding elder give him a certificate of withdrawal?"

Answer. No.

We respectfully recommend concurrence in the decision of the Chair as the correct ruling.

May 12.
NINTH DAY.

Presiding Elders may be pastors of Churches.

Certificate of withdrawal may not be given.

Book Concern. Reports Nos. III and IV.

Swedish Paper.

Revisals. Report No. II.

Appeals.

[See *Appendix D, I.*]

Charles B. Tippett, Chairman of the Committee on the Book Concern, submitted Reports Nos. III and IV, which were adopted as follows, namely:

The Committee on the Book Concern, to whom the subject of publishing a paper in the Swedish language was referred, report, That the General Conference refer the adoption of the "Ambassador" to the discretion of the Book Agents at Cincinnati; that if they find upon investigation that they can publish it without serious loss to the Concern, they are authorized to do so, either at Rockford or Chicago.

* The Committee on the Book Concern have had under consideration the proposition of T. A. Goodwin in relation to the Central Christian Advocate, and report adversely.

[See *Appendix G, III and IV.*]

Davis W. Clark, Chairman of the Committee on Revisals, presented Report No. II, relating to, 1. Chaplains to Hospitals. 2. Agents for Benevolent Institutions. 3. Preaching without License. It lies on the table under the rule.

The Committee on Appeals report in part, as follows:

On motion, the decision of the Illinois Annual Conference in expelling B. F. Northcot was affirmed.

JAMES HILL, Sec.

May 12.
NINTH DAY.
Sunday-Schools
and Tract.
Report No. I

James Porter, Chairman of the Committee on Sunday-Schools and Tract Cause, presented Report No. I, which was read and adopted. The following are the resolutions of the report :

1. *Resolved*, That we have great cause for devout gratitude to Almighty God for the signal success and healthy outgrowth of the Sunday-school cause during the past four years, under the fostering care of the Church and the vigilant and faithful supervision of Dr. Wise, our Corresponding Secretary.

2. *Resolved*, That we hail with joy the pleasing intelligence that the returns of 1863 show the number of schools in the Church to be 13,088; officers and teachers, 148,582; scholars, 844,706; conversions during the term, 70,000, making an increase of 279 schools, 8,055 officers and teachers, 94,588 scholars, which, with an addition of 168 bound volumes, and 129 paper covered books and tracts to our catalogue, affords the highest encouragement to continued effort in this noble cause.

3. *Resolved*, That we cordially recommend the "Sunday-School Teachers' Journal" to the largest patronage of all our people, believing that it is eminently calculated to assist teachers in their difficult work.

4. *Resolved*, That we recommend to the Sunday-School Union to amend the second article of its constitution, so that it shall read:

"The object of this society shall be to promote the cause of Sabbath-Schools in connection with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in such other spheres of Christian labor as, in the judgment of the board of managers, may have claims upon its charity; and thus, by a careful training of those who may be under its influence, seek to promote the glory of God and the happiness of mankind."

[See *Appendix L, III.*]

Temporal
Economy.
Report No. I.

James Porter, Chairman of the Committee on Temporal Economy, submitted Report No. I, which was adopted, as follows :

The Committee on Temporal Economy respectfully report, 1. That they deem it inexpedient for the General Conference to make more stringent rules in relation to members who fail to support the institutions of religion according to their ability, as proposed by the Ohio Conference. 2. The committee also report adversely to striking out of the Discipline the twenty-first and twenty-second paragraphs of the answer to question 1, in Part II, chap. ii, § 12, providing for "a yearly subscription in those circuits that can bear it," etc., said paragraphs having fraternal purposes, and being of service still in some parts of our work.

Report No. II.

The Chairman of the Committee on Temporal Economy also submitted Report No. II, comprising two items: One relating to the Accountability of a Church for Deficiencies in the Payment of Allowances, and the other to the Mode of Fixing and Paying the Salaries of the Bishops, and it lies on the table under the rule.

Conferences
called for mis-
cellaneous
business.

The roll of Conferences was called for the presentation of miscellaneous business, and matters were introduced and disposed of as follows :

BLACK RIVER CONFERENCE.

May 12.
NINTH DAY.
BLACK RIVER.

Lafayette D. White offered the following resolution, and it was adopted :

Resolved, That the Committee on Temporal Economy be instructed to inquire into and report upon the propriety of making such a change in the Discipline so as to provide for a more equal division of the funds appropriated by the Book Room for the support of Conference claimants.

Isaac S. Bingham offered the following preamble and resolutions, and they were adopted :

Whereas, This General Conference has been favored with the presence of delegates from the Wesleyan Methodist Conference of England, the Wesleyan Methodist Conference of Canada, and the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Canada, bearing to us the fraternal salutations of the several bodies they represent respectively; therefore

Resolved, 1. That it is the pleasure of this Conference cordially to reciprocate these expressions of Christian regard.

Resolved, 2. That we accordingly appoint two members of this body to visit, as our representatives, the Wesleyan Methodist Conference of England, and bear to it our Christian salutations at some time during the coming four years.

Resolved, 3. That we also appoint two members of this body to visit the Wesleyan Methodist Conference in Canada, at some time during the coming four years, for the purposes above specified.

Resolved, 4. That we also appoint two members of this body to visit the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, at its next session, for the purposes before mentioned.

Delegates to
Foreign
Churches to
be appointed.

CINCINNATI CONFERENCE.

CINCINNATI.

William Nast presented a memorial from R. A. W. Bruehl and nineteen others, and it was referred to the Committee on the German Work.

EAST BALTIMORE CONFERENCE.

EAST BALTIMORE

George D. Chenoweth offered the following resolution, and it was adopted :

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be requested to inquire into the expediency of so amending the Discipline, Part II, chap. i, § 4, page 56, by inserting in the twelfth line from the top, after the words, "to meet such amount," the following, namely: "By apportioning the same among the various congregations and classes, and then to each individual according to their ability."

EAST GENESEE CONFERENCE.

EAST GENESEE.

John M. Reid, at his own request, was excused from the Committee on Boundaries, and Sylvester L. Congdon was appointed in his stead.

May 12.
NINTH DAY.
Erie.

ERIE CONFERENCE.

Richard A. Carnthers presented a memorial from Brady's Bend, signed by John Perry and twenty-six others, and it was referred to the Committee on Lay Delegation.

ILLINOIS.

ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.

Henry F. Koeneke presented two memorials from Quincy; one signed by John M. Eull and twenty-four others, and the other by F. W. Janson and eighteen others; and they were referred to the Committee on the German Work.

NEW YORK
EAST.

NEW YORK EAST CONFERENCE.

Daniel Curry presented a memorial from South Fifth-street Church, Brooklyn, on Sunday-schools, and it was referred to the Committee on Sunday-Schools; also two from the same church on Extension of Time, and they were referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

NORTH OHIO.

NORTH OHIO CONFERENCE.

Jacob Rothweiler presented a memorial from J. Yeager and fifty-two others, in relation to German Annual Conferences, and it was referred to the Committee on the German Work.

OHIO.

OHIO CONFERENCE.

Barzillai N. Spahr was, on motion of Joseph M. Trimble, placed on the Committee on Boundaries in his stead.

ONEIDA.

ONEIDA CONFERENCE.

Albert S. Graves offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Missions be requested to inquire into the expediency of placing in the Discipline the appointment of "A week of prayer," for the conversion of the world, to be observed by our Church.

May 12.
NINTH DAY.
PHILADELPHIA.

PHILADELPHIA CONFERENCE.

Adam Wallace offered the following resolution, which, after a motion of Hugh D. Fisher to lay on the table was lost, was adopted :

Resolved, That we disapprove of stamping, clapping, and cheers while engaged in the business or devotions of the General Conference, within the walls of the sanctuary.

ROCK RIVER CONFERENCE.

ROCK RIVER.

George L. Mulfinger presented two memorials relating to German Annual Conferences: One from D. Conrad, and one from C. Reicharts; and they were referred to the Committee on the German Work.

TROY CONFERENCE.

TROY.

Stephen D. Brown presented two memorials on Boundaries: One from Highgate, signed by H. Skeeles and twenty others; and one from Brandon, signed by A. S. Cool and twenty others; and they were referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

UPPER IOWA CONFERENCE.

UPPER IOWA.

George Clifford presented a Plan for Church Extension Society, and it was referred to the Committee on Missions.

On motion of Davis W. Clark, report No. I of the Committee on Revisal of the Ritual, laid on the table May 10, was taken up, and a motion was made to adopt it.

New Ritual considered.
Report No. I.

Isaac Owen moved to amend by inserting the word "Spirit" for the word "Ghost" wherever it occurs in the Ritual, which amendment, on motion of Richard Haney, was laid on the table.

Jesse T. Peck moved to amend the first question in the "Form for Receiving Persons into the Church after Probation," by striking out the words "to believe and do all things contained therein," and insert instead thereof the words "faithfully to observe and keep that covenant."

Lucius H. King moved to lay the amendment on the

May 12.
NINTH DAY.

table, which motion was lost by a vote of 65 to 109; and the amendment was adopted by a vote of 104 to 74.

Adopted.

On motion of Stacey W. Hilliard, the previous question was ordered by a vote of 132 to 43, and the report, as amended, was adopted. [See *Appendix X, I.*]

Conference visit to Independence Hall postponed.

Information having been received that it would not be convenient to the persons having charge of Independence Hall that the Conference should visit it at the time agreed upon yesterday, on motion of James H. Noble, the delegation of the Philadelphia Conference were appointed a committee to confer with those gentlemen, and arrange for a visit at some future time. It was also made the duty of the same committee to respond on behalf of the Conference to all invitations of like character which have been or may hereafter be accepted.

Report on Missions, No. II.

On motion of William H. Goode, the report of the Committee on Missions, No. II, was taken up, and, on motion of Gardner Baker, the first resolution, changing the name of the Foreign German Mission Conference, was adopted.

Missionary secretaryship considered.

Robert M. Hatfield moved the adoption of the second resolution, relating to assistant secretaryships of the Missionary Society.

William M^r. Hester offered the following substitute for the second resolution, namely:

Resolved, That the last sentence of Article IV of the Constitution of the Missionary Society be amended so as to conform to the recommendations of the Board, by striking out the words, "and who shall reside in the West."

On motion of Nicholas J. B. Morgan, the time of the session was extended.

Pending the discussion of the foregoing substitute, on motion, Conference adjourned, and the Benediction was pronounced by William Nast.

May 13.
TENTH DAY.

Opening of Conference.

FRIDAY MORNING, MAY 13.

Conference met this morning at half past eight o'clock, Bishop Ames in the chair.

The usual religious services were conducted by James P. Dimmitt, of the Illinois Conference.

The Journal of yesterday was read and approved.

John M. Reid, Chairman of the Committee on Itinerancy, submitted Report No. III, in two parts, the first relating to the Supernumerary Relation, and the second to the matter of preachers refusing to occupy parsonages provided for them. The report was read and lies on the table under the rule, and Conference ordered that it be printed.

Joseph Cummings, Chairman of the Committee on the State of the Country, submitted Report No. I, and it was adopted, as follows:

The Committee on the State of the Country have carefully considered the following subject, submitted to them by the General Conference, namely:

"Whereas, It is a well-known fact that the Methodist Episcopal Church was the first to tender its allegiance to the Government under the Constitution in the days of Washington; and

"Whereas the fair record of the Church has never been tarnished by disloyalty; and

"Whereas our ministers and people are truly and deeply in sympathy with the Government in its efforts to put down rebellion and set the captives free; therefore

"Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed, whose duty it shall be to proceed to Washington and to present to the President of these United States the assurances of our Church, in a suitable address, that we are with him heart and soul in the present struggle for human rights and free institutions;"

And beg leave to report that they recommend that "five" be substituted for "three" as the number of the committee, and that the resolution as thus amended be adopted.

Charles B. Tippet, Chairman of the Committee on the Book Concern, submitted Report No. V, comprising the following resolution, and it was adopted:

Resolved, That the Book Agents at New York be instructed to establish a Book Depository in the city of Philadelphia, if in their judgment it can be done without loss to the Concern, and under such conditions as shall be entirely satisfactory to them.

[See Appendix G, V.]

Charles B. Tippet presented a memorial from J. H. C. Dosh relating to a Revision of the Ritual, and it was referred to the committee on that subject.

Benjamin F. Crary, Chairman of the Committee on Slavery, submitted a report, proposing a change of the General Rule on Slavery; and, at his request, it was laid on the table to be printed, and its consideration was made the order of the day for Tuesday next, at ten o'clock A. M.

May 13.

TENTH DAY.

Report of
Standing Committees.
Itinerancy, No. III.

State of the
Country, No. I.

Book Concern,
No. V.

Philadelphia
Depository.

Slavery.

May 13.

TENTH DAY.

Missions.

Ladies' Home
Mission in
Cincinnati.

William H. Goode, Chairman of the Committee on Missions, reported back the memorial from the Ladies' Home Mission of Cincinnati, recommending its reference to the Committee on Itinerancy, with the recommendation to consider the expediency of including the Ladies' Home Mission in Cincinnati among the exceptions to the rule requiring the change of the preacher every two years; and it was referred accordingly.

Swedish Mis-
sions.

Mission to Ari-
zona and New
Mexico.

He also reported back the memorial relating to Swedish Missions; also resolutions relating to missions in New Mexico and Arizona, recommending that they be referred to the General Missionary Committee at New York; and they were referred accordingly.

Report of Com-
mittee on Mis-
sions, No. II,
taken up.

On motion of William H. Goode, the consideration of the report pending at adjournment yesterday was resumed.

William F. Cowles moved to amend by striking out the words "who shall reside in the West," and inserting instead thereof, "who shall reside on the Pacific Coast." Luke Hitchcock moved to lay the amendment on the table. The motion prevailed, and the substitute was adopted, as follows:

Resolved, That the last sentence of Article IV of the Constitution of the Missionary Society be amended so as to conform to the recommendation of the Board, by striking out the words "and who shall reside in the West."

The third resolution, relating to the "Contingent Fund," was adopted, and the report, as amended and as a whole, containing the following resolutions, was adopted:

Mission Confer-
ence of Ger-
many and
Switzerland.

1. *Resolved*, That the General Conference grant the request of the Foreign German Mission Conference, and change the name of that Conference into "The Mission Conference of Germany and Switzerland."

Change of Con-
stitution.

2. *Resolved*, That the last sentence of Article IV of the Constitution of the Missionary Society be amended so as to conform to the recommendation of the Board, by striking out the words "and who shall reside in the West."

Contingent
Fund, \$25,000.

3. *Resolved*, That, in view of the largely increased annual disbursements of the Missionary Society, the Contingent Fund be increased to twenty-five thousand dollars, and that the increase be made available for the current year.

Episcopacy,
No. II.

Joseph M. Trimble, Chairman of the Committee on Episcopacy, presented Report No. II, relating, 1. To the President of the Annual Conference; 2. To the Limitation of Pastoral Service; 3. To the Power of

Committee of Trial; and, 4. To the Power of Presiding Elders; and, on motion of Elijah H. Pilcher, it was laid on the table and ordered to be printed by a vote of 82 to 42.

Daniel Wise asked and obtained leave of absence after half past ten o'clock this morning till Monday afternoon.

On motion of John M. Reid, Report No. II of the Committee on Itinerancy, laid on the table May 11, was taken up, and the first part, relating to the Extension of the Time of Ministerial Service to Three Years, was read.

May 13.
TENTH DAY.

Report of Committee on Itinerancy taken up, No. II.

Extension of time.

Pending the discussion, Daniel Wise moved to lay the matter under consideration on the table, that the Conference might proceed to the order of the day.

Lucius H. King moved, as an amendment, that the Report before the Conference be made the order of the day for Wednesday next, at ten o'clock A. M., which amendment, on motion of Robert M. Hatfield, was laid on the table, and the motion made by Daniel Wise prevailed.

On motion of Jesse T. Peck, Conference proceeded to the order of the day, namely, the reception of the Delegates from the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Canada. An address from the Canada Wesleyan Conference was then presented and read. [For Address, see *Appendix B*, VIII.]

Reception of Delegates from Wesleyan Connection in Canada.

Rev. John Carroll and Rev. S. S. Nelles, D.D., delegates from that body, then addressed the Conference.

Freeborn G. Hibbard offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That we have listened with pleasure to the addresses and representations of our brethren, the delegates from the Wesleyan Methodist Conference of Canada, and while we extend to them our cordial greeting as "our brethren and kinsmen" in the Spirit, we assure them of our unabated esteem for and fellowship with the body which they represent. In the Wesleyan Connection of Canada we recognize a legitimate link of our developing Methodistic descent—the child of the Methodist Episcopal Church of the United States; ecclesiastically, a "Hebrew of the Hebrews;" a vine of the planting of our fathers, a goodly vine, and we pray that she may send out her fruitful "boughs unto the sea, and her branches unto the river."

On motion of Edward Thomson, the Address of the Conference of the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Can-

May 13.
TENTH DAY.

Visit to Independence Hall.

ada was referred to the Committee on Correspondence.

The committee appointed yesterday to confer with the authorities at Independence Hall reported that it would be convenient to them to receive the Conference on either Saturday or Monday next; whereupon, on motion of Henry C. Benson, the time was fixed for next Saturday, (to-morrow,) at twelve o'clock M.

The following letter of invitation was received, namely :

Union League invitation.

UNION LEAGUE HOUSE, *May 13, 1864.*

DEAR SIR,—The Union League of Philadelphia invited the delegates to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church to visit the League House on Monday last, and the invitation (though I believe it was accepted) was not understood by the great majority of the delegates as designating any particular evening for the visit, and consequently very few attended. In order to remedy this, I am authorized on behalf of the League to renew the invitation for Monday evening next, the 16th inst., at eight o'clock P. M.; and to say that a committee of the League will wait upon such of the delegates as may be disposed to accept this invitation at such place as they may appoint, and escort them to the League House.

Most of the religious bodies which have held their sessions in this city within a year past have accepted a similar invitation; and it will give great satisfaction to the members of the League to welcome your Conference, which has in such an outspoken and acceptable manner declared its loyalty to the cause of the Union!

Very truly your friend and servant,

REV. DR. HARRIS,
Sec'y of Conf.

JOSEPH B. TOWNSEND,
in behalf of the League.

On motion of Granville Moody, it was agreed that the Conference meet at Union Church, at half past seven o'clock on Monday evening next, and go in a body to the Union League House.

By unanimous consent, Stephen D. Brown, of Troy Conference, presented four memorials on Boundaries: One from Leicester and Goshen, signed by L. R. Sayles and ten others; one from Pittsford and East Pittsford, signed by J. C. Leonard and eighteen others; one from Vergennes, signed by T. Morgan and nine others; and one from Rutland, signed by William A. Burnett and twenty-nine others; and they were referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

Reception of the Deputation from the African M. E. Church.

On motion of James Hill, the order of the day, namely, the reception of the Deputation from the African Methodist Episcopal Church, was taken up, and Bishop Morris introduced Rev. M. M. Clark, Rev. W.

R. Revels, and Rev. J. P. Campbell, delegates from that body, and they severally addressed the Conference.

May 13.
TENTH DAY.

On motion of Samuel Y. Monroe, the time of the session was extended.

Samuel C. Brown offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That we have heard with peculiar gratification the eloquent addresses of the Deputation from the General Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, and that we congratulate them upon their past success, and bid them a hearty God-speed in entering the now widely opened fields of Christian labor.

On motion of Daniel W. Bristol, the Committee on Correspondence was requested to consider and report as to the expediency of opening a correspondence with the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

By unanimous consent, James Porter presented a memorial from William C. Brown, of Chelsea, in relation to Congregational Singing, Kneeling in Prayer, etc.; and it was referred to the Committee on Pastoral Address.

On motion, Conference adjourned.

Conference closed.

After the Doxology was sung, the Benediction was pronounced by Samuel A. W. Jewett.

SATURDAY MORNING, MAY 14.

May 14.
ELEVENTH DAY
Opening of Conference.

Conference met this morning at half past eight o'clock, Bishop Morris in the chair.

The usual religious services were conducted by Calvin Kingsley, of Erie Conference.

The Journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Journal read and approved.

James Porter offered the following resolution, namely:

Resolved, That the Secretary of this Conference be authorized and directed, in preparing our Journals for the press, to arrange for printing the reports of the several committees together in the Appendix.

Secretary to consolidate the Reports.

On motion, the following members of Conference were granted temporary leave of absence, namely: Horatio R. Clark, Thomas E. Corkhill, Thomas Carlton, James Porter, Alexander L. Brice, Jonathan T. Crane, and Reuben Nelson.

Leave of absence granted.

May 14.
ELEVENTH DAY
 Report of
 Standing Com-
 mittees.
 Itinerancy,
 No. IV.

John M. Reid, Chairman of the Committee on Itinerancy, submitted Report No. IV, in two parts: The first part relating, 1. To the Time of Probation in Mission Conferences; 2. To the Mode of Appointing Presiding Elders; and, 3. To the Matter of Church Records. The second part recommending such a change in the Discipline as to provide for the appointment of a Member of an Annual Conference to the Editorship of Zion's Herald. The second part of the report lies on the table under the rule.

A motion was made to adopt the first part of the report, and the first paragraph was read and adopted, as follows:

The Committee on Itinerancy have had under consideration the subject of Extending the Time of Probation in Mission Annual Conferences, and respectfully report that they are unable at the present time to recommend such discrimination.

Pending a motion to adopt so much of the report as relates to the Mode of Appointing Presiding Elders, Thomas C. Gardner offered the following substitute for the resolution contained in the report, namely:

Election of Pre-
 siding Elders.

Resolved, That the Presiding Elders be elected by ballot, without debate in the Annual Conference, on the nomination of the presiding bishop.

While this substitute was under consideration, on motion of Benjamin Pilsbury, the subject was laid on the table to allow John P. Durbin to introduce a resolution in regard to the visits to Independence Hall and the Union League House.

The following preamble and resolution, offered by John P. Durbin, were adopted:

Whereas, The city authorities have invited the Conference to visit Independence Hall, which invitation has been accepted for twelve o'clock to-day; therefore

Resolved, That Rev. Bishop Simpson be respectfully requested to respond to any salutation or address of welcome which may be made on that occasion; and that Drs. Thomson, Foster, and Eddy be requested to discharge a like office on next Monday evening at the Union League House.

On motion of John P. Durbin, the matter laid on the table for the time was taken up, and Thomas H. Lynch moved to lay the substitute offered by Thomas C. Gardner on the table.

Lucius H. King called for a vote by ayes and noes on the motion to lay on the table, and the call was sustained by more than twenty-five members. The roll was called and the vote was as follows, namely :

May 14.
ELEVENTH DAY
Ayes and Noes
called for.

Ayes.—Adams, Alexander, Allen of Maine, Allen of New England, Armstrong, Baird, Baker, Bangs, Bannister, Bartine, Barton, Bennett, Blake, Breckenridge, Brooks, Brown of New York, Brownscombe, Bruce, Bullard, Carlton, Chambers, Chenoweth, Church, Clark of New York, Clark of Western Virginia, Clifford, Cobb, Colby, Corkhill, Crane, Crary, Davis, Dempsey, Drummond, Durbin, Elliott, Erwin, Ferris, Fiegenbaum, Fisher, Foote, Foster, George, Golden, Goode, Graves, Griffin, Griswold, Gurley, Hall, Hamlin, Haney, Harden, Harris, Harrison, Hawley, Henderson, Hester, Hibbard, Hill of Indiana, Hilliard, Himebaugh, Hitchcock, Houghton, Huffman, Hunter, Kynett, Lanahan, Lemon, Lynch, M'Kenzie, M'Murray, Malcom, Manson, Mason, Miley, Miller of Nebraska, Moore, Morgan, Melfinger, Nelson of Central Ohio, Nesbit, Noble, Olin, Owen, Peck of Wyoming, Penfield, Perry, Phelps, Pillsbury of Wisconsin, Poe, Porter, Ray, Reid of East Genesee, Reger, Reiley, Robinson, Roth, Sherman, Shumate, Smith of Northwest Indiana, Smith of Southeastern Indiana, Spahr, Stallard, Strout, Thomas, Thomson, Thurston, Tippet, Trimble, Wakeley, Walker, Wallace, Wardwell, Webber, Wentworth, White of Black River, White of Ohio, Whitecar, Whiteman, Wilbor of Genesee, Wiley, Wilson of Erie, Wood, Wright—124.

Noes.—Andrews, Benson, Bigelow, Boyd, Bristol, Brown of Providence, Brown of Troy, Caruthers, Castle, Clark of Wyoming, Cobleigh, Congdon, Carrington, Cowles, Crawford, Cummings, Cunningham, Curry, Denison, Dimmitt, Dustin, Eddy, Gardner, Goodwin, Gregg, Guthrie, Haines, Harlow, Hatfield, Hill of Erie, Hobart, Holmes, Hurlburt, Jervis, Jewett, Keeler, King of New York, King of Troy, Kingsley, Koeneke, Kuhl, Lawson, Lindsay, Lowe, M'Cabe, M'Combs, M'Coy, Magee, Merrick, Miller of North Indiana, Monroe, Moody, Munsell, Nast, Nisbet, Norton, Patten, Pearne, Peck of California, Pike, Pilcher, Pillsbury of New York East, Raymond, Reed of De-

May 14.
ELEVENTH DAY

troit, Richards, Rothweiler, Shinn, Sinex, Smart, Smith of Cincinnati, Smith of Western Iowa, Starks, Stewart, Street, Terrill, Twombly, Vansant, Whiedon, Wilbur of Oregon; Woodruff, Young—81.

Absent.

Absent.—Barth, Bingham, Brice, Davidson; Harden; Nelson of Wyoming, Pershing, Reese, Reeves, Wilson of Central Ohio, and Wise—11.

So the substitute was laid on the table by a vote of 124 to 81.

John L. Smith moved to amend by striking out of the resolution that part which calls the attention of the bishops to the kind of presiding elders required by the Church, but, on motion of James S. Smart, the amendment was laid on the table.

Alpha J. Kynett offered the following substitute :

Resolved, That Part II, chap. iv, § 1, page 98 be amended as follows: Add after the words, "By the bishops," the words, "subject to the approval of the Annual Conference."

William M'K. Hester moved to amend by striking out all after the word "Resolved," and inserting the following :

The presiding elders shall be appointed by the bishops, after consultation with a council composed of one member from each district, who shall be elected by their several districts.

Point of order
decided.

When the foregoing amendment was presented a question of order was raised, namely: Can an amendment to the original resolution be entertained while a substitute for the resolution is still pending? The Chair decided that an amendment can be so entertained; under authority of the ninth rule of the Conference. From this decision John P. Durbin appealed to the Conference. Whereupon the question was put: "Shall the decision of the Chair be sustained?" and by vote the decision of the Chair was sustained.

Another point of order was raised, namely :

Is not a motion to amend a resolution by striking out of it all after the word "Resolved," and inserting other matter instead, in *fact*, though not in form, a motion to adopt a *substitute* for the resolution; and is not *such* motion to amend subject to the rules governing in the case of substitutes?

The Chair held the point of order to be well taken, and ruled the foregoing amendment to be out of order.

John L. Smith moved that the whole subject be indefinitely postponed, and, on this motion, Thomas H. Pearne called for a vote by ayes and noes, but the call was not sustained, only four voting in favor of it.

The motion to postpone was lost, by a vote of 47 to 127, after which, on motion of James Porter, the whole subject was laid on the table.

The resolution concerning Church Records was adopted, as follows :

Resolved, That a uniform and thorough mode of keeping Church Records is of great importance, and that we advise careful attention thereto on the part of all our preachers, and we especially commend to the attention of our people and preachers the new Church Record published by our Book Agents as admirably adapted to promote this desirable end.

Church Records.

Charles B. Tippet, Chairman of the Committee on the Book Concern, presented Report No. VI, and it was adopted, as follows :

Book Concern.
Report No. VI.

The Committee on the Book Concern beg leave to report the following resolution :

Resolved, That the Book Agents at Cincinnati be and are hereby authorized to sell all books of the General Catalogue, published by the Agents at New York, at the same rates that they are sold at in New York, and the Book Agents at New York shall, in cases of sales to the trade, make such discounts to the Agents of the Western Concern that they can afford to sell to their customers at New York prices, granting them six per centum difference in discount on sales made to the trade, and the Western Agents shall sell to the New York Agents at the same rates.

Rates of discount to the trade.

They further report in relation to a paper in Philadelphia as follows :

Resolved, That we deem it inexpedient to authorize our Agents to establish a paper in Philadelphia, that city and its surrounding country being an important part of the territory patronizing the Christian Advocate and Journal, which is now restricted as much as we can afford, if published at its present subscription price.

Paper in Philadelphia.

Joseph Cummings, Chairman of the Committee on the State of the Country, presented Report No. II, comprising an Address to the President of the United States, and the nomination of a Deputation to bear the Address to Washington, and, in behalf of the Conference, present it to the Chief Magistrate of the nation. The Address was read and adopted, and the nominated delegation was confirmed, as follows :

State of the Country.
Report No. II.

Deputation to Washington.

May 14. Bishop Edward R. Ames, Joseph Cummings, George Peck, Charles Elliott, Granville Moody. [For Report, as adopted, see *Appendix I, II.*]

Missions.
Report No. III. William H. Goode, Chairman of the Committee on Missions, presented Report No. III, and the first and second resolutions were adopted, as follows:

Lands in Oregon for Wallamet University. 1. *Resolved*, That the Board of Managers of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church be and they hereby are authorized, so far as the General Conference may authorize, to convey to the Trustees of the Wallamet University, in Salem, Oregon, all the lands in and near Salem now belonging to the said Board of Managers, the said lands and their avails to be used by the trustees of the said Wallamet University as an endowment fund, the interest only of which shall be used for the support of said institution.

California and Oregon to be represented in the General Missionary Committee. 2. *Resolved*, That in the appointment of the General Missionary Committee the bishops be directed to constitute corresponding members of the said committee for Oregon and California Conferences respectively, who shall have a corresponding relation to the said committee, and shall be allowed to vote by proxy in its annual meetings, on all subjects relating to domestic missions on the Pacific coast.

The third resolution, relating to a change in the Discipline in regard to publishing the names of contributors to the cause of missions, lies on the table under the rule.

Wm. Wilmot. The Chairman of the Committee on Missions further reported, in continuance of No. III, two resolutions relating to the claim made by William Wilmot for pecuniary relief, and the resolutions were adopted. [For Resolutions as adopted, see *Appendix J, III.*]

Revisals.
Report No. III. Davis W. Clark, Chairman of the Committee on Revisals, presented Report No. III, comprising five items: 1. Of Class-meetings; 2. Neglect of the Means of Grace; 3. Depositions and Course of an Accused Party; 4. On seeing the Preachers behave well and want nothing; 5. Annual Election of Stewards. The report lies on the table under the rule.

Ritual.
Report No. III. Davis W. Clark, Chairman of the Committee on Revision of the Ritual, presented Report No. III, relating to the Ministration of Baptism to Infants, and it was laid on the table under the rule.

Joseph Cummings presented a memorial from a convention of laymen within the bounds of the New England Conference, on the Election of Stewards, and it was referred to the Committee on Revisals.

Hugh D. Fisher presented the resolutions of a meet-

ing of clergymen of Philadelphia in relation to the "Pennsylvania Freedmen's Relief Association," and it was referred to the Committee on Freedmen.

May 14.
ELEVENTH DAY

On motion, Conference adjourned.

Conference ad-
journed.

After the Doxology was sung, the Benediction was pronounced by Edwin E. Griswold.

MONDAY MORNING, MAY 16.

May 16.
TWELFTH DAY.

Conference met this morning at half past eight o'clock, Bishop Janes in the chair.

Opening of
Conference.

The usual religious services were conducted by William M'K. Hester, of the Indiana Conference.

The Journal of Saturday was read and approved.

Frederick Merrick asked leave to record his vote on the question taken by ayes and noes on Saturday.

On motion, leave was granted; his name was called, and he voted No, and the Secretary was instructed to correct the vote of Saturday accordingly.

On motion of Elijah H. Pilcher, the order of business was suspended, and he moved to amend the Ninth Rule by transposing the words "amendment" and "substitute," and striking out the words "or" and "also" in the same clause.

Rules of order
amended.

Niram Norton moved as a substitute for the foregoing amendment, to change the last clause of the Rule so as to read, "substitute or amendment, either of which may be amended."

George W. Walker moved to lay the whole subject on the table; but the motion did not prevail.

Lafayette D. White moved to refer the whole subject to a committee of three, with instructions to report as soon as practicable; but the motion was lost.

On motion, the substitute was laid on the table, and the original motion prevailed; so that the Rule reads:

9. No new motion or resolution shall be entertained until the one under consideration is disposed of, which may be done by adoption or rejection, unless one of the following motions shall intervene, which motions shall have precedence in the order in which they are placed, namely: indefinite postponement; laying on the table; reference to a committee; postponement to a given time; substitute, which may be amended; amendment.

Ninth Rule as
amended.

May 16.
TWELFTH DAY.

John H. Twombly offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Conference be requested to publish in the Daily Advocate a statement of the unfinished business before this body.

On motion of Moses Hill, the resolution was laid on the table.

Report of
Standing Com-
mittees.

German Work.
Report No. I.

The order of business was resumed, and reports of standing committees being called for, George Peck, Chairman of the Committee on the German Work, presented Report No. I, recommending the Organization of the German Work into Separate Annual Conferences, and the Report was laid on the table to be printed.

Appeals.

The Committee on Appeals presented a report, and William H. Olin moved to recommit with instructions. Pending the discussion, James Pike moved the previous question, and the motion was sustained by a vote of 113 to 6, and the report was recommitted; and the committee were directed, in making their reports, to include in them a statement of the nature of the action of the Annual Conference from which the appeal is taken.

Committee in-
structed.

Special Com-
mittees.
Trusteeship for
the General
Conference.

William Young, Chairman of the Special Committee on a Plan of Trusteeship for the General Conference, submitted a report on that subject, and it lies on the table under the rule.

Minority Report
on Slavery
submitted.

Elisha P. Phelps and Lemuel M. Reeves, of the Committee on Slavery, submitted a minority report on that subject, and it lies on the table under the rule. [For Minority Report, see *Appendix H, II.*]

Richard Haney moved to suspend the order of business to take up Report No. II of the Committee on Episcopacy; but the motion did not prevail.

Roll of Confer-
ences called
for miscellane-
ous business.

Conferences were called for the presentation of miscellaneous business.

BLACK RIVER.

BLACK RIVER CONFERENCE.

John B. Foote presented a petition from Oswego, on Extension of Time, signed by W. I. Preston and fifteen others, and it was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE.

Henry C. Benson offered a preamble and resolution providing for a Second Assistant Corresponding Secretary of the Missionary Society, who shall reside upon the Pacific coast. Pending its discussion, it was laid on the table and made a special order of the day for to-morrow, immediately after disposing of the report of the Committee on Slavery.

Conference proceeded to the order of the day, namely: to hear a sermon by Rev. W. L. Thornton, A. M., delegate from the British Wesleyan Conference. Dr. Thornton introduced the religious services by reading the 11th Hymn, commencing

"From all that dwell below the skies," etc.

After the hymn was sung he led the devotion of the Conference and congregation in prayer. The Scripture lesson was read from the first chapter of the Gospel according to St. Luke, and commencing at the 68th verse. After the Scriptures were read the 739th hymn, commencing

"Jesus, the Conq'ror, reigns,"

was sung. The text chosen for the occasion was taken from the Gospel according to St. Luke, (x, 18,) "I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven."

At the close of the sermon the 1st, 4th, and 6th verses of the 219th hymn were sung, and Bishop Morris pronounced the Benediction. [For Sermon, see *Appendix B*, XI.]

Notices were given, and Conference adjourned.

May 16.
TWELFTH DAY.
CALIFORNIA.
Second Assistant Corresponding Secretary.

Order of the day.
Sermon by Rev. W. L. Thornton.

Adjournment.

TUESDAY MORNING, MAY 17.

Conference met this morning at half past eight o'clock, Bishop Scott in the chair.

The usual religious services were conducted by George W. Walker, of the Indiana Conference.

The Journal of yesterday was read and approved.

On motion of Elijah H. Pilcher, all members absent on Saturday when the vote was taken by ayes and noes, on the matter of electing Presiding Elders, have leave to vote on the question then taken, and the Secretary was instructed to correct the votes as re-

May 17.
THIRTEENTH DAY.
Opening of Conference.

Journal read.
Absentees allowed to vote.

May 17.
THIRTEENTH
DAY.

ported in Saturday's Journal accordingly. In pursuance of this action the absentees were called, and the following votes recorded, namely:

Ayes.—Adams, Corkhill, Gurley, Harden, and Whitecar.

Noes.—Andrews, Curry, Keeler, and Twombly.

Reports of
Standing Com-
mittees.

Episcopacy,
No. III.

Reports from Standing Committees being in order, Joseph M. Trimble, Chairman of the Committee on Episcopacy, presented Report No. III, relating, 1. To Appointing Preachers; 2. To Employing Supplies; 3. To Bishop Morris; 4. To Episcopal Districts; 5. To Number of Additional Bishops. The report was read, and, on motion of George Peck, it was laid on the table to be printed.

Book Concern,
Report No.
VII.

Depositories at
St. Paul, San
Francisco, De-
troit, etc.

Charles B. Tippet, Chairman of the Committee on the Book Concern, presented Report No. VII, relating, 1. To a Book Depository at St. Paul, Minnesota; 2. To one at San Francisco, California; 3. To one at Detroit, Michigan; and, 4. Concerning the California and Pacific Christian Advocates; and, on motion of Henry C. Benson, it was laid on the table to be printed.

Book Concern,
Report No.
VIII.

The committee also presented Report No. VIII, in relation to the Central Christian Advocate and Depository at St. Louis, and the report was adopted as follows, namely:

Central Advo-
cate to be en-
larged.

Resolved, That the Agents at Cincinnati be and they are hereby instructed to enlarge the "Central Christian Advocate" so as to make it equal to the Western or Northwestern Advocate.

Depository at
St. Louis to be
furnished with
books.

Resolved, That the Agents at Cincinnati be instructed to furnish books for the Depository at St. Louis, as provided for in the Discipline, page 227, ninth line from the top.

Money to be re-
funded to Rev.
C. Elliott.

Resolved, That we direct the Book Agents at Cincinnati to pay to Charles Elliott, D.D., Editor of the "Central Christian Advocate," all that part of his salary which he relinquished to enable the Agents under the restrictions imposed on them by the last General Conference, to continue the publication of the paper.

[See *Appendix G*, VIII.]

Book Concern,
Report No. IX.
Pittsburgh
Christian Ad-
vocate and
Depository.

The Committee on the Book Concern also presented Report No. IX, concerning the Pittsburgh Christian Advocate and a Book Depository in Pittsburgh, and the Report was laid on the table to be printed.

Missions,
Report No. IV.

William H. Goode, Chairman of the Committee on Missions, presented Report No. IV, relating, 1. To

Changes of the Constitution of the Missionary Society ; 2. To Appropriations to the African Methodist Episcopal Church ; 3. To a Union of the two considerable bodies of Colored Methodists ; 4. To the Observance of the first Prayer-meeting of each Month as a Concert of Prayer for Missions ; and, 5. To the Observance of the Annual Week of Prayer for the Conversion of the World. The Report was read, and, on motion of James H. Noble, it was laid on the table to be printed.

The same committee reported back "A Plan for Church Extension Society," with a recommendation that it be referred to the Committee on Temporal Economy.

Richard W. Keeler moved that it be referred to a special committee of nine ; but, on motion of Sylvester L. Congdon, the motion to refer to a special committee was laid on the table, and the recommendation of the Committee on Missions prevailed.

James Porter, Chairman of the Committee on Sunday-Schools and Tract Cause, presented Report No. II, in two parts, and the first part, comprising the following resolutions, was adopted :

1. *Resolved*, That a more energetic, vigorous, and persevering prosecution of the Tract enterprise is indispensable to the growth and efficiency of the Church.

2. *Resolved*, That it is the duty of every pastor to take a regular annual collection in every congregation in his charge.

3. *Resolved*, That all monies raised for Tract purposes in our congregations, whether for home or army distribution, should be reported to and expended in accordance with the regulations of our own Tract Society.

[For Report, see *Appendix L*, IV.]

The second part, providing for certain changes in the Discipline relating to the Tract Cause, was read, and lies on the table under the rule.

Davis W. Clark, Chairman of the Committee on Revisals, presented Report No. IV, relating, 1. To Public Worship ; 2. To Singing ; 3. To Reception of Ministers from the Methodist Episcopal Church South ; 4. To number of a Committee for Trial ; 5. To Rearrangement of the Discipline ; 6. To Registration of Marriages and Baptisms ; 7. To Preachers' Quarterly Report ; 8. On Examining Accounts ; and, 9. To Duties of Stewards. It was read, and lies on the table under the rule.

May 17.
THIRTIETH
DAY.

Sunday Schools
and Tract
Cause.
Report No. II.

Revisals.
Report No. IV.

May 17.**THIRTEENTH
DAY.**Delegates of the
M. E. Church
in Canada.

On motion of Edwin E. Griswold, the order of business was suspended to listen to some parting words from Bishop Richardson, and the Revs. Messrs. Gardner and Morrison, delegates, all of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada. After these gentlemen had addressed the Conference, the following resolution, offered by John B. Wentworth, was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we have been highly gratified with the presence and fraternal greetings of the delegates of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Canada. We recognize in the Church they represent a legitimate branch of the Methodistic family, and we pray that God may bless and prosper it in the fulfillment of that mission upon which it has so successfully entered.

Itinerancy.
Report No. II.Extension of
Time.

On motion of John M. Reid, the order of business was further suspended to take up so much of Report No. II of the Committee on Itinerancy as relates to the Extension of the Time of Ministerial Service; and, on motion of Thomas H. Lynch, that part of the Report was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock.

Thomas H. Pearne reported the personal sickness of James H. Wilbur as the reason of his absence from his place in Conference.

On motion of Randolph S. Foster, Rev. W. L. Thornton was requested to furnish a copy of the sermon preached yesterday before the Conference for publication.

On motion of Alpha J. Kynett, the order of business was suspended that petitions and memorials might be presented.

John H. Twombly moved to reconsider the vote suspending the order of business that provision might be made to introduce resolutions under the call, and, on motion of Sanford Haines, the motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Henry Penfield moved to take up the order of the day, namely, the Report on Slavery; but, on motion of Alpha J. Kynett, this motion was laid on the table.

List of Confer-
ences called.

The list of Conferences was called for the presentation of petitions and memorials, and they were presented and referred, as follows:

CENTRAL OHIO CONFERENCE.

May 17.
THIRTEENTH
DAY.
CENTRAL OHIO.

Thomas H. Wilson presented an extract from the Journal, asking the General Conference to make the language of the questions in the General Minutes conform to that adopted in the Discipline, or *vice versa*, and it was referred to the Committee on Revisals.

CINCINNATI CONFERENCE.

CINCINNATI.

Granville Moody presented a petition from Troy, signed by fifty-two persons, asking an Extension of the Time of Ministerial Service to Five Years, and it was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

William Nast presented two memorials relating to German Annual Conferences: One from F. Schimmelpfennig and twenty-seven others, and one from F. Mueler and fifteen others; and they were referred to the Committee on the German Work.

IOWA CONFERENCE.

IOWA.

Thomas E. Corkhill presented two memorials on Boundaries: One from Knoxville Quarterly Conference, and the other from East Des Moines Quarterly Conference, remonstrating against Change of Boundary of the Iowa Conference; and they were referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

MINNESOTA CONFERENCE.

MINNESOTA.

Henry Roth presented two memorials in relation to German Annual Conferences: One signed by Martin Beneke and twenty-three others, and one signed A. Lamprecht and twenty-six others; and they were referred to the Committee on the German Work.

NEWARK CONFERENCE.

NEWARK.

Stacey W. Hilliard presented a memorial from Narrowsburgh, signed by C. K. Gordon and four others, and it was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

NEW YORK EAST CONFERENCE.

NEW YORK
EAST.

Edwin E. Griswold presented a memorial on the Centenary of Methodism, signed by Rev. S. C. Keeler

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THIRTEENTH
DAY.

and three others, and it was referred to the Committee on the Centenary of Methodism.

NORTH OHIO.

NORTH OHIO CONFERENCE.

Jacob Rothweiler presented memorials relating to German Annual Conferences, as follows: One signed by A. Warns and forty-four others; one from H. Mentz and twenty-one others; and one from F. Mueler and twelve others; and they were referred to the Committee on the German Work.

PHILADELPHIA.

PHILADELPHIA CONFERENCE.

Joseph Castle presented a memorial against Extension of Time of Ministerial Service, signed by William Perry and fifteen others, and it was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

ROCK RIVER.

ROCK RIVER CONFERENCE.

George L. Mulfinger presented two memorials relating to German Annual Conferences: One from V. Rudolph and thirty-four others, and one from William Thiel and twenty-one others; and they were referred to the Committee on the German Work.

Samuel A. W. Jewett presented a memorial signed by himself and one other, relating to the Limitation of the Time for which a Certificate of Membership shall be valid, and it was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

William F. Stewart presented a memorial from the Galena District Conference on Extension of Time, and it was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

SOUTHEASTERN
INDIANA.

SOUTHEASTERN INDIANA CONFERENCE.

John H. Barth presented a memorial relating to German Annual Conferences, signed by J. Stoltz and two others, and it was referred to the Committee on the German Work.

Thomas H. Lynch presented a memorial on Boundaries from Indianapolis, signed by E. G. Wood and seven others, and it was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

TROY CONFERENCE.

May 17.
THIRTEENTH
DAY.

TROY.

Desevignia Starks presented a memorial from certain members of Fort Ann Circuit, in relation to an action of the Troy Conference, and it was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

Stephen D. Brown presented two memorials on Lay Delegation: One from North Second-street, Troy, signed by L. A. Battershall and thirty-one others; and one from Albany, signed by T. Schuyler and thirteen others; and they were referred to the Committee on Lay Delegation. He also presented two memorials on Extension of Time: One from Albany, signed by T. Schuyler and eighteen others; and one from North Second-street, Troy, signed by H. Rankin and thirty-three others; and they were referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

WESTERN IOWA CONFERENCE.

WESTERN
IOWA.

David N. Smith presented extracts from the Journals of the Iowa and Western Iowa Conferences, with other papers on the subject of Boundaries, and they were referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

WESTERN VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.

WESTERN VIR-
GINIA.

John W. Reger presented a memorial from Ironton, Ohio, relating to Boundaries, signed by Henry Wilson and seven others, and it was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

WEST WISCONSIN CONFERENCE.

WEST WISCON-
SIN.

James Lawson presented three memorials on Boundaries: One from Montfort Quarterly Conference; one from Mazomanie, signed by C. L. Blessing and ten others; and one from Lynden, signed by J. E. Irish and one other; and they were referred to the Committee on Boundaries. He also presented a memorial from the Montfort Quarterly Conference on Slavery, and it was referred to the Committee on Slavery.

On motion of Williamson Terrill, the order of the day, the Report on Slavery, was taken up, read, and a motion made for its adoption.

Report on Slav-
ery taken up.

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DAY.

On motion, the members of the Deputation to Washington had leave to record their votes before leaving on their mission.

Pending the discussion of the report, John L. Smith moved that the question be taken without further debate; but the motion did not prevail.

At a later stage in the discussion Horatio R. Clark called for the previous question, but the call was not sustained.

On motion of Jesse T. Peck, the time of the session was extended.

Vote on the Report of the Committee on Slavery.

After further discussion, on motion of John Lanahan, the previous question was ordered, and the vote was taken, on motion of William F. Cowles, by ayes and noes. The roll was called, and the vote was as follows:

Ayes.

Ayes.—Adams, Alexander, Allen of Maine, Allen of New England, Andrews, Armstrong, Baird, Baker, Bangs, Bannister, Barth, Bartine, Barton, Benson, Bennett, Bigelow, Bingham, Blake, Boyd, Breckenridge, Brice, Bristol, Brooks, Brown of New York, Brown of Providence, Brown of Troy, Brownscombe, Bruce, Bullard, Carlton, Caruthers, Castle, Chambers, Chenoweth, Church, Clark of New York, Clark of Wyoming, Clifford, Cobb, Cobleigh, Colby, Congdon, Corkhill, Corrington, Cowles, Crane, Crary, Crawford, Cummings, Cunningham, Curry, Davidson, Davis, Dempsey, Denison, Dimmitt, Durbin, Dustin, Eddy, Elliott, Erwin, Ferris, Fiegenbaum, Fisher, Foote, Foster, Gardner, George, Golden, Goode, Goodwin, Graves, Gregg, Griffin, Griswold, Gurley, Guthrie, Haines, Hall, Hamlin, Haney, Harlow, Harris, Hatfield, Hawley, Henderson, Hester, Hibbard, Hill of Erie, Hill of Indiana, Hilliard, Himebaugh, Hitchcock, Hobart, Holmes, Houghton, Huffman, Hunter, Hurlburt, Jervis, Jewett, Keeler, King of New York, King of Troy, Kingsley, Koeneke, Kuhl, Kynett, Lawson, Lemon, Lindsay, Lowe, Lynch, M'Cabe, M'Combs, M'Coy, M'Kenzie, M'Murray, Magee, Malcom, Manson, Mason, Merrick, Miley, Miller of Nebraska, Miller of North Indiana, Monroe, Moody, Moore, Mulfinger, Munsel, Nast, Nelson of Central Ohio, Nelson of Wyoming, Nesbit, Nisbet, Noble, Norton, Olin, Owen,

Patten, Pearne, Peck of California, Peck of Wyoming, Penfield, Perry, Pershing, Pike, Pilcher, Pillsbury of New York East, Pillsbury of Wisconsin, Poe, Porter, Ray, Raymond, Reed of Detroit, Reid of East Genesee, Reese, Reiley, Richards, Robinson, Roth, Rothweiler, Sherman, Shinn, Shumate, Sinex, Smart, Smith of Cincinnati, Smith of Northwest Indiana, Smith of Southeastern Indiana, Smith of Western Iowa, Spahr, Stallard, Starks, Stewart, Street, Strout, Terrill, Thomas, Thomson, Thurston, Tippet, Trimble, Twombly, Vansant, Wakeley, Walker, Wallace, Wardwell, Webber, Wentworth, Whedon, White of Black River, White of Ohio, Whitecar, Whiteman, Wilbor of Genesee, Wilbur of Oregon, Wiley, Wilson of Erie, Wilson of Central Ohio, Wise, Wood, Woodruff, Wright, Young—207.

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DAY.

Noes.—Clark of Western Virginia, Drummond, Harden, Harrison, Lanahan, Morgan, Phelps, Reeves, Reger—9.

The report, containing the following resolutions, was accordingly adopted by a vote of 207 in favor of it to 9 against it.

1. *Resolved*, By the delegates of the several Annual Conferences in General Conference assembled, That we recommend the amendment of the General Rule on Slavery so that it shall read:

Slaveholding: buying or selling slaves.

2. *Resolved*, That we recommend the suspension of the Fourth Restrictive Rule for the purpose set forth in the foregoing resolution.

3. *Resolved*, That the bishops be requested to submit the foregoing resolutions to the Annual Conferences at their next sessions, and if the requisite number of votes be obtained, to report to the Book Agents, who are hereby instructed to insert the New Rule in all subsequent editions of the Discipline.

[For Report as adopted, see *Appendix H, I.*]

On motion of Samuel C. Brown, members not present have permission to have their votes recorded hereafter.

Absentees have
a right to vote.

John P. Durbin asked and obtained leave of absence till Thursday evening next.

On motion of Thomas H. Lynch, Conference adjourned. After the Doxology was sung, the Benediction was pronounced by Thomas Carlton.

May 18.
FOURTEENTH
DAY.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, MAY 18.

Opening of
Conference.

Conference met this morning at half past eight o'clock, Bishop Simpson in the chair.

The usual religious services were conducted by Jabez Brooks, of the Minnesota Conference.

The Journal of yesterday was read and approved.

On motion of John H. Twombly, the order of business was suspended in order that resolutions of reference may be introduced. The roll of Conferences was called, and resolutions were offered and referred, as follows :

Roll of Confer-
ences called.

BALTIMORE.

BALTIMORE CONFERENCE.

John Lanahan offered the following resolution, and it was adopted :

Delegates to for-
eign bodies to
be nominated.

Resolved, That the Committee on Correspondence be and they are hereby authorized to nominate delegates to represent this General Conference in the different bodies with whom we are in correspondence, said nominations to be subject to the approval of this body.

BLACK RIVER.

BLACK RIVER CONFERENCE.

John B. Foote offered the following preamble and resolution, and they were referred to the Committee on Pastoral Address :

Tobacco.

Whereas, The practice of using tobacco has become a matter of great magnitude ; and

Whereas, The moral sense of the Church is becoming more and more decided as to its evil nature and tendency ; therefore

Resolved, That while we first of all deplore its existence among ourselves and our brethren in the ministry, we most affectionately and solemnly advise all our people, both the ministry and laity, and especially the youth of our families, to refrain from indulgence in what we deem a useless and pernicious habit.

CALIFORNIA.

CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE.

Isaac Owen offered the following resolution, and it was referred to the Committee on Missions :

Liberia Mission.

Resolved, That the Committee on Missions be requested to inquire into the propriety of devising some method and means by which our Mission in Liberia may be turned over to and placed under the supervision of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, with such financial aid as the general Missionary Society can give for the support of said mission.

He also offered the following resolution, and it was referred to the Committee on Revisals:

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Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be requested to inquire into the propriety of inserting a new chapter in the Discipline, comprising Rules of Order for the Government of Church Trials, and the deliberations of Annual and Quarterly Conferences.

CENTRAL ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.

CENTRAL ILLI-
NOIS.

Oliver S. Munsell offered the following resolution, and it was referred to the Committee on Sunday-Schools and Tract Cause:

Resolved, That the Committee on Sunday-Schools and Tracts be instructed to inquire into the expediency of electing a Special Corresponding Secretary of the Sunday-School Union and Tract Society, whose duty it shall be to travel at large through the Church, and supervise the important interests of those institutions.

INDIANA CONFERENCE.

INDIANA.

James Hill offered the following resolution, and it was referred to the Committee on the Book Concern:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Book Concern be instructed to inquire into the expediency of having the Book Agents to print the certificate of Church Membership on superior paper, with a suitable device representing a sacramental scene, class-meeting, or love-feast.

NEW ENGLAND CONFERENCE.

NEW ENGLAND.

John H. Twombly offered the following resolution, and it was referred to the Committee on Revisals:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to consider the expediency of amending the Discipline by inserting in the answer to quest. 1, § 12, chap. ii, Part II, the following as the eighteenth item, namely: "To make earnest efforts to promote the welfare of the young people, and to interest them in the institutions of our Church." In order to this it is recommended that occasional discourses be delivered to them, and that, whenever circumstances are favorable, and the leaders' meeting approves, a society be formed among them for their social, intellectual, and moral improvement."

Ralph W. Allen offered the following resolution, and it was referred to the Committee on Revisals:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be requested to consider the propriety of striking out answer 4 to the question, "What is the duty of a preacher?" § 3, page 63 of Discipline, which reads as follows: "To preach in the morning where he can get hearers. We recommend morning preaching at five o'clock in the summer, and six in the winter, wherever it is practicable."

May 18.
FOURTEENTH
DAY.

David Sherman offered the following resolution, and it was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy:

Resolved, That the Committee on Itinerancy be requested to consider the propriety of so changing the Discipline, Part II, chap. iv, § 1, and answer to quest. 3, as to allow a presiding elder to be appointed for six consecutive years to the same district.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK CONFERENCE.

John W. Lindsay offered the following resolution, and it was referred to the Committee on Revisals:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be requested to inquire into the expediency of altering the Discipline, Part II, chap. iii, § 1, page 92, line 17, where it reads, "not including the Germans," so that it read, "not including the Germans when organized into separate German Districts."

He also presented the following law question, and it was referred to the Committee on Revisals:

LAW QUESTION.—When an accused member of our Church is on trial before a select committee, may a member of said committee at the same time be a witness against the accused?

NEW YORK
EAST.

NEW YORK EAST CONFERENCE.

Benjamin Pilsbury offered the following resolution, and it was referred to the Committee on Revisals:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be requested to consider the expediency of adding to the answer to the question, "How shall the presiding elder be supported?" Part II, chap. iv, § 2, page 101, a second part, in substance as follows:

2. "It is recommended by the General Conference to the district stewards to purchase, wherever practicable, a lot of ground at a convenient place in each district, and build a suitable house thereon for the use of the presiding elder, and to furnish it with at least heavy furniture, and to settle the same upon trustees, who shall be appointed according to the laws of the states where the property is located. In cases where it is not deemed advisable to comply with the above request, the General Conference recommends that the district stewards rent a suitable house for the presiding elder and his family, and furnish the same with at least heavy furniture."

NORTH INDI-
ANA.

NORTH INDIANA CONFERENCE.

John V. R. Miller offered the following resolutions, and they were referred to the Committee on Revisals:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be and they are hereby instructed to inquire into the expediency of changing the Discipline by adding another section to Part II, chap. ii, page 90, as follows:

SECTION XIII.

May 18.
FOURTEENTH
DAY.

THE QUALIFICATIONS, APPOINTMENT, AND DUTIES OF CLASS-LEADERS.

Quest. 1. What are the qualifications of class-leaders?

Ans. Let them be men of solid piety, who both know and love Methodism, of good natural and acquired ability, ardently desiring the salvation of souls, and of studious habits.

Quest. 2. How are the class-leaders to be appointed?

Ans. By the preacher in charge of the circuit or station annually at the close of each conference year, and in large societies shall change the leaders every two years, to whom they shall be accountable for the faithful and efficient performance of their duties, and who may remove or change them whenever the interests of the Church in his judgment shall require it.

Quest. 3. What are the duties of class-leaders?

Ans. 1. To meet their classes once a week, and promptly commence at the time appointed, and not hold their meetings longer than an hour and fifteen minutes.

2. To see each absent member of their classes each week, and inquire into the cause of his or her absence.

3. To inquire of each how his or her soul prospers.

4. To advise, reprove, comfort, or exhort as occasion may require.

5. To collect of them weekly, monthly, or quarterly, as the stewards' or leaders' meeting may order, the amount of each required for the support of the preachers on the circuit or station and the presiding elder, and keep an exact account of what each member or person pays.

6. To attend all the meetings of the leaders and stewards, to inform the minister of any that are sick or of any that walk disorderly and will not be reprov'd; and where weekly collections are made, to pay the stewards what they have collected from their several classes during the week or weeks preceding.

7. To carefully keep their class-books, marking at each meeting of the class, opposite the name of each member, present, absent, sick, distant, or as the case may be, and report the same in the aggregate to each leaders' meeting, especially those willfully and habitually neglecting their class-meetings.

8. To attend all the quarterly conferences of the circuit or station, and where the collections are taken quarterly, to report and pay over to the stewards what they have collected from their several classes and submit their accounts to them for examination.

He also offered the following resolution, and it was referred to the Committee on Revisals:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of changing the Discipline on page 214, Part IV, § 3, commencing with the fifth line from the top of the page, and strike out all that follows, and insert,

1. It shall be the duty of the Preachers and Presiding Elder of each district, as soon as may be, to organize a district Tract Society Auxiliary to the Tract Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with proper officers.

2. And employ one or more agents to travel through the district to distribute tracts, sell books, both of the Tract and General Catalogue publications, and aid the preachers in circulating our religious periodicals. To visit the families in course, and organize Sabbath-schools in destitute places, and collect funds for the Society.

3. The officers shall be a board of managers to estimate the allowance of the agent or agents, and provide the tracts and books, and

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FOURTEENTH
DAY.

require of the agents monthly reports of visits, sales, and distribution, and see that they do their duty.

4. And take up collections or subscriptions for this purpose in all their congregations, and urge our people to increased liberality, out of which and the profits of the sale of books and commission on papers to pay the agents, and report the same to the annual conference.

NORTHWEST
WISCONSIN.

NORTHWEST WISCONSIN CONFERENCE.

Chauncey Hobart offered the following resolution, and it was referred to the Committee on Revisals :

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of so altering our Discipline as to allow a minority of our boards of trustees to be not members of our Church.

WYOMING.

WYOMING CONFERENCE.

Henry Brownscombe offered the following resolution, and it was referred to the Committee on the Book Concern :

Resolved, That the Committee on the Book Concern be instructed to inquire into the expediency of recommending to the Editors and Publishers of our books in New York and Cincinnati the great importance of republishing or keeping on sale a choice selection of the best theological works published in Europe.

Report on the
Bible Cause.

Reports of committees being in order, Daniel Curry, Chairman of the Committee on the Bible Cause, presented a report containing the following resolutions, and they were adopted :

Resolved, 1. By the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, That the relations of our Church with the American Bible Society have been most salutary in their operations and results, and that we gladly recognize in that Society an efficient agency for the diffusion of the Holy Scriptures throughout the world.

Resolved, 2. That we congratulate our people in view of their steady and persistent liberality toward that Society, and we commend it to their continued confidence and beneficence.

Ritual.
Report No. IV.

Davis W. Clark, Chairman of the Committee on Revisal of Ritual, submitted Report No. IV, relating to the Baptism of Adults, and it was laid on the table under the rule.

Church Ten-
ures.
Reports Nos. I
and II.

William H. Goode, Chairman of the Committee on Church Tenures, submitted Reports Nos. I and II. They were read, and laid on the table to be printed.

Conference of
Appeals. Re-
port presented.

Moses Smith, Chairman of the Committee on Conference of Appeals and for the Trial of Bishops, presented a report, which was read, and laid on the table to be printed.

John M. Reid moved to take up Report No. II of the Committee on Itinerancy.

Thomas H. Pearne moved, as a substitute, to take up the resolution relating to an Assistant Missionary Secretary for the Pacific Coast; but the substitute, on motion of Barzillai N. Spahr, was laid on the table, and the motion of John M. Reid prevailed.

The report was taken up, and so much as relates to the Extension of the Term of Ministerial Service was read, and Joseph B. Wakeley, who was entitled to the floor, had permission to occupy the full time allotted to speakers, without reference to the time occupied by him before this subject was laid on the table.

Pending the discussion, Henry Whiteman moved the previous question; and the motion was sustained, and the roll was called, and the vote on Extension of Time was given as follows:

Ayes.—Adams, Alexander, Allen of Maine, Allen of New England, Andrews, Armstrong, Baird, Baker, Bangs, Bannister, Barth, Bartine, Benson, Bigelow, Bingham, Blake, Boyd, Brice, Bristol, Brooks, Brown of Providence, Brown of Troy, Brownscombe, Bruce, Carlton, Caruthers, Castle, Chambers, Chenoweth, Church, Clark of Western Virginia, Clark of Wyoming, Clifford, Cobb, Cobleigh, Congdon, Corrington, Cowles, Crane, Crary, Cummings, Curry, Davidson, Dempsey, Denison, Dimmitt, Drummond, Dustin, Eddy, Erwin, Fiengenbaum, Fisher, Foote, Gardner, George, Golden, Goodwin, Graves, Griffin, Griswold, Gurley, Guthrie, Haines, Harlow, Harris, Hatfield, Hawley, Henderson, Hibbard, Hill of Erie, Hilliard, Himebaugh, Hitchcock, Hobart, Holmes, Huffman, Hunter, Hurlburt, Jervis, Jewett, Keeler, King of Troy, Kingsley, Koeneke, Kuhl, Kynett, Lanahan, Lawson, Lemon, Lowe, Lynch, M'Cabe, M'Coy, M'Kenzie, M'Murray, Magee, Manson, Merrick, Miley, Miller of North Indiana, Monroe, Moore, Morgan, Mulfinger, Munsell, Nast, Nelson of Central Ohio, Nelson of Wyoming, Nesbit, Nisbet, Norton, Olin, Patten, Pearne, Peck of California, Peck of Wyoming, Pershing, Pike, Pilcher, Pillsbury of New York East, Pillsbury of Wisconsin, Poe, Porter, Raymond, Reed of Detroit, Reid of East Genesee, Reese, Reger, Richards, Robin-

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Itinerancy.
Report No. II.

Extension of
time taken up.

Vote.
Ayes.

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son, Roth, Rothweiler, Sherman, Shumate, Sinex, Smart, Smith of Cincinnati, Smith of Northwest Indiana, Smith of Western Iowa, Spahr, Stallard, Stewart, Street, Strout, Terrill, Thomas, Thomson, Thurston, Trimble, Twombly, Vansant, Wallace, Wentworth, Whedon, White of Black River, White of Ohio, Whitman, Wilbor of Genesee, Wiley, Wilson of Erie, Wise, Wood, Woodruff, Wright, Young—165.

Noes.

Noes.—Barton, Bennett, Breckenridge, Brown of New York, Bullard, Clark of New York, Colby, Corkhill, Crawford, Cunningham, Davis, Ferris, Foster, Goode, Gregg, Hall, Hamlin, Haney, Harden, Harrison, Hester, Hill of Indiana, Houghton, King of New York, Lindsay, M'Combs, Malcom, Mason, Miller of Nebraska, Noble, Owen, Penfield, Perry, Phelps, Ray, Reeves, Reiley, Shinn, Smith of Southeastern Indiana, Starks, Tippet, Wakeley, Walker, Wardwell, Webber, Whitecar, Wilbur of Oregon, Wilson of Central Ohio—48.

Absent.

Absent.—Durbin, Elliott, Moody—3.

Absentees a
right to vote.

On motion of Stacey W. Hilliard, members absent have permission to record their votes on this question hereafter.

So much of the same report as relates to the Mode of Examination of Character was read and adopted, and the report as a whole was adopted, as follows:

Extension of
Time of Ministerial
Service in the same
Charge.

PART I.—Your Committee on Itinerancy have carefully considered all matters referred to them respecting the Extension of the Time of Ministerial Service in the same Charge, and are of the opinion that the interests of the Church will be promoted by granting to the bishop the right to reappoint for a third year, and they therefore recommend that the word "two," wherever it occurs in chap. iii, § 1, quest. 3, ans. 3, pages 92 and 93, be changed to the word "three," namely: on page 92, on the fourth line of the question, and in the fourth and ninth line from the top of page 93. (The length of the answer will excuse our reciting it in full.)

Examination of
Character in
Conference.

PART II.—Your committee have also considered the Mode of Examining Character in the Annual Conferences, and respectfully submit the following for adoption:

Resolved, That it is the sense of this General Conference that it is unnecessary for an Annual Conference to require its members who are elders to retire when their names are called in the examination of character.

Resolution concerning a
Second Assistant
Missionary
Secretary taken up.

On motion of James W. Lowe, the resolution relating to a Second Assistant Corresponding Secretary,

who shall reside on the Pacific Coast, was taken from the table.

William H. Hunter moved to strike out the words "upon the Pacific Coast," and insert instead thereof the words "in the West."

William M'K. Hester moved to lay the amendment on the table; but the motion was lost.

Pending the discussion, on motion of Charles B. Tippet, Thomas H. Pearne had leave to speak after the time allowed him by the rules had expired.

Conference having been notified that Rev. John Carroll, delegate from the Wesleyan Conference in Canada, was about to leave the city, business was informally suspended, and he addressed a few farewell words, after which business was resumed.

On motion, Bishops Janes and Simpson, and Joseph Mason and James M'K. Reiley had leave of absence for to-morrow, for the purpose of attending a dedication of a church at New Castle, Delaware.

On motion of Elisha P. Phelps, Conference adjourned.

After the Doxology was sung, the Benediction was pronounced by Adam Poe.

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Hunter's
Amendment.

Delegates from
Canada.

Conference Ad-
journed.

THURSDAY MORNING, MAY 19.

Conference met this morning at half past eight o'clock, Bishop Baker in the chair.

The usual religious services were conducted by George Webber, of the Maine Conference.

The Journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Kasimir P. Jervis moved to suspend the order of business for the purpose of taking up so much of Report No. III of the Committee on Episcopacy as relates to the number of bishops to be chosen by this Conference. The motion prevailed, and the report was taken up.

John L. Smith moved to amend the report by striking out the word "two," and inserting instead thereof the word "three;" also to add after the word "bishops" the words "one of whom shall reside on the Pacific Coast, and the other two west of the Alleghany Mountains, and east of the Rocky Mountains."

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DAY.

Opening of Con-
ference.

Episcopacy.
Report No. III

Number of
Bishops.

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Pending the discussion, the mover withdrew so much of the amendment as relates to the residence of bishops, after which

Daniel Curry moved to amend the amendment by striking out the word "three" and inserting the word "four."

Pending the consideration of the amendment to the amendment James Pike moved the previous question, and the motion was sustained.

The motion to substitute the word "four" for "three" was lost, and the amendment was carried, and the item of the report under consideration was adopted, as follows:

Number of
Bishops.

The subject of Strengthening the Episcopacy having been submitted to us, and with it a note from the bishops in answer to an inquiry from the General Conference, giving, as their judgment, a statement that the interests of the work require the election of two bishops for the superintendency of the work in the United States and Territories, and of two missionary bishops, one for the missions in Europe and Asia, and the other for missions in Africa, we have given it careful consideration, and report,

First. That we decline recommending the election of two missionary bishops.

Second. That we recommend the General Conference to proceed on Friday, the 20th instant, immediately after the reading of the Journal, to the election of three additional bishops.

Deputation
from
men's
vention
ceivel.
Lay-
Con-
re-

On motion of Joseph M. Trimble, the order of business was suspended to receive a deputation from a convention of laymen of the Methodist Episcopal Church just held in this city, whereupon the Chair introduced the following gentlemen to the Conference, namely:

Ex-Governor Wright, of Indiana; his excellency, Governor Cannon, of Delaware; Dr. James Strong, C. C. North, Esq., and John Elliott, Esq., of New York; Cornelius Walsh, Esq., of New Jersey; Hon. Thomas Kneil, of Massachusetts; Geo. C. Cooke, Esq., of Illinois; and Oliver Hoyt, Esq., of Connecticut.

Dr. Strong, Secretary of the Convention, presented and read an Address from that body to the General Conference.

On motion of Joseph M. Trimble; the Address was referred to the Committee on Lay Delegation and ordered to be printed. [For Address, see *Appendix M, I.*]

On motion of John Miley, the Deputation was invited to an interview, if they desired it, with the Committee on Lay Delegation.

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DAY.

John L. Smith offered the following resolutions, and they were adopted :

Resolved, 1. That the order of elections to-morrow shall be as follows :

Order of the
Elections.

1. Bishops.
2. Editor of Christian Advocate and Journal.
3. Editor of Quarterly Review.
4. Editor of Sunday-School Books and Papers.
5. Corresponding Secretary of the Missionary Society.
6. Assistant Corresponding Secretary of the Missionary Society.
7. Second Assistant Corresponding Secretary of the Missionary Society.
8. Editor of Western Christian Advocate.
9. Editor of Ladies' Repository.
10. Editor of Christian Apologist.
11. Editor of Northwestern Christian Advocate.
12. Editor of Central Christian Advocate.
13. Editor of Northern Christian Advocate.
14. Editor of Pittsburgh Christian Advocate.
15. Editor of California Christian Advocate.
16. Editor of Pacific Christian Advocate.
17. Book Agent at New York.
18. Assistant Book Agent at New York.
19. Book Agent at Cincinnati.
20. Assistant Book Agent at Cincinnati.

Resolved, 2. That in electing the foregoing officers, when there is but one nomination, then the Conference shall determine by hand vote. In all cases where there are two or more nominations for the same office, there shall be a vote by ballot, and it shall require a majority of all the votes cast to elect.

On motion of Orange V. Lemon, the order of business was suspended to hear a report from the Deputation to Washington.

Bishop Ames made a brief verbal report, and presented an autograph letter from the President of the United States, as follows :

GENTLEMEN,—In response to your address, allow me to attest the accuracy of its historical statements, indorse the sentiments it expresses, and thank you, in the nation's name, for the sure promise it gives.

Letter from the
President of
the United
States.

Nobly sustained as the Government has been by all the Churches, I would utter nothing which might in the least appear invidious against any. Yet without this it may fairly be said that the Methodist Episcopal Church, not less devoted than the best, is, by its greater numbers, the most important of all. It is no fault in others that the Methodist Church sends more soldiers to the field, more nurses to the hospitals, and more prayers to heaven than any. God bless the Methodist Church! bless all the Churches! and blessed be God! who in this our great trial giveth us the Churches!

May 18, 1864.

A. LINCOLN.

[See Appendix I, III.]

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DAY.

Dustin's pre-
amble and res-
olution on
Slavery.

On motion of Mighill Dustin, the order of business was suspended; and he presented a preamble and resolution on the subject of Slavery; and, on motion of Hugh D. Fisher, they were received, laid on the table, and ordered to be printed.

On motion of Hugh D. Fisher, the order of business was further suspended, to take up the matter pending at the time of adjournment yesterday, and the motion prevailed.

Second Assist-
ant Missionary
Secretary.

On motion of Thomas H. Pearne, the resolution relating to the appointment of a Second Assistant Corresponding Secretary of the Missionary Society was accordingly taken up. Pending the discussion, on motion of Elisha P. Phelps, the time of the session was extended.

On motion of William H. Ferris, the previous question was ordered; and, on motion of Thomas H. Pearne, the amendment was divided, and the words "upon the Pacific Coast" were struck out, and the words "in the West" were inserted instead thereof, and the resolution was then adopted, as follows:

Resolved, That the Fourth Article in the Constitution of the Missionary Society be amended (the Board of Managers concurring) by the addition of the following, nameiy: "There shall be a Second Assistant Corresponding Secretary appointed by the General Conference, who shall reside in the West, and labor for the promotion of the interests of the Society under the direction of the Board at New York."

On motion, the Secretary was instructed to insert the words "Second Assistant Corresponding Secretary of the Missionary Society" in the order of elections provided for yesterday as the seventh item, and change the numbers of the subsequent items accordingly.

Book Concern.
Report No. VII.

On motion of Thomas H. Pearne, the order of business was suspended for the remainder of this morning's session; and, on his motion, the Report of the Committee on the Book Concern, No. VII, relating, 1. To a Book Depository at St. Paul; 2. To the California and Pacific Christian Advocates; and, 3. To a Book Depository at Detroit, was taken up, and the Report, including the following resolutions, was adopted:

Book Deposito-
ry at St. Paul,
Minnesota.

Resolved, That the Western Book Agents be and are hereby instructed to establish a Book Depository at St. Paul, Minnesota, if

after examination they think it can be done without loss to the Concern; and to carry out this object they are authorized to make with any person in St. Paul such arrangements as they may judge economical and necessary for supplying our people in that part of the work with our literature.

Resolved, That the Book Agents at New York be and they are hereby instructed to pay annually to the California and Pacific Christian Advocates during the next four years such sum not, exceeding one thousand dollars to each, as in the judgment of the publishing committee of said papers shall be deemed necessary to their continued publication.

Resolved, That the Book Agents at Cincinnati be and they are hereby authorized to establish a Depository of our books at Detroit, Michigan, if in their judgment it can be done without loss to the Concern, or to make such other arrangements as may be necessary to keep our books on sale there at Book Room prices.

By unanimous consent the following papers were presented and referred :

Morris D'C. Crawford presented a memorial from C. F. Grimm and others, relating to German Annual Conferences, and it was referred to the Committee on the German Work.

Bishop Morris presented a memorial from William Simmons, of Cincinnati Conference, on Examination of Character, and it was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy. He also presented a memorial from D. J. Hughes, relating to the Ritual, and it was referred to the Committee on Revision of the Ritual.

Isaac S. Bingham recorded his vote in the affirmative of the motion to adopt the Report on Slavery, and also on the motion to Extend the Time of Ministerial Service to Three Years, and the Secretary was instructed to change the record accordingly.

A motion was made to reconsider the vote by which the preamble and resolution offered by Mighill Dustin were laid on the table to be printed.

On motion of Alexander L. Brice, the previous question was ordered on the motion to reconsider. The previous question was sustained, and the motion to reconsider prevailed.

Reuben Nelson moved that the paper be referred to the Committee on Slavery.

James S. Smart moved that the whole subject be indefinitely postponed, and the motion prevailed.

Conference adjourned, and after the Doxology was sung, the Benediction was pronounced by Ralph W. Allen.

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Aid to the California and Pacific Christian Advocates.

Depository at Detroit.

Papers referred by unanimous consent.

Dustin's resolution on Slavery.

Conference adjourned.

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DAY.

FRIDAY MORNING, MAY 20.

Opening of Conference.

Conference met this morning at half past eight o'clock, Bishop Ames in the Chair.

The usual religious services were conducted by Stacey W. Hilliard, of the Newark Conference.

The Journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Nicholas J. B. Morgan asked and obtained leave to vote on the adoption of the Report on Slavery, and also on the Extension of the Time of Ministerial Service. On the former he voted No, and on the latter Aye. Jonathan T. Crane also voted Aye on the same questions; and James H. Wilbur voted Aye on the Report on Slavery; and the Secretary was instructed to correct the record of the vote accordingly.

On motion of Reuben Nelson, the order of the day was taken up, and Conference proceeded with the elections.

Election of Bishops.

The election of bishops being in order, Sylvester L. Congdon moved that it shall require in this case a majority of the votes of all the members of the General Conference to elect; but, on motion of Reuben Nelson, this motion was laid on the table.

Tellers appointed.

The Chair appointed Israel C. Pershing, John L. Smith, John Lanahan, Thomas H. Pearne, Thomas C. Gardner, and Lucius H. King tellers.

The roll of Conference was called, and each member deposited his ballot.

Reports of Tellers.

On counting the votes it appeared that the whole number of votes cast was 216. Necessary to a choice 109. Davis W. Clark received 124, and Edward Thomson 123, and they were declared duly elected Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States of America.

Davis W. Clark and Edward Thomson elected Bishops.

Second ballot.

A second ballot was cast without calling the list of members, and on counting the ballots it was ascertained that 216 votes were cast. Necessary to a choice 109.

Calvin Kingsley elected Bishop.

Calvin Kingsley received 114, and was declared duly elected a Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States of America.

On motion of Randolph S. Foster, the election of Editor of the Christian Advocate and Journal was postponed for the present.

The following officers were chosen by acclamation, namely:

Daniel D. Whedon, Editor of the Methodist Quarterly Review.

Daniel Wise, Editor of Sunday-School Books and Papers.

John P. Durbin, Corresponding Secretary of the Missionary Society.

William L. Harris, Assistant Corresponding Secretary of the Missionary Society.

On motion of Gardner Baker, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That in the election of officers the following order shall be observed: Immediately after the ballots have been cast for the first who shall be elected by ballot the list shall be proceeded with till the next to be elected by ballot is reached, when the Chair shall appoint other tellers; and when the votes are all collected the two classes of tellers shall retire and count their votes respectively, and report to the Conference through the Chair, and so on through the list.

As there were several nominees for the office of second Assistant Secretary of the Missionary Society, the Chair appointed Nathan Shumate, Robert M. Hatfield, Samuel A. W. Jewett, and John B. Wentworth tellers, and a ballot was cast, and the tellers, with one of the secretaries, retired to count the votes.

On motion, the election of an Editor of the Western Christian Advocate and an Editor of the Ladies' Repository was laid over for the present.

William Nast was elected Editor of the Christian Apologist by acclamation.

There being more than one nominated for the Editorship of the Northwestern Christian Advocate, a ballot was cast, and the tellers, with a secretary of the Conference, retired to count the votes.

Benjamin F. Crary was elected Editor of the Central Christian Advocate by acclamation.

On motion, the election of an Editor for the Northern Christian Advocate was laid over for the present.

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DAY.

Election of Editor of Advocate and Journal postponed. //

D. D. Whedon, Editor of the Quarterly Review.
Daniel Wise, Editor of S. S. Books and Papers.
J. P. Durbin, Cor. Sec. Mis. Society, and
W. L. Harris, Ass't Cor. Sec. Miss. Society. //

Mode of election by ballot.

Second Assistant Missionary Secretary.

Election of Editors of Western Christian Advocate and Ladies' Repository postponed.
William Nast, Editor of Christian Apologist.
Northwestern Christian Advocate. |

B. F. Crary elected Editor of the Central Christian Advocate.
Election of Editor of Northern Christian Advocate postponed. |

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DAY.**

S. H. Nesbit,
Editor of the
Pittsburgh
Christian Ad-
vocate.

Eleazer Thom-
as, Editor of
the California
Christian Ad-
vocate.

Second Mission-
ary Secretary.
Report of tell-
ers. First bal-
lot.

No election.
Election of Ed-
itor for the Pa-
cific Christian
Advocate laid
over.

Thomas Carlton
elected Book
Agent at New
York.

Assistant Book
Agent at New
York.

Samuel H. Nesbit was elected Editor of the Pitts-
burgh Christian Advocate by acclamation.

Eleazer Thomas was elected Editor of the California
Christian Advocate by acclamation.

The tellers in the case of the Second Assistant Cor-
responding Secretary of the Missionary Society re-
ported as follows :

Whole number of votes cast, 210. Necessary to a
choice, 106.

No one having received a majority of the votes, a
second ballot was cast, and the tellers retired.

On motion, the election of Editor for the Pacific
Christian Advocate was laid over for the present.

Thomas Carlton was elected Book Agent at New
York by acclamation.

A ballot was cast for Assistant Book Agent at New
York, and the tellers retired.

The tellers in the case of the Northwestern Chris-
tian Advocate reported as follows : Whole number of
votes cast, 203. Necessary to a choice, 102.

Thomas M. Eddy received 177 votes, and was de-
clared duly elected Editor of the Northwestern Chris-
tian Advocate.

Adam Poe was elected Book Agent at Cincinnati,
and Luke Hitchcock Assistant Book Agent at Cincin-
nati by acclamation.

The list of Conferences was called for the presenta-
tion of petitions, memorials, and resolutions, and they
were presented and disposed of as follows :

T. M. Eddy
elected Editor
of the North-
western Chris-
tian Advocate.

Adam Poe elect-
ed Book Agent
at Cincinnati.

List of Confer-
ences called for
Miscellaneous
Business.

CINCINNATI.**CINCINNATI CONFERENCE.**

William Young presented a memorial from Morris
Chapel, Cincinnati, on Extension of Time, on Lay De-
legation, and inviting the General Conference to hold its
next session in Cincinnati, and it was referred to the
Committee on Lay Delegation.

The tellers in the case of an Assistant Book Agent at
New York reported as follows :

Whole number of votes cast, 207. Necessary to a
choice, 104.

No one having received a majority, a second ballot
was cast, and the tellers retired.

Report of tell-
ers. Assistant
Book Agent at
New York.
First ballot.

ERIE CONFERENCE.

May 20.
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DAY.

Niram Norton offered the following preamble and resolutions, and they were adopted:

Whereas, The Discipline requires that the Journals of the several Annual Conferences shall be sent to the General Conference for examination,

Journals of Annual Conferences to be approved.

Resolved, 1. That such as are approved shall receive an official certificate in the following words, to be written in the Journal:

"I hereby certify that the foregoing Journal for the last quadrennial has been examined and approved."

[Dated, and signed by the Chairman of the Committee on Itinerancy.]

Resolved, 2. That such parts, if any, as are not approved shall be clearly specified in the official certificate.

ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.

ILLINOIS.

William H. H. Moore submitted the following preamble and resolution, and they were referred to the Committee on Itinerancy:

Whereas Stephen Griffith, of Vermilion County, Illinois, did, in 1855, donate to the Methodist Episcopal Church a certain building to be used as a house of worship, on conditions which have not been complied with; and

Whereas said house is not now, and will not again be used as a place of worship, it being out of repair, and not in a suitable location; and

Whereas said building is situated on Mr. Griffith's farm, and consequently obstructs its sale, and is of no value to the Church; and

Whereas Mr. Griffith has, for many years, contributed largely to the support of Methodism and its benevolent enterprises,

Resolved, That said property justly reverts to him; and the Committee on Itinerancy are hereby instructed to inquire into the propriety of authorizing the Trustees, John Makamson and others, to convey, according to law, said property to Brother Griffith.

The tellers reported in relation to a second ballot for Second Assistant Corresponding Secretary of the Missionary Society, as follows:

Tellers report on Second Assistant Missionary Secretary.

Whole number of votes cast, 204. Necessary to a choice, 103.

Joseph M. Trimble received 116 votes, and was declared duly elected.

J. M. Trimble elected.

William H. Olin moved a reconsideration of the vote by which Thomas Carlton was elected Book Agent at New York.

Kasimir P. Jervis moved to lay the motion to reconsider on the table, which motion was lost. Pending the discussion, the time of the session was extended; and

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DAY.

on motion of John L. Smith, the motion to reconsider was indefinitely postponed.

Niram Norton moved that Conference do now adjourn, but the motion did not prevail.

The call of Conferences was resumed.

NEW ENGLAND.

NEW ENGLAND CONFERENCE.

Ralph W. Allen offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

Journal to be
sent to mem-
bers.

Resolved, That the Book Agents at New York be requested to send a copy of the Journal of the General Conference to each member of the General Conference as soon as it is published.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK CONFERENCE.

Randolph S. Foster presented a memorial from the National Association of Local Preachers, and it was referred to a special committee of three. [For Memorial, see *Appendix Z*, I.]

James Porter presented a memorial from E. L. Fancher, Esq., relating to a Revision of the Hymn Book, and it was referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.

By unanimous consent, the following reports were received and laid on the table to be printed, namely:

Revisals.

Report No. V
presented.

Davis W. Clark, Chairman of the Committee on Revisals, presented Report No. V, relating to the Trial of Church Members, and it lies on the table under the rule.

Missions.
Report No. V
presented.

William H. Goode, Chairman of the Committee on Missions, submitted Report No. V, relating to Changes of the Twelfth Article of the Constitution of the Missionary Society, and to the Organization of Conferences in States and Territories not now included in any Annual Conference, and it was laid on the table.

Report on
Freedmen.

Edward Thomson, Chairman of the Committee on Freedmen, presented a report, and it was laid on the table to be printed.

Report on the
State of the
Work among the
People of
Color.

James M'K. Reiley, Chairman of the Committee on the State of the Work among the People of Color, presented Report No. I, and it was laid on the table.

George Peck, Chairman of the Committee on the

German Work, presented Report No. II, and it was laid on the table.

The call of Conferences was resumed.

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DAY.

German Work.
Report No. II.

NORTH OHIO CONFERENCE.

NORTH OHIO.

Henry Whiteman offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

Resolved, That after Monday next the roll be regularly called, in order to ascertain, first, whether there be a quorum present, and, second, who are present and who are absent; and any member leaving prior to final adjournment without the consent of the Conference shall be deemed worthy of censure, and forfeit his traveling expenses.

Members leaving without consent to Forfeit their Traveling Expenses.

NORTHWEST INDIANA CONFERENCE.

NORTHWEST
INDIANA.

George M. Boyd offered a resolution, proposing that the Book Agents at New York have President Lincoln's letter lithographed, and furnish a copy to each member of this body.

Lithographing
President Lincoln's Letter.

On motion of John M. Reid, so much of the resolution as relates to furnishing copies to members of the General Conference was struck out.

George W. Walker moved to lay the resolution on the table, but the motion was lost; when, on motion of John M. Reid, it was referred to the Book Agents at New York.

On motion of John L. Smith, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the consecration of the bishops elect be made the order for Tuesday, May 24, at three o'clock P.M., and that the bishops be requested to arrange for such special religious service as in their judgment may be proper.

Consecration of
the Bishops.

The tellers reported in relation to the second ballot for Assistant Book Agent at New York, as follows:

Report of Tellers on Assistant Book Agent at New York.

Whole number of votes cast, 205. Necessary to a choice, 103.

James Porter received 136 votes, and was declared duly elected.

James Porter elected.

On motion, Conference adjourned.

Conference adjourned.

After the Doxology was sung, the Benediction was pronounced by Bishop Ames.

May 21.SEVENTEENTH
DAY.

SATURDAY MORNING, MAY 21.

Opening of Con-
ference.

Conference met this morning at half past eight o'clock, Bishop Morris in the chair.

The usual religious services were conducted by John H. Twombly, of the New England Conference.

The Journal of yesterday was read and approved.

The following letter of invitation was received :

May 19, 1864.

Invitation to
visit Academy
of Fine Arts.

The members of the Methodist Episcopal Conference are respectfully invited to visit the present exhibition of the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, 1025 Chestnut-street.

C. COPE, *President.*

On motion, the invitation was accepted, with thanks for the courtesy, and it was agreed that the members visit it severally at their convenience.

Report of Com-
mittee on Epis-
copacy, No. IV.

Joseph M. Trimble, Chairman of the Committee on Episcopacy, presented Report No. IV, relating, 1. To the memorial of Union Chapel, complaining of the administration of Bishop Morris; 2. To the complaint of Joseph Counts, complaining of a decision made by Bishop Baker in the Ohio Conference; 3. To the administration of the bishops for the last four years; and, 4. To the residences of the bishops. And the report, excepting the resolution relating to the residences of bishops, was adopted.

Union Chapel
case, Cincin-
nati.

The judgment of the Conference in relation to the Union Chapel case is expressed in the following paragraph from the Report of the Committee, given after reciting the facts in the premises :

In all this, so far from seeing anything to censure, the committee believe the administration to have been wise and just; and that Bishop Morris is to be commended for the firmness with which he has maintained the discipline and order of the Church.

Complaint of
Joseph Counts.

In relation to the complaint of Joseph Counts, the following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That the ruling of Bishop Baker in the Ohio Annual Conference, in the case of Joseph Counts, be approved as in harmony with the Law and Discipline of the Church.

We also recommend that the complaint of Joseph Counts be dismissed.

The following are the resolutions of the report con-

cerning the Administration of the Bishops for the last four years, namely:

After full consideration the committee offer the following touching the cases to which our attention has been called:

Resolved, That in reviewing the administration of the bishops we find it has been eminently satisfactory, except in the following cases, wherein the rule requiring a superintendent not to continue a preacher in the same appointment more than two years in six appears to have been infringed, to wit:

1. In 1864 a charge in St. Louis, Missouri Conference, was so left by the presiding bishop that it is now served by the preacher, who has been its regular pastor during the two years preceding.

2. In 1863, in the New England Conference, a preacher was stationed a third year over an appointment in the city of Charlestown, which, having only changed its name and location, was substantially the same charge which he had served the two preceding years.

Also, in the same conference and the same year, at Coleraine and Quincy Point, the preachers, after serving two years, were assigned nominal appointments, while their real work was with the people they had served the two years preceding.

To these exceptions we add one case of infringement of the rule forbidding the appointment of a presiding elder in the same district until six years after the expiration of his first term of four years' service, namely: In 1863, in the New York East Conference, a preacher who had served as presiding elder of the Long Island District for four years immediately preceding the session of the conference in the spring of that year was, after eight months, appointed to the same district to fill a vacancy caused by the death of the presiding elder who had succeeded him.

In view of these cases we earnestly recommend our superintendents to administer the rules respecting the appointments of preachers and presiding elders with unvarying strictness.

With these statements we recommend that their characters be passed.

In relation to the residence of the bishops, Thomas H. Pearne moved to amend the resolution of the report by adding the words, "and especially that one of our bishops ought, if it be practicable, to reside on the Pacific Coast." Pending the consideration of the amendment, James Drummond moved the previous question, and the motion was sustained, the amendment was lost, and the resolution was adopted, as follows:

Resolved, That in the judgment of this General Conference the bishops ought and therefore are hereby respectfully requested to so distribute their residences as to be the most accessible to, and, in the intervals of the conference, to be able to oversee every part of our extended work so far as possible.

[For Report as adopted, see *Appendix D, IV.*]

On motion of John L. Smith, the order of business was suspended to take up the cases of election laid over yesterday.

May 21.
SEVENTEENTH
DAY.

Administration
of the Bishops.

Case in St. Louis,
Missouri and
Arkansas Con-
ference.
Case in the City
of Charlestown,
New England Con-
ference.
Also at Cole-
raine and Quin-
cy Point, same
conference.

Presiding Elder
of Long Island
District, New
York East Con-
ference.

Bishops to ad-
minister the
Rules with un-
varying strict-
ness.
Bishops' char-
acters passed.

Residence of
Bishops.

May 21.

SEVENTEENTH
DAY.

Election of Editor for Christian Advocate and Journal laid over.

Samuel C. Brown moved that the election of an Editor for the Christian Advocate and Journal be further laid over, and made the order of the day for Tuesday next at ten o'clock A. M.

Pending the consideration of the motion, William H. Ferris moved the previous question, and the motion was sustained, and the election was deferred accordingly.

Francis B. Bangs moved to lay over for the present the election of Editor for the Western Christian Advocate; but on motion of William Young, the motion to lay over was laid on the table; whereupon John Morrison Reid was elected Editor of the Western Christian Advocate by acclamation.

Rev. Dr. Reid
elected Editor
of Western
Christian Ad-
vocate.

The election of an Editor of the Ladies' Repository was taken up.

Pending a motion to lay over the election till a future day, on motion of Thomas C. Gardner the previous question was ordered, and the motion to postpone was lost.

Isaac W. Wiley
elected Editor
of Ladies' Re-
pository.

Isaac W. Wiley was then elected Editor of the Ladies' Repository by acclamation.

On motion of William H. Goodwin, the election of an Editor for the Northern Christian Advocate was laid over, and made the order of the day for next Tuesday morning.

S. D. Brown
elected Editor
of the Pacific
Christian Ad-
vocate.

Stephen D. Brown was elected Editor of the Pacific Christian Advocate by acclamation.

Report of Com-
mittee on Sa-
cred Music.

On motion of Randolph S. Foster, the order of business was suspended to enable him to present a report from the Special Committee on Sacred Music, and the following was presented and adopted.

The committee to whom was referred the Memorial of Mr. John Stephenson and forty others, leaders of choirs in New York, Brooklyn, and Philadelphia, on the subject of Church Music, report:

The petitioners represent an association under the style of "Associated Choirs." The object of their memorial is stated so briefly and clearly by themselves that we present it in their own words:

"The Society of 'Associated Choirs' is about to call a committee of choristers, and others interested in the music of the Church, by which a concord of views may be had and plans devised which may attain the desired result. Promotive of such purpose, the Society respectfully ask that a committee may be appointed by the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church to co-operate with said Society and Convention, by which the prestige of official sanction may be given to such measures and publications as may have its approval."

Your committee recommend the appointment of a committee of five, as asked by the petitioners.

James Hill presented the following resolution from the Committee on Appeals, and it was adopted :

Resolved, That the Secretary be instructed to ask the General Conference to make twenty-one a quorum to transact business in the Committee of Appeals.

On motion of Elijah H. Pilcher, all members having appointments to preach to-morrow at such places as to make it inconvenient for them to be present at the morning sessions of Monday next were granted leave of absence.

John M. Reid, Chairman of the Committee on Itinerancy, submitted Report No. V, in two parts. The first part, relating, 1. To Changing the Time of Meeting of the General Conference; 2. To Certifying on each Annual Conference Journal the approval, disapproval, or criticisms of the Committee on Itinerancy; 3. To the Administration of the Black River Conference in a certain case; 4. To the Complaint from Fort Ann against the Troy Conference; and, 5. To the Case of Samuel W. Martin, was adopted.

By adopting the several items of the first part of the report, it was

Resolved, 1. That it is inexpedient at present to change the time of the meeting of the General Conference.

Resolved, 2. That it shall hereafter be the duty of the Committee on Itinerancy, after reading the Journals of the several Annual Conferences, to place upon each a certificate of the fact, signed by their Chairman and Secretary, noting all exceptions to the record.

Resolved, 3. That in the case of administration from the Black River Conference, there is some manifest irregularity; but the records and testimony necessary to a decision are not before us.

Resolved, 4. That in the case of complaint from Fort Ann, the Annual Conference had no jurisdiction in the case, the appeal being from the decision of the Quarterly Conference, which affirmed the decision of the Select Committee that tried the case, and not on any question of law or method of trial.

Resolved, 5. That in the case of Samuel W. Martin, the best examination we have been able to give the case has not convinced us that any action should be taken in the premises.

May 21.
SEVENTEENTH
DAY.

Quorum of the
Committee on
Appeals.

Committee on
Itinerancy.
Report No. V.

No change in
time of holding
General Confer-
ence.
Annual Confer-
ence Journals
to be approved
by certificate.

Administration
of Black River
Conference.

Fort Ann, Troy
Conference.

Case of S. W.
Martin.

[For Report as adopted, see *Appendix E, V.*]

The second part of the Report, relating, 1. To Missionaries to Neglected Portions of our Cities; and, 2. To Superannuated Preachers residing out of the Bounds of their own Conferences, was laid on the table under the rule.

May 21.
SEVENTEENTH
DAY.
Book Concern.
Report No. X.

Charles B. Tippet, Chairman of the Committee on the Book Concern, presented Report No. X, relating to the objects for which the Profits of the Book Concern ought to be used, and also to Advertising Patent Medicines and Novels in our Church papers.

James Porter moved that so much of the report as relates to Profits of the Book Concern be recommitted, with instructions to the committee to report such a modification of the Restrictive Rules as will allow the proceeds of the Book Concern to be used for other Church purposes as well as for the support of Superannuated Preachers, etc.; and subsequently, on his motion, the whole report was laid on the table.

Committee on
Slavery dis-
charged.

On motion of Benjamin F. Cray, the Committee on Slavery was discharged from the further consideration of that subject.

Sunday-Schools
and Tracts.
Report No. III.

James Porter, Chairman of the Committee on Sunday-Schools and Tract Cause, presented Report No. III, proposing sundry changes of the Discipline in relation to Sunday-schools. It was read, and lies over under the rule.

Report No. IV.

He also presented Report No. IV, providing for a Corresponding Secretary of the Sunday-School Union and Tract Society, and it lies over under the rule.

Committee on
Appeals.

James Hill, Secretary of the Committee to try Appeals, presented the following report:

Case of I. N.
M'Abbe.

Rev. I. N. M'Abbe, of the Pittsburgh Conference, appeals from the action of the Conference Stewards in the distribution of the funds for Superannuated Ministers. He claims that he was superannuated without his consent, and while he was fully able to do effective work, and yet has not been allowed a proportionate share of the funds for the superannuated preachers. He asks that the Pittsburgh Conference be directed by the General Conference to pay him his full proportionate share.

Resolved, That we return the memorial of I. N. M'Abbe back to the General Conference as not properly an appeal case, not relating to judicial proceedings.

On motion of Benjamin Pilsbury, the memorial mentioned in the foregoing report was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

James Hill, Secretary of the Committee to try Appeals, presented the following report for record in the Journal:

Case of W. H.
Sheets.

The Committee of Appeals beg leave to report further, as follows: W. H. Sheets, of Southeastern Indiana Conference, was tried by said

Conference on a charge of immorality. He was acquitted by a vote of the Conference, and then, by a resolution, he was deprived of his ministerial character. He appealed from the latter action of said Conference as irregular and illegal. After a careful consideration of the case by the committee, on motion, the decision of the Southeastern Indiana Conference was reversed.

May 21.
SEVENTEENTH
DAY.

James Porter, Chairman of the Committee on Temporal Economy, presented Report No. III, relating, 1. To a Resolution Concerning the Support of Conference Claimants; 2. To the more Equitable Division of Dividends from the Book Concern among Conference Claimants; and, 3. To a Church Extension Society. The report, containing the following resolution in relation to the third item, was adopted:

Temporal Economy.
Report No. III.

Resolved, That a committee of seven be appointed to prepare and report some method by which societies in the newer and weaker portions of our extended field may be assisted in securing suitable houses of worship.

[For Report, see *Appendix U*, IV.]

Business was informally suspended that Rev. W. L. Thornton, A. M., delegate from the Wesleyan Conference of Great Britain, and Rev. Robinson Scott, D.D., of the Irish Wesleyan Conference, might take leave of the General Conference. Each one then addressed a few farewell words, and bade the Conference adieu.

Rev. W. L.
Thornton, A.M.

Rev. Robinson
Scott, D.D.

John L. Smith offered the following resolution, and, on motion of George Clifford, it was laid on the table:

Resolved, That on and after Monday next, in addition to the morning session, we hold also an afternoon session daily, commencing at half past two o'clock P. M., and that the fixing the place for the meeting of the General Conference in 1868 be the order of the day for next Monday afternoon, immediately after the reading of the Journal.

On motion of Hugh D. Fisher, the time of the session was extended.

Edward Thomson, Chairman of the Committee to draft a Reply to the Address of the British Wesleyan Conference, presented and read an address to that body. The address was adopted, and the nomination of Rev. Edmund S. Janes, D.D., one of the bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and of Rev. Thomas Bowman, D.D., President of Indiana Asbury University, as delegates to the Wesleyan Conference

Address to the
British Wesleyan
Conference.

May 21.
SEVENTEENTH
DAY.
Northern Christian
Advocate.

of Great Britain, was confirmed. [For Reply to the British Wesleyan Conference, see *Appendix B, II.*]

By unanimous consent, William H. Goodwin had leave to present the Report of the Publishing Committee of the Northern Christian Advocate, and it was referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.

[For Report, see *Appendix C, VI.*]

Conferences
called for mis-
cellaneous
business.

Conferences were called for petitions, memorials, resolutions, etc.

NORTHWEST
WISCONSIN.

NORTHWEST WISCONSIN CONFERENCE.

Thomas C. Golden presented three memorials relating to boundaries: One from Leon, signed by W. W. Wheaton and ten others; one from Tomah, signed by J. S. Anderson and eight others; and one from La Crosse, signed by W. Haw and five others; and they were referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

OREGON.

OREGON CONFERENCE.

Thomas H. Pearne presented two memorials relating to the Editorship of the Pacific Christian Advocate: One signed by I. S. Gilbert and twenty-three others; and one signed by P. M. Starr and eight others; and they were referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.

PHILADELPHIA.

PHILADELPHIA CONFERENCE.

James Cunningham presented a memorial from Talbot circuit against Lay Delegation, and it was referred to the Committee on Lay Delegation.

He also submitted the Quadrennial Report of the Trustees of the Chartered Fund, and it was referred to the Committee on Temporal Economy. [For Report, see *Appendix U, I.*]

Joseph Castle presented the following letter, and, on motion, the invitation it conveys was accepted by the Conference.

UNION VOLUNTEER REFRESHMENT SALOON,
PHILADELPHIA, May 14, 1864.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, NOW IN SESSION IN PHILADELPHIA:

GENTLEMEN,—The members of the Union Volunteer Refreshment Committee most cordially invite you to pay a visit to their saloon during your stay in this city and witness the arrangements made

for the care of our brave soldiers, where hundreds of thousands from the loyal states have received refreshments, thousands sick and wounded have received medical treatment, and whatever distress caused by the war to man we have tried to alleviate, including the reception of and finding employment for hundreds of refugees from the South.

Our institution is cheerfully supported by the voluntary contributions of our citizens and those of the vicinity.

We are yours very respectfully,

J. B. WADE, *Secretary.*

ARAD BARROWS, *Chairman.*

May 21.
SEVENTEENTH
DAY.

PROVIDENCE CONFERENCE.

PROVIDENCE.

William H. Richards offered the following resolution, and it was referred to the Committee on Lay Delegation :

Resolved, That the Committee on Lay Delegation be instructed to consider the propriety of changing the Discipline, page 48, § 3, quest. 1, ans. 1, by adding at the close of ans. 1 the following words: "Also three laymen from each district, who shall be elected annually by the district stewards at their regular meeting, and who shall be allowed to speak and to vote on all questions not affecting the character of traveling preachers."

To conform to the above change, append to § 2, page 102, the following words: "It shall be the duty of the district stewards to elect three suitable laymen from each district to attend the Annual Conference next ensuing, as provided in Discipline, page 48, § 3, quest. 1, ans. 1.

Samuel C. Brown offered the following resolution, and it was referred to the Committee on Revisals :

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be requested to consider the propriety of preparing a new form of certificate for the transfer of members from one charge to another.

ROCK RIVER CONFERENCE.

ROCK RIVER.

Thomas M. Eddy presented a petition from the several Official Boards of Chicago, and from the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Evanston to this body, to appoint the session of the General Conference for 1868, to be held in the city of Chicago, and the petition was laid on the table for the present.

Petition for
next General
Conference.

William F. Stewart presented a memorial relating to Traveling Expenses, and it was referred to the Committee on Temporal Economy. He also presented a memorial from Galena District Conference on the Presiding Eldership, and it was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

May 21.SEVENTEENTH
DAY.SOUTHEASTERN
INDIANA.

SOUTHEASTERN INDIANA CONFERENCE.

John H. Barth presented a memorial relating to German Annual Conferences from George Pfaffenberger and forty-six others, and it was referred to the Committee on the German Work.

Thomas H. Lynch presented a memorial on Boundaries, signed by I. B. Dobyns and thirty-four others, of Salem, and it was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

UPPER IOWA.

UPPER IOWA CONFERENCE.

Richard W. Keeler presented a memorial from Cedar Falls on Lay Delegation, signed by J. Bowman and sixteen others, and it was referred to the Committee on Lay Delegation.

WEST WISCONSIN.

WEST WISCONSIN CONFERENCE.

Matthew Bennett presented a memorial from Orion Quarterly Conference in relation to Boundaries, and it was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

WYOMING.

WYOMING CONFERENCE.

George Peck presented a memorial from Rev. L. D. Tryon, asking to be discharged from the payment of certain moneys due the Book Concern at New York, and it was referred to the Book Agents, with authority to settle the claim on such terms as to them may seem best.

Horatio R. Clark offered the following resolution, and it was referred to the Committee on Temporal Economy:

Resolved, That the Committee on Temporal Economy be instructed to consider an equitable plan for raising the expenses of future General Conferences by apportionment, without drawing upon the Book Concern, and report at as early a day as practicable.

Conference ad-
journed.

On motion, Conference adjourned.

After the Doxology had been sung, the Benediction was pronounced by Oliver S. Munsell.

MONDAY MORNING, MAY 23.

May 23.
EIGHTEENTH
DAY.

Conference met this morning at half past eight o'clock, Bishop Janes in the chair.

Opening of
Conference.

The usual religious services were conducted by James Thurston, of the New Hampshire Conference.

The Journal of Saturday was read and approved.

On motion of John Lanahan, the Committee on Itinerancy were instructed to consider and report as to the propriety of so changing the Restrictive Rules as to allow to each Conference at least one delegate instead of two, as the rule now stands.

Instruction to
Committee on
Itinerancy.
Each Conference
to have
one delegate.

On motion of William Young, the order of business was suspended to take up the Report of the Committee on a Plan for Trusteeship for the General Conference, presented and laid on the table May 16, and it was taken up, and the following changes of Discipline proposed in the Report were adopted, namely, to insert in the chapter on Temporal Economy the following question and answers:

Report on Trust-
eeship of the
General Con-
ference.

Quest. 1. What shall be done for the better security of donations, bequests, grants, etc., made for benevolent purposes to the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States of America?

Change of
Discipline.

Ans. 1. The General Conference shall appoint and perpetuate a Board of Trustees, composed of ministers and laymen, consisting of not less than five nor more than nine, who shall be invested with corporate powers, and shall be authorized to receive and hold in trust for the benefit of the Methodist Episcopal Church, under the direction of the General Conference, any and all donations, bequests, grants, etc., made to the Methodist Episcopal Church not specially designated or directed, but simply made to the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States of America.

2. When any such donation, bequest, grant, etc., is made to the Church, it shall be the duty of the preacher in the bounds of whose charge it occurs to give an early notice thereof to the Board, who shall proceed without delay to take possession of the same according to the provisions of their charter.

3. The Board shall make a faithful report of their doings, and of the funds or property on hand at each quadrennial session of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and all donations thus reported and received shall be disposed of by order of the General Conference for the benefit of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States of America.

The following resolutions, contained in the report, were also adopted:

Resolved, That the foregoing Board shall be located at Cincinnati, in the State of Ohio.

Resolved, That the following be and they are hereby appointed to

May 23.
EIGHTEENTH
DAY.

fill the said Board, to wit: Rev. Davis W. Clark, Rev. Joseph M. Trimble, Rev. William Nast, Rev. Adam Poe, Rev. William Young, A. N. Riddle, Esq., M. B. Hagans, Esq., Thomas H. Whetstone, Esq., John Fudge, Esq.

Resolved, That the Board so appointed are hereby instructed early to take steps to secure corporate powers under the laws of the State of Ohio, under the name and style of the "Board of Trustees of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States," to enable them legally to execute the prescribed trusts.

The Report was then adopted as a whole. [For Report, as adopted, see *Appendix W.*]

W. F. Cowles
granted leave
of absence, and
E. H. Waring
admitted in his
stead.

On motion of Thomas E. Corkhill, William F. Cowles, a delegate from the Iowa Conference, had leave of absence for the remainder of the session on account of personal ill health, and Edmund H. Waring, a reserve delegate of that Conference, presented his credentials, was admitted to a seat in this body, and assigned to the several committees in his stead.

Report on Itin-
erancy, No. IV.

On motion of Samuel C. Brown, the order of business was further suspended to take up so much of Report No. IV of the Committee on Itinerancy as relates to the Editor of Zion's Herald; and also Reports Nos. I and II of the Committee on the German Work, the former of which was presented and laid on the table May 14, and the latter May 16.

German Work.
Reports Nos. I
and II.

Editor of
Zion's Herald.

The item relating to the Editor of Zion's Herald was then taken up and adopted, as follows:

Resolved, That Part II, chap. iii, quest. 3, ans. 3, page 93, be amended by inserting in line 11 of the answer after the word "San Francisco" the words "the Editor of Zion's Herald;" thereby placing that officer, when a member of an Annual Conference, under the exception.

German Work.
Report No. I.

On motion of Henry F. Koeneke, Report No. I of the Committee on the German Work was taken up, and a motion was made to adopt it; pending which, on motion of William Harden, the previous question was ordered by a vote of 128 to 17, and the following resolutions were adopted:

Northwestern
German Con-
ference.

1. *Resolved*, That the German Work be organized into three Annual Conferences, each containing about seventy-five preachers.

2. *Resolved*, That the German Work at present connected with the Rock River and Minnesota Conferences, and the Galena German District of the Upper Iowa Conference, be formed into a Conference to be called the Northwestern German Conference.

Southeastern
German Con-
ference.

3. *Resolved*, That the German Work at present connected with the Illinois, Southern Illinois, Kansas Conferences, and the Burlington

German District of the Upper Iowa Conference, be formed into a Conference to be called the Southwestern German Conference.

4. *Resolved*, That the German Work at present connected with the Cincinnati, North Ohio, and Southeastern Indiana Conference be formed into a Conference to be called the Central German Conference.

May 28.
EIGHTEENTH
DAY.

Central German
Conference.

Report No. I was then adopted as a whole. [For Report as adopted, see *Appendix O*, II.]

Report No. II of the Committee on the German Work was taken up, read, and adopted.

German Work.
Report No. II.

The following are the resolutions of the report:

1. *Resolved*, That the Agents of the Western Book Concern be requested to publish the manuscript hymn book prepared for the German members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Hymn book and
Tune book to
be published.

2. *Resolved*, That the same parties be requested to have a tune book, adapted to the hymn book, prepared for the use of our German members, under the supervision of a committee of three Germans, to be appointed by the Agents, and to publish the same as soon as possible after the preparation of the manuscript.

3. *Resolved*, That the bishops be requested to appoint a committee of three members of this General Conference to visit the next General Conference of the Evangelical Association, and to correspond with the authorities of that Church, should the way be opened in the order of Providence, for a closer union between the Churches.

Deputation to
the Evangelical
Association.

4. *Resolved*, That the German Work in the New York Conference remain for the present as it is; and that the bishops, with the concurrence of the New York Conference at its next session, shall have power to form the same into a German Annual Conference.

German Work
in New York
Conference.

5. *Resolved*, That the German Work in California remain in its present form.

German Work
in California
Conference.

The Report was then adopted as a whole. [For Report as adopted, see *Appendix O*, III.]

On motion of John P. Durbin, the order of business was further suspended to take up the Reports of the Committee on Missions, and Report No. V was taken up, and the second item of the first resolution was amended by inserting after the words "assistant corresponding secretary" the words "second assistant corresponding secretary;" after which the first, second, and third resolutions were adopted, as follows:

Missions.
Report No. V.

1. *Resolved*, That by and with the consent of the Board of Managers at New York, the Twelfth Article of the Constitution of the Missionary Society be amended so that it will read as follows:

Change of the
Constitution
of Missionary
Society.

XII. The Annual Conferences shall be divided into as many mission districts as there are effective superintendents; and there shall be a committee of one from each mission district, to be appointed by the bishops, and to be called the "General Missionary Committee." It shall be the duty of this committee,

First. To meet annually in the city of New York between the first and fifteenth of November, as shall be determined by the corresponding secretary, assistant corresponding secretary, and treasurer.

Secondly. To act jointly with the Board of Managers, the corre-

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DAY.

sponding secretary, assistant corresponding secretary, second assistant corresponding secretary, and treasurer, in fixing the amount which may be drawn for during the year.

Thirdly. To divide such amount between, 1. Foreign Missions. 2. Domestic Missions. 3. Missions in the United States and Territories, not included in the bounds of any of the Annual Conferences. 4. Other missions not under our immediate care.

Fourthly. Said committee shall, with the concurrence of the Board of Managers, and with the concurrence of at least two of the bishops, determine what fields shall be occupied or continued as foreign missions, and the number of persons to be employed on said missions; and shall, in conjunction with the Board, estimate the sums necessary for the support of each mission, subject to the approval of two or more of the bishops. Said committee, with the concurrence of the Board and bishops as aforesaid, shall determine the amount for which each bishop may draw for the domestic missions of those conferences over which he shall preside, and shall divide the amount appropriated to the missions in the United States and Territories, not included in the Annual Conferences to such sections of the country as in their judgment the interests of the work require, and the bishop shall not draw on the treasurer for more than said amount. In the intervals of the annual meetings of the committee the bishops shall have full power to administer these missions. The Board shall appoint a committee, who, with the bishop making the appointment, shall fix the amount for the support of each missionary in this third class of missions.

Fifthly. Said committee, by and with the concurrence of the Board and bishops as aforesaid, shall also determine the amount to be appropriated for the support of missions not under our immediate care, and the mode of disbursements thereof. *Provided, nevertheless,* that in the intervals between the meetings of the General Missionary Committee, the Board of Managers, with the concurrence of the bishop who has or is to have charge of the work proposed, may, if they shall deem it important, adopt a new missionary field, and also provide for any unforeseen emergency that may arise; and to meet such demands may expend any additional sum not exceeding twenty-five thousand dollars.

Should any of the members of said committee, in the intervals of the General Conference, go out of office by death, resignation, or otherwise, the bishop presiding in the Conferences where the vacancy shall occur shall appoint another to fill his place. Said committee to be amenable to the General Conference, to which it shall make full reports of its doings.

Any expenses incurred in the discharge of its duties shall be met by the treasurer of the society.

Bishops authorized to organize new Conferences.

2. *Resolved,* That the bishops be and they hereby are authorized, when in their judgment the interests of the work require it, to organize Annual Conferences in the states and territories not embraced at the close of this General Conference in any of the Annual Conferences; such conferences to possess all the rights, powers, and privileges of other Annual Conferences, excepting that of sending delegates to the General Conference, and of drawing an annual dividend from the avails of the Book Concern and Chartered Fund, and of voting on constitutional changes proposed in the Discipline; which restriction shall continue until the next ensuing General Conference.

COLORADO CONFERENCE.

3. *Resolved,* That the name of the Rocky Mountain Conference be and hereby is changed into Colorado Conference.

The fourth resolution was laid on the table for the present. [For Report, see *Appendix J, V.*]

The third resolution of Report No. III, laid on the table May 14, was taken up and adopted, as follows:

Resolved, That the words "of fifty cents or upward" in the Discipline, Part IV, § 2, page 210, paragraph 8, be stricken out, so that it shall read, "comprehending the name of each collector in his charge, and the name, real or assumed, of each contributor to each collector, that they may be by said executive committee," etc.

May 23.
EIGHTEENTH
DAY.
Missions.
Report No. III.

And the Report, as a whole, was then adopted. [For Report as adopted, see *Appendix J*, III.]

The fourth resolution of Report No. I, laid on the table May 7, and taken up and again laid on the table May 11, was taken up, and Sylvester L. Congdon moved to amend by striking out the word "four," and inserting instead thereof the word "two."

Missions.
Report No. I.

John Lanahan moved to lay the amendment on the table; the motion prevailed, and the resolution was adopted, as follows:

Resolved, That it is the judgment of this General Conference that a visitation of our principal Foreign Missions should be made by one of our bishops as often as practicable—at least once in four years.

Foreign Mis-
sions to be vis-
ited.

The Report was then adopted as a whole. [For Report as adopted, see *Appendix J*, I.]

James Porter moved further to suspend the order of business to take up the Reports of the Committee on Temporal Economy; but the motion did not prevail.

At this stage of the proceedings business was informally suspended to enable S. S. Nelles, D. D., one of the delegates from the Conference of the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Canada, to take leave of the General Conference. After he had made a brief farewell address, on motion of Freeborn G. Hibbard, the following resolution was unanimously adopted by a rising vote:

Resolved, That we reciprocate the cordial and fraternal expressions of our brethren, the delegates from the Wesleyan Methodist Connection of Canada, and we shall be happy to maintain the integrity of our former relations to them.

Resolution of
fraternization
with the Wes-
leyan Method-
ist Conference
in Canada.

On motion of Daniel Cobb, Henry Roth was granted leave of absence for the remainder of the session, on account of sickness in his family.

Henry Roth
granted leave
of absence.

On motion of James Drummond, John W. Reger was granted leave of absence for the remainder of the

John W. Reger
granted leave
of absence.

May 23.
EIGHTEENTH
DAY.

Itinerancy.
Report No. VI.
Journals of the
Annual Con-
ferences.

session, on account of the pressing demand for his services as chaplain in the hospital.

John M. Reid, Chairman of the Committee on Itinerancy, submitted Report No. VI, relating to the Journals of the several Annual Conferences. It was read, and pending its consideration, on motion of William E. Bigelow, so much of the Report as alleges that the Detroit Conference had received preachers from the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada on the same footing as if they were of the Wesleyan Methodist Church was struck out, on the ground that the statement rests upon an entire misapprehension, as no such reception of preachers has taken place in the Detroit Conference.

DETROIT.

BALTIMORE.

On motion of Nicholas J. B. Morgan, the minute concerning the Baltimore Conference was amended by striking out the words "as the reports show been stolen by a disloyal member," and inserting instead thereof the words "been withheld by the former secretary." So that the item shall read:

The Minutes of the Baltimore Conference for 1861 are not in the Journal before us, having been withheld by the former secretary.

A motion to extend the morning session was lost by a vote of 81 to 87.

Conference ad-
journed.

On motion, Conference adjourned.

After the Doxology was sung, the Benediction was pronounced by Jesse T. Peck.

May 24.
NINETEENTH
DAY.
Morning.

Conference
opened.

TUESDAY MORNING, MAY 24.

Conference met this morning at half past eight o'clock, Bishop Scott in the chair.

The usual religious services were conducted by Abraham K. Street, of the New Jersey Conference.

The Journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Revision of
Discipline.

On motion of Davis W. Clark, the order of business was suspended, and Report No. I of the Committee on Revisals, presented and laid on the table May 11, was taken up.

Report No. I.
First
adopted.

Pending its consideration, the first item, relating to the Reception of Ministers from the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, was adopted.

William H. Goode moved to strike out the word "trustees" from the second item; pending which, a call for the previous question, made by John L. Smith, was sustained, and the motion to strike out was lost, and the item was adopted.

The third item, relating to Ordinations in certain cases, was read and adopted.

The fourth item, relating to Class-meetings for Children, was read, and Daniel Curry moved to amend by striking out the word "baptized," and also the whole clause relating to unbaptized children; but the motion to strike out was lost, and the item was adopted.

The fifth item, in respect to Receiving Children on Probation, was adopted; and the Report, as a whole, was then adopted, by which the following changes are made in the Discipline, namely:

FIRST ITEM.—Part II, chapter ii, section 11, question 1, page 82, is amended by adding after the words "Wesleyan connection in Europe and Canada," the words, "or from the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada;" and in the answer to said question, after the words "British, Irish, or Canada Conference," the words, "or the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada," so that the question and answer will read as follows:

"*Question 1.* In what manner shall we receive those ministers who may come to us from the Wesleyan connection in Europe and Canada, or from the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada?"

"*Answer 1.* If they come to us properly accredited from either the British, Irish, or Canada Conference, or from the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, they may be received according to such credentials, provided they give satisfaction to an Annual Conference of their willingness to conform to our Church government and usages."

SECOND ITEM.—Also, Part II, chapter i, section 4, and answer to question 1, is amended by striking out the word "and" before the words "class-leaders;" and also by inserting the words "and trustees" after the words "class-leaders;" and also by inserting the words "churches in the" before the word "circuit;"

May 24.

NINETEENTH
DAY.

Second item
adopted.

Third item
adopted.

Fourth item
adopted.

Fifth item
adopted.

Receiving min-
isters from the
M. E. Church
in Canada.

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NINETEENTH
DAY.

and also by inserting the word "all" before the words "being members," so that the whole question and answer shall read as follows:

"Question 1. Of whom shall the Quarterly Conferences be composed ?

Trustees to be
members of the
Quarterly
Conference.

"Answer 1. Of all the traveling and local preachers, exhorters, stewards, class-leaders, and trustees of the churches in the circuit or station, and the first male superintendents of our Sunday-schools, said trustees and superintendents being members of our Church, and approved by the Quarterly Conference. The Missionary Committee shall have a right to a seat during the action of the Conference on the subject of missions, but at no other time."

THIRD ITEM.—The paragraph marked "N. B.," and attached to answer 3, question 2, chapter vi, page 112, in the Discipline, is amended so as to read:

Preachers on
trial may be
ordained.

"N. B.—Whenever a preacher on trial shall be appointed by a bishop to a mission, or a chaplaincy in the army or navy, or in hospitals or prisons, he may, if elected by an Annual Conference, with the approbation of a bishop, be ordained by him before his probation ends."

FOURTH ITEM.—Also answer 2, question 3, section 3, chapter i, Part I, commencing on page 34 of the Discipline, is stricken out, and the following answer is inserted in its place, namely:

Children to be
organized into
classes.

"Answer 2. At the age of ten years, or earlier, the preacher in charge shall organize the baptized children of the Church into classes, and appoint suitable leaders (male or female) whose duty it shall be to meet them in class once a week, and instruct them in the nature, design, and obligations of baptism, and the truths of religion necessary to make them wise unto salvation; urge them 'to give regular attendance upon the means of grace;' advise, exhort, and encourage them to an immediate consecration of their hearts and lives to God, and inquire into the state of their religious experience; *Provided*, that children unbaptized are not to be excluded from these classes."

FIFTH ITEM.—Also the striking out of the word "shall" from the sixth line of answer 3, question 3, section 3, chapter i, Part I, and page 35 of the Dis-

cipline, and inserting in its place the words "may, with their assent," so that the first part of that answer will read as follows :

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DAY.

"Answer 3. Whenever they shall have attained an age sufficient to understand the obligations of religion, and shall give evidence of a desire to flee from the wrath to come, and to be saved from their sins, their names may, with their assent, be enrolled on the list of probationers." [For Report, see *Appendix N, I.*]

Children to be
received
as
probationers.

John Lanahan was granted leave of absence for the remainder of the session, and Littleton F. Morgan, a reserve delegate from the Baltimore Conference, presented his credentials, was admitted to a seat as a member of this body, and assigned to the several committees in his stead.

John Lanahan
granted leave
absence.
L. F. Morgan
admitted.

Henry Bannister and Lafayette D. White were granted leave of absence.

H. Bannister
and L. D.
White granted
leave of ab-
sence.
Revisals.
Report No. II.

Report No. II of the Committee on Revisals, presented and laid on the table May 12, was taken up, and the first, second, and third items, relating, 1. To Chaplains to Hospitals; 2. To Agents of Benevolent Institutions; and, 3. To Preaching without License, were read and adopted. The fourth item, relating to Trustees of Parsonages, was referred to the Committee on Church Tenures.

Fourth item re-
ferred to Com-
mittee on
Church Ten-
ures.

The Report as amended, and as a whole, was then adopted, by which the following changes were made in the Discipline, namely :

FIRST ITEM.—On page 92, answer 3, question 3, section 1, chapter iii, ninth line from the bottom of the page, strike out the word "state" and insert the word "hospitals;" so that the clause shall read, "chaplains to hospitals, prisons, and in the army or navy."

Chaplains to
Hospitals.

SECOND ITEM.—On page 93 of the Discipline, to answer 3, add the following words, "and other benevolent institutions," so that the clause shall read as follows :

Agents for Be-
nevolent In-
stitutions.

"He shall have authority, when requested by an Annual Conference, to appoint an agent, whose duty it shall be to travel throughout the bounds of such Conference, for the purpose of establishing and aiding Sabbath-schools and distributing Tracts, and also to

May 24.
NINETEENTH
DAY.

Preaching
without
license.

Revisals.
Report No. III.
First item
adopted.
Second item
amended.

Ayes and Noes
called for.

Ayes.

appoint an agent or agents for the benefit of our literary institutions, an agent for the German publishing fund and for other benevolent institutions."

THIRD ITEM.—On page 115 of the Discipline, chapter viii, section 1, question 1, answer 1, third line from the bottom of the page, after the words "leaders' meeting," add the words, "and no member of the Church shall be at liberty to preach without such license," so that the first sentence of the *proviso* shall read as follows :

"*Provided*, That no person shall be licensed to preach without the recommendation of the Society of which he is a member, or of a leaders' meeting ; and no member of the Church shall be at liberty to preach without such license." [For Report as adopted, see *Appendix N*, II.]

Report No. III was taken up, and the first item, relating to Class-Meetings, was adopted. The second item, relating to Neglect of the Means of Grace, was read, when Freeborn G. Hibbard moved to amend the question by adding the words :

"Such as the public worship of God, the supper of the Lord, family and private prayer, searching the Scriptures, class-meetings, and prayer-meetings."

Thomas C. Gardner moved to lay the amendment on the table, but the motion was lost.

William E. Bigelow moved the previous question, and the motion was sustained.

On motion of Samuel Y. Monroe, it was ordered that the votes on the amendment and main question be taken by Ayes and Noes.

The roll of members was called, and the vote on the adoption of the amendment was as follows :

Ayes.—Alexander, Andrews, Armstrong, Baird, Baker, Bannister, Barth, Bartine, Barton, Bennett, Bigelow, Bingham, Breckenridge, Bristol, Brooks, Brown of New York, Brown of Providence, Bruce, Caruthers, Castle, Chenoweth, Church, Clark of New York, Clark of Western Virginia, Clark of Wyoming, Clifford, Cobb, Congdon, Corkhill, Corrington, Crane, Crawford, Cummings, Cunningham, Davidson, Davis, Dempsey, Denison, Dimmitt, Drummond, Durbin,

Eddy, Erwin, Ferris, Fiegenbaum, Foote, George, Golden, Goode, Goodwin, Graves, Gregg, Griswold, Guthrie, Haines, Hall, Hamlin, Haney, Harden, Harris, Harrison, Hawley, Henderson, Hester, Hibbard, Hill of Erie, Hill of Indiana, Hilliard, Himebaugh, Hitchcock, Hobart, Holmes, Houghton, Hunter, Hurlburt, Jervis, Jewett, Keeler, King of New York, King of Troy, Kingsley, Koeneke, Kuhl, Kynett, Lawson, Lemon, Lynch, M'Combs, M'Coy, M'Kenzie, M'Murray, Manson, Mason, Merrick, Miley, Miller of Nebraska, Miller of North Indiana, Monroe, Moody, Moore, Mulfinger, Nast, Nelson of Central Ohio, Nelson of Wyoming, Nesbit, Nisbet, Noble, Norton, Olin, Patten, Penfield, Perry, Pershing, Phelps, Pilcher, Poe, Porter, Ray, Raymond, Reed of Detroit, Reid of East Genesee, Reese, Reeves, Reger, Reiley, Richards, Robinson, Shinn, Sinex, Smith of Southeastern Indiana, Smith of Western Iowa, Spahr, Starks, Stewart, Street, Terrill, Thomas, Thomson, Tippet, Trimble, Vansant, Walker, Wallace, Waring, White of Black River, White of Ohio, Whitecar, Whiteman, Wilbur of Oregon, Wiley, Wilson of Erie, Woodruff, Wright—153.

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DAY.

Noes.—Adams, Allen of Maine, Allen of New England, Bangs, Benson, Blake, Boyd, Brice, Brown of Troy, Brownscombe, Bullard, Chambers, Cobleigh, Crary, Curry, Dustin, Fisher, Foster, Gardner, Gurley, Harlow, Hatfield, Huffman, Lindsay, Lowe, M'Cabe, Magee, N. J. B. Morgan, Munsell, Owen, Pearne, Peck of California, Peck of Wyoming, Pike, Pillsbury of New York East, Pillsbury of Wisconsin, Rothweiler, Sherman, Shumate, Smart, Smith of Cincinnati, Smith of Northwest Indiana, Stallard, Strout, Thurston, Twombly, Wakeley, Webber, Wentworth, Wilbor of Genesee, Wilson of Central Ohio, Wise, Wood, Young—54.

Noes.

Absent.—Carlton, Colby, Elliott, Griffin, Malcom, L. F. Morgan, Roth, Wardwell, Whedon—9.

Absentees.

So the amendment was adopted by a vote of 153 to 54.

The roll was called on the adoption of the item as amended, and the vote was as follows :

Ayes and Noes called on main question.

Ayes.—Andrews, Baird, Bangs, Barth, Bartine, Bigelow, Boyd, Bristol, Brooks, Brown of New York,

Ayes.

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DAY.

Brown of Providence, Brown of Troy, Bruce, Bullard, Carlton, Caruthers, Castle, Chambers, Church, Clark of New York, Clark of Western Virginia, Clark of Wyoming, Clifford, Cobb, Congdon, Corkhill, Corrington, Crane, Crawford, Cummings, Curry, Davidson, Denison, Durbin, Erwin, Ferris, Fiegenbaum, Foster, Gardner, George, Golden, Goodwin, Gregg, Griffin, Griswold, Guthrie, Haines, Haney, Harris, Harrison, Hatfield, Hawley, Henderson, Hester, Hibbard, Hilliard, Himebaugh, Hitchcock, Holmes, Houghton, Hurlburt, Jervis, Jewett, Keeler, King of New York, King of Troy, Koeneke, Kuhl, Kynett, Lawson, Lindsay, Lynch, M'Combs, M'Coy, M'Kenzie, M'Murray, Magee, Malcom, Mason, Merrick, Miley, Miller of North Indiana, Monroe, Moody, Moore, Mulfinger, Munsel, Nast, Nelson of Central Ohio, Nelson of Wyoming, Nisbet, Noble, Norton, Patten, Peck of California, Perry, Pike, Pilsbury of New York East, Pillsbury of Wisconsin, Ray, Raymond, Reed of Detroit, Reid of East Genesee, Reese, Reeves, Richards, Robinson, Sherman, Shinn, Sinex, Smith of Northwest Indiana, Smith of Southeastern Indiana, Smith of Western Iowa, Starks, Stewart, Street, Terrill, Thomas, Vansant, Walker, Waring, Wentworth, Whitecar, Whiteman, Wilson of Erie, Wise, Wood, Woodruff, Wright—129.

Noes.

Noes.—Adams, Alexander, Allen of Maine, Allen of New England, Armstrong, Baker, Barton, Bennett, Benson, Bingham, Blake, Breckenridge, Brownscombe, Chenoweth, Cobleigh, Crary, Cunningham, Davis, Dempsey, Dimmitt, Drummond, Dustin, Eddy, Fisher, Foote, Goode, Graves, Gurley, Hall, Hamlin, Harden, Harlow, Hill of Erie, Hill of Indiana, Hobart, Huffman, Hunter, Kingsley, Lemon, Lowe, M'Cabe, Manson, Miller of Nebraska, N. J. B. Morgan, Nesbit, Olin, Owen, Pearne, Peck of Wyoming, Penfield, Pershing, Phelps, Pilcher, Poe, Porter, Reger, Reiley, Rothweiler, Shumate, Smart, Smith of Cincinnati, Spahr, Stallard, Strout, Thomson, Thurston, Tippet, Trimble, Twombly, Wakeley, Wallace, Webber, Whedon, White of Black River, White of Ohio, Wilbor of Genesee, Wilbur of Oregon, Wiley, Wilson of Central Ohio, Young—80.

Absent.—Bannister, Brice, Colby, Elliott, L. F. Morgan, Roth, Wardwell—7.

The second item of Report No. III was therefore adopted by a vote of 129 to 80.

As a matter of privilege, the Chair presented the following letter from the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, namely :

May 24.
NINETEENTH
DAY.
Morning.
Absentees.

Letter from
the General
Assembly of
the Presbyte-
rian Church.

NEWARK, N. J., May 23, 1864.

TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN SESSION IN PHILADELPHIA.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America has unanimously adopted a resolution to spend Wednesday afternoon next in thanksgiving to Almighty God for past mercies, and in prayer for his continued blessing on our country; and have directed their permanent clerk to request your body to unite with us in setting apart the same time for that object.

WILLIAM E. SCHENCK,

Please reply. *Permanent Clerk of the General Assembly.*

P. S.—The General Assembly of the other branch of the Presbyterian Church has, by telegram, just agreed to unite with us at the time specified.

In response to which, on motion of Thomas M. Eddy, the following resolutions and letter were adopted:

Resolved, That there shall be to-morrow an afternoon session, commencing at half past two, and that the bishop presiding be requested to conduct, at the opening of said session, a special service of thanksgiving to Almighty God for past mercies, in accordance with the invitation of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of the United States of America.

Action of the
Conference in
the case.

Resolved, That we adopt the following reply to the fraternal letter of the General Assembly, and direct the secretary to communicate the same without delay to that body:

PHILADELPHIA, May 24, 1864.

Reply.

TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA :

BRETHREN,—The General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States has received your fraternal letter notifying us of your resolution to spend the afternoon of to-morrow (Wednesday, 25th instant) in thanksgiving to Almighty God for past mercies, and inviting us to unite with you in a similar service at the same hour.

We have already devoted an entire day to religious services in behalf of our nation since the opening of our Conference; nevertheless we recognize the open hand of the Father of Mercies, and acknowledge with you his many blessings to us, to our households, the Church, and to our beloved country; and we accept your invitation and designate to-morrow afternoon for a special service of thanksgiving, the service to be under the charge of the bishop presiding.

May 24.**NINETEENTH
DAY.***Morning.*

Editor of Christian
Advocate and Journal
elected.

On motion of Davis W. Clark, the order of the day was taken up, and Conference proceeded to elect an Editor for the Christian Advocate and Journal and for the Northern Christian Advocate.

The Chair appointed as tellers Thomas E. Corkhill, Morris D'C. Crawford, James Cunningham, Aaron Wood, Elijah H. Pilcher, and Nathan Shumate. A ballot was cast for Editor of the Christian Advocate and Journal, and the tellers retired to count the vote.

Editor of North-
ern Christian
Advocate
elected.

On motion of Freeborn G. Hibbard, Jesse T. Peck was elected Editor of the Northern Christian Advocate by acclamation.

Revisals.
Report No. III.
Third item
withdrawn.

The consideration of Report No. III of the Committee on Revisals was resumed, and the third item, relating to Depositions, was withdrawn.

Itinerancy.
Report No. VII.

On motion of John M. Reid, the further consideration of Report No. III from the Committee on Revisals was laid on the table, and committees were called for the presentation of reports.

John M. Reid, Chairman of the Committee on Itinerancy, presented Report No. VII, relating, 1. To property in Vermilion County, Illinois; 2. To the case of I. N. M'Abbe, of the Pittsburgh Conference; 3. To a Manual of Methodism; and, 4. To a change of the Restrictive Rule allowing each Conference, however small, at least two Delegates.

Report on
Boundaries.

Richard Haney, Chairman of the Committee on Boundaries, presented a Report, describing the boundaries of all the Annual Conferences.

Book Concern.
Report No. XI.

Charles B. Tippett, Chairman of the Committee on the Book Concern, presented Report No. XI, relating, 1. To the Book Concern at New York; 2. To the Western Book Concern; 3. To the Northern Christian Advocate; 4. To Authority to the Agents to purchase Real Estate, if necessary; 5. To the Eastern Book Committee; and, 6. To the Western Book Committee.

State of the
Country.
Report No. III.

Joseph Cummings, Chairman of the Committee on the State of the Country, presented Report No. III, relating to National Affairs.

Education.

Frederick Merrick, Chairman of the Committee on Education, presented a Report relating to the Educational Interests of the Church.

Edward Thomson, Chairman of the Committee on Lay Delegation, presented a Report on that subject.

George Peck, Chairman of the Committee on the Christian and Sanitary Commissions, presented a Report on the interests of those organizations.

David Patten, Chairman of the Committee on the Centenary of Methodism, presented a Report relating to that subject.

Freeborn G. Hibbard, from the Committee on Revision of the Ritual, presented Report No. V, comprising, 1. An Order for the Administration of the Lord's Supper; 2. The Form of Consecrating a Bishop; 3. The Form of Ordaining Elders; and, 4. The Form of Ordaining Deacons.

The foregoing Reports were received without reading, and laid on the table to be printed.

James Hill, Secretary of the Committee to Try Appeals, presented the following Report, to be entered upon the Journal:

The Committee of Appeals beg leave to report, in part, as follows: Henry T. Johns, an appellant from the Troy Annual Conference, was expelled by the action of said Conference, on a charge of immorality, from the ministry and membership of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

After a careful consideration of the case, the Committee affirmed the decision of the Conference.

A. P. Allen, an appellant from the Wisconsin Annual Conference, was expelled by the action of said Conference, on a charge of immorality, from the ministry and membership of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The Committee, after a careful consideration of the case, remanded it for a new trial.

David Sherman, Chairman of the Committee on Expenses of Delegates, presented a Report, and it was recommitted, with instructions to report the amounts received from the Conferences severally, the expenses of each delegation, and the surplus or deficiency in each case.

The tellers reported the result of the ballot cast for Editor as follows, namely: Whole number of votes cast, 199. Necessary to a choice, 100.

Daniel Curry received 143 votes, and was declared duly elected Editor of the Christian Advocate and Journal.

The Chair appointed Jesse T. Peck Chairman of the

May 24.

NINETEENTH DAY.

Morning.

Christian and Sanitary Commissions.

Centenary of Methodism.

Revision of Ritual. Report No. V.

Committee on Appeals Report.

Henry T. Johns.

A. P. Allen.

Expenses of Delegates.

Ballot for Editor of Christian Advocate and Journal.

Daniel Curry elected.

May 24.
NINETEENTH
DAY.

Morning.

Report on the
Bible Cause.

Committee on the Pastoral Address instead of Calvin Kingsley.

On motion of Daniel Curry, the vote adopting the Report of the Committee on the Bible Cause was reconsidered, and the Report was recommitted.

Report on Cor-
respondence
with other
Methodistic
bodies.

Edward Thomson, Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, presented Replies to the Addresses from the Irish Conference, from the Conference of the Wesleyan Church in Canada, and from the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, and they were laid on the table.

The Chair announced the following Committees:

Committee on
Communica-
tion of Local
Preachers' As-
sociation.

Committee on the Communication from the National Local Preachers' Association: Gardner Baker, Nicholas J. B. Morgan, Niram Norton.

Church Music.

Committee on Church Music: Thomas Carlton, Luke Hitchcock, John Lanahan, James Pike, Isaac S. Bingham.

Church Exten-
sion.

Committee on Church Extension: Edwin E. Griswold, Alpha J. Kynett, Samuel C. Thomas, Miner Raymond, Barzillai N. Spahr, David L. Dempsey, Reuben Nelson.

Deputation to
the Evangeli-
cal Association.

Deputation to the Evangelical Association: William Nast, Philip Kuhl, George Mulfinger.

By unanimous consent, Robert M. Hatfield offered the following resolution, which was referred to the Committee on Revisals:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be requested to consider and report on the propriety of amending the Discipline, Part II, chap. i, § 3. quest. 5, ans. 12, after the question, "What is the number of church members?" the question, "How many of them are males over twenty-one years of age?" so that this item of statistics may henceforth be furnished by the Annual Conferences.

Conference ad-
journed.

On motion, Conference adjourned to meet this afternoon at three o'clock.

After the Doxology was sung, the Benediction was pronounced by Chauncey Hobart.

Afternoon.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 24.

Conference met pursuant to adjournment, Bishop Morris in the chair.

At precisely three o'clock the services on the occa-

sion of the ordination of the recently-elected bishops were introduced by Rev. Charles Elliott, D.D., who read the 213th Hymn :

May 24.
NINETEENTH
DAY.
Afternoon.

"Draw near, O Son of God, draw near;
Us with thy flaming eye behold;
Still in thy Church do thou appear,
And let our candlestick be gold.

"Still hold the stars in thy right hand,
And let them in thy luster glow,—
The lights of a benighted land,
The angels of thy Church below.

"Make good their apostolic boast;
Their high commission let them prove;
Be temples of the Holy Ghost,
And filled with faith, and hope, and love.

"Give them an ear to hear thy word;
Thou speakest to the churches now;
And let all tongues confess their Lord,—
Let every knee to Jesus bow."

The hymn was sung, after which Rev. George Peck, D.D., led the devotions of the Conference and congregation in an appropriate prayer.

The services were continued by Rev. William H. Goode, who read the 206th Hymn :

"Let Zion's watchmen all awake,
And take the' alarm they give;
Now let them from the mouth of God
Their awful charge receive.

"'Tis not a cause of small import,
The pastor's care demands;
But what might fill an angel's heart,
And filled a Saviour's hands.

"They watch for souls for which the Lord
Did heavenly bliss forego;
For souls, which must forever live
In raptures, or in woe.

"May they in Jesus, whom they preach,
Their own Redeemer see;
And watch thou dayly o'er their souls,
That they may watch for thee."

After the hymn was sung, the Collect for the occasion was read by Bishop Morris, the Epistle by Bishop Simpson, and the Gospel by Bishop Baker.

Rev. Randolph S. Foster, D.D., and Rev. George Webber, D.D., presented Rev. Davis W. Clark, D.D.

Rev. Jesse T. Peck, D.D., and Rev. Leonard B. Gurley presented Rev. Edward Thomson, D.D.

May 24.
NINETEENTH
DAY.
Afternoon.

Rev. Samuel Y. Monroe and Rev. Moses Hill presented Rev. Calvin Kingsley, D.D.

The Charge was read, and the Examination was conducted by Bishop Morris.

The *Veni Creator Spiritus* and Prayer were conducted by Bishop Scott.

The Imposition of Hands and Presentation of the Bible were conducted by Bishop Janes, assisted by the other bishops.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was then administered to the bishops and members of the Conference, Bishop Janes conducting the services.

Bishop Ames offered the concluding Prayer and pronounced the Benediction.

Davis W. Clark,
Edward Thomson,
and Calvin
Kingsley or-
dained Bish-
ops.

And thus, REV. DAVIS WAGGATT CLARK, D.D., REV. EDWARD THOMSON, D.D., and REV. CALVIN KINGSLEY, D.D., were severally ordained and set apart to the office and work of Bishops or Superintendents of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States of America.

At the close of these services, on motion, Conference adjourned.

The Doxology was sung, after which the Benediction was pronounced by Bishop Morris.

May 25.
TWENTIETH
DAY.
Morning.
Conference
opened.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, MAY 25.

Conference met this morning at half past eight o'clock, Bishop Simpson in the chair.

The usual religious services were conducted by George W. Breckenridge, of the North Ohio Conference.

The Journal of yesterday morning and afternoon was read and approved.

James Hill asked and obtained leave to vote on questions taken by ayes and noes yesterday; and on the amendment offered by Freeborn G. Hibbard he voted Aye, and on the adoption of the item No.

Caleb D. Pillsbury voted No on the foregoing amendment, and Aye on the main question.

Albert Church, Daniel Cobb, and William F. Wilson voted Aye on both the amendment and the main question, and the secretary was instructed to correct the vote accordingly.

John B. Foote moved to suspend the order of business, to reconsider the vote adopting Report No. V of the Committee on Itinerancy.

Daniel Curry moved, as a substitute, that the order of business be indefinitely postponed; and that the bishops be requested and authorized to bring forward such matters as now lie on the table, in such order as to them may seem best; and that the time allowed to speakers be changed from fifteen minutes to five minutes. A division of the question was called for and the vote taken on each separately, and both were adopted.

The following invitations were received:

MINT OF THE UNITED STATES, *May 24, 1864.*

TO THE PRESIDING OFFICER OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH:

The director of the Mint takes pleasure in extending an invitation to the members of the Conference, to witness the operations of coinage, on any day that may be convenient, either as a body or individually. The most suitable time of day is between nine and twelve o'clock. Yours most truly,
JAMES POLLOCK, *Director.*

PENN. TRAINING SCHOOL FOR FEEBLE-MINDED CHILDREN,
MEDIA, DEL. CO., *May 19, 1864.*

TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE M. E. CHURCH:

REVEREND AND DEAR SIRS:—At a meeting of the Household Committee of this Institution, it was resolved that the Superintendent be instructed to invite the Conference to visit the school.

It will afford especial pleasure to those connected with the institution to receive and interest any of the members during their sojourn in the city.

Exhibitions of pupils on Thursday afternoons. Cars leave Thirty-first and Market streets at half past two o'clock P. M. Returning at forty minutes past five o'clock P. M.

Respectfully,
ISAAC N. KERLIN, *Supt.*

On motion of Jesse T. Peck, the Conference tendered thanks for the courtesy, and accepted the invitations.

George Peck presented the appeal of Welcome Smith, and it was referred to the Committee to Try Appeals.

Randolph S. Foster presented the credentials of Archibald C. Foss, a reserve delegate from New York Conference, and he was admitted to a seat in this body and assigned to the several committees instead of Davis W. Clark, whose place is vacated by his ordination to the office of a bishop.

May 25.

TWENTIETH DAY.

Morning.

Reports.

Itinerancy.

Bishops authorized to take up matters now on the table.

Change of time for speaking.

Invitation to visit Mint.

Invitation to visit School for Feeble-minded Children.

Thanks returned.

A. C. Foss, of New York, Conference, Reserve Delegate, admitted.

May 25.**TWENTIETH
DAY.***Morning.*

Motion to adopt
Reply to Ad-
dress of Brit-
ish Conference
reconsidered.
Boundaries.

On motion of John M. Reed, the vote adopting the Reply to the Address of the British Conference was reconsidered, and the Reply was recom-
mitted.

The bishops took from the table the report of the Committee on Boundaries, and it was considered item by item.

Bishops invited
to make sug-
gestions.

On motion of Daniel Curry, the bishops were re-
quested to make such suggestions as they may desire
pending the consideration of this report.

On motion of Richard Haney, so much of the report
as proposes to organize the State of Arkansas into a
Conference was struck out.

The boundaries of the following Conferences were
then adopted, namely: Baltimore, Black River, Cali-
fornia, Central Illinois, Central Ohio, Cincinnati, Col-
orado, Detroit, East Baltimore, East Genesee, East
Maine, and Erie.

On motion of Barzillai N. Spahr, so much of the
report of the committee as relates to the organization
of the Idaho Conference was struck out.

The report concerning the Genesee Conference, the
Mission Conference of Germany and Switzerland, the
Illinois, Indiana, India Mission, Iowa, Kansas, Ken-
tucky, Liberia, Maine, Michigan, and Minnesota Con-
ferences, was adopted.

The report in relation to the Missouri Conference was
amended so as to call it the Missouri and Arkansas
Conference, and to include the states of Missouri and
Arkansas.

The report relating to Nebraska, Nevada, Newark,
New England, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New
York, New York East, North Indiana, North Ohio,
Northwest Indiana, Northwest Wisconsin, Ohio, One-
ida Conferences, was adopted.

OREGON.

Pending the consideration of so much of the re-
port as relates to Oregon, Richard Haney moved
as a substitute to insert the boundaries of Oregon
Conference as they are described now in the Disci-
pline.

Thomas H. Pearne moved to amend the substitute
by including the Idaho Territory; but, on motion of
William M'K. Hester, the amendment was laid on the

table, and the substitute was then withdrawn, after which the report concerning the Oregon Conference was adopted.

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TWENTIETH
DAY.
Morning.

The report relating to the boundaries of the Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Providence, Rock River, South-eastern Indiana, and Southern Illinois Conferences, was adopted.

The item relating to the boundaries of Troy Conference was read, and John H. Twombly moved to amend by striking out the word "Burlington," and transposing the words "and" and "Plattsburgh."

TROY.

Pending the discussion Robert E. Guthrie moved the previous question, but the motion was not sustained.

At a subsequent stage of the discussion Lucius H. King moved the previous question, and the motion was sustained, and the amendment prevailed by a vote of 99 to 81, and the item as amended was adopted.

The report relating to the Upper Iowa Conference was read, and, on motion of David N. Smith, the following substitute was adopted :

UPPER IOWA.

The Upper Iowa Conference shall be bounded as follows, namely : "Beginning at the Northeast corner of the state; thence down the Mississippi River to Davenport; thence westward by the line of the Iowa Conference to the Southeast corner of Story County; thence due North to the state line; thence East along the state line to the place of beginning."

The report of the committee relating to the Vermont Conference was adopted.

The report of the committee relating to the Western Iowa Conference was read, when David N. Smith offered the following substitute; and, after a motion by Edmund H. Waring to strike out "Des Moines" had failed, the substitute was adopted :

DES MOINES.

The Des Moines Conference shall include all that part of the state of Iowa not included in the Iowa and the Upper Iowa Conferences.

So much of the report as relates to the Western Virginia, West Wisconsin, and Wisconsin Conferences was adopted.

So much of the report as relates to the Wyoming Conference being under consideration, Freeborn G. Hibbard moved to amend by inserting after the word

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DAY.
Morning.

"Susquehanna" the words "except that part now included in the Troy District of the Genesee Conference:" but the motion did not prevail, and the item was adopted.

On motion, the first, second, and third resolutions of the report were severally adopted.

On motion of Isaac Owen, the report was amended by adding a resolution authorizing the California and Nevada Conferences to hold their next session together; after which the report of the committee as amended, and as a whole, with accompanying resolutions, was adopted, as follows:

PART III.—TEMPORAL ECONOMY.

CHAP. I. OF THE BOUNDARIES OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCES.

BALTIMORE.

BALTIMORE CONFERENCE.

1. Baltimore Conference shall be composed of the Baltimore, Washington, Potomac, Winchester, Rockingham, Roanoke, and Lewisburgh Districts, as they existed at the adjournment of 1857, the line through the city of Baltimore being the following, namely: Leaving the line of the Patapsco River and Jones' Falls at Monument-street, and along that street to Eutaw-street, down Eutaw-street to Ross-street; thence along Ross-street to Dolphin-street; thence along Dolphin-street to Grundy-street; out Grundy-street to the City line, and along the line of the City Corporation to Jones' Falls; Emory and Whatcoat Stations being exceptions, and belonging to East Baltimore Conference.

BLACK RIVER.

BLACK RIVER CONFERENCE.

2. Black River Conference shall include, together with Rose Circuit, that part of the State of New York west of Troy Conference not embraced in the East Genesee Conference, as far south as the Erie Canal, and all the societies on the immediate banks of the canal, except Utica, Canastota, Montezuma, and Port Byron.

CALIFORNIA.

CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE.

3. California Conference shall embrace all of the State of California lying west of the western summit of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, and also the Sandwich Islands.

CENTRAL GERMAN.

CENTRAL GERMAN CONFERENCE.

4. Central German Conference shall comprise the German work at present connected with the Cincinnati, North Ohio, and Southeastern Indiana Conferences.

CENTRAL ILLINOIS.

CENTRAL ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.

5. Central Illinois Conference shall embrace all that part of the State of Illinois north of the Illinois Conference and south of the following line, namely: Beginning on the Mississippi River at Mere-

dosa, down said Meredosia to its mouth; thence easterly to Center School-house, so as to embrace Center Society, in Central Illinois Conference; thence to the mouth of Mud Creek, on Green River; up said river to the mouth of Coal Creek; thence up said creek to the Rock Island and Chicago Railroad; thence with said railroad to Lasalle; thence with Illinois River to the mouth of Kankakee River; thence with said river to the Indiana State line, so as to embrace the city of Peru, Lasalle Station, and Utica.

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TWENTIETH

DAY.

*Morning.***CENTRAL OHIO CONFERENCE.****CENTRAL OHIO.**

6. Central Ohio Conference shall be bounded by a line commencing at the northwest corner of the State of Ohio; thence east by the north line of the State to a point north of the mouth of Sandusky River; thence south to the mouth of Sandusky River, excluding Port Clinton Circuit; thence up said river to Upper Sandusky, excluding Tiffin City, and including Fremont and Upper Sandusky; thence along the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne, and Chicago Railroad to Crestline, including Bucyrus Station and Crestline; thence along the Cleveland, Columbus, and Cincinnati Railroad, by the curve, to Delaware, leaving Cardington and Galion in Central Ohio Conference, and so much of the town of Delaware as lies on the east side of the Olentangy River, in North Ohio Conference; thence along the said railroad to the north line of the Ohio Conference; thence west along the north line of the Ohio and Cincinnati Conferences to the west line of the State, thence north along the west line of the State to the place of beginning.

CINCINNATI CONFERENCE.**CINCINNATI.**

7. Cincinnati Conference shall commence at the mouth of Ohio Brush Creek, and shall be bounded on the south by the Ohio River, and on the west by the Indiana State line to the southern bounds of the Central Ohio Conference, at the southwest corner of Dark County; thence easterly along said line, so as to exclude the Sidney and Delaware Districts of the Central Ohio Conference, to the boundary of the Ohio Conference at its junction with the southern line of the Central Ohio Conference; thence in a southeasterly direction with said western line of the Ohio Conference to the place of beginning.

COLORADO CONFERENCE.**COLORADO**

8. Colorado Conference shall include the Territory or State of Colorado.

DELAWARE CONFERENCE.**DELAWARE.**

9. Delaware Conference of Colored Members shall embrace the territory north and west of the Washington Conference.

DES MOINES CONFERENCE.**DES MOINES.**

10. Des Moines Conference shall include all that part of the State of Iowa not included in the Iowa and the Upper Iowa Conferences.

DETROIT CONFERENCE.**DETROIT.**

11. Detroit Conference shall include all that part of the State of Michigan lying east of the principal meridian line, and also the upper peninsula.

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DAY.

Morning.

EAST BALTI-
MORE.

EAST BALTIMORE CONFERENCE.

12. East Baltimore Conference shall embrace the territory belonging to the Baltimore Conference previous to its division in 1857 not included in the present bounds of the Baltimore Conference, excepting Asbury and Orchard-street Station, and Baltimore City Missiou and Finchburgh Church, which shall belong to the Baltimore Conference, and including Laporte Circuit.

EAST GENESEE.

EAST GENESEE CONFERENCE.

13. East Genesee Conference shall contain all that part of the State of New York west of the Black River, Oneida, and Wyoming Conferences, and east of Genesee River, including the whole of the city of Rochester, together with so much of the State of Pennsylvania as is included in the Troy District.

EAST MAINE.

EAST MAINE CONFERENCE.

14. East Maine Conference shall embrace that part of the State of Maine not included in the Maine Conference.

ERIE.

ERIE CONFERENCE.

15. Erie Conference shall be bounded on the north by Lake Erie; on the east by a line commencing at the mouth of Cattaraugus Creek; thence up said creek to the village of Gowanda, leaving said village in the Genesee Conference; thence to the Alleghany River at the mouth of Tunugwant Creek; thence up said creek southward to the ridge dividing between the waters of Clarion and Sinnema-honing Creeks; thence southward to the head of Mahoning Creek; thence down said creek, exclusive of the Milton Society, but including Finley Society in the Punxsutawny Circuit, and Putneyville in the Bethlehem Circuit, to the Alleghany River; thence across said river in a northwesterly direction to the Western Reserve Line, including the north part of Butler County and Newcastle, and also including Petersburgh; thence west to the Ohio Canal; thence along said canal to Lake Erie, including Akron and all of Cleveland lying east of the Cuyahoga River.

GENESEE.

GENESEE CONFERENCE.

16. Genesee Conference shall include all that part of the State of New York west of the East Genesee Conference, except so much as is embraced in the Erie Conference, and also so much of the State of Pennsylvania as is embraced in the Olean District.

GERMANY AND
SWITZERLAND.

MISSION CONFERENCE OF GERMANY AND SWITZERLAND.

17. There shall be an Annual Conference in Germany, to be denominated the Mission Conference of Germany and Switzerland, embracing also the missions in France and Switzerland where the German language is spoken, which Conference shall possess all the rights, powers, and privileges of other Annual Conferences, excepting that of sending delegates to the General Conference, and of drawing its annual dividend from the avails of the Book Concern and the Chartered Fund, and of voting on constitutional changes proposed in the Discipline.

ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.

18. Illinois Conference shall include that part of Illinois not included in the Southern Illinois Conference south of the following line, namely: Beginning at Warsaw on the Mississippi River; thence to Vermont; thence to the mouth of Spoon River; thence up the Illinois River to the northwest corner of Mason County; thence to the junction of the Central and the Alton and Chicago Railroads, leaving Mackinaw Circuit in the Central Illinois Conference; thence to the southwest corner of Iroquois County; thence east to the Indiana State line, leaving the Western charge in Bloomington in the Central Illinois Conference.

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DAY.
Morning.
ILLINOIS.

INDIA MISSION CONFERENCE.

19. There shall be an Annual Conference in the northwest provinces of India, to be denominated the India Mission Annual Conference, embracing the ancient kingdom of Oude, and the country of Rohilcund on the west of Oude, and lying between the river Ganges on the south and the Himalaya Mountains on the north, which Conference shall, with the concurrence of the presiding bishop, possess all the rights, powers, and privileges of other Annual Conferences, excepting that of sending delegates to General Conference, and of drawing its annual dividend from the avails of the Book Concern and Chartered Fund, and of voting on constitutional changes proposed in the Discipline.

INDIA MISSION.

INDIANA CONFERENCE.

20. Indiana Conference shall be bounded as follows, namely: Beginning at the mouth of Silver Creek, on the Ohio River; thence with the said creek to the Jeffersonville Railroad; thence by said railroad to Rockford; thence by the east fork of White River to Columbus; thence by the Madison and Indianapolis Railroad to Franklin; thence by the Plank Road to the bluffs of White River; thence north by said river to the Donation Line of Indianapolis; thence east by said line to Meridian-street; thence north by said street to its intersection with Market-street; thence west by Market-street to the Donation Line; thence south by said Donation Line to the National Road; thence by the National Road west to the Greencastle State Road, one and a half miles west of Stilesville; thence with the said State Road to the town plat of Greencastle; thence due south to Seminary-street, including Simpson Chapel, in Greencastle, together with lot No. 153; thence due south to the southern border of the College grounds, upon a line equally dividing the College Campus and building; thence due west to the Walnut fork of Eel River; thence down said river to its intersection with the National Road; thence with said road to the western line of the State, including all the towns on the National Road west of Indianapolis, in the Indiana Conference, except Terre Haute; thence by the State line to the mouth of the Wabash River; thence by the State line to the mouth of Silver Creek, the place of beginning.

INDIANA.

IOWA CONFERENCE.

21. Iowa Conference shall be bounded as follows, namely: Commencing at Davenport, on the Mississippi River; thence down said river to the south line of the State of Iowa; thence west along said State line to the southwest corner of Appanoose County; thence north to the south side of Marshall County, leaving the town of Knoxville in the Iowa Conference; thence along the south line of Marshall County due east to the Iowa River; thence down said river to Iowa City; thence along the railroad to Davenport, leaving Daven-

IOWA.

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DAY.
Morning.

port and Iowa City in the Upper Iowa Conference, and all intermediate places in the Iowa Conference.

KANSAS CONFERENCE.

KANSAS.

22. Kansas Conference shall embrace the State of Kansas.

KENTUCKY.

KENTUCKY CONFERENCE.

23. Kentucky Conference shall include the State of Kentucky, excepting so much of said State as is embraced in the West Virginia Conference.

LIBERIA.

LIBERIA CONFERENCE.

24. There shall be an Annual Conference on the Western Coast of Africa, to be denominated the *Liberia Mission Annual Conference*, possessing all the rights, powers, and privileges of other Annual Conferences, except that of sending delegates to the General Conference, and of drawing its annual dividend from the avails of the Book Concern and of the Chartered Fund, and of voting on constitutional changes proposed in the Discipline.

MAINE.

MAINE CONFERENCE.

25. Maine Conference shall include that part of the State of Maine lying west of the Kennebeck River, from its mouth to the Great Bend below Skowhegan, and of a line running from thence north to the State line, (including Skowhegan and Augusta Stations in Maine Conference,) and that part of New Hampshire lying east of the White Hills and north of the waters of the Ossipee Lake and the town of Gorham.

MICHIGAN.

MICHIGAN CONFERENCE.

26. Michigan Conference shall include all that part of the State of Michigan lying in the lower Peninsula west of the principal meridian line.

MINNESOTA.

MINNESOTA CONFERENCE.

27. Minnesota Conference shall embrace the State of Minnesota.

MISSOURI.

MISSOURI AND ARKANSAS CONFERENCE.

28. Missouri and Arkansas Conference shall embrace the States of Missouri and Arkansas.

NEBRASKA.

NEBRASKA CONFERENCE.

29. Nebraska Conference shall embrace the Territory or State of Nebraska.

NEVADA.

NEVADA CONFERENCE.

30. Nevada Conference shall be bounded west by the west summit of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, embracing all of Nevada and Utah Territories, and that part of New Mexico west of the Rocky Mountains.

NEWARK.

NEWARK CONFERENCE.

31. Newark Conference shall include all that part of the State of New Jersey not included in the New Jersey Conference; Staten Island, and so much of the States of New York and Pennsylvania as is now included in the Paterson and Newton Districts, excepting Sloatsburgh Church and Narrowsburgh Station.

NEW ENGLAND CONFERENCE.

32. New England Conference shall include all the State of Massachusetts lying east of the Green Mountains not embraced in the New Hampshire and Providence Conferences.

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TWENTIETH
DAY.

Morning.

NEW ENGLAND.

NEW HAMPSHIRE CONFERENCE.

33. New Hampshire Conference shall include all the State of New Hampshire not embraced in the Maine Conference, and that part of the State of Massachusetts northeast of the Merrimac River.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

NEW JERSEY CONFERENCE.

34. New Jersey Conference shall include that part of the State of New Jersey lying south of the following line, namely: Beginning with Raritan Bay, and running up said bay and river to New Brunswick; thence along the turnpike road in a direct line to Lambertville, on the Delaware, including the City of New Brunswick and Lambertville Station.

NEW JERSEY.

NEW YORK CONFERENCE.

35. New York Conference shall consist of the territory now included in the New York, Poughkeepsie, Newburgh, Prattsville, Ellenville, and Rhinebeck Districts.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK EAST CONFERENCE.

36. New York East Conference shall consist of the New York East, the Bridgeport, New Haven, and Long Island Districts, including in the City of New York all those charges lying east of a line running through the Third Avenue, Bowery, Chatham-street, and Broadway.

NEW YORK
EAST.

NORTH INDIANA CONFERENCE.

37. North Indiana Conference shall include all of Northeastern Indiana bounded north by Michigan, east by Ohio, including Union City; south by the National Road, and west by the Michigan Road as far north as South Bend; thence down St. Joseph River to the Michigan State line; also the Town of Logansport, all towns on the National Road east of Indianapolis, and so much of the City of Indianapolis within the Donation as lies north of Market-street and east of Meridian-street.

NORTH INDIANA.

NORTH OHIO CONFERENCE.

38. North Ohio Conference shall be bounded on the north by the north line of the State of Ohio, east by the Erie and Pittsburgh Conferences, on the south by the Ohio Conference, and on the west by the Central Ohio Conference.

NORTH OHIO.

NORTHWESTERN GERMAN CONFERENCE.

39. The Northwestern German Conference shall comprise the German work at present connected with the Rock River and Minnesota Conferences, and the Galena District of the Upper Iowa Conference.

NORTHWESTERN
GERMAN.

NORTHWEST INDIANA CONFERENCE.

40. Northwest Indiana Conference shall embrace all of Northwest Indiana bounded north by the State and Lake of Michigan, east by

NORTHWEST INDIANA.

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Morning.

the Michigan Road and St. Joseph River, south by Indiana Conference, and west by the State of Illinois; also the City of Terre Haute, with so much of the City of Indianapolis within the Donation as lies north of Market-street and west of Meridian-street, with all towns on the Michigan Road, except Logansport.

NORTHWEST
WISCONSIN.

NORTHWEST WISCONSIN CONFERENCE.

41. Northwest Wisconsin Conference shall include that part of the State of Wisconsin lying north and west of a line beginning on the Mississippi River, on the north line of Township Fourteen (14) north, thence east on said line to the east line of Range One (1) east, including the Glendale Charge, thence north on said range line to the State line.

OHIO.

OHIO CONFERENCE.

42. Ohio Conference shall commence at the southeast corner of the North Ohio Conference, and thence south, following the course of the Muskingum River, including the City of Zanesville and the Town of Marietta; thence down the Ohio River to the mouth of Ohio Brush Creek; thence north to the southeast corner of Fayette County, leaving Sinking Spring Circuit west of said line, and Bethesda and Rapid Forge societies, with Staunton and Bloomingburgh Circuits east of said line, except Fairfield, which shall be left west of said line; thence northwest to the western boundary of said County of Fayette; thence in a due north direction to the southern boundary of Central Ohio Conference, leaving Vienna Circuit west of said line; thence east with the southern line of Central Ohio Conference in part, and of the North Ohio Conference to the place of beginning, leaving so much of the Marysville Circuit, including Marysville, as lies north of the Springfield, Mount Vernon, and Pittsburgh Railroad, in the Central Ohio Conference, and retaining Milford in the Ohio Conference; and thence along the south line of the Central Ohio Conference, including St. Paul's Charge, in Delaware, and Stratford Circuit in the Ohio Conference, leaving, however, the Ohio Wesleyan University within the bounds of the Central Ohio Conference.

ONEIDA.

ONEIDA CONFERENCE.

43. Oneida Conference shall include that part of the State of New York south of the Black River Conference, and east of Cayuga Lake, and north of a line running east from Newfield to Ithaca; thence following the Catskill turnpike to Greene; thence following the same line of road through Masonville to the New York Conference, including all the charges on said line, excepting Lisle and Whitney's Point charge; and thence on the southwest line of the Troy Conference to the Erie Canal.

OREGON.

OREGON CONFERENCE.

44. Oregon Conference shall embrace the State of Oregon and Washington Territory.

PHILADELPHIA.

PHILADELPHIA CONFERENCE.

45. Philadelphia Conference shall include the eastern shore of Maryland and Virginia, the State of Delaware, and all that part of Pennsylvania lying between the Susquehanna and Delaware Rivers, except so much as is in East Baltimore, Wyoming, and Newark Conferences, including Naglesville, in Philadelphia Conference.

PITTSBURGH CONFERENCE.

46. Pittsburgh Conference shall be bounded on the north by the Erie Conference, on the east by a line running along the top of the Alleghany Mountains to the southern line of the State of Pennsylvania, exclusive of the New Washington Circuit; thence west along the line of the West Virginia Conference to the Ohio River; thence down said river to the mouth of the Muskingum River; thence up said river, exclusive of the towns Marietta and Zanesville, to the Tuscarawas River; thence up said river, including the town of Massillon, to the line of the Erie Conference.

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TWENTIETH
DAY.
Morning.
PITTSBURGH.

PROVIDENCE CONFERENCE.

47. Providence Conference shall include that part of the State of Connecticut lying east of Connecticut River, all the State of Rhode Island, with Millville and Blackstone in Massachusetts, and also that part of the State of Massachusetts lying southeast of a line drawn from the northeast corner of the State of Rhode Island to the mouth of the Neponset River, which line shall so run as to leave Walpole Station, Foxborough, and Quincy Point within the bounds of the New England Conference.

PROVIDENCE.

ROCK RIVER CONFERENCE.

48. Rock River Conference shall embrace all the north part of the State of Illinois north of the Central Illinois Conference.

ROCK RIVER.

SOUTHEASTERN INDIANA CONFERENCE.

49. Southeastern Indiana Conference shall include all of Southeastern Indiana bounded north by the National Road, east by Ohio, south by the Ohio River, and west by the Indiana Conference, with so much of the City of Indianapolis within the Donation as lies south of Market-street and east of Meridian-street, and all the towns and societies on the line between Indiana and Southeastern Indiana Conference.

SOUTHEASTERN
INDIANA.

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.

50. Southern Illinois Conference shall include all that part of the State of Illinois south of the following line, namely: Beginning at the mouth of the Illinois River; thence up said river to the north-west corner of Jersey County, including Kane and Woodbury; thence to Honey Point; thence to Hillsborough, leaving Hillsborough Station in the Illinois Conference; thence east through Fayette and Effingham Counties to the northeast corner of Jasper County; thence with the north line of Jasper and Crawford Counties to the Wabash River.

SOUTHERN IL-
LINOIS.

SOUTHWESTERN GERMAN CONFERENCE.

51. Southwestern German Conference shall comprise the German work at present connected with the Illinois, Southern Illinois, and Kansas Conferences, and the Burlington German District of the Upper Iowa Conference.

SOUTHWESTERN
GERMAN.

TROY CONFERENCE.

52. Troy Conference shall include the Troy, Albany, (including Richmondville and Fort Plain Stations,) Saratoga, Poultney, and Plattsburgh Districts.

TROY.

May 25.

TWENTIETH
DAY.

Morning.

UPPER IOWA.

UPPER IOWA CONFERENCE.

53. Upper Iowa Conference shall be bounded as follows, to wit: Beginning at the northeast corner of the State; thence down the Mississippi River to Davenport; thence westward by the line of the Iowa Conference to the southeast corner of Story County; thence due north to the State line; thence east along the State line to the place of beginning.

VERMONT.

VERMONT CONFERENCE.

54. Vermont Conference shall include the State of Vermont, exclusive of that part embraced in the Troy Conference.

WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON CONFERENCE.

55. Washington Conference of Colored Members shall embrace Western Maryland, the District of Columbia, Virginia, and the territory south.

WEST VIRGINIA.

WEST VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.

56. West Virginia Conference shall be bounded as follows: Beginning at the southwest corner of the Pennsylvania line; thence along said line to the northeast corner of Ohio County, Virginia, so as to include Wheeling Creek Mission and Triadelphia Circuits; thence the most direct way to Short Creek, so as to include the Short Creek and Liberty Circuit; thence down said creek to the Ohio River; thence down said river to the mouth of Little Sandy River; thence up said river so as to include all that part of Kentucky lying east of said river in the Guyandotte District. On the south and east it shall be bounded by the Baltimore Conference to the Pennsylvania State line; thence westward by said line to the place of beginning.

WEST WISCONSIN.

WEST WISCONSIN CONFERENCE.

57. West Wisconsin Conference shall include all the southwestern portion of the State of Wisconsin not included in the Wisconsin and Northwest Wisconsin Conferences.

WISCONSIN.

WISCONSIN CONFERENCE.

58. Wisconsin Conference shall be bounded on the north by the upper peninsula of Michigan, on the east by Lake Michigan, on the south by Illinois State line, and on the west by a line beginning at the southeast corner of Greene County, and running north on the Range line, between Ranges Nine (9) and Ten (10) east, to the north line of Town Twenty (20,) thence west on said line to the east line of Range One (1,) east; thence north on said line to the State line.

WYOMING.

WYOMING CONFERENCE.

59. Wyoming Conference shall include the southern part of the State of New York not included in the Oneida, East Genesee, and New York Conferences, together with that part of Pennsylvania bounded on the west by the East Genesee, including all the territory east of the Susquehanna, south by the East Baltimore, Philadelphia, and Newark Conferences, including Narrowsburg, and east by the Newark and New York Conferences.

1. *Resolved*, That the Philadelphia Conference have authority to divide into two or three Conferences within the coming four years if they deem it necessary, subject to the approval of the bishop presiding at the time.

2. *Resolved*, That the Black River Conference have authority to divide into two Conferences within the coming four years if they deem it necessary, subject to the approval of the bishop presiding at the time.

3. *Resolved*, That the bishops be authorized, when in their judgment they deem it expedient, within the next four years to organize a Conference or Conferences in the Southern States and in the Territories.

4. *Resolved*, That the California and Nevada Conferences shall meet at the next session as one body, at the close of which the appointments shall be announced for them as separate Conferences.

On motion of Jesse T. Peck, the Secretary was instructed to insert in the report of the Committee on Boundaries the names of the German Conferences in their proper alphabetical position.

Daniel Curry, Chairman of the Committee on the Bible Cause, resubmitted the report on that subject with certain emendations, and the report, including the following resolutions, was adopted :

Resolved, By the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, that the relations of our Church with the American Bible Society have been most salutary in their operations and results, and we gladly recognize that Society as an efficient agency for the diffusion of the Holy Scriptures throughout the world.

Resolved, That we congratulate our people in view of their steady and persistent liberality toward that Society, and we commend it to their continued confidence and beneficence.

May 25.

TWENTIETH

DAY.

Morning.

Report on the
Bible Cause.

[For Report as adopted, see *Appendix R.*]

Charles Elliott presented a memorial from Peter Cartwright, and it was referred to the Committee on the State of the Country.

Memorial from
Peter Cart-
wright.

James Porter, Chairman of the Committee on Temporal Economy, presented Report No. IV, relating to the Chartered Fund, and it was laid on the table to be printed.

Chartered Fund
Report No. IV.

Miner Raymond, Chairman of the Committee on Revisals, presented Report No. VI, relating, 1. To an Order of Business for Quarterly Conferences; 2. To Secretary of a Quarterly Conference; 3. To Recording Steward; 4. To Examination of Church Records; 5. To Early Morning Preaching; 6. To Limitation of Term of Service by Missionaries to Foreign Populations; 7. To Privileges of Colored Preachers in Quarterly Conferences; 8. To Duties of Presiding Elders in Certain Cases; 9. To the Relations of Agent and

Revisals,
Report No. VI.

May 25.TWENTIETH
DAY.

Morning.

Assistant Agent to the Management of the Book Concern; 10. To the Relation of Editors to Conferences; 11. To the Relation of a Local Preacher to his Charge when he is a Pastor; 12. To the Consecration of a Bishop; and, 13. To the Amenability of Local Preachers in Certain Cases. The report lies on the table under the rule.

Report on
Church Extension
presented.

Edwin E. Griswold, Chairman of the Committee on Church Extension, presented a report on that subject, and it was laid on the table to be printed.

Report on
Temperance
presented.

Thomas M. Eddy, Chairman of the Committee on Temperance, presented a report on that subject, and it was laid on the table to be printed.

State of the
Work among
the People of
Color.
Report No. II.

James M^rK. Reiley, Chairman of the Committee on the State of the Work among the People of Color, presented Report No. II, and it was laid on the table to be printed.

Report of General
Missionary
Committee for
last Quadrennium.

Moses Hill presented the report of the General Missionary Committee for the last Quadrennial Term, and it was laid on the table to be printed. [For Report, see *Appendix J*, VI.]

Missions.
Report No. V.

Report No. V, of the Committee on Missions was taken up and the fourth item was read, when John P. Durbin moved as a substitute, to revive the action of the General Conference of 1856, as follows, namely:

Missionary
Bishop for
Africa.

4. *Resolved*, That we recommend the appointment of a Missionary Bishop, who shall reside in Liberia, on the Western Coast of Africa, or its vicinity, and have episcopal jurisdiction in Africa only. The said bishop and Churches in Africa shall still be under the supervision of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States.

5. *Resolved*, That we recommend and authorize the Liberia Annual Conference, under the direction of the bishop having charge of said Conference at present, assisted by the Corresponding Secretary of the Missionary Society, to elect by a two thirds vote of all the members of the said Conference an elder in good standing in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and present him for episcopal ordination to the bishops, or any of them, who are hereby authorized to ordain such person so elected, certifying in the parchment of ordination that his episcopal jurisdiction is expressly limited to Africa.

The substitute was adopted.

The report as amended and as a whole was adopted. [For Report as adopted, see *Appendix J*, V.]

Missions.
Report No. II.

On motion of Morris D^c. Crawford, the vote by which this Conference adopted a substitute for so

much of Report No. II of the Committee on Missions as relates to the Alteration of the Fourth Article of the Constitution of the Missionary Society was reconsidered, after which the substitute was laid on the table, and the amendment proposed by the Committee on Missions was adopted, as follows :

Resolved, That the last sentence of the Fourth Article of the Constitution of the Missionary Society be amended, so that it shall read as follows :

"There shall also be two Assistant Corresponding Secretaries, who shall be elected by the General Conference, the first of whom shall reside in the city of New York, and the second of whom shall reside in the West at such place as the Board of Managers shall direct, and they shall labor to promote the interests of the missionary cause under the direction of the Board of Managers at New York.

May 25.
TWENTIETH
DAY.
Morning.

Change in Constitution of Missionary Society.
Two Assistant Corresponding Secretaries.

On motion of James Pike, the report was further amended by adding the following resolution, namely :

Resolved, That each Annual Conference be and is hereby required to furnish annually to the corresponding secretary of the Missionary Society at New York a report of its doings on the subject of missions ; which report shall specify the name of each district, circuit, or station within its bounds sustained in whole or in part by said Conference as a mission, together with the amount of missionary money appropriated to each respectively for that conference year.

Domestic Missions to be reported.

The Report as amended and as a whole was adopted. [For Report as adopted, see *Appendix J, II.*]

The Report of the Committee on Missions, No. IV, was taken up ; and, on motion of John P. Durbin, the third item, being the following resolution, was indefinitely postponed :

Missions.
Report No. IV

Resolved, That the Board of Bishops be and hereby are appointed a commission to secure if possible, by friendly and brotherly counsel, a thorough and practical union of the two aforesaid bodies into one effective and harmonious organization.

The fourth item of the Report was adopted, as follows :

Resolved, That we recommend the observance of the first evening of each month on which the regular evening prayer-meeting is held as a concert of prayer for missions, and that we recommend all our churches to observe the "annual week of prayer for the conversion of the world."

And, on motion, the report as amended and as a whole was adopted. [For Report as adopted, see *Appendix J, IV.*]

May 25.**TWENTIETH
DAY.***Morning.*

Reuben Nelson
was granted
leave of Ab-
sence.

Conference ad-
journed.

On motion of George Peck, leave of absence was granted to Reuben Nelson for the remainder of the session.

On motion, Conference adjourned.

After the Doxology was sung, the Benediction was pronounced by Orange V. Lemon.

*Afternoon.***WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 25.**

Conference
opened.

Conference met pursuant to adjournment, Bishop Baker in the chair.

Special Thanks-
giving Service.

The special thanksgiving services appointed for the opening of this afternoon's session were conducted by William H. Ferris, of the New York Conference, and Aaron Wood, of the Northwest Indiana Conference.

Report of Com-
mittees.

Temporal Econ-
omy.

Report No. II.

The Journal of this morning was read and approved.

Report No. II of the Committee on Temporal Economy, laid on the table May 12, was taken up, and the following changes of Discipline, recommended by the committee, were ordered by the Conference:

Support of
Bishops, etc.

That the following words be added to Part I, chap. i, § 1, page 232, paragraph 4: "In no case, however, shall the Church or Conference be holden accountable for any deficiency, as in the case of debt." Also that Part II, § 3, pages 96 and 97, be so changed that it shall read as follows:

"*Quest.* What provision shall be made for the support of the bishops, and the widows and children of deceased bishops?"

"*Ans.* It shall be the duty of the Book Committee at New York to make an estimate of the amount necessary to furnish a competent support to each bishop residing east of the Alleghany Mountains, considering the number and condition of his family, and the amount necessary to assist the widows and children of deceased bishops residing within the same territory; and it shall be the duty of the Book Committee at Cincinnati to make a similar estimate with regard to the bishops, and the widows and children of bishops, residing west of the Alleghany Mountains; and the bishops are authorized to draw on the Book Concern for said amount, and also for their traveling expenses.

"The bishop presiding at an Annual Conference, within whose bounds a widow or orphan of a deceased bishop may reside, shall be authorized to draw on the Book Concern for such amount as may be estimated as aforesaid."

[For Report as adopted, see *Appendix U*, III.]

Book Concern
Report No. IX.

Report No. IX from the Committee on the Book Concern was taken up, and the resolution relating to a Depository at Pittsburgh was adopted, as follows:

Resolved, That we instruct the Book Agents at New York to secure without unnecessary delay, by purchase or otherwise, such a building in the city of Pittsburgh as may be required for publishing the Pittsburgh Christian Advocate, and for the business of the Depository in that city.

May 25.
TWENTIETH
DAY.
Afternoon.
Depository
Building at
Pittsburgh.

Pending the consideration of the resolution authorizing the Pittsburgh, Erie, and West Virginia Conferences to appoint a Publishing Committee for the Pittsburgh Christian Advocate, James W. Lowe moved to amend by striking out the word "two," and inserting the word "three" in its stead.

Jacob S. M'Murray moved to lay the whole subject on the table; but the motion was lost, after which the amendment was withdrawn.

A motion of George W. Walker to recommit the report was laid on the table, on motion of William H. Ferris, by a vote of 95 to 66.

On motion of Samuel H. Nesbit, the resolution was then laid on the table. [For Report as adopted, see *Appendix G, IX.*]

Report No. X of the Committee on the Book Concern was taken up, and the first resolution was adopted, as follows:

Book Concern.
Report No. X.

Resolved, That in our judgment the paramount object of our publishing interests should be the wider diffusion of a sanctified literature.

The second resolution, proposing to apply the net proceeds of the Book Concern to cheapening our books, was laid on the table.

Edward G. Andrews moved to reconsider the vote by which the second resolution was laid on the table; and, on motion of Thomas C. Gardner, the motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

The preamble to the foregoing resolution was adopted.

Pending the consideration of so much of the Report as relates to Advertising Patent Medicines, etc., Lucius H. King moved that the whole subject be indefinitely postponed, and the motion prevailed. [For the Report as adopted, see *Appendix G, X.*]

Report No. XI of the Committee on the Book Concern was taken up, and so much as relates to the Book Concern at New York, and to the Western Book Concern, was adopted.

Book Concern.
Report No. XI.

May 25.
TWENTIETH
DAY.

Afternoon.

Pending the consideration of so much of the Report as relates to the Northern Christian Advocate, the first resolution was amended, on the motion of Thomas Carlton, by striking out the words "at Auburn" and inserting in their stead the words "in Western New York," and the resolution as amended was adopted.

Andrew Magee was granted leave of absence.

On motion of William H. Hunter, Andrew Magee was granted leave of absence on account of the death of a brother-in-law.

John L. Smith moved that when Conference adjourn it shall be to meet again at eight o'clock this evening, but the motion was lost by a vote of 76 to 92.

Expenses of delegates.

David Sherman, Chairman of the Committee on Expenses of Delegates, submitted a Report, and it was laid on the table to be printed.

The following resolution, offered by John H. Twombly, lies on the table under the rule:

Resolved, That the Discipline be amended by inserting after the word prisons, in ans. 3, quest. 3, § 1, chap. iii, page 93, the following: "And similar institutions of correction."

Conference adjourned.

On motion of Jacob S. M'Murray, Conference adjourned.

After the Doxology was sung, the Benediction was pronounced by James M'K. Reiley.

May 26.
TWENTY-FIRST
DAY.

Morning.

Opening of Conference.

THURSDAY MORNING, MAY 26.

Conference met this morning at half past eight o'clock, Bishop Ames in the chair.

The usual religious services were conducted by Samuel C. Thomas, of Wisconsin Conference.

The Journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Report of Committees.
Book Concern.
Report No. XI.

The consideration of Report No. XI of the Committee on the Book Concern was resumed, and the remaining items in relation to the Northern Christian Advocate were adopted. Also the items giving the Agents authority to purchase real estate in certain cases, and also the items relating to the Book Committees, were severally read and adopted; and the changes of Discipline made necessary by the present constitution of said committees were ordered.

The Report as amended and as a whole was

adopted. The following are the resolutions of the Report:

Resolved, That we approve the course pursued by our Agents at New York, and are gratified with the marked advancement our Concern has made; and we earnestly express our desire that nothing should deter our Agents from making the attempt to supply fully the demand for our publications.

Resolved, That we are gratified with the financial success and present condition of the Western Book Concern, and that we regard the additions and improvements at Chicago as necessary and judicious, and heartily approve the management and conduct of our Agents.

Resolved, That the Publishing Committee of the Northern Christian Advocate be directed to transfer the property in their hands to the Book Agents at New York, and that said Agents are hereby instructed to take possession of that paper, with its assets and liabilities, and to continue the publication of the same in Western New York, in the same manner as the Northwestern Christian Advocate at Chicago is published by the Book Agents at Cincinnati.

Resolved, That the Discipline, Part IV, § 5, be amended as follows:

1. Insert in paragraph 5, page 218, after the words "Advocate and Journal," the words "and an Editor for the Northern Christian Advocate."

2. In paragraph 6, page 219, after the words "the condition of the Book Concern," insert "including the Northern Christian Advocate."

3. Strike out in paragraph 10, page 224, the words, "the Northern Christian Advocate in Western New York."

4. In paragraph 20, page 228, second line, after the words "New York," insert "and the Editor of the Northern Christian Advocate."

5. In the same paragraph, ninth line from the top, strike out "Western New York."

6. Strike out paragraph 12, page 225.

Resolved, That the Agents of the Book Concern at New York and at Cincinnati be and they are hereby authorized to purchase real estate for the Depositories under their care, or to erect buildings for them, or for the main Concerns, when in their judgment it can be done for the interest of the Church.

May 26.
TWENTY-FIRST
DAY.

Morning.
Book Agents at
New York.

Western Book
Concern.

Northern Chris-
tian Advocate.

Agents author-
ized to pur-
chase real es-
tate.

Book Commit-
tee districts.

The following plan for districts for the Book Committees was adopted:

BOOK COMMITTEE AT NEW YORK.

1. New York and New York East Conferences.
2. Providence, New England, and Maine.
3. East Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont.
4. Philadelphia, New Jersey, and Newark.
5. Baltimore and East Baltimore.
6. Troy and Black River.
7. Oneida and Wyoming.
8. Genesee and East Genesee.
9. Erie, Pittsburgh, and West Virginia.

BOOK COMMITTEE AT CINCINNATI.

1. Ohio Conference.
2. Cincinnati and Kentucky.
3. Central Ohio and North Ohio.

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TWENTY-FIRST
DAY.
Morning.

4. Indiana and Southeastern Indiana.
5. North Indiana and Northwest Indiana.
6. Detroit and Michigan.
7. Illinois and Southern Illinois.
8. Rock River and Central Illinois.
9. Iowa, Upper Iowa, and Des Moines.
10. Wisconsin, West Wisconsin, Northwest Wisconsin, and Minnesota.
11. Missouri and Arkansas, Nebraska and Kansas.
12. German Conferences.

We recommend that the Discipline be amended as follows:

In paragraph 5, page 222, strike out "eleven" and insert "twelve," so that it shall read, "The Book Committee of this department of the Book Concern shall consist of twelve traveling ministers." And in paragraph 6, page 219, strike out "seven" and insert "nine," so that it shall read, "The Book Committee at New York shall consist of nine traveling preachers."

[For Report as adopted, see *Appendix G, XI.*]

On motion of Adam Poe, the delegates from Conferences, constituting the several districts to be represented in the Book Committee, were requested to present nominations for that office this afternoon.

Reply to British
 Wesleyan Con-
 ference.

The Committee appointed to Reply to the Address of the British Wesleyan Conference again reported, and the Report was adopted, as modified by the Committee. [For Reply, see *Appendix B, II.*]

Episcopacy.
 Report No. II.

Report No. II from the Committee on Episcopacy was taken up, and the several items were considered and adopted seriatim, as follows:

President of
 Annual Con-
 ference.

By a resolution, the expediency of slightly changing the rule providing for the election of president of an Annual Conference, was submitted; and, after due consideration, we report the following as a substitute for the answer to quest. 4, § 3, chap. i, Part II, page 49 of Discipline:

"Who shall preside in the Annual Conferences?"

"*Ans.* The bishop. In case no bishop be present a member of the Conference, appointed by the bishop, shall preside. But if no appointment be made, or the person appointed do not attend the Conference shall elect a president by ballot from among the elders without debate."

Committee of
 Trial.

We have been instructed to consider and report whether a committee of trial (or select number) may hold a session after the final adjournment of the Annual Conference for trial of a minister.

We find no specific law in this case. "The Committee of Trial," or "Select Number," is evidently only the representative of the Annual Conference, and subject to its laws of action. Specific provisions are made for proceeding against an accused minister "in the interval of the Annual Conference," which precludes the method of trial by the committee of the Annual Conference.

It seems hardly logical to say the Annual Conference can perpetuate its existence after its official adjournment, or that the Annual Conference can meet more than once a year.

It is, therefore, the opinion of the committee that the question referred to them should be answered in the negative.

Having considered a resolution referred for inquiry, we recommend the alteration of Discipline, Part II, chap. iv, § 1, quest. 4, ans. 3, to read as follows:

"To change, receive, and suspend preachers in his district during the intervals of the Conference, and in the absence of the bishop, as the Discipline directs. *Provided*, however, that a presiding elder shall not change a preacher in his district from a charge to which he has been appointed by the bishop, and appoint him to another to which he could not be legally appointed by the bishop."

[For Report, see *Appendix D, II.*]

Report No. III of the Committee on Episcopacy was taken up, and the first, second, third, and fourth items were read and adopted. The resolutions of the Report are as follows:

Resolved, That when superannuated and local preachers are employed in the pastoral work the law of limitation applies to them; and that the limitation upon the appointing power applies to the presiding elder as well as to the bishop.

Resolved, That whether Bishop Morris shall continue to travel and perform Episcopal duties during the next quadrennial term, and if so to what extent, shall be left to his judgment and that of his Episcopal colleagues.

Resolved, That our satisfaction with the eminent and highly useful services of our venerated senior superintendent is recorded with profound gratitude to God, and with fervent prayers that we may long enjoy his presence and counsels, and that his path may "shine more and more unto the perfect day."

[For Report as adopted, see *Appendix D, III.*]

The Reports from the committee as amended and as a whole were then adopted.

On motion of Alpha J. Kynett, Sanford Haines was granted leave of absence on account of sickness in his family.

Report No. III of the Committee on Itinerancy was taken up, and the following changes of the Discipline recommended by the committee were ordered, namely:

1. Change the caption of chap. vii, Part II, page 44, from "superannuated or worn-out preachers" to "supernumerary and superannuated preachers."

2. To insert as the opening paragraph of that chapter the following:

"A supernumerary preacher is one who, because of impaired health or some other disability, is temporarily unable to perform effective work. He may receive an appointment, or be left without one, according to the judgment of the Annual Conference of which he is a member; but he shall have no claim on the beneficiary funds of the Church except by vote of the Conference, and he shall be subject to all the limitations of the Discipline in respect to reappoint-

May 26.
TWENTY-FIRST
DAY.
Morning.
Presiding Elder.

Episcopacy.
Report No. III.

Sanford Haines
was granted
leave of ab-
sence.

Itinerancy.
Report No. III.

Supernumerary
Preachers.

May 26.
TWENTY-FIRST
DAY.
Morning.

ment and continuance in the same charge that apply to effective preachers. In case he be left without an appointment, he shall have a seat in the Quarterly Conference, and all the privileges of membership in the place where he may reside."

3. Insert in Part II, chap. i, § 3, page 50, as quest. 7, "Who are the supernumerary preachers?"

Occupying Parsonages.

In reference to the matter of preachers refusing to occupy parsonages provided for them, we recommend that Part V, chap. i, § 2, ans. 4, page 233, be stricken out.

[For Report as adopted, see *Appendix E*, III.]

Itinerancy.
 Report No. V.

On motion of John M. Reid, so much of Report No. V as relates to the Administration of Black River Conference was reconsidered; and, on motion of John B. Foote, the following substitute was adopted:

Journal of Black River Conference.

Your committee have also considered the paper referred to them complaining of the administration of the Black River Conference. We find that a private member of the Church was in 1845 tried by a committee and expelled; that he presented complaints to the Conference against the administration by which he was expelled, from year to year, until the session of 1863, at which the Conference resolved that the proceedings of the original trial were irregular, it having appeared that one member of the committee which tried him was not a member of our Church, and instructed the preacher in charge of the church where he was expelled to re-enter his name upon the Church Record.

Having only the Journal of the Conference for the last four years before us, we propose for adoption the following:

Resolved, That there has been some manifest irregularity in the case, which, however, seems to have been connected with its earlier history; and with the light before us we do not feel prepared to condemn the action complained of.

Itinerancy.
 Report No. V.

The Second Part of Report No. V of the Committee on Itinerancy was taken up, and the item relating to Missionaries to Destitute Portions of our Cities, and also the item relating to a Superannuated Preacher living out of the bounds of his Conference, were adopted, by which the following changes of the Discipline were ordered:

Part II, chap. iii, § 1, ques. 3, ans. 3, on the sixteenth line of the answer, by inserting after the word "missionaries" the words "to neglected portions of our cities."

Part II, chap. vii, § 1, page 114 of the Discipline by adding at the close of the section these words, "and may locate him without his consent," so that it shall read, "without which the Conference shall not be required to allow his claim, and may locate him without his consent."

The report as amended and as a whole was then adopted. [For Report as adopted, see *Appendix E*, V.]

Report No. VI of the Committee on Itinerancy, relating to the Journals of the several Annual Conferences, was taken up and adopted; and, on motion of Seth Reed, the Committee to Edit the Discipline were instructed to print so much of the report as gives direction to Secretaries of Conferences in an Appendix to the Discipline. [For Report as adopted, see *Appendix E*, VI.]

Report No. VII of the Committee on Itinerancy was taken up, and the items relating, 1. To Property in Vermilion County, Ill.; 2. To the Case of I. N. M'Abree; 3. To a Manual of Methodism, were severally read and adopted.

Pending the consideration of the proposition to change the second Restrictive Rule, on motion of Thomas C. Golden, the ayes and noes were ordered, and the vote was as follows:

Ayes.—Adams, Allen of Maine, Allen of New England, Andrews, Armstrong, Baird, Baker, Bangs, Barton, Bennett, Bigelow, Bingham, Blake, Brice, Bristol, Brown of New York, Brown of Providence, Brownscombe, Bruce, Bullard, Carlton, Caruthers, Castle, Chambers, Church, Clark of West Virginia, Clifford, Cobleigh, Colby, Congdon, Corrington, Crane, Crary, Crawford, Cummings, Curry, Davidson, Dempsey, Dimmitt, Drummond, Durbin, Dustin, Elliott, Erwin, Ferris, Foote, Foster, Foss, Gardner, George, Goode, Graves, Griffin, Griswold, Gurley, Guthrie, Hall, Haney, Harris, Hatfield, Hawley, Henderson, Hester, Hibbard, Hill of Erie, Hill of Indiana, Himebaugh, Holmes, Houghton, Hunter, Hurlburt, Jervis, Jewett, Keeler, King of New York, King of Troy, Koeneke, Kynett, Lemon, Lindsay, M' Cabe, M' Coy, M' Kenzie, Malcom, Manson, Mason, Miley, Miller of Nebraska, Monroe, Moore, Munsell, Nelson of Central Ohio, Nesbit, Nisbet, Noble, Norton, Olin, Patten, Peck of Wyoming, Perry, Penfield, Pike, Pilcher, Pillsbury of New York East, Pillsbury of Wisconsin, Poe, Porter, Ray, Raymond, Reed of Detroit, Reid of East Genesee, Richards, Sherman, Sinex, Smart, Smith of Cincinnati, Smith of Northwest Indiana, Smith of Southeastern Indiana, Smith of Western Iowa,

May 26.
TWENTY-FIRST
DAY.

Morning.
Itinerancy.
Report No. VI.

Itinerancy.
Report No. VII.

Ayes.

May 26.
 TWENTY-FIRST
 DAY.
 Morning.

Spahr, Stallard, Stewart, Street, Strout, Terrill, Thomas, Thurston, Trimble, Twombly, Walker, Wardwell, Waring, Webber, Wentworth, Whedon, White of Ohio, Wilbor of Genesee, Wiley, Wilson of Central Ohio, Wise, Wood, Woodruff, Wright, Young—144.

Noes.

Noes.—Alexander, Bannister, Barth, Benson, Boyd, Breckenridge, Brown of Troy, Chenoweth, Clark of Wyoming, Cobb, Corkhill, Cunningham, Davis, Denison, Eddy, Fiegenbaum, Fisher, Golden, Goodwin, Gregg, Hamlin, Harden, Harlow, Harrison, Hilliard, Hitchcock, Hobart, Huffman, Kuhl, Lawson, Lowe, Lynch, M'Murray, Merrick, Miller of North Indiana, Moody, N. J. B. Morgan, Mulfinger, Nast, Owen, Pearne, Peck of California, Pershing, Reese, Reeves, Reiley, Robinson, Rothweiler, Shinn, Shumate, Starks, Tippet, Vansant, Wakeley, Wallace, Whitecar, Whiteman, Wilbur of Oregon, Wilson of Erie—59.

Absent.—Brooks, Haines, Magee, Nelson of Wyoming, Phelps, Reger, Roth, Smith of Western Iowa, White of Black River, Littleton F. Morgan—11

Thus by a vote of 144 to 59 the following resolutions were adopted:

Change of Restrictive Rule on Delegates to General Conference.

Resolved, That the second restrictive rule be amended by striking out the last two words of the rule, namely, "two delegates," and inserting in their place the following, namely, "one delegate," so that it may read, "Provided, also, that no Conference shall be denied the privilege of one delegate."

Resolved, That the Bishops be directed to present the above at the next session of each Annual Conference for their concurrence; and when all the Annual Conferences have acted upon it, publicly to announce the result, and authorize the Book Agents to amend the published copy of the Discipline accordingly.

The report as amended and as a whole was then adopted.

[For Report as adopted, see *Appendix E*, VII.]

Revisals.
 Report No. III.

Report No. III of the Committee on Revisals was taken up, and the item relating to the Oversight of Preachers in Charge was adopted.

Pending the consideration of the item relating to the Annual Election of Stewards, Nicholas Vansant moved to amend the answer given in the Report by adding the words, "the preacher in charge having the right of nomination."

John L. Smith moved to lay the item under consideration on the table, and on this motion Lucius H. King called for the Ayes and Noes, and the call being sustained, the roll was called. The vote was as follows:

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Morning.

Ayes.—Allen of New England, Alexander, Andrews, Baird, Baker, Barth, Barton, Bennett, Benson, Bigelow, Boyd, Breckenridge, Bristol, Brown of New York, Brownscombe, Bruce, Bullard, Carlton, Caruthers, Castle, Chambers, Chenoweth, Church, Clark of West Virginia, Clark of Wyoming, Colby, Congdon, Corkhill, Corrington, Crane, Crary, Crawford, Cunningham, Curry, Davis, Dempsey, Denison, Dimmitt, Drummond, Dustin, Durbin, Elliott, Ferris, Fiegenbaum, Fisher, Foss, Foster, Gardner, Golden, Goode, Graves, Griffin, Gurley, Guthrie, Hall, Hamlin, Haney, Harden, Harlow, Harris, Harrison, Hawley, Henderson, Hester, Hibbard, Hill of Erie, Hill of Indiana, Hilliard, Hitchcock, Hobart, Holmes, Houghton, Huffman, Hunter, Hurlburt, Jewett, Keeler, King of Troy, Koeneke, Kuhl, Lawson, Lemon, Lowe, Lynch, M'Cabe, M'Combs, M'Coy, M'Murray, Manson, Mason, Merrick, Miller of Nebraska, Miller of North Indiana, Monroe, Moody, Moore, N. J. B. Morgan, Mulfinger, Munsell, Nast, Nelson of Central Ohio, Nesbit, Nisbet, Noble, Owen, Pearne, Peck of California, Peck of Wyoming, Penfield, Perry, Pershing, Pilcher, Pillsbury of Wisconsin, Poe, Porter, Reed of Detroit, Reid of East Genesee, Reese, Reeves, Reiley, Robinson, Rothweiler, Shinn, Shumate, Sinex, Smart, Smith of Cincinnati, Smith of Northwest Indiana, Smith of Southeastern Indiana, Spahr, Stallard, Stewart, Street, Terrill, Thomas, Tippet, Trimble, Vansant, Wakeley, Walker, Wallace, Waring, Wentworth, Whedon, White of Ohio, Whitecar, Whiteman, Wilbor of Genesee, Wilbur of Oregon, Wiley, Wilson of Erie, Wilson of Central Ohio, Wood, Woodruff, Wright, Young—156.

Noes.—Adams, Allen of Maine, Armstrong, Bangs, Bannister, Bingham, Blake, Brice, Brown of Providence, Brown of Troy, Clifford, Cobleigh, Cummings, Davidson, Eddy, Erwin, Foote, George, Goodwin, Gregg, Griswold, Hatfield, Himebaugh, Jervis, King of New York, Kynett, Lindsay, M'Kenzie, Malcom, Miley,

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Norton, Olin, Patten, Pike, Pillsbury of New York East, Ray, Raymond, Richards, Starks, Thurston, Twombly, Wardwell, Webber, Wise—44.

Absent.

Absent.—Bartine, Brooks, Cobb, Haines, Magee, L. F. Morgan, Nelson of Wyoming, Phelps, Reger, Roth, Sherman, Smith of Western Iowa, Strout, White of Black River—14.

Thus the motion was laid on the table by a vote of 156 to 44, and, on motion, the whole matter relating to the Election of Stewards was laid on the table.

The report as amended and as a whole was then adopted, by which the following changes of the Discipline were ordered :

Change of Discipline on Class-meetings.

On page 41 of the Discipline add a fifth answer to quest. 2, and strike out the words "and Love-feast" from the heading of § iii, page 40, so that the whole section shall read as follows :

SECTION III.

CLASS-MEETINGS.

Quest. 1. How may the leaders of classes be rendered more useful ?

Ans. 1. Let each of them be diligently examined concerning his method of meeting a class. Let this be done with all possible exactness at least once a quarter. In order to this, take sufficient time.

2. Let each leader carefully inquire how every soul of his class prospers: not only how each person observes the outward rules, but how he grows in the knowledge and love of God.

3. Let the leaders converse with those who have the charge of their circuits frequently and freely.

Quest. 2. Can anything more be done in order to make the class-meetings lively and profitable ?

Ans. 1. Change improper leaders.

2. Let the leaders frequently meet each other's classes.

3. Let us observe which leaders are the most useful; and let these meet the other classes as often as possible.

4. See that all the leaders be not only men of sound judgment, but men truly devoted to God.

5. Let the leaders be directed to such a course of reading and study as shall best qualify them for their work; especially let such books be recommended as will tend to increase their knowledge of the Scriptures, and make them familiar with those passages best adapted to Christian influence. Whenever practicable, let the preacher examine the leaders in the studies recommended.

Your Committee recommend the formation of a new section, to take the place of the balance of § 3, commencing with quest. 3, page 41, as follows :

SECTION IV.

NEGLECT OF THE MEANS OF GRACE.

Quest. 1. What shall we do with those members of our Church who habitually neglect the means of grace, such as the public worship of God, the supper of the Lord, family and private prayer, searching the Scriptures, class-meetings and prayer-meetings ?

Ans. 1. Let the elder, deacon, or one of the preachers visit them whenever it is practicable, and explain to them the consequence if they continue to neglect.

2. If they do not amend, let him who has the charge of the circuit or station bring their case before the society, or a select number, before whom they shall have been cited to appear, and if they be found guilty of willful neglect by a decision of a majority of the members before whom their case is brought, let them be excluded.

On page 84 of the Discipline, from *ans. 1* to *quest. 1*, in § 12, strike out the words, "to see that the other preachers in his circuit behave well, and want nothing," and insert the following answer: "He shall have the oversight of the other preachers in his circuit or station."

May 26.

TWENTY-FIRST
DAY.

Morning.

Oversight of
preacher in
charge.

The Report as amended and as a whole was adopted.
[For Report as adopted, see *Appendix N*, III.]

Report No. IV of the Committee on Revisals was taken up, and pending the consideration of the first item, which relates to the Order of Public Worship, Desevignia Starks moved to amend by inserting an additional section in these words, "Let our services be invariably closed with prayer, singing, and the benediction;" but, on motion of Kasimir P. Jervis, the amendment was laid on the table.

Revisals.
Report No. IV.

Isaac S. Bingham moved to amend the item relating to the use of the Lord's Prayer in Public Worship by striking out the word "concluding," and inserting instead thereof the words "connection with."

Thomas H. Pearne moved to lay the amendment on the table; but the motion did not prevail, and the amendment was lost.

Alpha J. Kynett moved the following substitute for that item of the Report which relates to the use of the Ritual in certain cases:

Let the Ritual be used in every service for which it is appointed in accordance with the instructions accompanying the same.

On motion of Samson Shinn, the substitute was laid on the table.

Elijah H. Pilcher moved to amend the same item by striking out the words, "in the burial of the dead," which amendment, on motion of James S. Smart, was laid on the table.

On motion of Williamson Terrill, the previous question was ordered, and the matter relating to an Order of Public Worship was adopted.

The item relating to Singing was adopted.

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TWENTY-FIRST
DAY.

Morning.
 Reception of
 Ministers from
 M. E. Church
 South.

The item relating to the Reception of Ministers from the Methodist Episcopal Church South was read.

Henry C. Benson moved to amend by striking out the proviso; but, on motion of James S. Smart, the amendment was laid on the table.

Daniel W. Bristol moved to amend by inserting the words "or Quarterly," before the word "Conference," which amendment prevailed, and the item, as amended, was adopted.

The fourth item, relating To the Number of a Select Committee for Trial; fifth item, To a Rearrangement of the Discipline; sixth item, To Registration of Marriages and Baptisms, were read and adopted.

The seventh item, relating to Preachers' Quarterly Report, was read, and Isaac Owen moved to so amend that the Report shall include the number of pastoral visits made during the quarter; but, on motion of James S. Smart, the amendment was laid on the table.

Edward G. Andrews moved to amend by requiring the pastor to report the names of the probationers who have been received, and also of those who have been discontinued; but the amendment, on motion of Samuel A. W. Jewett, was laid on the table.

John V. R. Miller moved to amend so as to require the pastor to report the number of probationers; but, on motion of Robert M. Hatfield, the amendment was laid on the table, and the matter of the Quarterly Report was adopted.

The eighth item, on Examining Accounts, was read. Thomas C. Gardner moved to strike out the word "Trustees." A motion to lay the motion to strike out on the table was lost, when Sylvester L. Congdon moved to lay the whole item on the table, and the motion prevailed.

The ninth item, relating to the Duties of Stewards, was read and adopted.

The following changes in the Discipline were therefore ordered:

In relation to
 Public Worship.

On page 38, § 1, chap. ii, Part I, change the section on Public Worship, so that it shall read as follows:

Quest. What directions shall be given for the establishment of uniformity in public worship among us on the Lord's day?

Ans. 1. Let the morning service consist of singing, prayer, the

reading of a lesson from the Old Testament, and another from the New, and preaching.

2. Let the afternoon or evening service consist of singing, prayer, the reading of one or two Scripture Lessons, and preaching.

3. On the days of administering the sacrament of the Lord's Supper the reading of the Scripture lessons may be omitted.

4. In administering the sacraments and in the burial of the dead let our form of ritual invariably be used. Let the Lord's Prayer also be used on all occasions of public worship in concluding the first prayer, the congregation being exhorted to join in its audible repetition. Let a Doxology be sung at the conclusion of each service, and the Apostolic Benediction be invariably used in dismissing the congregation.

5. Let the people be earnestly exhorted to join in all these acts of worship, and especially to respond to the prayers of our ritual.

6. Let the society be met, wherever it is practicable, on the Sabbath day.

On page 40, in section 2, let the fourth answer read as follows:

Ans. 4. Let one or more be chosen in each society to lead the singing.

In relation to
Singing.

On page 82, § 11, chap. ii, Part I, insert the following as a second question and answer, changing the numbers of those that follow to correspond:

Quest. 2. How shall we receive those ministers who may offer to unite with us from the Methodist Episcopal Church South?

Ans. Upon the same conditions as specified in answer to quest. 1, provided they give satisfactory assurances to an Annual or Quarterly Conference of their loyalty to the national government, and hearty approval of the antislavery doctrine of our Church.

Reception of
Ministers from
the M. E.
Church South.

On page 128, § 2, quest. 1, ans. 1, after the words "or a select number," insert the words "of not less than five."

The Number of
a Committee
for Trial.

Your Committee, to whom was referred the resolution of the New Hampshire Conference, recommending a rearrangement of the Discipline, according to the plan proposed by Bishop Baker, respectfully report that they have examined the new arrangement proposed by Bishop Baker, and most cordially approve the same, as in their judgment much more simple, logical, and convenient than the old, and accordingly they submit for adoption the following resolutions:

Rearrangement
of the Disci-
pline.

Resolved, 1. That the "Table of Contents," herewith submitted, be printed.

Resolved, 2. That Bishop Baker be associated with the Committee authorized to edit the new edition of the Discipline in the execution of that work, and that they be instructed to adopt (so far as practicable, consistently with the modifications of the Discipline ordered at this General Conference) the arrangement prepared by Bishop Baker.

On page 125, from ans. 1, quest. 3, strike out the words "to register the marriages and baptisms," and add to ans. 9, § 12, chap. ii, Part II, page 85, the words, "and also to register the marriages and baptisms."

Registration of
Marriages and
Baptisms.

The effect of the above change is to transfer the duty of making the register from the stewards to the minister.

On page 85, amend the first line of answer 11, so that the answer shall read, "To make a written report at each Quarterly Conference and Love-feast of the names of those who have been received into the Church or excluded therefrom during the quarter; also the names of those who have been received or dismissed by certificate, and of those who have died or withdrawn from the Church."

Preachers'
Quarterly Re-
port.

May 26.**TWENTY-FIRST DAY.***Morning.*

Duties of Stewards.

On page 125, strike out the following, relating to the duties of stewards, from quest. 3, ans. 1, namely: "and to be subject to the bishops, the presiding elder of the district, and the elder, deacon, and traveling preachers of their circuit."

The Report as amended and as a whole was adopted.
[For Report as adopted, see *Appendix N*, IV.]

Revisals.

Miner Raymond, Chairman of the Committee on Revisals, offered the following resolutions, and they were adopted:

Editors of Discipline.

Resolved, That the committee to edit the Discipline consist of the Secretary, and First Assistant Secretary of the General Conference, and the Book Editor at New York.

Resolved, That the committee to edit the forthcoming edition of the Discipline be instructed to conform the wording of ans. 5, quest. 4, § 1, chap. iv, Part II, page 99, to the change of rule made on page 53, making trustees members of the Quarterly Conference.

Samuel C. Brown offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

Resolved, That the editors of the new edition of the Discipline be and hereby are authorized, in preparing it for the press, to make such verbal changes as shall conform its phraseology to the action of this General Conference.

Presentation of cane to Rev. Geo. Peck.

Bishop Janes, on behalf of Peter Myers, presented to Rev. George Peck, D. D., as the oldest traveling preacher in this General Conference, a beautiful cane, bearing the following inscription:

Made from one of the Rafters of the Old Rigging Loft in William-street, New York, where the Methodists worshiped before they removed to Wesley Chapel, John-street, N. Y. Presented to George Peck, D. D., May 1864.

On motion of Samuel H. Nesbit, it was agreed that when Conference adjourn it shall be till half past two o'clock this afternoon.

Revisals.
Report No. V.

Report No. V of the Committee on Revisals, relating to the Trial of Accused Members, was taken up.

Pending its consideration, Thomas H. Pearne moved the previous question, and the motion was sustained; and the following was adopted as a substitute for § 2, chap. x, Part II, commencing on page 128 of the Discipline:

SECTION II.

TRIAL OF AN ACCUSED MEMBER.

Trial of an accused member.

Quest. 1. How shall an accused member be brought to trial?

Ans. Before a committee of not less than five, who shall not be members of the Quarterly Conference, (and if the preacher judge it necessary, he may select the committee from any part of the district,)

in the presence of the preacher in charge, who shall preside in the trial, and cause exact minutes of the evidence and proceedings in the case to be taken. In the selection of the committee, the parties may challenge for cause.

If the accused person be found guilty by the decision of a majority of the committee, and the crime be such as is expressly forbidden by the Word of God, sufficient to exclude a person from the kingdom of grace and glory, let the preacher in charge expel him.

If the accused person evade a trial by absenting himself, after sufficient notice given him, he may be tried in his absence, and if found guilty he shall be expelled.

But in cases of neglect of duties of any kind, imprudent conduct, indulging sinful tempers or words, the buying, selling, or using intoxicating liquors as a beverage, or disobedience to the order and discipline of the Church, first, let private reproof be given by a preacher or leader, and if there be an acknowledgment of the fault and proper humiliation, the person may be borne with. On a second offense the preacher or leader may take one or two faithful friends. On a third offense let him be brought to trial, and if found guilty, and there be no sign of real humiliation, he shall be expelled.

If a member of our Church shall be accused of endeavoring to sow dissensions in any of our societies, by inveighing against either our doctrines or Discipline, the person so offending shall first be reproved by the preacher in charge, and if he persist in such pernicious practices he shall be brought to trial, and if found guilty expelled.

Quest. 2. How shall disputes between members of our Church, concerning business transactions, be settled?

Ans. 1. On any disagreement between two or more members of our Church, concerning business transactions which cannot be settled by the parties, the preacher in charge shall inquire into the circumstances of the case, and shall recommend to the parties a reference consisting of two arbiters chosen by the plaintiff, and two chosen by the defendant, which four arbiters so chosen shall nominate a fifth, the five arbiters being members of our Church.

If either party refuse to abide their judgment he shall be brought to trial, and if he fail to show sufficient cause for such refusal he shall be expelled.

Ans. 2. If any member of our Church shall refuse, in cases of debt or other disputes, to refer the matter to arbitration when recommended by the preacher in charge, or shall enter into a lawsuit with another member before these measures are taken, he shall be brought to trial, and if he fail to show that the case is of such a nature as to require and justify a process at law, he shall be expelled.

Quest. 3. What shall be done in cases of insolvency?

Ans. 1. The preachers who have the oversight of circuits and stations are required to execute all our rules fully and strenuously against all frauds, and particularly against dishonest insolvencies; suffering none to remain in our Church on any account who are found guilty of any fraud.

2. To prevent scandal, when any of our members fail in business, or contract debts which they are not able to pay, let two or three judicious members of the Church inspect the accounts, contracts, and circumstances of the case of the supposed delinquent, and if they judge that he has behaved dishonestly, or borrowed money without a probability of paying, let him be brought to trial, and if found guilty expelled.

1. In all the foregoing cases of trial, witnesses from without shall not be rejected; and the testimony of an absent witness may be taken before the preacher in charge, or a preacher appointed by the

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Morning.

For neglect of duty, or imprudent conduct.

For dissension.

Disagreement in business, and non-payment of debts.

Insolvency on the part of any of our members.

General Directions.

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Morning.

presiding elder of the district within which such witness resides; provided, in every case, sufficient notice has been given to the adverse party of the time and place of taking such testimony. The accused shall have the right to call to his assistance, as counsel, any member in good and regular standing in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

2. If in any of the above-mentioned cases the preacher in charge differs in judgment from the majority of the committee concerning the guilt or innocence of the accused, he may refer the trial to the ensuing Quarterly Conference, which shall have authority to order a new trial.

3. If there be a murmur or complaint from any excluded person in any of the above-mentioned instances that justice has not been done, he shall be allowed an appeal to the next Quarterly Conference, except such as absent themselves from trial after sufficient notice is given them; and the preacher in charge shall present exact minutes of the evidence and proceedings of the trial to the Quarterly Conference, from which minutes the case shall finally be determined.

4. After such forms of trial and expulsion such person shall have no privileges of society or of sacraments in our Church without contrition, confession, and satisfactory reformation.

The Report as a whole was adopted.

[For Report as adopted, see *Appendix N, V.*]

Resignation of
 S. D. Brown.

Stephen D. Brown offered his resignation as Editor of the Pacific Christian Advocate, and, on motion of Thomas M. Eddy, it was accepted.

Jesse T. Peck submitted the following paper:

Resignation of
 J. T. Peck.

TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE.

REV. FATHERS AND BRETHREN,—After due consideration I have determined that it is my duty to resign the office of Editor of the Northern Christian Advocate. I do this with great reluctance, but under the conviction that I can serve the Church more effectively elsewhere, and being satisfied that the appointment to this office is not regarded as mandatory by a majority of the members of General Conference. Most respectfully yours,

PHILADELPHIA, *May 26, 1864.*

JESSE T. PECK.

Whereupon, on motion, his resignation was accepted.

H. C. Benson
 elected Editor
 of the Pacific
 Christian Ad-
 vocate.

On nomination of James H. Wilbur, Henry C. Benson was elected Editor of the Pacific Christian Advocate.

Conference Ad-
 journed.

On motion, Conference adjourned. After the Doxology was sung, the Benediction was pronounced by Bishop Clark.

Afternoon.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 26.

Opening of
 Conference.

Conference met pursuant to adjournment, Bishop Morris in the chair.

The usual religious services were conducted by Edwin E. Griswold, of the New York East Conference.

The Journal of this morning was read and approved.

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TWENTY-FIRST
DAY.
Afternoon.

The Book Committee for New York was nominated and confirmed, as follows:

Book Committee
at New
York.

1. New York and New York East, Morris D'C. Crawford.
2. Providence, New England, and Maine, Charles F. Allen.
3. East Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont, Andes T. Bullard.
4. Philadelphia, New Jersey, and Newark, Joseph Castle.
5. Baltimore and East Baltimore, Charles B. Tippet.
6. Troy and Black River, Barnes M. Hall.
7. Oneida and Wyoming, Daniel W. Bristol.
8. Genesee and East Genesee, Freeborn G. Hibbard.
9. Erie, Pittsburgh, and West Virginia, William Hunter.

The Book Committee for the Western Book Concern was nominated and confirmed, as follows:

Book Committee
at Cincinnati.

1. Ohio Conference, Barzillai N. Spahr.
2. Cincinnati and Kentucky, William Young.
3. Central Ohio and North Ohio, Henry Whiteman.
4. Indiana and Southeastern Indiana, John W. Melender.
5. North Indiana and Northwest Indiana, John L. Smith.
6. Detroit and Michigan, Francis B. Bangs.
7. Illinois and Southern Illinois, James B. Corrington.
8. Rock River and Central Illinois, Richard Haney.
9. Iowa, Upper Iowa, and Des Moines, Jacob G. Dimmitt.
10. Wisconsin and West Wisconsin, Northwest Wisconsin and Minnesota, Samuel C. Thomas.
11. Missouri and Arkansas, Nebraska and Kansas, Samuel Huffman.
12. German Conferences, George L. Mulfinger.

The Report of the Committee on Expenses of Delegates was read and recommitted for correction.

Expenses of
Delegates.

On motion of James Porter, the Committee on Expenses of Delegates was authorized to draw on the

Book Concern
to pay Deficiency.

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Afternoon.
Moneys collect-
ed for Expens-
es to be sent
forward.

Book Concern for such an amount as may be necessary to meet the deficiencies of the collections.

On motion of John W. White, all persons having moneys belonging to the fund to pay the Expenses of the General Conference were directed to forward them to the Book Agents at New York or Cincinnati, and that the amounts so forwarded be acknowledged in the Advocates at those places respectively.

Bishop Clark
took the chair.

At this stage of the proceedings Bishop Clark took the chair.

Ritual.
Reports Nos. II,
III, IV, and V.

The report of the Committee on Revision of the Ritual was taken up, and No. II, relating, 1. To Solemnization of Matrimony; 2. To the Burial of the Dead; No. III, relating to the Baptism of Infants; No. IV, relating to the Baptism of Adults; and No. V, relating, 1. To an Order for the Administration of the Lord's Supper; 2. To the Form of Consecrating a Bishop; 3. To the Form of Ordaining Elders; and, 4. To the Form of Ordaining Deacons, were adopted; and the Reports of the committee as amended and as a whole were adopted. [For Reports as adopted, see *Appendix X*, I, II, III, IV, and V.]

Revisals.
Report No. VI.

Report No. VI of the Committee on Revisals was taken up, and the item prescribing an Order of Business for Quarterly Conferences was read, when Paul R. Brown moved to amend by inserting as the first question the following: "Are there any new members to be recognized?" On motion of George W. Breckenridge, the amendment was laid on the table.

Barzillai N. Spahr moved that the whole item be indefinitely postponed, but the motion did not prevail. William H. Goode moved that the item be laid upon the table, and that the committee appointed to edit the Discipline be authorized to prepare an Order of Quarterly Conference Business; but on motion of William H. Ferris, this motion was laid on the table.

On motion of Matthias Himebaugh, the previous question was ordered by a vote of 114 to 40, and the item was adopted.

The items respecting Secretary of Quarterly Conferences and Recording Steward were severally adopted.

The item concerning the Examination of Church Records was read, when William Harden moved to lay it on the table, and the motion prevailed.

James Porter moved to reconsider so much of the Order of Quarterly Conference Business as is contained in the third item of question four, and also the third item of question six, both relating to the Committee on Examination of Church Records. William M^r. K. Hester moved to so amend the motion as to reconsider the whole Order of Business. On motion of Lucius H. King, the amendment was laid on the table, and the motion to reconsider prevailed.

James Porter then moved to strike out the matters reconsidered. George W. Chenoweth moved as a substitute to strike out the items in the questions mentioned and insert the following: "Are the Church Records properly kept?" On motion of James S. Smart, the previous question was ordered, and the substitute was adopted.

Jesse T. Peck moved to reconsider the whole matter of Quarterly Conference Business; but, on motion of Thomas C. Gardner, the motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

John M. Reid moved that the committee appointed to edit the Discipline be authorized to insert the questions in regard to the Church Records and the District Steward in their proper places.

James Pike moved as an amendment that the same committee have discretionary power as to the arrangement of all the questions relating to Quarterly Conference Business.

Kasimir P. Jervis moved to lay the amendment on the table, which motion was lost by a vote of 59 to 75; and the amendment prevailed, and the motion as amended was carried.

The fifth item, relating to Early Morning Preaching, was adopted.

The sixth item, relating to Limitation of the Term of Service of Missionaries to Foreign Populations in Certain Cases, was read, when Jacob Rothweiler moved to lay it on the table; but the motion did not prevail, and the item was adopted by a vote of 81 to 77.

The seventh item, relating to the Privileges of Col-

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DAY.
Afternoon.

Church
Records.

Editors of the
Discipline may
arrange ques-
tions.

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 Afternoon.

ored Local Preachers in Quarterly Conferences, was read; when Samuel Y. Monroe moved as a substitute, that § 5, chap. viii, Part II, relating to "The Rights and Privileges of Preachers and Official Members of our Colored Membership," be stricken from the Discipline, and the substitute was adopted.

Item eight, relating to the Duties of Presiding Elders in certain cases; item nine, concerning the Relation of Agent and Assistant Agent in the Management of the Book Concern; item ten, concerning the Relation of Editors to Conferences; item eleven, concerning the Relation of a Local Preacher to his Charge when he is a Pastor; item twelve, relating to the Consecration of a Bishop; and item thirteen, concerning the Amenability of Local Preachers in Certain Cases, were severally adopted, and the Report as amended and as a whole was adopted, by which the following changes of the Discipline were ordered:

Change Part II, chap. i, § 4, pages 56, 57, and 58, so that question five and the answer will read as follows:

Order of Quarterly Conference business.

Quest. 5. What is the order of business in the Quarterly Conferences?

Ans. To inquire:

1. Are there any complaints?
2. Are there any appeals?
3. Is there a written report from the pastor:
 - (1.) Of the number, state, and average attendance of the Sunday-schools and Bible-classes, and the extent to which he has preached to the children and catechized them? (See Part IV, § 1.)
 - (2.) Of the religious instruction of the children, as provided for in Part I, § 3, quest. 3?
 - (3.) Of the general condition of the charge, embracing the items in ans. 11, quest. 1, § 12, chap. ii, Part II?
4. Is there a report from Standing Committees?
 - (1.) The Committee on Missions?
 - (2.) The Committee on Sunday-Schools?
 - (3.) The Committee on the Tract Cause?
 - (4.) Are the Church Records properly kept?
 - (5.) Have the General Rules been read this quarter?
6. Who shall constitute the Disciplinary Committees:
 - (1.) On Missions?
 - (2.) On Sabbath-Schools?
 - (3.) On the circulation of Tracts?
7. What amount has been estimated for the support of the pastor or pastors the present year?
8. What sum has been apportioned to be raised by this charge:
 - (1.) For the support of the presiding elder?
 - (2.) For the Conference claimants?
 - (3.) For missionary, tract, Sunday-school, educational, and other benevolent objects?
9. Is any change desired in the Board of Stewards?
10. Are there any recommendations,
 - (1.) For license to preach?

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- (2.) For admission into the traveling connection?
 (3.) For election of local preachers to deacon's or elder's orders?
 11. Will you now attend to the examination of character and the renewal of licenses?
 12. Who shall be the district steward?
 13. Who shall be the estimating committee or committees?
 14. Is there a report from the trustees of the church property?
 15. How many subscribers have been obtained for our periodicals?
 16. What amounts have been received for benevolent objects?
 (1.) For Missions?
 (2.) For Tract Society?
 (3.) For Sunday-School Union?
 (4.) For American Bible Society?
 (5.) For other objects?
 17. Who shall be the stewards for the ensuing year?
 18. What amount has been raised during the quarter for the support of the ministry, and how has it been applied?
 19. Is there any other business?
 20. Where shall the next quarterly meeting be held?

The committee also recommend that N. B. 2, page 58, be changed so as to read: "Questions 6 and 7 are asked only at the first Quarterly Conference; question 8 only at the second; and all from item two in question 10 to question 17 inclusive, only at the last."

Also a change of quest. 3, page 54, § 4, chap. i, Part II, so that it shall read: "The Quarterly Conference shall appoint a secretary to take minutes of the proceedings thereof, to be recorded by the recording steward in a book kept for that purpose."

Also Part II, chap. ix, answer to quest. 5, page 126, so that it shall read: "Not less than three nor more than nine, one of whom shall be appointed recording steward by the Quarterly Conference after each annual election."

Also to strike out ans. 4 to quest. 1, § 3, chap. ii, page 63, of the Discipline, which reads: "To preach in the morning where he can get hearers. We recommend morning preaching at five in the summer and six in the winter wherever it is practicable."

Also that § 5, chap. viii, Part II, page 122, relating to "the rights and privileges of preachers and official members of our colored membership," be stricken from the Discipline.

Also the change of "a" to "the" on page 99, § 1, quest. 4, ans. 5, before the words "Quarterly Conference." Also to strike out all between the words "Conference" and "else," beginning with the words "consisting of," so that it shall read: "To be present as far as practicable, and hold all the quarterly meetings; and to call together, at each quarterly meeting, the Quarterly Conference to hear complaints and to receive and try appeals," etc.

Also the following addition on page 217, second paragraph, after the words "Assistant Agent," the following, namely: "to conduct the Book Concern at New York;" so that it may read, "There shall be an Agent and an Assistant Agent to conduct the Book Concern at New York," etc.

Also on page 225, in top line, Part IV, § 5, paragraph 10, after the word "California," add "for each of which there shall be an editor, who, if chosen from among the traveling preachers, shall be a member of such Conference as he may, with the approbation of the bishops, select."

May 26.
TWENTY-FIRST
DAY.
Afternoon.

Also the addition of a sixth paragraph, § 2, chap. viii, page 118, as follows: "Whenever a local preacher shall have a pastoral charge he shall hold his Church relation in said charge."

Also on page 91, chap. 3, answer to question 2, the substitution of the following words: "Shall consecrate him according to the ritual."

Also on page 93, 7th answer to question 3, the following, (in the duty of bishops,) namely: "To consecrate bishops, and ordain elders and deacons."

Also to strike out on page 117, chap. viii, § 2, paragraph 3, the following words, "Or at the place where he shall reside at the time of his location," so that it shall read, "When a preacher is located or discontinued by an Annual Conference, he shall be amenable to the Quarterly Conference of the charge where he had his last appointment."

[For Report as adopted, see *Appendix*, N, VI.]

Nelson E. Cobleigh moved a reconsideration of the item relating to the Term of Service of Missionaries to Foreign Populations.

Item concern-
 ing mission-
 aries laid on
 the table.

Gardner Baker moved to lay the motion on the table; but the motion was lost, and the vote was reconsidered, when, on motion of Henry F. Koenke, the item was laid on the table.

On motion of Daniel Curry, the rule requiring proposed changes of the Discipline to lie on the table one day before adoption was suspended to allow immediate action in the premises, when, on his motion, the following change was ordered, namely:

Assistant Mis-
 sionary Secre-
 taries.

On page 92, Part II, chap. iii, § 1, ans. 3, seventh line of the answer, the word "Secretary" was changed to the word "Secretaries."

On a similar motion of Miner Raymond, the same rule was further suspended, when, on his motion, the following changes were ordered, namely:

Assistant Edi-
 tors.

On page 92, Part II, chap. iii, § 1, ans. 3, insert after the word "Editors," in the eight and ninth lines severally of the answer, the words "Assistant Editors."

Revisals.
 Report No. III.

John V. R. Miller moved to reconsider the vote by which the item of Report No. III of the Committee on Revisals, relating to the Means of Grace, was adopted; but, on motion of James S. Smart, the motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Place of holding
 next General
 Conference.

On motion of William M'K. Hester, Conference proceeded to fix the place of its next session.

Invitations were received from Chicago, San Francisco, Baltimore, and Cincinnati. After the various

places were represented, the City of Chicago, Illinois, was selected by a unanimous vote.

On motion of James Hill, the Editor of the Northwestern Christian Advocate, and the Preachers who may be stationed in the City of Chicago, were appointed a Committee to negotiate with the several Railroad Companies whose roads lie in the lines of travel to that city for commutation of fare to those who may attend the next General Conference.

A motion of Samuel H. Nesbit providing for an evening session was laid on the table.

William M'Combs moved that Conference do now adjourn, but the motion did not prevail.

On motion of Granville Moody, so much of the Report of the Committee on Boundaries as relates to the Oregon Conference was reconsidered, and, on motion of Morris D'C. Crawford, it was ordered that the boundaries of the Oregon Conference be the same as that now recited in the Discipline.

Elijah H. Pilcher offered the following resolution, and it was adopted, namely:

Resolved, That if the bishops shall organize the Idaho Conference, then they are hereby authorized to include in it so much of the Oregon Conference as now lies east of the forty-third meridian of west longitude.

On motion, Conference adjourned. After the Doxology was sung, the Benediction was pronounced by Bishop Baker.

FRIDAY MORNING, MAY 27.

Conference met this morning at half past eight o'clock, Bishop Janes in the chair.

The usual religious services were conducted by John W. White, of the Ohio Conference.

The Journal of yesterday afternoon was read and approved.

Members absent when the vote yesterday to lay the matter relating to the Election of Stewards on the table was taken were granted leave to record their votes, and they voted as follows:

Ayes.—Allen of New England, Castle, Durbin, Ferris, Gurley, Peck of California, Poe—7.

Noes.—Adams, Bannister, Cobleigh—3.

May 26.

TWENTY-FIRST DAY.

Afternoon.

Committee to commute with Railroads for Delegates to next General Conference.

Oregon Conference Boundary modified.

Bishops may include part of Oregon in Idaho Conference.

Conference Adjourned.

May 27.

TWENTY-SECOND DAY.

Morning.

Opening of Conference.

Absent Members have leave to record their Votes.

May 27.

TWENTY-SECOND
DAY.

Morning.

And, on the motion to adopt the resolutions relating to a change of the Second Restrictive Rule, the following votes were recorded :

Ayes.—Allen of New England, Durbin, Strout ; and the Secretary was instructed to correct the record of the votes on these questions accordingly.

Joseph M. Trimble offered the following resolution, and it was adopted :

Expenses of
Delegates to be
published.

Resolved, That each Delegation furnish the Secretary, to be printed in the Journal, the amount paid to each delegate as his traveling expenses.

Samuel C. Brown offered the following resolutions, and they were adopted :

Expenses of
next General
Conference to
be ascertained
and apportioned
to the Confer-
ences.

Resolved, 1. That the Book Agents at Cincinnati and New York, in connection with the Agent of the Book Depository at Chicago, and the Editor of the Northwestern Christian Advocate, be a committee to ascertain, as near as may be, the sum necessary to defray the expenses of the next session of the General Conference, and report the same to the Board of Bishops by the time of their annual meeting in the fall of 1866.

Resolved, 2. That the bishops be authorized to apportion the said amount among the several Annual Conferences entitled to representation in the General Conference, according to their best judgment of their ability to meet the same, and notify the said Conferences of the sum apportioned to them at their session in 1867.

Resolved, 3. That it shall be the duty of the said Conferences to make arrangements for raising the amount so apportioned, and any Conference failing to do so shall forfeit its claim upon the Book Concern for the expenses of its delegation.

State of the
Work among
People of
Color.
Report No. I.

Report No. I of the Committee on the State of the Work among the People of Color was taken up, and pending a motion to adopt the report, Samuel Y. Monroe moved to amend by striking out the word "mission" where it occurs in the second resolution ; but the amendment was lost, and the report, comprising the following resolutions, was adopted under a call for the previous question by Israel C. Pershing :

Work among
People of
Color.

1. *Resolved*, By the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Conference assembled, That it is the duty of our Church to encourage colored pastorates for colored people wherever practicable, and to contribute to their efficiency by every means in our power.

2. *Resolved*, That the efficiency of said pastorates can be best promoted by distinct Conference organizations, and that therefore the bishops be and they are hereby authorized to organize among our colored ministers, for the benefit of our colored members and population, Mission Conferences—one or more—where in their godly judgment the exigencies of the work may demand it ; and should more than one be organized, to determine their boundaries until

the meeting of the next General Conference, said Conference or Conferences to possess all the powers of Mission Annual Conferences.

Provided, That nothing in this resolution be so construed as to impair the existing constitutional rights of our colored members on the one hand, or to forbid on the other the transfer of white ministers to said Conference or Conferences where it may be practicable and deemed necessary.

3. *Resolved*, That our General Missionary Committee be requested to take into careful consideration the condition of our colored people, and should Conferences be organized among them, make to them—consistently with other demands upon its funds—such appropriations as may be essential to success.

[For Report as adopted, see *Appendix Y, I.*]

Report No. II of the same committee was taken up and adopted, as follows:

May 27.
TWENTY-SECOND
DAY.
Morning.

The following resolution, referred first to the Committee on Revisals, was, upon the recommendation of said committee, referred by the General Conference to the Committee on the State of the Work among the People of Color, namely:

Report No. II.

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire whether there exists in the laws of our Church any obstacle to the reception into the various Annual Conferences of as many colored preachers as will supply the colored churches established or to be established among us.

We, the committee to whom this subject was finally referred, beg leave to report that we are not aware of any legal obstacle to the reception of colored preachers into our Annual Conferences.

[See *Appendix Y, II.*]

The report of the Committee on the Centenary of Methodism was taken up and read, and the first, second, third, and fourth items were adopted.

Centenary of
American
Methodism.

Pending the consideration of the fifth item, William M'K. Hester moved to strike out the words, "connectional, central, and monumental," when, on motion of Barzillai N. Spahr, the motion to strike out was laid on the table, and the item was adopted.

While the sixth item was under consideration, Samuel Y. Monroe moved a substitute, which was adopted, as follows:

The Board of Bishops shall appoint twelve traveling preachers and twelve laymen, who, in connection with the members of their own board, shall be a committee to determine to what objects and in what proportion the moneys raised as connectional fund shall be appropriated, and have power to take all steps necessary to their proper distribution.

At this stage of the proceedings Bishop Thomson took the chair.

May 27.
TWENTY-SECOND
DAY.
Morning.

Pending the consideration of the seventh item, William L. Harris moved to amend by inserting after the words "under the direction of" the words, "a committee consisting of an equal number of ministers and laymen appointed by," and the amendment prevailed, and the item as amended was adopted.

The eighth and ninth items were struck out.

The tenth, eleventh, and twelfth items, now become the eighth, ninth, and tenth, were adopted, and the report as amended and as a whole, comprising the following resolutions, was adopted :

Centennial Celebration.

Resolved, By the Delegates of the Annual Conferences of the Methodist Episcopal Church in General Conference assembled, as follows:

1. The Centenary of Methodism in America shall be celebrated by all our churches and people with devout thanksgiving by special religious services and liberal thank-offerings.

2. This celebration shall commence on the first Tuesday in October, 1866, and continue through the month, at such times and places as may best suit the convenience of the Societies.

3. The primary object of the celebration shall be the spiritual improvement of our members, and especially by reviewing the great things God hath wrought for us, the cultivating of feelings of gratitude for the blessings received through the agency of Methodism.

4. As the gratitude of the heart ever seeks expression in outward acts, we invite as a spontaneous offering to Almighty God on this occasion pecuniary contributions from each "according as God hath prospered him," to be so appropriated as to render more efficient in the century to come those institutions and agencies to which the Church has been so deeply indebted in the century past.

5. Two departments of Christian enterprise shall be placed before our people, one connectional, central, and monumental, the other local and distributive, and all shall be urged to make liberal appropriations to both according to their own discretion.

6. The Board of Bishops shall appoint twelve traveling preachers and twelve laymen, who, in connection with the members of their own board, shall be a committee to determine to what objects and in what proportions the moneys raised as connectional funds shall be appropriated, and have power to take all steps necessary to their proper distribution.

7. The local funds shall be appropriated to the cause of Education and Church Extension, under the direction of a committee, consisting of an equal number of ministers and laymen, appointed by the several Annual Conferences within the bounds of which they are raised.

8. Each Annual Conference shall provide for the delivery of a memorial sermon before its own body at the session next preceding the centennial celebration, and also appoint a committee of an equal number of ministers and laymen to give advice and direction for the appropriate celebration of the centennial in our principal churches.

9. As the highest authority of the Methodist Episcopal Church, we commend this whole subject to the prayerful consideration of every minister, traveling and local, and every official and private member of the Church, calling for the most energetic efforts everywhere to carry out in their true spirit these systematic and noble plans; and after due consideration we deem it right to ask for

and to expect not less than two millions of dollars for achievements which will be worthy of our great and honored Church, and which shall show to our descendants to the latest generations the gratitude we feel for the wonderful Providence which originated and has so largely blessed and prospered our beloved Church.

10. We cordially invite our brethren in all the branches of the great Methodist family, in this and in other lands, to unite with us in this grand Centennial Celebration, that together we may lift our thanksgivings to the God of our fathers, and renew our consecration to his spiritual service.

[For Report as adopted, see *Appendix V.*]

Bishop Simpson called the attention of the Conference to the necessity of some additional disciplinary provisions relating to the organization of conferences of colored preachers; and, on motion of Daniel Curry, the bishops, in connection with one delegate from each of the following conferences, to be selected by the bishops, namely, Baltimore, East Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New Jersey, be a committee to prepare and report such modification as they may deem necessary in the premises.

Miner Raymond offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed by the bishops to examine the order of business for Annual Conferences, and report such changes as they may think desirable to the next session of the General Conference.

Organization of
Conferences
among People
of Color.

Order of busi-
ness for Annu-
al Conferences.

Joseph Castle offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

Resolved, That a collection be now taken to compensate the sexton of this church for his protracted and laborious services in waiting on the Conference during the present session.

On motion of James Hill, it was agreed that when Conference adjourn it shall be till half past two o'clock this afternoon.

Horatio R. Clark offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to prepare a suitable expression of the thanks of this body for the hospitality of the people of Philadelphia and Camden, the overtures and invitations from the various Churches and institutions in this city, and for favors in railroad travel to and from this General Conference, and to Rev. Messrs. Torrence and Fernley for their services in railroad matters.

Committee on
Thanks.

The Report of the Committee on Lay Delegation was read and adopted.

Lay Delegation.

May 27.
 TWENTY-SECOND
 DAY.
 Morning.
 Lay Represent-
 ation.

The following are the resolutions of the report:

1. *Resolved*, That while we reaffirm our approval of lay representation in the General Conference whenever it shall be ascertained that the Church desires it, we see no such declaration of the popular will as to justify us in taking advanced action in relation to it.
2. *Resolved*, That we are at all times ready to receive petitions and memorials from our people on this subject and to consider them most respectfully.

[For the Report as adopted, see *Appendix M*, II.]

Gardner Baker, Chairman of the Committee to whom was referred the Communication from the National Association of Local Preachers, presented a report comprising the following resolution, and it was read and adopted:

Local Preach-
 ers.

Resolved, That we recommend to the Annual Conferences that they publish in their conference minutes annually the names and post-office addresses of all the local preachers within their bounds, designating whether the preacher be an elder, deacon, or only licensed.

Also, that when practicable they publish in the minutes brief obituary notices of our local brethren who have died during the year.

Pastoral Ad-
 dress.

[For Report as adopted, see *Appendix Z*, II.]

Jesse T. Peck, Chairman of the Committee on Pastoral Address, presented and read a report.

Pending its consideration, Thomas M. Eddy moved to amend by striking out the word "ages" and inserting instead thereof the words "many years;" but the amendment did not prevail.

John W. Armstrong moved to substitute the word "generations" for "ages;" and, on motion of Hugh D. Fisher, the amendment was laid on the table.

On motion of Thomas H. Lynch, the previous question was ordered, and the Address was adopted. [For Address, see *Appendix Q*.]

Samuel C. Brown offered the following resolution, namely:

Resolved, That the Pastoral Address be published in the Daily Advocate and in all our Church papers, and that the pastors be requested to read it to their several congregations.

Morris D'C. Crawford moved to strike out so much as relates to its being read by the pastors, when, on motion of William M'K. Hester, the whole subject was laid on the table.

The amount of the collection taken for the sexton was announced, when, on motion of Lucius H. King, it was agreed that the collection be repeated this afternoon.

On motion, Conference adjourned.

After the Doxology was sung, the Benediction was pronounced by Joseph Cummings.

May 27.
TWENTY-SECOND
DAY.
Morning.
Collection for
sexton.

Conference Ad-
journed.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 27.

Afternoon.

Conference met pursuant to adjournment, Bishop Scott in the chair.

Opening of Con-
ference.

The usual religious services were conducted by Joseph E. King, of the Troy Conference.

The Journal of this morning was read and approved.

The Reply to the Address of the Irish Conference was read, when, on motion of Elijah H. Pilcher, it was recommitted; and Joseph Cummings was authorized to prepare a reply, subject to the approval of the bishops. [For Reply, see *Appendix B, V.*]

Reply to the
Irish Confer-
ence.

The Reply to the Address of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada was taken up, read, and approved; and the nomination of Rev. George Webber, D. D., and Rev. Mighill Dustin as delegates to that body was confirmed. [For Reply, see *Appendix B, VII.*]

Reply to the
Canada M. E.
Church.

George Web-
ber, Mighill
Dustin, dele-
gates.

The Reply to the Conference of the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Canada was taken up, read, and approved; and the nomination of Rev. Charles Elliott, D. D., and Rev. George Peck, D. D., as delegates to that body was confirmed. [For Reply, see *Appendix B, IX.*]

Reply to Wes-
leyan Method-
ist Church in
Canada.
Charles Elliott,
George Peck,
delegates.

The Chair announced the following

Committee on Resolution of Thanks: Horatio R. Clark, Thomas C. Gardner, Lorenzo D. M'Cabe, Samuel C. Brown, Jacob S. M'Murray.

On motion of Elijah H. Pilcher, the Secretary was instructed to read only such parts of reports as demand specific action.

The Report of the Committee on Education, presented and laid on the table May 24th, was taken up, read, and the several items considered *seriatim* and

Education Re-
port.

May 27.

TWENTY-SECOND
DAY.

Afternoon.

adopted, except the item relating to a Centennial Collection, which was struck out. The Report as amended and as a whole, comprising the following resolutions, was then adopted:

Resolved, That there be inserted in the Discipline, in Part IV, an additional section, as follows:

SECTION II.

Education.

EDUCATION.

Quest. How shall the Church provide for the higher education of her youth?

Ans. 1. It is recommended that wherever practicable each Conference have at least one academy or seminary under its direct supervision, and that such institutions confine themselves to their legitimate sphere of duties.

2. It is also recommended that, as a general thing, not less than four Conferences unite in the support of a college or university; and the Conferences are earnestly advised not to multiply schools, especially of this higher grade, beyond the wants of the people or their ability to sustain them.

3. All these schools are, to a certain extent, beneficiary institutions. The academy must be furnished with buildings and apparatus by the benevolence of the Church. The college must, in addition to these, have such endowments as shall yield a regular income sufficient to meet its current expenses; and, that our people may be properly instructed in this matter, it shall be the duty of each preacher in charge to preach on the subject of education once a year, to diffuse information by the distribution of tracts or otherwise, and especially to call the attention of our wealthy members and friends to the duty of making liberal donations and bequests to this object. It is also recommended that each Conference take up annually a collection to aid the work of education.

4. It is advised that educational societies for the aid of poor young men be established in connection with each of our colleges and biblical institutes, or Annual Conferences.

Biblical Institutes.

1. *Resolved*, That the General Conference reaffirms the resolutions passed on the subject of Biblical Institutes and of Biblical Departments, in connection with our colleges, by the General Conference of 1856.

2. That to relate our Biblical Institutes more intimately to the regular itinerant work of the ministry, and to render the supervision of the General Conference over them more obvious, it is the opinion of this General Conference that the appointment, by the proper authorities, of a bishop to each of our Biblical Institutes as president of the faculty thereof, whose duty shall be to guide and advise and act as the immediate representative of the Board of Bishops and of the General Conference, is both proper and desirable.

3. That in order further to secure an appropriate supervision over the Biblical Institutes, the bishops appoint one or more of their number to act as a Visitorial Committee, with the president, provided he be one of the bishops, who shall annually examine the character of its instruction, condition, and arrangements of these institutes, and give such advice and direction in all respects as they in their judgment may deem necessary.

Statistics.

Resolved, 1. That the words "to report to the Annual Conference the statistics of the literary and Biblical institutions located within

the bounds of his district and under the care of our Church, according to the form published in the appendix to the Discipline, be inserted in ans. 6, quest. 4, § 1, chap. iv, Part II, page 98, of the Discipline, after the words "and Sunday-school books."

2. That the secretaries of the Annual Conferences shall send to the Book Agents at New York a copy of the reports furnished by the presiding elders.

3. That the Book Agents at New York be and are hereby instructed to publish in the Appendix to the Discipline the following form for educational statistics, and also the resolution requiring the secretaries of Conferences to furnish copies of the reports to the Book Agents, and the one recommending a day of prayer for colleges.

1. Name of Institution.*
2. Grade.
3. Location.
4. Name and title of president or principal.
5. When founded.
6. Number of instructors.
7. Whole number of students.
 - (a.) Collegiate.
 - (b.) Preparatory.
 - (c.) Academic.
8. Number of graduates.
9. Number of graduates in the ministry.
10. Honorary degrees conferred.
 - (a.) A.M.
 - (b.) D.D.
 - (c.) LL.D.
11. Value of grounds, buildings, and furniture.
12. Endowment.
13. Volumes in libraries.
14. Value of apparatus.
15. Number of specimens in cabinet.
16. Income from tuition.
17. Income from other sources.
18. Indebtedness.
19. Patronizing Conferences.
20. Time of Commencement, or anniversary exercises.

(* If the institution is open for both sexes, affix a star after the name.)

Resolved, That the General Conference do hereby earnestly recommend that the course of study for graduation to the Baccalaureate degree in our colleges be rendered uniform, and in all cases be raised to the grade of the best colleges in our country.

Collegiate
Course of
Study.

Resolved, That we recommend our people to observe the fourth Thursday of February of each year as a day of prayer for our colleges and other institutions of learning, and, where practicable, in a public manner.

Observance of a
Day of Prayer.

[For Report as adopted, see *Appendix K*, III.]

Bishop Kingsley now took the chair.

David Sherman again presented the Report of the Committee on Expenses of Delegates, and it was read and adopted, as follows:

Expenses of
Delegates Re-
port.

The Committee on Expenses of Delegates would offer the following as their final report of expenses incurred by the several delegations, and of collections taken in the several Annual Conferences to defray the same:

May 27.	CONFERENCES.	Collections.	Expenses.	Deficiency.	Surplus.
TWENTY-SECOND DAY. Afternoon.	Baltimore	\$72 52	\$26 00	...	\$46 52
	Black River.....	100 63	240 00	\$139 32	.. ..
	California.....	372 28	2,528 18	2,155 90	.. ..
	Central Illinois	312 38	275 00	.. ..	37 38
	Central Ohio	201 70	201 70	.. ..	.. ..
	Cincinnati	174 96	413 00	238 04	.. ..
	Detroit.....	127 66	323 00	195 34	.. ..
	East Baltimore	265 10	121 75	.. ..	143 35
	East Genesee	49 62	163 65	114 03	.. ..
	East Maine	75 74	122 22	46 48	.. ..
	Erie	420 65	404 00	.. ..	16 65
	Genesee.....	109 94	109 94	.. ..	.. ..
	Illinois.....	371 05	566 90	195 85	.. ..
	Indiana	240 66	285 00	44 34	.. ..
	Iowa	124 05	410 00	285 95	.. ..
	Kansas.....	42 05	200 00	157 95	.. ..
	Kentucky	7 35	85 60	78 25	.. ..
	Maine.....	133 00	157 40	24 40	.. ..
	Michigan	207 50	294 00	86 50	.. ..
	Minnesota	78 02	445 98	367 96	.. ..
	Missouri and Arkansas ..	.. ..	230 00	230 00	.. ..
	Nebraska.....	23 75	348 50	324 75	.. ..
	Newark	218 00	66 50	.. ..	151 50
	New England	153 74	128 00	.. ..	25 74
	New Hampshire.....	37 25	152 00	114 75	.. ..
	New Jersey.....	214 16	64 16	.. ..	150 00
	New York.....	297 20	150 00	.. ..	147 20
	New York East.....	181 30	80 00	.. ..	101 30
	North Indiana.....	146 00	146 00	.. ..	.. ..
	North Ohio.....	280 46	197 60	.. ..	82 86
	Northwestern Indiana...	201 50	295 00	93 50	.. ..
	Northwest Wisconsin ...	35 55	197 96	162 41	.. ..
	Ohio.....	394 93	223 80	.. ..	171 13
	Oneida	131 60	178 19	46 59	.. ..
	Oregon.....	154 05	1,708 85	1,554 80	.. ..
	Philadelphia	511 27	181 44	.. ..	329 83
	Pittsburgh.....	251 70	212 15	.. ..	39 55
	Providence	102 31	97 25	.. ..	5 06
	Rock River.....	238 99	378 92	139 93	.. ..
	Southeastern Indiana....	172 51	245 50	72 99	.. ..
	Southern Illinois.....	230 45	224 45	.. ..	6 00
	Troy.....	218 65	183 13	.. ..	35 52
	Upper Iowa.....	319 75	425 04	105 29	.. ..
	Vermont	105 00	154 00	49 00	.. ..
	Western Iowa.....	127 20	190 60	63 40	.. ..
	Western Virginia.....	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
	West Wisconsin.....	108 87	180 00	71 13	.. ..
	Wisconsin	168 84	300 00	131 16	.. ..
	Wyoming	140 13	60 72	.. ..	79 41
	Total.....	\$8,652 07	\$14,373 08	.. ..	.. ..

Deficiency in collection to meet expenses of delegates..	\$5,721 01
Expenses of Deputation to Washington	77 50
Printing, Stationery, etc.....	430 40
	<u>\$6,228 91</u>

As many charges have failed to take collections to meet this deficiency, we recommend that the preachers in those charges take collections for this object as soon as convenient, and send the proceeds to the Book Agents at New York and Cincinnati.

The election of Editor of the Northern Christian Advocate was taken up; and, on motion of Freeborn G. Hibbard, Dallas D. Lore was chosen by acclamation.

The second part of Report No. II of the Committee on Sunday-Schools and Tract Cause, laid on the table May 17, was taken up; and, in pursuance of the recommendation of the committee, the following changes were made in the Discipline, namely:

That Part II, § 4, page 55, in relation to the business of the Quarterly Conference, be changed by adding another item, as follows: "5. To appoint a Tract Committee, as provided for in Part IV, § 3, item 1, page 214."

Also by adding to the third section, Part IV, page 214, another item, as follows:

"3. It shall be the duty of each presiding elder to bring the Tract Cause before the first Quarterly Meeting Conference of each year, in each circuit and station within his district; and said Conference shall appoint a committee, whose duty it shall be to devise and execute plans for local tract distribution.

[For Report as adopted, see *Appendix L, IV.*]

Report No. III of the Committee on Sunday-Schools and Tract Cause was taken up, and the following changes of the Discipline, recommended by the committee, were adopted, namely:

The Committee recommend the following changes in the Discipline, namely:

1. To so amend Part II, chap. i, item 7, and page 55, as to add after the word "Church" the words "the first male superintendents of our Sunday-schools shall be members of our Church, and approved by the Quarterly Conference of the charge, and said Quarterly Conference shall have the right to inquire into the condition of each school or society in the bounds of the circuit or station, and to remove any superintendent who may prove to be unworthy or inefficient," so that the whole paragraph shall read as follows, namely:

7. (a) Each Quarterly Conference shall have supervision of all the Sunday-schools and Sunday-school societies within its bounds, which schools and societies shall be auxiliary to the Sunday-School Union of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The first male superintendents of our Sunday-schools shall be members of our Church, and approved by the Quarterly Conference of the charge, and said Quarterly Conference shall have the right to inquire into the condition of each school or society in the bounds of the circuit or station, and to remove any superintendent who may prove to be unworthy or inefficient.

(b) It shall be the duty of each Quarterly Conference, at the first Quarterly Meeting of each year, to appoint a committee of not less than three nor more than nine, who shall be members of our Church; to be called the Committee on Sunday-Schools, of which the preacher in charge shall be the chairman. (See page 205.)

2. To so amend Part II, chap. i, quest. 3, page 57, as to add these references, page 87, item 19, page 206, item 4.

May 27.

TWENTY-SECOND DAY.

Afternoon.

Dallas D. Lore elected Editor of the Northern Christian Advocate. Sunday-Schools and Tract Cause. Report No. II.

Tract Committee.

Tract Distribution.

Sunday-Schools and Tract Cause. Report No. III.

Superintendent of Sunday-Schools.

Sunday-School Committee.

May 27.
 TWENTY-SECOND
 DAY.
 Afternoon.

And also amend Part II, chap. i, quest. 4, page 57, so as to make the question read: "Quest. 4. Who shall constitute the Sunday-School Committee?" (See page 205.)

Sunday-School
 Statistics.

3. To amend Part II, chap. ii, § 12, item 19, page 87, by striking out the words "as far as practicable" in said section in third line of said item, and also by striking out the word "and" in the fourth line of said item 19, and by inserting after the word "state" the words "average attendance," so that the whole paragraph shall read thus: "19. To lay before the Quarterly Conference at each quarterly meeting, to be entered on its Journal, a written statement of the number, state, and average attendance of the Sunday-schools in the circuit or station, and report the same to the Annual Conference, according to the form published by the Sunday-School Union of the Methodist Episcopal Church, together with the amount raised for the support of missions and for the publication of Bibles and tracts." (See page 206, item 4.)

4. To so amend Part IV, § 1, page 205, as to make the section read:

SECTION I.

SUNDAY-SCHOOLS AND THE INSTRUCTION OF CHILDREN.

Sunday-Schools
 and the In-
 struction of
 Children.

Quest. 1. What shall we do for the moral and religious instruction of our children?

Ans. 1. It shall be the duty of each presiding elder to bring the subject of Sunday-schools before the first Quarterly Conference of each year; and said Quarterly Conference shall proceed to appoint a committee of not less than three nor more than nine, to be called the Committee on Sunday-Schools, of which the preacher in charge shall be the chairman, whose duty it shall be to aid the preacher in charge and the officers of the Sunday-schools in procuring suitable teachers, in promoting in all proper ways the attendance of children on our Sunday-schools and on our regular public worship, and in raising money to meet the expenses of the Sunday-schools of the charge.

Sunday-School
 Books.

It shall be the duty of the preacher in charge, aided by the superintendent and the Committee on Sunday-Schools, to decide as to what books shall be used in our Sunday-schools. (See page 55.)

Sunday-School
 Bible-Classes.

2. It shall be the special duty of the preachers having charge of circuits or stations, with the aid of the other preachers and the Committee on Sunday-Schools, to form Sunday-schools in all our congregations where ten children can be collected for that purpose, and to engage the co-operation of as many of our members as they can, and to visit the schools as often as practicable; to preach on the subject of Sunday-schools and religious instruction in each congregation at least once in six months, and to form Bible-classes wherever they can for the instruction of youth and adults, and where they cannot superintend them personally, to see that suitable teachers are provided for that purpose.

Catechisms to
 be used.

3. It shall be the duty of our preachers to enforce faithfully upon parents and Sunday-school teachers the great importance of instructing children in the doctrine and duties of our holy religion, to see that our catechisms be used as extensively as possible in our Sunday-schools and families, to preach to the children, and publicly catechize them in the Sunday-schools and at public meetings appointed for that purpose.

Preachers and
 Children.

4. It shall be the duty of every preacher in his pastoral visits to pay special attention to the children, to speak to them personally and kindly on the subject of experimental and practical godliness, according to their capacity, pray earnestly for them, and diligently

instruct and exhort all parents to dedicate their children to the Lord in baptism as early as convenient. (See pages 23, 33, and 86.)

5. Each preacher in charge shall lay before the Quarterly Conference, to be entered on its Journal, the number, state, and average attendance of the Sunday-schools and Bible-classes in his charge, (page 87,) and the extent to which he has preached to the children and catechized them, and make the required report on Sunday-schools to his Annual Conference.

4. That the Discipline be amended, Part II, chap. iii, § 1, item 3, page 93, by striking out the part of said item appertaining to the appointment of a Sunday-School Agent, commencing with "he shall have authority" in the ninth line, and closing with the words "Sab-bath-schools" in the fourteenth line from the top.

5. That a section be added to Part IV, comprising a suitable and concise Constitution for the use of our Sunday-school societies.

Resolved, That it is the duty of each preacher in charge, aided by the other preachers and the Sunday-School Committee, to see that our Sunday-schools be continued through the winter, as well as other seasons of the year.

[For Report as adopted, see *Appendix L, V.*]

Report No. IV of the Committee on Sunday-Schools and Tract Cause, providing for a Corresponding Secretary for these Societies, was taken up, read, and, on motion of Daniel Wise, it was laid on the table.

On motion of Morris D'C. Crawford, the committee appointed to edit the Discipline was authorized to insert the words "The Committee on the Tract Cause" among the answers to question 4 and the words "on the circulation of tracts" among the answers to question 6, in the item relating to the Order of Quarterly Conference Business in Report No. VI of the Committee on Revisals.

On motion of William L. Harris, the rule requiring proposed changes of the Discipline to lie over one day before adoption was suspended for the purpose of acting on a Report from the bishops and others, in relation to the State of the Work among the People of Color, when the following paper was introduced and adopted:

The Washington Conference shall embrace Western Maryland, the District of Columbia, Virginia, and the territory south.

The Delaware Conference shall embrace the territory north and west of the Washington Conference.

Resolved, That in order to constitute the first conferences of colored members, the rule of Discipline requiring a probation of two years be so far suspended as to allow the bishops to organize into one or more Annual Conferences such colored local elders as have traveled two or more years under a presiding elder, and shall be recommended by a Quarterly Conference, and by at least ten elders who are members of an Annual Conference.

May 27.

TWENTY-SECOND DAY.

Afternoon.

Attendance on Sunday-Schools.

Sunday-School Agent.

Sunday-School Constitution.

Sunday-School in the winter.

Sunday-Schools and Tract Cause.

Report No. IV.

Revisals.

Report No. VI.

Conferences of Colored Members.

May 27.
 TWENTY-SECOND
 DAY.
 Afternoon.

State of the
 Country.
 Report No. III.

The Secretary was instructed to insert the foregoing Conferences in their proper alphabetical order in the Report of the Committee on Boundaries.

Report No. III of the Committee on the State of the Country was taken up and adopted.

The following are the resolutions of the Report :

Resolved, That in this hour of the nation's trial we will remember the President of the United States, all other officers of the government, and our army and navy, in never-ceasing prayer.

Resolved, That it is the duty of the government to prosecute the war with all its resources of men and money till this wicked rebellion shall be subdued, the integrity of the nation shall be secured, and its legitimate authority shall be re-established, and that we pledge our hearty support and co-operation to secure this result.

Resolved, That we regard our calamities as resulting from our forgetfulness of God, and from Slavery, so long our nation's reproach, and that it becomes us to humble ourselves and forsake our sins as a people, and hereafter, in all our laws and acts, to honor God.

Resolved, That we will use our efforts to secure such a change in the Constitution of our country as shall recognize the being of God, our dependence on him for prosperity, and also his word as the foundation of civil law.

Resolved, That we regard slavery as abhorrent to the principles of our holy religion, humanity, and civilization, and that we are decidedly in favor of such an amendment to the Constitution, and such legislation on the part of the states, as shall prohibit slavery or involuntary servitude, except for crime, throughout all the states and territories of the country.

Resolved, That while we deplore the evils of war that has filled our land with mourning, we rejoice in the sublime manifestations of benevolence it has developed, as seen in the Sanitary and Christian Commissions, and in the associations formed to aid the vast multitudes who have recently become freemen, and that we pledge to these institutions our hearty co-operation and support.

Church Ten-
 ures.
 Reports Nos. I
 and II.

[For the Report as adopted, see *Appendix I, IV.*]

The Reports Nos. I and II of the Committee on Church Tenures was taken up, read, and recommended.

The collections taken for the sexton was reported as being \$132 24, when, on motion of James Porter, the Book Agents were instructed to make up the amount to \$150.

James Hill moved that when Conference adjourn it shall be till eight o'clock this evening, but the motion was laid on the table.

William Nast
 added to the
 Deputation to
 Canada.

On motion of Joseph Cummings, William Nast was added to the Deputation to the Conference of the Wesleyan Church in Canada.

The Report of the Committee on the Sanitary and Christian Commissions was taken up and adopted.

The following are the resolutions of the Report :

Resolved, 1. That this nation owes a debt of endless gratitude to the Sanitary and Christian Commissions for their labors in behalf of the sick and wounded men of our noble army and navy.

2. That the Christian Commission is especially entitled to the cordial support and co-operation of the Church of God, inasmuch as the work which it aims to do is eminently Christian, as well as humane and patriotic, seeking to care both for the mortal and the immortal, and prepare man for all the perils that hover over the camp and the field of blood.

3. That, as according to the estimate of our honored senior bishop, the Methodist Episcopal Church has probably given one hundred thousand of her membership to the army and navy, we feel it to be our duty to follow them, not only with our prayers and words of cheer, but with active ministerial labors; and we deem it right and desirable when there is a call for men to care for the sick and the wounded, that our Churches take such action as will tend to furnish our due proportion of Christian men, and especially Christian ministers, for the holy work.

[For the Report as adopted, see *Appendix P.*]

The following persons were nominated and elected a Publishing Committee of the Pittsburgh Christian Advocate, namely:

Pittsburgh Conference: Simon P. Woolf, William Lynch, and Hiram W. Sinsabaugh.

Erie Conference: William F. Wilson and Niram Norton.

West Virginia Conference: James Drummond and Alexander Martin.

The Report on Temperance, comprising the following resolutions, was taken up and adopted:

1. *Resolved*, That this General Conference recommend each pastor to preach specifically upon the subject, to point out the danger of social and the more public and common forms of intemperance, and to urge total abstinence from all that can intoxicate.

2. *Resolved*, That the editors of our Church papers be requested to publish in their columns such articles upon this subject as shall at once instruct and interest, pointing out the evil and the cure.

3. *Resolved*, That our publishers be requested not to neutralize the teachings of such articles by the insertion of advertisements of alcoholic drinks, notwithstanding they may be called by some other name.

4. *Resolved*, That we earnestly recommend that in all cases the pure juice of the grape be used in the celebration of the Lord's Supper.

[For Report, see *Appendix S.*]

The Report of the Committee on Freedmen, comprising the following resolutions, was taken up and adopted:

May 27.

TWENTY-SECOND DAY.

Afternoon.

Sanitary and Christian Commissions Report.

Publishing Committee of the Pittsburgh Christian Advocate.

Temperance Report.

Freedmen Report.

May 27.

TWENTY-SECOND
DAY.

Afternoon.

Resolved, 1. That in the events which have thrown the thousands of freed people upon the benevolence of the humane people of the North, we recognize a providential call to the Christian public for contributions for their physical relief and mental and moral elevation, and especially to the Church of Christ for the means of their evangelization.

Resolved, 2. That the above-named associations, organized in behalf of the freed people, are engaged in a work of benevolence that we regard with special interest, and commend to the liberality of our people everywhere as worthy of their sympathy and support.

Resolved, 3. That the best interests of the freedmen and of the country demand legislation that shall foster and protect this people, and we hereby respectfully but earnestly urge upon Congress the importance of establishing, as soon as practicable, a Bureau of Freedmen's affairs, as contemplated in the bills now pending.

[For the Report as adopted, see *Appendix T*.]

Temporal Econ-
omy.

The Report of the Committee on Temporal Economy No. IV was taken up and adopted, as follows:

Chartered Fund.

Resolved, 1. By the members of this General Conference, that we have full confidence in the wisdom and integrity of the Trustees of the Chartered Fund, and we hereby tender to them our grateful acknowledgments for the faithful manner in which they have managed the trust confided to them.

Resolved, 2. That the Secretary of this Conference be instructed to forward a copy of the foregoing resolution to Thomas Wilmer, Esq., President of the Board.

Church Extension
Society.

Edwin E. Griswold, Chairman of the Committee on Church Extension Society, submitted a report embodying a constitution for the organization of such a society, and also a proposed change of Discipline.

Luke Hitchcock moved to amend the report by striking out so much as relates to a corresponding secretary; but, on motion of Hugh D. Fisher, the amendment was laid on the table.

A motion of William M^K. Hester, to postpone the whole subject till the next General Conference, was, on motion of George D. Chenoweth, laid on the table.

Pending the discussion, on motion of Lucius H. King the previous question was ordered, and the constitution, with the following resolution, was adopted:

Resolved, That answers 21 and 22 of quest. 1, Part II, chap. ii, § 12, page 87, be stricken out, and the following be inserted in ans. 21: "To take a collection annually in each of his appointments in behalf of the Church Extension Society."

[For Report as adopted, see *Appendix AA*.]

Church Ten-
ures.
Reports Nos. I
and II.

William H. Goode, Chairman of the Committee on Church Tenures, again submitted Reports Nos. I and II, and they were adopted, as follows:

The Committee upon Church Tenures recommend that the Discipline be amended as follows:

Strike out all of section 5, chapter i, Part V, entitled "Form of a Deed of Settlement," also, the form of deed contained in the Appendix, and insert the following:

May 27.

TWENTY-SECOND DAY.

Afternoon.
Church Tenures.

Report No. I.

SECTION V.

FORM FOR CONVEYANCE OF CHURCH PROPERTY.

Question. What shall be done for the security of our Church property?

Answer 1. In all conveyances of ground for the erection of houses of worship, or upon which they may have been already erected, let the following clause be inserted at the proper place:

"In trust that said premises shall be used, kept, maintained, and disposed of as a place of divine worship for the use of the ministry and membership of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States of America; subject to the Discipline, usage, and ministerial appointments of said Church as from time to time authorized and declared by the General Conference of said Church, and the Annual Conference in whose bounds the said premises are situate."

Form of Deed
for Churches.

2. In all conveyances of ground for the erection of dwelling-houses for the use of the preachers, or upon which they may have already been erected, let the following clause be inserted at the proper place:

"In trust that said premises shall be held, kept, and maintained as a place of residence for the use and occupancy of the preachers of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States of America who may from time to time be stationed in said place, subject to the usage and Discipline of said Church as from time to time authorized and declared by the General Conference of said Church, and by the Annual Conference within whose bounds said premises are situate."

Form of Deed
for Parsonages.

3. In all other parts of such conveyances, as well as in their attestation, acknowledgment, and placing them upon the record, let a careful conformity be had to the laws, usages, and forms of the several States and Territories in which the property may be situated, so as to secure the ownership of the premises *in fee simple*.

4. Whenever it shall become necessary for the payment of debts, or with a view to reinvestment, to make a sale of Church property that may have been conveyed to trustees for either of the foregoing purposes, said trustees or their successors may, upon application to the Quarterly Conference, obtain an order—a majority of all the members of such Quarterly Conference concurring and the Annual Conference consenting—for the sale, with such limitations and restrictions as said Quarterly Conference may judge necessary; and said trustees, so authorized, may proceed to sell and convey said property;

Provided, That in all such cases the proceeds of the sale, after the payment of debts, if any, shall be applied to the purchase or improvement of other property for the same uses, and deeded to the Church in the same manner as prescribed above.

The Committee upon Church Tenures further recommend that the Discipline be amended, as follows:

Church Tenures.

Report No. II.

Strike out all that relates to the appointment of Trustees, namely: The last three lines of answer 1, in section 2, chapter i, Part V; all of answers 1, 2, and 4 in section 4, chapter i, Part V, with so much of answer 3, same section, as is found upon pages 236 and 237, and insert the following, with the caption, so as to read:

May 27.
 TWENTY-SECOND
 DAY.
 Afternoon.

SECTION IV.

TRUSTEES—THEIR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

Question. How shall trustees be constituted for our Church property, and what shall be their duties?

Trustees of
 Church Prop-
 erty.

Answer 1. Each board of trustees shall consist of not less than three, nor more than nine persons, each of whom shall be not less than twenty-one years of age, and a majority of whom shall be members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

2. In all cases where the law of the State or Territory requires a specified mode of election, that mode shall be observed.

3. Where no such specific requirement is made, they shall be elected annually, by the fourth Quarterly Conference of the Circuit or station, upon the nomination of the preacher in charge or the presiding elder of the District. In case of failure to elect at the proper time, a subsequent Quarterly Conference may elect; and all trustees shall hold their office until their successors are elected.

4. In States and Territories where an option is given as to the mode of election, the one or the other may be pursued; and all these provisions shall apply both to the creation of new boards and to the filling of vacancies, whether for houses of worship or dwellings for the preachers.

All the remainder of said section 4, namely, the proviso upon pages 238 and 239, with answers 5 and 6 of said section, to be retained as they now stand in the Discipline.

Appeals.

The Committee to Try Appeals presented the following report, to be entered upon the Journal:

James Hill, Secretary of the Committee of Appeals, reported, to be entered on the Journal, as follows:

J. T. Donahoo.

J. T. Donahoo, a superannuated member of the Ohio Conference, living in the bounds of North Indiana Conference, was expelled from the ministry and membership of the Methodist Episcopal Church, by the action of said Conference, on a charge of immorality. From this action he appealed.

The committee after a careful consideration of the case affirmed the decision of the Conference.

Rumsey
 Smithson.

Rumsey Smithson, an appellant from the Central Illinois Conference, was expelled from the ministry and membership of the Methodist Episcopal Church, by the action of said Conference, on a charge of immorality.

The committee resolved, as he had not appeared in person or by a representative, that his appeal be not admitted.

Isaac Chiving-
 ton.

Isaac Chivington, an appellant of the Nebraska Conference, was deposed from the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church, by the action of said Conference, on a charge of immorality.

The committee did not admit the appeal, as the appellant had withdrawn from the Church, and had taken a license and continued to preach in another Church.

Wm. Wilmot.

William Wilmot, of the California Conference, had made a demand of said Conference for missionary money he claimed as due him. The demand not being granted, he appealed.

The appeal was not admitted, as the appellant did not appeal for between two and three years after the trial, and after he had had notice of the Conference action.

G. M. Berry, an appellant from the Oregon Conference, had been admonished by the Chair, by order of the Conference, for imprudent words. The appeal was not admitted for the reason he located immediately after he gave notice of his appeal, and had since, on his own application, been admitted into another Conference.

May 27.
TWENTY-SECOND
DAY.
Afternoon.
G. M. Berry.

Welcome Smith, an appellant from the Wyoming Conference, was by the action of said Conference expelled on a charge of immorality.

Welcome
Smith.

The appeal was not admitted, as he had joined another Church, and is now, and has been for most of the time since, a preacher in said Church.

The report of the Committee on Conference of Appeals, presented and laid on the table May 18, was taken up; and, on motion of John M. Reid, it was referred to the Committee to consider the Order of Business in Annual Conferences.

Conference of
Appeals.
Report referred.

John H. Twombly offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

Resolved, That the Board of Bishops be requested to consider and to report to the General Conference of 1868 what changes should, in their judgment, be made in the boundaries of the Annual Conferences to promote the highest welfare of the Church.

Bishops to con-
sider and re-
port on Confer-
ence Bound-
aries.

Alpha J. Kynett offered the following resolutions, and they were adopted:

1. *Resolved*, That a committee, consisting of Bishop Simpson, Joseph Castle, and David W. Bartine, be and are hereby appointed to appoint officers for the Church Extension Society, and also the Board of Managers for the same.

Committee to
complete or-
ganization of
Church Ex-
tension So-
ciety.

2. *Resolved*, That the bishops be and are hereby requested to appoint a Corresponding Secretary as soon as the Board of Managers shall become incorporated.

On motion of Granville Moody, William Nast was authorized to nominate two additional members of the Deputation to the Evangelical Association; whereupon Isaac N. Baird and Moses Hill were nominated and appointed.

Isaac N. Baird,
and Moses
Hill added to
Deputation.

John B. Foote offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

Resolved, That the Book Agents at New York be directed to pay the salary of Isaac S. Bingham, recent editor of the Northern Christian Advocate until the session of his conference, unless it shall be otherwise provided for.

I. S. Bingham's
salary to be
paid.

Hugh D. Fisher offered the following preamble and resolution, and they were adopted:

Whereas, Dr. Charles Elliott has served the Church as an editor for more than twenty-two years; and

Dr. Elliott com-
plimented.

May 27.
TWENTY-SECOND
DAY.
Afternoon.

Whereas, Owing to his advanced age, he is about to retire from the editorial chair; therefore

Resolved, That the thanks of this body be tendered to Dr. Elliott for the ability and faithfulness with which he has served the Church in the editorial department for so many years.

Case of L. D.
 Harlan.

Bishop Morris presented a memorial from L. D. Harlan.

Hugh D. Fisher moved that it be returned, with the indorsement that the General Conference has no jurisdiction in the case; when, on motion of William M'K. Hester, the whole subject was indefinitely postponed.

Joseph Denison offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

One of the Assistant Secretaries to visit the Pacific Coast.

Resolved, By the members of the General Conference in Conference assembled, that the Board of Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church at New York be directed to take into serious consideration the necessity and propriety of so arranging the work of the assistant missionary secretaries that one of them shall spend a portion of his time during the next four years on the Pacific Coast.

Journal to be copied by a clerk.

On motion of Kasimir P. Jervis, the secretary was authorized to employ a competent clerk to complete the transcription of the Journal and Reports of the present session of the General Conference, and draw on the Book Agents for the amount necessary to meet the expenses.

Delegates excused from furnishing a list of expenses.

William H. Olin moved to reconsider the action requiring each delegate to furnish a statement of his expenses for publication in the Journal. The motion prevailed, when, on motion of Jesse T. Peck, the whole subject was laid on the table.

A motion of Sylvester L. Congdon, requiring the pastors to report in their statistics the number of male members in their respective charges over twenty-one years of age, was laid on the table.

The Committee to Draft Resolutions of Thanks reported the following, and they were severally adopted by rising votes:

Resolution of thanks to Railroads.

Resolved, That the thanks of this General Conference are due and are hereby tendered to the following Railroad Companies for favors kindly extended to Delegates in the commutation of fares, namely: Pennsylvania Central; Camden and Amboy; New Jersey; Philadelphia, Wilmington, and Baltimore; Northern Central; Philadelphia and Erie; Catawissa; Philadelphia, Reading, and Pottsville; Indianapolis, Pittsburgh, and Cleveland; Pennsylvania and Indianapolis; Indiana Central; and Pittsburgh, Columbus, and Cincinnati; and also, and especially, to Revs. J. H. Torrence and T. A. Fernley, through whose brotherly agency these favors have been received.

Resolved, That the very cordial thanks of this General Conference are due and are hereby tendered to the Committee of Arrangements of this city for the accommodations they have afforded the Conference during its present session.

Resolved, That we unanimously tender our hearty thanks to those citizens of Philadelphia and Camden whose generous hospitality and kind courtesies have been so freely extended to us during our sojourn among them.

Resolved, That our thanks are eminently due and are hereby cordially tendered to the Editors and Assistant Editor of the Daily Advocate, and the Secretaries and Reporters of the Conference, for the ability and faithfulness with which they have discharged their respective duties during our present session.

Resolved, By the Delegates of the Fourteenth Delegated General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in General Conference assembled, That we highly appreciate the patience, ability, and impartial respect to the rights and feelings of all the members with which our beloved and honored bishops have presided over our deliberations during the present session, and extending to them our expressions of personal regard and Christian affection, we hereby commend them, as they enter upon another quadrennial term of arduous Episcopal service, to the prayers and sympathies of the whole Church, and to the protection and blessings of Almighty God.

Resolved, That we hereby cordially reciprocate the liberality and Christian kindness extended to us by the various Churches of this city who have opened to us their pulpits during the session of this Conference.

Resolved, That the thanks of the General Conference are due and are hereby tendered to Messrs. Perkinpine & Higgins for the valuable services rendered in taking charge of the mail matter belonging to members of this body, and for many kindnesses and courtesies extended to us during our session.

A resolution of thanks was also passed to the Trustees of Union Methodist Episcopal Church, and the other churches used for the purposes of the Conference.

The Journal of the present session was read and approved preparatory to a final adjournment.

Thomas M. Eddy then moved that the General Conference do now adjourn *sine die*, with appropriate religious exercises under the direction of the Chair, and the motion prevailed.

Bishop Janes said that he was requested by his colleagues to reciprocate the expression of fraternal regard, and also to express their united desires and prayers for the personal happiness of the members of the General Conference, and for their success in their future ministry, and that they might be returned to their homes and to their work in safety and in comfort. He desired to express their satisfaction that so many of the delegates had remained until the time of final adjournment, and that they had so nearly if not entirely finished all the business brought before them during the session. He knew of no record previously

May 27.

TWENTY-SECOND DAY.

Afternoon.

To the Committee of Arrangements.

To the Citizens of Philadelphia and Camden.

To the Editors of the Daily Advocate, Secretaries, and Reporters.

To the Bishops.

To the Churches of Philadelphia.

To Messrs. Perkinpine & Higgins.

To Trustees.

May 27.
 TWENTY-SECOND
 DAY.
 Afternoon.

where there has been such an entire completion of the work of the General Conference as they had made here to-day.

He was also requested by the Bishops who belonged to the Board at the time of the commencement of the session to express their great satisfaction with the colleagues which had been selected for them, to whom they had taken an early opportunity of expressing their high regard and satisfaction in their election.

With these expressions of acknowledgment for their courtesy, and expressions of interest in their welfare, he would invite them to unite in singing the Doxology and in prayer.

The Doxology was then sung, and Rev. Aaron Wood led the devotions of the Conference in prayer. The venerable senior bishop, Thomas A. Morris, then pronounced the Benediction, and the delegates, after mutual expressions of farewell, separated to take their way to their several fields of labor, scattered all over the loyal States of the American Union.

THOMAS A. MORRIS,
 EDMUND S. JANES,
 LEVI SCOTT,
 MATTHEW SIMPSON,
 OSMON C. BAKER,
 EDWARD R. AMES,
 DAVIS W. CLARK,
 EDWARD THOMSON,
 CALVIN KINGSLEY,

Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

WILLIAM L. HARRIS, *Secretary.*

GEORGE W. WOODRUFF,
 HENRY BROWNSCOMBE,
 KASIMIR P. JERVIS,
 JAMES HILL,
 RICHARD W. KEELEER,

Assistant Secretaries.

A P P E N D I X.

A, I.—Journal, page 73.

ADDRESS OF THE BISHOPS.

TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

REVEREND AND DEAR BRETHREN,—Grace, mercy, and peace be multiplied unto you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

In your character as ministers of Christ, and, still more, as the chosen representatives of large bodies of ministers of Christ, we have the sure guarantee that you recognize the hand of God in all human affairs, and we therefore do but obey an impulse common to ourselves and you, when we say, that we should gratefully and adoringly acknowledge the good providence of God, which, during a quadrennium of unexampled turmoil and excitement, has been exercised so wonderfully over the nation, and over the churches in the loyal states, especially our own Church, and over us, and which has now brought us together in General Conference at the time and place designated, and under circumstances so auspicious.

Charged with the solemn and momentous duty of conserving the polity of the Methodist Episcopal Church, as to its fundamental principles, and invested with full powers, under specified restrictions, to revise her discipline, and to make rules and regulations to increase her efficiency, "in spreading Scripture holiness over these lands," you have need of large measures of that "wisdom that is from above." How assuring and consoling, especially when under the pressure of high and responsible official trusts, to know that God giveth this wisdom liberally, and upbraideth not, to all men who, conscious of their need, ask him in faith nothing wavering.

Since the close of the last General Conference ten of our fellow-laborers, who shared the fellowship of that body, have finished their earthly career and gone to their reward. They are: Anthony Bewley, John T. Mitchell, Benjamin F. Sprague, James Q. Hammond, John K. Gillett, Benjamin Griffin, James Floy, John Dempster, Gordon Battelle, and Zachariah Connell. The future is known only to Him who sees the end from the beginning. He only knows who and how many of your present number will in the coming four years close up the affairs of probationary life and pass away to the retributions of eternity. How seasonable at all times, but especially when yoke-fellows are stricken down at our side, is the admonition of our Lord: "Be ye also ready, for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh?"

It is our painful duty to announce in this connection the death of

Rev. Francis Burns, Missionary Bishop in Africa, and the first and only officer of that class ever appointed by the Methodist Episcopal Church. He died peacefully, in Baltimore, on the eighteenth day of April, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three. In his death our missions in Africa have, to all human appearance, suffered an irreparable loss. But God seeth not as man seeth. He lays aside the workmen, but carries on his work. "So neither is he that planteth anything, neither he that watereth," nor, we may add, he that overseeth, "but God that giveth the increase." "He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord."

The times in which you are assembled are unprecedented. A "mystery of iniquity," which was working at the date of your last session, and which had been working for many years, broke forth in April, 1861, in a gigantic, thoroughly organized, and most defiant rebellion against the authority of the General Government, and the integrity and life of the Federal Union. The collisions resulting inevitably from this unnatural and wicked rebellion have laid waste large portions of our once fair and beautiful heritage, have sent tens of thousands to a patriot's or a traitor's grave, and have filled the land with lamentation and mourning. The rebellion still rages, but, we are happy to say, with lessening hopes and diminishing resources.

In this great crisis of our national affairs, it gives us pleasure to announce that the Methodist Episcopal Church has proved herself to be eminently loyal. Taking her stand on the sure teachings of the New Testament, and on our Twenty-third Article of Religion, with its appended note, as the true platform of Christian loyalty, and utterly ignoring all partisan political platforms, she has given to the Federal Government her most decided support. Nor has this support been confined to resolutions of approval and sympathy, adopted by all the Annual Conferences, nor to large contributions in money, or its equivalent, for various purposes connected with the war; but her members in large numbers, and many of her ministers, have flocked to the national standard, and have fought side by side with brother patriots on every battle-field of this dreadful war.

It was naturally to be apprehended that, in a crisis of public affairs so dreadful, and during the pendency of a civil war the most gigantic and the most fearful known to history, the Churches in the loyal states, and especially the Methodist Episcopal Church, among the most loyal of those Churches, would be greatly embarrassed in their action and limited in the results of their labor. But we are happy to say that, however it may have been with other Churches, this natural foreboding has not been, to any considerable extent, realized in relation to the Methodist Episcopal Church. On the contrary, she has gone forward in her legitimate work with little interruption and with surprising prosperity. The Annual Conferences have held all their sessions at the times and, with two exceptions—the Missouri and the Kentucky—at the places designated; the organization of the districts and the pastoral charges, with a few exceptions on the extreme war-border, has remained intact, while in nearly all our leading interests there has been a most cheering and even wonderful progress.

The proof of the latter part of this statement is found in the statistics as published in the General Minutes, and in Reports of Boards of Management, and of the Book Agents. The statistics of 1863 present the following results: Members and probationers, 923,394; traveling preachers, 6,788; local preachers, 8,156; churches, 9,430; probable value, \$20,830,554; parsonages, 2,853; probable value, \$2,790,150; amount collected for conference claimants, \$66,410; for Missionary Society, \$399,073; for Tract Society, \$12,534; for American Bible Society, \$55,685; for Sunday-School Union, \$11,633; Sunday-Schools, 13,008; officers and teachers, 146,967; scholars, 732,592; volumes in library, 2,300,783.

These statistics, as compared with those of 1859, show, on the one hand, that there has been a falling off in the number of members and probationers of 50,951; in the number of traveling preachers of 89; and in the amount collected for the Tract Society of \$3,070. On the other hand, that there has been an increase of 252 local preachers; of 124 churches, and of \$2,007,914 in their probable value; of 313 parsonages, and of \$362,982 in their probable value; of \$6,859 in the amount collected for conference claimants; of \$150,740 in the amount collected for the Missionary Society; of \$15,655 in the amount collected for the American Bible Society; and of \$461 in the amount collected for the Sunday-School Union. Also of 1,253 Sunday-schools; of 7,668 officers and teachers; of 101,584 scholars; and of 114,103 volumes in library. In a word, of the sixteen items embraced in our statistical reports, there has been decrease in three, increase in thirteen.

The falling off in the amount collected for the Tract Society stands as a solitary and strange exception in the list of our benevolent contributions. It may be accounted for in part, perhaps, by the fact that in furnishing religious reading matter for our soldiers our people have contributed a large amount of funds which have not gone through the treasury of that society. Yet we cannot but fear that the claims of this great interest are not sufficiently appreciated by our people, or that the preachers have failed to lay these claims suitably before them.

The other two items of decrease, named above, may be accounted for, partly by the secession of ministers and members in the Virginia portion of the Baltimore Conference, growing out of dissatisfaction with the earnest antislavery principles of our Church, and partly from the dispersion of a number of our societies in the Border Slave States. If, moreover, we consider the large numbers of our people and of our ministers who, in various capacities, have gone into the war, the many who have fallen in battle, and have died in camps and in hospitals, and the agitations that have existed in our home communities, it is only wonderful that the decrease has not been much greater. But what shall we say, of the many items of increase disclosed in the statistics, and of the large measures of increase presented in many of those items? Whatever other explanation may be given, we feel compelled to say, "It is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes."

The missionary interest of the Church was never in so prosperous a

condition as at present. The item of progress named in the statistics is only one of many. No mission-field has been abandoned, no missionary has been called home on account of the war. On the contrary, our foreign missions have been strengthened by an increase of both ministerial and lay laborers, and our home work much extended, especially in the new territories. The first shock of the rebellion, indeed, awakened apprehension and suggested caution. And, while the General Missionary Committee and Board made all the usual appropriations for the support of the foreign and home work, an appeal was made to the conferences to relinquish, as far as they could with safety to the work, the amounts appropriated for the support of the domestic missions within their bounds. This appeal was nobly responded to by the conferences, some relinquishing the whole, others a part of these appropriations. The crisis was thus passed in safety; and the contributions of the Church not only continuing, but, in the wonderful providence of God, greatly increasing, the appropriations to both the foreign and home fields have also been much enlarged. The General Committee and Board, at their meeting in November last, appropriated for the support of the missionary work at home and abroad \$425,984 14—a larger sum, by \$125,984 14, than was ever appropriated for a single year before; and, judging from the collections already made, the indications are that the Church will not only meet this enlarged demand upon her liberality, but go beyond it.

The Foreign Missions are generally in a state of most cheering prosperity; and while there is much to encourage in the home field, there is, the times considered, nothing to depress. For details we refer you to the reports.

The lamented death of Bishop Burns will impose upon the General Conference the solemn duty of considering what is to be done to secure an adequate episcopal supervision of that work.

The Sunday-school cause, despite all untoward circumstances growing out of the times, has not only held its own, but has during the last four years largely advanced in every particular. Details will be found in the reports.

Although the contributions for the Tract Society are not so great as they were four years ago, yet that fact is not to be regarded as a fair exponent of its present condition. The list of tracts has been extended; and while the benevolent ministries of the Society have been continued in the home populations, it has found a field of most encouraging enterprise in the armies of the Union.

The reports will all be before you, and you will, without doubt, take such action as may be demanded to render this great agency of Christian culture still more effective.

At the breaking out of the rebellion much apprehension was felt that our noble Book Concern would be disastrously affected by the state of things foreseen to be coming on. But God has been better to us than our fears. While the old fields of its labors became, to some extent, less productive than before, new and fruitful fields were opened to the enterprise and energy of the Agents, and we have the pleasure of announcing the cheering fact that this great interest was

never in a more healthy and prosperous condition than it is to-day. It is not only able to meet all its liabilities and to carry on its extended operations, but the Agents at New York found themselves able to make to the Conferences dividends, which had been discontinued for several years. Last year they divided four hundred dollars to each of the Annual Conferences, amounting to nearly twenty thousand dollars, and the same amount is continued for the present year.

Our periodicals are, upon the whole, doing well. No one of them has been discontinued on account of the times. Even *The Central*, published in Missouri, though hard pressed and reduced in size, has been kept up, and its veteran editor, full of youthful vigor in old age, has battled manfully for God and his country. They are all loyal to the Church and to the Union, and have done good service to both.

The cause of Education, under the patronage of our Church, like all other good causes in our afflicted country, felt injuriously the first shock of the rebellion. But it has gradually recovered, and is now generally in a healthy and prosperous condition.

In our Address to the General Conference four years ago we advised some action to restrain our people and the Annual Conferences from multiplying colleges and universities beyond the real demand for them, and above the ability to give them character and effectiveness. We iterate this recommendation; yet we cannot but suspect that the evil complained of is beyond the control of the General Conference. Neither our people nor the Annual Conferences will brook the restraint, and both must be turned over to the sterner and more inexorable authority of results. Indeed, there is a hesitancy, at least a tardiness, to bow even to this authority. For results, one would think, are sufficiently developed to admonish and restrain them. How many of our universities or colleges are adequately endowed? Are not our educational enterprises generally struggling more or less with pecuniary embarrassments? And are not public collections in the churches even sometimes resorted to, to meet the current demands? Either we now have more educational institutions than are really demanded, or than our people are able suitably to sustain, or our men of means are sleeping over an interest the magnitude of which they do not appreciate or are not willing to recognize.

All, however, is not dark. Particular chairs have been endowed in several of our colleges by the princely contributions of individuals, and a commendable zeal is rising in many places to free our colleges and schools from debt. We commend this whole subject to the careful regards of the Conference.

The Biblical Schools continue their operations, though with slightly diminished numbers. In the Garrett Biblical Institute the death of Dr. Dempster, so long and so favorably known to the Church, has created a vacancy not yet filled. The trustees consulted with the bishops, who judged best that the election should be deferred until the close of your session. We embrace this opportunity to say that, in our judgment, these schools should be kept under the careful supervision of the Church. No watchfulness can be too great when the

theology and discipline of the Church are subjects for discussion and instruction. In some denominations the professors are elected by the highest ecclesiastical councils. We doubt whether any institution should be intrusted with the training of so many young ministers where the Church has not a power of strict supervision over it.

On a survey of the pastoral work we are moved to exclaim, "The best of all is, God is with us!" This was the dying shout of our founder, and despite the rebellion and the excitements and agitations of the war, it still resounds in our churches. God has not forgotten to be gracious. His presence is mightily felt in our assemblies, and he has crowned the labors of his faithful servants with numerous and, in many instances, powerful revivals. The revival columns of our papers have seldom been more rich and encouraging in their details than of late.

The General Conference at its last session issued an order requiring the preachers in charge and the bishops to lay the subject of Lay Representation in the General Conference before the male members of the Church and before the Annual Conferences, prescribing certain rules for the government of the proceeding, and requesting the bishops to report the results of these several votes to this body. That order has been carried out, and the results of the several votes, as officially certified by the secretaries of the several Annual Conferences, excepting the Kentucky, are as follows: Of the ministers there were 1,338 votes for, 3,069 against; of the male members, 28,884 for, 47,855 against; showing a majority against Lay Representation in the General Conference of 1,731 ministers, and of 18,971 male members. The subject was laid before the Kentucky Conference, but the presiding bishop has failed to obtain from the secretary a certified copy of the vote. Nor has any certified copy of the vote of the male members in the Baltimore and Kentucky Conferences, if such vote was taken, come to hand.

The last General Conference recommended the subject of the formation of German Annual Conferences to the serious consideration of the different Annual Conferences with which the German work is connected. The journals of those conferences will show what action has been taken by them in relation to this important measure. We respectfully suggest that the subject claims the serious attention of the Conference before adopting the measure proposed.

The progress of the Federal arms has thrown open to the loyal Churches of the Union large and inviting fields of Christian enterprise and labor. In the cultivation of these fields it is natural and reasonable to expect that the Methodist Episcopal Church should occupy a prominent position. She occupied these fields once. Her net-work of conferences, districts, and pastoral charges, spread over them all: all, indeed, both within and beyond the Federal lines. For nineteen years they have been in the occupancy of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, to the wrongful exclusion of the Methodist Episcopal Church. But her days of exclusive occupancy are ended. The wall of partition is broken down by that very power whose dreadful ministry was invoked to strengthen it. And now, the way being open for the return

of the Methodist Episcopal Church, it is but natural that she should re-enter those fields and once more realize her unchanged title as "the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States of America." She ought never to have been excluded from any portion of the territory of the United States; she ought never to have consented, on any ground, to such exclusion. And now that the providence of God has opened her way, she should not be disobedient to her heavenly calling, but should return at the earliest practicable period.

But how? This is the great question. And while we defer for the full answer to the wisdom of the General Conference, we feel that we ought to say that she should enter those fields as she enters all fields: she should enter preaching Christ and him crucified to all classes of people, laboring with all her might to bring sinners to repentance and to build up believers in that holiness without which no man can see the Lord, and welcoming back such ministers and members as were cut off from her communion without their voluntary act. Yet it is our solemn judgment that none should be admitted to her fellowship who are either slaveholders or are tainted with treason.

We suggest such a change in the Discipline as will permit the recognition of such members and ministers as it may be proper to receive into the Church.

We may add to what is here said, that the bishops, at their meeting in November last, arranged among themselves to have the southern territory then within the Federal lines explored, with a view to making such temporary arrangements as might be found to be practicable for the supply of the spiritual needs of the forsaken people. The bishops have made the exploration more or less thoroughly, either by personal visitation or correspondence, and have temporarily appointed a few preachers.

We deem it proper to call attention to the section in the Discipline in relation to our colored membership. The provision adopted by the General Conference in 1856, though an advance on former legislation, is not, we believe, sufficient to meet the necessities of the colored people. The time has now come, in our judgment, when the General Conference should carefully consider what measures can be adopted to give increased efficiency to our Church among them.

The last General Conference requested the bishops to appoint a committee of seven, to be denominated a Committee of Correspondence, on the subject of the centennial celebration of American Methodism. Before leaving the seat of the Conference we appointed Rev. Charles Elliott, D. D., Lee Claffin, Esq., Henry Slicer, D. D., F. G. Hibbard, D. D., John Evans, M. D., J. M. Trimble, D. D., Hon. Jas. Bishop. We also fixed the time and place for their first meeting, and gave due notice of the same. But we learn that, owing to various causes, the committee failed to meet, and have not since acted. We consider the subject worthy the early and earnest attention of the General Conference.

The bishops recognize with devout gratitude the good hand of their heavenly Father in preserving them during the last four years in general good health, and in enabling them to meet, it is trusted, the

essential needs of the Church. They have, with two exceptions, held all the Annual Conferences on both sides of the continent, according to the Plans of Visitation from time to time adopted, and have responded to all the other multiplied exactions of their office as they were able. Besides, in the summer of 1861 Bishop Janes visited our missions in Germany and Scandinavia, and presided in the German Mission Conference; and Bishop Ames, in the summer of last year, visited Denver City and vicinity and organized the Rocky Mountain Conference, according to the resolution of the last General Conference. Their administration will come before you in the journals of the Annual Conferences. It will be a satisfaction for them to know that it meets your approval, and yet their confidence in your wisdom and integrity assures them that you will faithfully correct whatever you may find amiss.

We must not close this address without expressing our high gratification at the presence in our midst of honored brethren from the British and Irish Wesleyan Conferences, and from other branches of the great Methodist family. To these brethren beloved we extend a hearty fraternal greeting and a most cordial welcome. We regard their presence among us at this juncture as the sure pledge, not only of the continued unity of Methodism in this and the lands which they severally represent, but also of continued friendly relations between this country and England, despite the embarrassments of these dreadful times. We trust that these brethren will find their sojourn among us both pleasant and profitable, and that they may be returned to their homes, and the fellowship of the several communions which they here represent, in safety and in peace.

And now, brethren, we commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.

T. A. MORRIS,
E. S. JANES,
L. SCOTT,
M. SIMPSON,
O. C. BAKER,
E. R. AMES.

A, II.—Journal, pages 22, 97, 124.

SERMON BY BISHOP MORRIS.

[PREACHED BY REQUEST OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE, BEFORE THAT BODY,
PHILADELPHIA, MAY 10, 1864.]

BEFORE commencing his sermon Bishop Morris said: "To prevent misunderstanding, I beg to be indulged in a brief explanation. In the preamble and resolution requesting this service allusion was made to the completion of the fiftieth year of my ministry. Fortunately for me, it did not say my *itinerant* ministry. I was received into the Methodist Church on trial, as a penitent seeker, in August, 1813, but did not find a full evidence of pardon and adoption until Christmas of the same year. I was licensed to preach the Gospel on the second day of April, 1814, and I have been preaching all that I have been able to preach from that day to the present time. I was employed as a traveling preacher by my presiding elder in 1815, and was received into the Ohio Conference in 1816. It will thus be seen that it is my ministry in general, and not my *itinerant* ministry, that has been of fifty years' duration."

SERMON.

AS FOR ME, THIS IS MY COVENANT WITH THEM, SAITH THE LORD; MY SPIRIT THAT IS UPON THEE, AND MY WORDS WHICH I HAVE PUT IN THY MOUTH, SHALL NOT DEPART OUT OF THY MOUTH, NOR OUT OF THE MOUTH OF THY SEED, NOR OUT OF THE MOUTH OF THY SEED'S SEED, SAITH THE LORD, FROM HENCEFORTH AND FOREVER.—Isaiah lix, 21.

A covenant is an agreement between parties, with certain stipulations by which the parties are bound. The parties in this case are the Lord and his believing people. "And the Redeemer shall come to Zion, and unto them that turn from transgression in Jacob, saith the Lord. As for me, this is my covenant with them, saith the Lord." "This is my covenant" with the members of Zion—with God's believing people—"saith the Lord; My Spirit that is upon thee, and my words which I have put in thy mouth, shall not depart out of thy mouth, nor out of the mouth of thy seed, nor out of the mouth of thy seed's seed, saith the Lord, from henceforth and forever."

Our blessed Lord, when about to leave his disciples and ascend into heaven, promised that he would give them "another Comforter that should abide with them forever;" and in another place he said: "But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, He shall testify of me;" so that the Holy Ghost, vouchsafed to the Church of God through all the successive ages of the Christian dispensation, is given to believers. We think that the Spirit spoken of in the text, however, has reference to the dis-

position of the new hearts of God's believing and saved people, and which is to be perpetuated among them and their posterity to the end of time. This promise is not restricted to any one branch of the Christian Church. I am very far from believing that all the good people in the world are in our Church. I believe there are many as good in other denominations. We make no opposition to any living branch of the Church of Christ; yet we shall take the liberty on this occasion to speak more especially of our own denomination, as being more immediately identified with it, and best acquainted with its history.

The first Methodist Society was formed in England in 1739, nearly one hundred and twenty-five years ago. Since that the Society has branched out all over England, Ireland, Wales, and Scotland, and, by missionary enterprise, has reached some of the heathen nations of the earth. The first American Society was organized in 1766, ninety-eight years ago. In two years from this time we shall be celebrating the centenary of American Methodism, and we hope and pray for a time of refreshing from the presence of the Lord.

Methodism has become a great power on both sides of the Atlantic, and it is well worth while to inquire what is the secret of this great success. To take in the whole subject in one brief discourse is simply out of the question. We propose to speak to-day on one topic, namely, *the Spirit of Methodism*—that is our topic.

I. AND, IN THE FIRST PLACE, THE SPIRIT OF METHODISM IS THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH.

Pilate, the Roman governor, said to our blessed Lord while under examination, "What is truth?" Of course, our Saviour did not condescend to answer the question in that connection; but he did answer it in another connection. When praying for his disciples he said: "Sanctify them through thy truth; thy word is truth." Here it is, brethren, the Bible is truth—the basis of civil government, the standard of morals, of doctrine, of experience, and of practice; the standard from which there is no appeal. And the view of Bible truth, received and taught by the Methodist Church, is at once brief and comprehensive. It embraces all that is essential to salvation. The doctrine of the fall of man, of the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, of the gift and operations of the Holy Spirit, to enlighten us, to ennoble us, and to dispose us to the exercise of repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ; the doctrines of justification by faith, of regeneration by the power of the Holy Spirit; the doctrine of holiness or sanctification; the doctrine of perseverance, or continuance in well-doing; the doctrines of the immortality of the soul, the resurrection of the body, the general judgment, and eternal rewards and punishments in heaven and hell: these are the great outlines of the system, and at the same time it is brief and comprehensive. It omits, among other things which are merely speculative, the old

doctrine of predestination of individuals to life and death, on the one hand; and on the other hand, Arianism, and Socinianism, and Pelagianism, and Unitarianism, and Swedenborgianism, and Universalism, and Mormonism, and all similar forms of semi-infidelity. Now the Churches formerly called Orthodox, but now more generally called Evangelical, embrace in their creeds the five points of Calvinism, namely: Total Depravity; Particular Election; Partial Redemption; Effectual Calling; Infallible Perseverance. And fifty years ago the Church that did not subscribe to these points of doctrine was scarcely recognized as a Church of God.

But Methodism came along and shed light upon these dark points. She presented her five points, which we think are better than theirs, namely: First, all men are sinners. Second, all men are redeemed. Third, all men are called. Fourth, as many as obey the call are chosen. Fifth, of those chosen such as endure to the end shall be saved.

We do not propose to discuss either of these five points of either system, but we name them only to reach general results; and we say that Methodist doctrine has fixed a deep and lasting and general impression upon the Protestant Christianity of the times, and has greatly modified the views of other branches of the Christian Church. Allow us here to inquire, Do you know any Church in these days where the five points of Calvinism are plainly and pointedly and fully taught? If you do, you know more than we do. But, on the other hand, the five points of Methodism in substance are preached in most of the evangelical Churches, and the people joyfully receive them, and subscribe to them generally.

II. THE SPIRIT OF METHODISM IS THE SPIRIT OF REVIVAL.

That is, the spirit of reanimation. To revive is to reanimate, to bring to life that which was dead. A state of sin and unbelief is a state of spiritual death; but a state of faith and salvation is a state of spiritual life; and hence the Apostle to the Ephesians said, "And you hath he quickened," brought to life, "who were dead in trespasses and sins." And again, "the law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death." But, brethren, when we speak of revival in this connection we have no reference to the revival of dogmas and rituals, but to a revival in the sense of spiritual life. And in this regard Methodism has taken an advanced position, and is leading on the sacramental hosts of God's elect.

Before we had the light of Methodism, if a man spoke of knowing that his sins were forgiven he was called ignorant, deluded, and fanatical; but now there are thousands who can bear witness to this truth without fear. Before the light of Methodism dawned upon the Churches you might have selected many who were regarded as good men from those denominations deemed orthodox; but what could they tell about their religious experience? They usually said, when questioned upon this subject, If I was converted it was because I could not help it; if I enjoy religion I do not know it;

if I have it I cannot lose it; and if I lose it I never had it. This was about the sum and substance of their Christian experience. But it is not so now, brethren. There are multitudes of men, not only in our Church, but in all the Evangelical Churches, who can give a clear and scriptural account of their conversion. Most of them can tell you the time when, the place where, and the outward circumstances under which they passed from death unto life. They will inform you that they were converted, not because they could not help it, but when they desired this blessing. When they earnestly prayed to our Lord Jesus Christ to bestow it upon them they received it, and having now obtained it, they can say, "whereas I was blind I now see." "We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren." "He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself." Because they are sons, they can say, "God hath sent forth the spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, Abba, Father;" and that "the Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit that we are the children of God."

Here, then, is advancement in the spirit of revivals, and we rejoice in it.

III. THE SPIRIT OF METHODISM IS THE SPIRIT OF ENTERPRISE.

We did not wait for the people to become Christians, and to organize themselves into Churches, and to erect houses of worship, and then call us to their pulpits; but we went out into the highways and hedges, into destitute places, both in the rural districts and the suburbs of cities. We went not only where Christ was named, but we went to the regions beyond, and pointed sinners to the Lamb of God that taketh away the sins of the world, and warned them to flee from the wrath to come. The word took powerful effect. We saw streams of water break forth in the dry places, and the wilderness blossom as the rose. There was a terrible shaking among the dry bones, and they became covered with sinews and flesh, and lived; and in thousands of instances they who were not a people became the people of the Lord. We tried to execute upon the broadest practicable scale the great commission of our Lord Jesus Christ, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature."

In order the better to do this, we formed as many congregations as possible and called them circuits, and sent out laborers two by two as Christ sent out his disciples. One was the preacher in charge, and the other was his colaborer and assistant. The circuits usually consisted of from twenty-four to forty congregations.

The first three circuits which I traveled embraced from twenty-eight to forty appointments, all of which were to be reached every twenty-eight days. To do this required a journey of at least three hundred miles on each of these circuits; and this journey was not performed by railroad, nor in the mail-coach, nor in the private carriage, gliding smoothly over the graveled pike, but upon horse-back, and over roads that would now be generally regarded as almost impassible; and yet, so far were we from curtailing these

plans and endeavoring to relieve ourselves of these burdens, we were continually on the lookout for chances to enlarge our work. If we heard of any neighborhood that was destitute of the Gospel we went directly to it and talked with the people; and if one man in the settlement would open his house for preaching we made it an appointment, and the next time we came around we were there. When we had an appointment we filled it, not if it was *convenient*, or if the weather was pleasant, and we could do it without sacrifice, but *always*, unless providential circumstances over which we had no control prevented us. If we wanted to *gather* a congregation we had to be punctual, and if we wanted to *hold* a congregation we could not disappoint them. When the streams were swollen we sometimes found great difficulty in crossing them. If we could find a bridge or a boat it was well; but if we could not we committed ourselves to Providence, and, plunging in with our horse, forded or swam the stream. This is what we mean by the spirit of enterprise.

IV. THE SPIRIT OF METHODISM IS THE SPIRIT OF SACRIFICE.

Ours was a citizen ministry, called forth from different avocations. Some were lawyers, some physicians, some teachers, some mechanics, some merchants, and some were farmers, who were converted and called of God to the work of the ministry. They were received and educated, not *for* the ministry, but *in* the ministry, and connected the study and practice of theology together.

These men, coming from the people, were sent back to the people to preach, not the technicalities of the schools, but the Gospel of the Grace of God in plain unvarnished language, which the people well understood, and the effect was glorious.

But where was the sacrifice? asks one. I answer, They sacrificed first their secular calling. Whatever they depended upon for the support of their families they relinquished, whether it was commerce or law or agriculture, or whatever it may have been. They had to promise to devote themselves wholly to God and his work.

In the next place they were called upon to sacrifice their homes. We do not say their homes were spacious or elegant, but they were *homes* nevertheless, and contained all of earth that was dear to them, and, much or little, they had to be sacrificed for this itinerant ministry, and we became pilgrims and sojourners, as all our fathers were; and all this under the old quarterage rule, with small prospect of a support.

No provision was made for houses for the preachers. There was no estimate for family expenses, and no claim was recognized but the quarterage claim, and we were fortunate if half of that was received.

For the first twelve years of my itinerant ministry, with my wife and two children, I kept an exact account of my expenses and receipts, and the controlling rule with us was, not to buy what we wanted, but only what we could not do without. I credited the

Church not only what I received from the stewards, but also all I received for marriage fees and in private presents. At the end of the twelve years I struck the average, and found that during that time I had received one hundred and sixty-six dollars, sixty-six and two third cents per annum. With this I had to buy horses, pay house rent, meet all expenses of feeding, clothing, and educating the children, and pay all our charities; that is to say, in so far as these receipts came short of meeting our bills, the balance came out of our private means. We say, then, that the spirit of Methodism is the spirit of sacrifice.

V. THE SPIRIT OF METHODISM IS THE SPIRIT OF PROGRESS.

I allude more particularly in this to numerical progress.

When I joined the Methodist Episcopal Church, in 1813, the aggregate of her communicants in all the States and Territories, and in Upper Canada, and upon the whole continent of America, was less than one quarter of a million. I think it was about two hundred and thirty-six thousand. Now our organization proper, after deducting our brethren in Canada, who left us quietly and for good reasons connected with their civil institutions; and the Protestant Methodists, who left us for reasons satisfactory to themselves; and the "True Wesleyan" organization, who left us on account of slavery; and our brethren in the South, who left us on account of the irrepressible conflict, and who took away nearly two thousand traveling preachers and near a half million of members; after deducting all these, we have now in our own organization a fraction less than one million.

Then we have a little problem for the mathematician. If one quarter of a million of Methodists produced during the past fifty years one million of members, what will one million produce in fifty years to come? The answer is, *four millions*. But this is only a part of the question, as you will perceive, for the quarter of a million of fifty years ago was the nucleus not only of our own denomination, but of all the Methodist organizations upon the Continent, which now, taken with our own Church, will probably approximate two millions. This taken into consideration the question will assume this form: If a quarter of a million in fifty years past has produced two millions, what will two millions produce in fifty years to come? The answer is, *sixteen millions*.

But pray, says one, "How do you know that this will be so?" I answer, I did not say that we know it will; but in this calculation we follow the example of the statesman, who will take the official record or census, and, ascertaining what was the population at a given time, he will compute the accessions for each decade, and tell you what population may be expected, say at the end of the century.

Now what we claim is that our figures are just as reliable as theirs, and if they can give the proximate number of the population we can do the same of Methodism.

VI. THE SPIRIT OF METHODISM IS THE SPIRIT OF IMPROVEMENT.

I know of no better word to cover the numerous items I wish to name.

For example: The general style of living among our people has greatly changed—I know most about the Western States, where I was born and brought up, and from whence I have hailed, for seventy years—and I speak that I do know, and testify that I have seen, when I say that fifty years ago in all the Western States our people, as a general thing, lived in log huts of rudé construction, with clap-board roof and puncheon floors.

These cabins generally had but one apartment, which answered for kitchen and dining-room, sitting-room and parlor, library and dormitory, class-room and chapel.

I have gone into the loft of these cabins many times in the severest winter weather, where there was no fire, and slept with nothing overhead but the thin roof, and a few logs around me, large openings between them, and with the covering very scant, and have often arisen in the morning to find my bed covered with snow. I have, in many instances, taken my pillow and placed it across my feet, and placed my coat over that, not merely to prevent suffering with cold, but to keep from freezing stiff.

Now our people live in large and commodious houses, conveniently arranged and well furnished.

When we look back fifty years to our puncheon floors and clap-board roofs, tin cups, and pewter plates and spoons, and then look at the carpets, and sideboards, and cushioned chairs, and silver tea sets which we now have, we hardly know ourselves, yet our consciousness tells us that we are the same people, though under different circumstances.

How was it with regard to our churches? There were none hardly deserving the name, and what we had were mostly built of logs, and these were like angels' visits, "few and far between." Now we have as many and as comfortable churches as any denomination in the land. Indeed, the statistics of the census credit us with more money invested in church property than any other denomination.

How about our Sunday-schools? I answer, fifty years ago we had none. It may seem strange to you, but it is as true as preaching that I had been a traveling preacher four years before I had seen a Sabbath-school. The first I saw was at Zanesville, Ohio, and was in connection with a Presbyterian Church. I visited it, and thought it a good thing; and as we had none I took my little daughter, now in heaven, and led her to the superintendent, who kindly welcomed her to the school.

Now we have these schools by thousands, teachers by tens of thousands, and scholars by hundreds of thousands.

But how about our tracts in those days? I answer, we had none, or next to none. Now they are scattered broadcast through all the land.

How about our periodicals? I answer, we had none. Now we

have many, and our religious weeklies are scattered from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Then we had few books, except such as were imported from England; but now we are not ashamed to compare our Methodist Book Concern with any religious publishing house in America.

How about our educational institutions? I answer, we had no public institutions of learning. Private members may have taught private schools, but we had no schools under the control of the Church. Now we have about thirty colleges for young men, two biblical institutions for young ministers; while of seminaries and academies and female colleges we have more than one hundred. Here, surely, is improvement.

But what about our missionary cause? I answer, we had no missionary society in those days. In regard to this I beg a little indulgence, and to be heard with some degree of particularity. When I was on the Marietta Circuit, from 1816 to 1818, I had in my society in Marietta a colored man by the name of Stewart. He was an exemplary man, and prayed in our prayer-meetings. He was industrious and economical, and had earned the means to buy good clothes, a horse and saddle, and had pocket money besides.

In the fall of 1817 he suddenly and mysteriously disappeared. He was not in debt or in trouble that we knew of, and we could not in any way account for his disappearance. Early next spring he returned, and came straight to my house, and gave an account of himself during his absence.

In the fall of 1817 it was impressed upon his mind that it was his duty to go in a northwest direction from Marietta and deliver a message to some people, he knew not to whom. At first he tried to shake off the impression, but failing in this, he mounted his horse and started.

If he got further to the right than his impression indicated as right, he took the first left hand road; if too far to the left, he took the first right hand road. In this way he went on till he reached the Wyandot Indians, at Upper Sandusky, in Ohio, when he said at once this was the people to whom he was sent.

He went straight to the Indian agent and told him he had a message from God to the Indians. The agent, as was very proper, demanded his credentials; but he had none, as he was only a private Christian, and had not even his certificate of membership with him. Of course he received no encouragement from him, but he went to the Indians and talked with them privately, and they agreed that he might address as many as would come together. Several came together in one of their wigwams, and among them another colored man. His name was Jonathan Pointer, and he had formerly lived with my uncle on the Big Kanawha River, and was captured in childhood by the Indians, and had learned the Wyandot language. He served as Stewart's interpreter, and while he talked the Indians wept; and when he was through they came around him and said, "*preach more,*"

and he did so, and an adjoining Quarterly Conference took cognizance of him and licensed him to preach, and by the blessing of God he had a great revival among the Indians.

At the session of the Ohio Conference at Steubenville, in 1818, a report of Stewart's revival among the Indians was presented, and Bishop McKendree, who was there, said, "We must have a mission among the Wyandots."

But the question was, Where shall the money come from? We had no flowing treasury, but the brethren said, we will raise the money here and now.

We raised the money entirely among the preachers, for we then sat with closed doors. Some gave five, and some ten dollars, and in a few moments money enough was raised to send a missionary to the Wyandots.

In the spring of 1819 the news of these things had reached New York, and the brethren there formed the Missionary Society of the Methodist Church. They formed it upon a good and broad basis, making all the Annual Conferences auxiliary societies.

When the Ohio Conference met at Cincinnati in 1819, it approved the organization of the Missionary Society, and ordered collections taken up in the several charges. And at Chillicothe, in 1820, they had a report of the moneys raised for the missionary cause, and I recollect that a member inquired, "What shall we do with this missionary money?" After some discussion it was voted that the Rev. T. A. Morris be appointed to receive it and forward it to New York.

This gave me the opportunity to know how much there was of it. Let it be remembered that the Ohio Conference then embraced the whole of the states of Ohio and Michigan, as well as parts of Virginia, Kentucky, and Indiana. From all this region the contributions for the missionary cause were to be aggregated, and all came into my hands, and what do you suppose was the amount? It was *nineteen dollars and a fraction over*.

Now compare this with the present, and behold the difference. In 1863 the treasurer of our Missionary Society received over four hundred thousand dollars; and, brethren, I shall be greatly disappointed and excessively mortified if in 1864 our contributions do not reach half a million dollars. This is the lowest amount that will sustain the Missionary work now undertaken.

VII. THE SPIRIT OF METHODISM IS THE SPIRIT OF LOYALTY TO THE CIVIL GOVERNMENT.

It is the doctrine of our Church and of the Scriptures that we should revere and submit ourselves to the civil authority. This is in our Articles of Religion. It was put there in 1784, when the Church was first organized, and there it stands as a monument of our loyalty to this hour. But we are taught this duty by higher than human authority. Paul says, "Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God; the powers that be are ordained of God. Whoever, therefore, resisteth the

power resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation."

Now, if we understand the teaching of the Holy Scriptures, rebellion is a crime of high order, one expressly forbidden by the word of God, and any man who is guilty of it deserves to be expelled from the Church of Christ.

VIII. THE SPIRIT OF METHODISM IS THE SPIRIT OF PATRIOTISM.

After the Southern rebellion had developed itself in such magnitude that our President became satisfied that there was not power enough in the army, as it then existed, to put it down, he called for volunteers. And who responded? I answer that, so far as we know, all Churches did nobly; but it is true, nevertheless, that we have more than any other denomination who are in the service of our country. We have at least one hundred thousand Church members who have been mustered into the service of the United States; and many of our preachers also have gone, some as privates, some as captains, and a great many as chaplains; probably twice as many as from other denominations. There are three members of this General Conference, regular ministers, who have done service for their country as colonels, moving at the head of their regiments amid showers of leaden and iron hail, leading the van of the host, amid the shouting and tumult of battle. These are unfailing indications that the spirit of Methodism is the spirit of patriotism.

IX. THE SPIRIT OF METHODISM IS THE SPIRIT OF LIBERTY.

I do not mean liberty for a man to do what he pleases without answering to anybody. We do not mean either liberty for a man to do what he pleases with the rights of other men with impunity, but we mean the spirit of liberty in opposition to slavery.

Slavery has been the great difficulty and bone of contention for years.

It has divided the Church, and now it seeks to divide the country. We have had for years this standing question in our Discipline, "What shall be done for the extirpation of the great evil of slavery?" but we could not answer the question. Philosophers tried and were bewildered; statesmen tried, but were overwhelmed and confounded; ecclesiastical bodies sought its answer, but found dismay and failure; but God has interposed, and furnished the answer in the present war for the Union.

The leaders of the rebellion in the South, while fighting for slavery, have done more for its extirpation in the last three years than Congress and all the state legislatures could do in thirty years; and although slavery has not been *extirpated*, it is prostrate and bleeding, and has received a blow from which it can never recover. It has already upon its brow the cold sweat of death, and we pray that it may speedily give up the Ghost.

Once more, and we are done.

X. THE SPIRIT OF METHODISM IS THE SPIRIT OF LIBERALITY.

Now whoever supposes (and some have so supposed) that the Methodist polity is a narrow and contracted one, and who publishes that supposition, simply proves that he knows not what he says nor whereof he affirms. When were ever the plans and operations of Methodism contracted? Our illustrious founder took the world for his parish, and we are trying to follow his example. We never have seen the day when we did not preach *free grace* and a free communion, and what Church has done or could have done more? We pray with the apostle, "Grace be with *all* them that love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity."

We cordially believe with Paul the Apostle, that "it is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners," even the very chief of sinners. We believe that Methodism will live to accomplish its grand mission, to spread scriptural holiness over these and all lands.

Some have said that the world is soon coming to an end, and some have gone so far as to fix the year and the day; but, thank God! the world still moves, and we believe that many things will come to pass before the end comes. One thing is that the Word will be preached to all nations.

We believe also that the Southern rebellion will be crushed, slavery abolished, the union of the states restored, a permanent peace established, and last, though not least, after all this, we shall have such a revival of the work of God as the world has never seen. We have the dawning of this glorious day already, and we believe the sun will soon arise in full splendor, and from every hill and valley will go up the shout, "Halleluia! the Lord God omnipotent reigneth."

ADDRESSES AND REPLIES.

B, I.—Journal, page 40.

ADDRESS OF THE BRITISH CONFERENCE TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST EPIS- COPAL CHURCH OF AMERICA.

REVEREND AND VERY DEAR BRETHREN,—A grateful remembrance of the origin from which we are both descended, of the truth which we equally maintain, and of the objects which we are mutually striving to promote by the diffusion of spiritual and practical Christianity, prompts us to address you on the present occasion, and to convey to you renewed assurances of all kindly and fraternal affection.

Great has been our sympathy with you, beloved Christian brethren, in the calamities of the war which has now for so long a time ravaged your land, and which cannot but have inflicted sore dis-

tresses on you as a Christian community, impeding not a few of your evangelical efforts, and casting shadows of discouragement and fear on some of the brightest scenes of your ministerial toil. Our prayer is, that the God of peace may speedily bring this national strife to a righteous and happy termination, and that the extensive territories of your country may flourish beyond all former measure in temporal and spiritual prosperity.

Meantime, and in every event, we trust that by the grace and blessing of the God of our fathers, you will continue to hold on your way as ministers of the Word of life, sowing the seed of truth with all fidelity and reaping thence a plentiful harvest—"fruit unto life eternal." Still let us aim, in our several allotted provinces of service, to "walk by the same rule," to "mind the same thing;" to spread scriptural holiness all around us, and ever to advance "whatsoever things are true, honest, just, pure, lovely, and of good report;" waiting for the consummation of our hopes and labors in that better region where peace shall reign without fear of interruption or change, and where the whole host of the redeemed shall obtain fullness of joy in the presence of the Lord.

By the good hand of our God upon us, we are favored with peace in all our borders, and with increased facilities, at home and abroad, for carrying out the important plans and purposes of the Christian ministry. The present conference has been one of unbroken harmony and affection, distinguished also by a more than usual amount of gratifying intelligence from the representatives of affiliated conferences, and by the lively interest which has been awakened in the prospect of our jubilee missionary celebration. For all that is past, and for all the tokens of success which now surround us, we offer our united thanksgivings to the Father of mercies, while we feel ourselves stirred up to seek in faith and prayer for larger effusions of the Holy Spirit's grace, that revivings of all spiritual good may be vouchsafed to us and the whole Church of Christ, and that the day may soon arrive when "great voices in heaven" shall be heard, saying, "The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign forever and ever."

One thing, on a review of the year which has now closed, we would not omit; the exemplary Christian patience with which our people in the manufacturing districts have borne their late privations and sufferings, and which we cannot do otherwise than regard as at once a proof and a pledge of good. Nor would we lose sight of the spontaneous and abundant liberality which has flowed in to the aid of distress from different parts of the world, or of the fact that, to meet the general want, seasonable and acceptable supplies have been sent from America.

Need we add, that the sentiments which we have often expressed on the evil of slavery, and the importance of its speedy abolition, remain unchanged? Earnestly do we look for the time when that evil shall no longer exist. That time will assuredly come. May we remind you, brethren, that as Christians, you are called to pur-

sue firm yet wise and pacific counsels, and in the very spirit of the Christianity which you and we profess, to proceed with calm and steady perseverance, entertaining no doubt of the final result when slavery shall be no more.

As our delegate to the next General Conference in Philadelphia we have appointed the Rev. W. L. Thornton, M. A., and as his companion, the Rev. W. B. Pope, brethren beloved, in whom we ourselves repose the highest confidence, and whom we are well persuaded that you will affectionately welcome as messengers to you of our constant fraternal love.

And may the God of grace cause all blessings to abound toward you, and whatever may arise, grant you the security of them who abide under the shadow of his almighty protection.

GEORGE OSBORN, D. D., *President.*
JOHN FAERAR, *Secretary.*

SHEFFIELD, August 15, 1863.

B, II.—Journal, pages 191, 214, 232.

REPLY TO THE ADDRESS OF THE BRITISH CONFERENCE.

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF AMERICA TO THE BRITISH CONFERENCE.

REVEREND AND BELOVED BRETHREN,—Your very kind and fraternal Address, dated August 15, 1863, and presented to us by your gifted and honored representative, Rev. W. L. Thornton, A. M., has afforded us unmingled gratification.

We acknowledge those bonds of a common doctrine, a common origin, and a common aim which unite us, and we heartily reciprocate your assurance of brotherly love. Your expressions of sympathy with our afflicted nation and people are most grateful to our hearts.

It is not necessary for us to assure you that our Church is loyal to the Government of the United States, and ceases not to pray for its rulers, and for the success of its arms; nor need we say that, while sending her sons by thousands to preserve the nation's life and put down a wicked and wanton rebellion, she cultivates no personal ill-will toward the enemies of the nation, and ceases not to pray for a righteous peace.

Our consolation amid the desolations of war is in the hope that the revolution will roll the nation up to a higher elevation than it could otherwise have attained even by centuries of peaceful progress.

We bow under the mighty hand of God, well knowing that we have sinned and deserve chastisement, yet trusting that the rod is used in mercy.

You will rejoice to know that our beloved bishops unanimously recommended that hereafter no slaveholder should be admitted to

our communion, and that our Conference has, with almost entire unanimity, initiated a rule prohibiting the holding of slaves, as well as the purchase or sale of them, upon the ground that slaveholders in the United States can have no serious difficulty in manumitting their bondmen.

It will also be gratifying to you to learn, that while we have suffered a loss of fifty thousand members, owing to the withdrawal of ministers and members in slaveholding territory, the dispersion of many of our societies upon the border by the progress of rebellious arms, and the losses we have sustained upon the field of battle, our Church has steadily maintained her ground in the loyal states, enlarged her collections for almost every benevolent and religious enterprise in which she was engaged, and increased her Church property by millions. Meanwhile she has been gradually extending her line southward, planting her ministers at important points as the rebellion receded before the national banner, contributing largely to supply the Gospel to the Federal army, and sustaining and strengthening at the same time all her foreign and domestic missions. To God be all the glory!

We regret profoundly that through the intimate business connections which exist between your country and ours, your people, especially in the manufacturing districts, have suffered in consequence of our war. The patience with which they have endured their sufferings is an indication to us that the masses of the British nation understand the principles involved in our struggle, and sympathize with our government.

The intimate connection of American and British interests is one of those pledges which we delight to contemplate, that the peace shall never hereafter be broken between two nations united not only in origin and language, but in liberty, religion, Protestantism, and eleemosynary and missionary enterprise.

We cannot forbear to express the pleasure which the visit of your learned and excellent representative has afforded us. His engaging manners, amiable spirit, and evangelical discourses have endeared him to us, while his clear apprehension of our national struggle, his hearty sympathy with the side of liberty and humanity excited our admiration; and his admirable exposition of Wesleyan doctrines, sympathies, relations and secessions, abounding in useful suggestions, strengthened our determination to stand in the old paths.

Desiring to cultivate acquaintance with you, we have deputed our beloved Bishop E. S. Janes, D. D., long known and honored not only in our own denomination but in all the other Protestant Churches in our land, and our beloved brother, Rev. Thomas Bowman, D. D., President of the Indiana Asbury University, to bear this letter to you, and to convey to you more particularly our views and greetings.

B, III.—Journal, page 41.

THE ADDRESS OF THE IRISH CONFERENCE.

TO THE MINISTERS OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ASSEMBLED IN THEIR GENERAL CONFERENCE.

REVEREND FATHERS AND BRETHREN,—We heartily respond to the sentiments of love and esteem expressed in your letter dated at Buffalo, and bearing the signatures of your venerable Bishop Morris, and your secretary, the Rev. W. L. Harris. We also consider the frequent interchange of such friendly greetings well calculated to draw us closer together, and to strengthen the bonds of fraternal affection.

We regret that your arrangements for holding the German Conference deprived us of a visit from Bishop Janes, the pleasure of which we had expected.

We have marked with grateful admiration the growth and extension of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and anticipate for you a still more glorious future. The statistics, with which you have kindly furnished us, show an increase during your last quadrennial term which has gladdened our hearts and evoked our devout thankfulness to God. Your prosperity is our prosperity. May the great Head of the Church bless and increase you more and more!

We have observed with no unfriendly eye the rapid progress and unexampled prosperity of your great commonwealth, and we fully appreciate the grave responsibility resting upon you as a Church at the present time. In common with the great majority of our fellow-citizens, we deeply lament the existence of those evils which threaten to divide your beloved country. In the order of Divine Providence, nations, as well as individuals, in gaining positions of honor and influence, are subject to vicissitudes always painful and often humiliating; meanwhile, from our own public assemblies and family altars fervent supplications will ascend to our heavenly Father that the vexed question of negro slavery—the source of your present trouble—may find a just solution without involving you for a protracted period in that worst of national calamities, a fratricidal war.

In the special effort we are making for the increase of our agency, so urgently demanded by the peculiar circumstance of our position in this kingdom, your pecuniary aid, which you are pleased to say fell far below the obligations of American Methodism to Ireland, as well as below the desire of your hearts, owing to the fearful financial revulsion which, in the midst of your efforts, swept over your country, is highly valued by us, not only on account of the liberal sum contributed, but of the generous sympathy elicited. At your

public meeting, attended by our deputation, the utterances of many of your noble men, connected with the country by the ties of kindred or association, have awakened in our hearts feelings of the deepest gratitude, and go far to reconcile us to the heavy losses which, by emigration, we have from year to year sustained.

Our Annual Conference, now drawing to a close, has been characterized by great harmony of feeling and unanimity of sentiment. The increase of our membership, though not as large as last year, is very encouraging, and the reports of all our funds evince a steady progression. Very gracious results have followed the recent outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Protestant Churches of the land. The work of God has been deepened in the hearts of both ministers and people; many an outcast has been reclaimed from the wastes of error and sin, and many a door of usefulness has been opened to missionary enterprise.

Again we thank you for your cordial reception of our beloved brother and representative, the Rev. Robinson Scott, and for your continuous and efficient co-operation in the labors of our deputation.

WILLIAM H. STAMP, *President.*

JAMES TOBIAS, *Secretary.*

CORK, June 26, 1861.

B, IV.—Journal, page 41.

LETTER FROM THE IRISH CONFERENCE, ACCREDITING REV. ROBINSON SCOTT.

TO THE REVEREND THE BISHOPS OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

REVEREND AND DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN,—Permit us most respectfully to commend anew to your confidence the Rev. Robinson Scott, who has been requested by the Irish Conference to devote himself to the completion of the “Fund for the Increase of the Wesleyan Agency in Ireland,” and with special reference to the establishment of a Wesleyan College, to be erected at Belfast—the only branch of the enterprise not yet completed.

As a committee appointed by the Conference, with full powers to take all necessary steps toward the building and endowment of the institution, we have requested Mr. Scott to revisit America, for the purpose of rendering available, as far as practicable, all subscriptions to the general fund not yet paid, and of adopting, with your permission and counsel, such a course as may be deemed expedient for bringing to a close the appeal of the Irish Wesleyan Conference to your Church, to which it has already responded so liberally.

Mr. Scott will be able to inform you of the beneficial influence upon our work generally of those branches of the enterprise which

have already been completed, and of our prospects in relation to the college, which, as a people, we regard as essential to the efficiency of our ministry and work in this country.

In concluding this letter, permit us, venerable brethren, to express to you personally, and through you to your ministers and people generally, our most sincere and hearty thanks for your and their sympathy with us in our efforts to extend the kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ in Ireland, and to assure you of our prayers for the restoration of peace and concord to your beloved but deeply-afflicted country, and for still larger effusions of the Divine Spirit upon all the Churches of your care.

We are, reverend and dear fathers and brethren,
Signed on behalf of the college committee,

THOMAS T. N. HULL, *Chairman pro tem.*

ROBERT WALLACE, } *Treasurers.*
W. MULLAN, }

JOSEPH W. M'KAY, } *Secretaries.*
THOMAS G. LINDSAY, }

CHARLES PREST, *Pres't of the Irish Conf.*

BELFAST, *March 31, 1864.*

B, V.—Journal, pages 210, 257.

REPLY TO THE ADDRESS OF THE IRISH CONFERENCE.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE IRISH WESLEYAN CONFERENCE.

REVEREND AND DEAR BRETHREN,—We received with great pleasure your very kind and fraternal Address, dated June 26, 1861, and presented to us by your worthy and honored representative, Rev. Robinson Scott, D.D.

We gladly improve the opportunity to renew to you our expression of brotherly affection, and would give hearty thanks to our common Redeemer for the manifest blessings he has given you, and for the success that has attended your efforts to promote his cause.

God has been pleased to give special honor to Irish Methodism in its connection with the first establishment of Methodism in this and other lands. We not only recognize you as a part of the great Methodist family, but also feel that the facts connected with the origin of our Church and the increasing number of Christians now with us, who have been trained under your spiritual care, constitute a peculiarly strong bond of union and sympathy between you and us, and give us a deep interest in all that concerns your welfare. It is therefore with great satisfaction we have received the assurance of your union in faith and harmony of action; of your increasing spiritual prosperity; of the liberality of your members, and of your perseverance in advancing your edu-

educational and the other noble enterprises you have undertaken. It is the more pleasing to us that through the blessing of God you are thus prospered, when we consider the discouragements and adverse influences with which you are called to contend, arising from the direct hostility of more than two thirds of your countrymen who receive not the Protestant faith, and from the constant loss of valuable members in consequence of emigration to this and other countries.

We thank you for the assurances we receive of your sympathy with our country in the terrible struggle in which we are engaged to preserve the national life. This sympathy is cheering, and will stimulate us to persevere in a conflict which we could not with honor and in the right discharge of our duties to God and man avoid. Our Church as in time past is thoroughly loyal, and devoted to the interests of the country.

We are thankful we can inform you that in this time of conflict of trouble and sorrow, while so great sacrifice and effort are demanded and cheerfully rendered to our country, while the homes of many thousands of our members are darkened and their hearts made sad by bereavement, our Church is enjoying great prosperity. During the past four years our Annual Conferences have all held their sessions, and there has been but little interruption to our regular work. Our missionary, educational, and other great enterprises of benevolence have been sustained with their usual power and resources. As ministers of the Word of Life, we are still earnestly endeavoring to maintain in their simplicity and power the doctrines taught by the fathers in the Church, and to enforce those principles the direct tendency of which is to increase the piety and efficiency of the Church.

In view of suggestions from you in the past, we are persuaded you will learn with pleasure that at its present session, with almost entire unanimity, the General Conference passed a resolution which only awaits the concurrence of the Annual Conferences to render slaveholding a disqualification for membership in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Slavery has long been our nation's reproach, a cause of constant strife and bitterness. Its natural result is this fearful war that now desolates our land. In times past the peculiar relation of the state governments to each other and the national government did not allow millions who deplored its evils to use direct means for its removal. This terrible war in which we are engaged has not produced unmingled evil, inasmuch as it has furnished the government the opportunity and the right to give freedom to the enslaved. We trust the time will soon come when in no part of the wide domain of our country will slavery be known. We are fully confident that the cause of our country, which we regard as the cause of humanity and of God, will triumph; and we trust the calamities we are called to suffer will lead us to renounce our sins, and that, chastened by adversity, we shall be better prepared to discharge our duty as a people.

In conclusion, we renew the assurances of our high consideration and regard. Our prayer is and shall be that the blessing of God may abide with you forever.

PHILADELPHIA, May 27, 1864.

B, VI.—Journal, page 72.

**ADDRESS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN CANADA.**

THE BISHOPS AND MEMBERS OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL
CHURCH IN CANADA TO THE BISHOPS AND MEMBERS OF THE
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES.

DEARLY BELOVED FATHERS AND BRETHREN,—Your fraternal letter forwarded from Buffalo, and presented to us by our highly esteemed brethren, the Revs. Dr. Cartwright, G. Baker, and F. A. Blades, your delegates to our General Conference, has been received and read with peculiar satisfaction. We are highly gratified with the visit of these brethren. Their enlightened counsels and Christian intercourse have affected us with sentiments of friendship toward them, and love for the Church they represent, which, we trust, will never be forgotten.

We deeply regret their brief stay among us; but the distracted state of your country at this moment is with us a sufficient justification for their early departure; and our prayers are, that the rebellion, which is now affecting the whole world, may be speedily suppressed, and that God may restore peace to your nation and give increasing prosperity to the Church of Christ in your afflicted land.

Our Church, planted by the zeal and labors of ministers from the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States, still embraces within its societies some aged members who dwell with fond recollections upon the memory of those servants of God, and of the gracious revivals of religion which they were instrumental in promoting.

Our preachers and people are as strongly attached to the episcopal form of government as in 1828, when the Pittsburgh General Conference allowed us to become a separate and independent Church, and addressed us in the following words:

“That we do hereby recommend to our brethren in Canada to adopt the form of government of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States, with such modifications as their particular relation shall render necessary.”

We rejoice to learn from your communication that God is still extending your field of usefulness; that your numbers are con-

stantly multiplying; that your book establishment and religious periodicals are having a most salutary effect, and that your missionary work and Sabbath-school operations are doing good to millions of your fellow-men.

As your children in the Gospel of our blessed Lord, we are laboring on at God's command, and, as far as our means and ability will allow, are endeavoring to promote the kingdom of Christ in this country. We have now three Annual Conferences, one hundred and ninety-nine traveling preachers, two hundred and twenty local preachers, and twenty thousand three hundred and fifty-five members; one seminary and female college, and a connectional journal, the "Canada Christian-Advocate."

We are also doing what we can to promote the cause of Sunday-schools and sustain Home Missions, as two of the greatest enterprises for the spreading of scriptural holiness over this land.

We are following up the new settlers, to preach to them in their log-cabins in the wilderness the unsearchable riches of Christ. From Provincial statistics, and knowledge obtained from other sources, we think we are justified in stating that there are now nearly, if not quite, one hundred thousand souls, members of the Church and adherents thereto, looking to us for religious instruction.

In order to meet the growing demands of the country and give permanence to our work we are multiplying our churches, aided by the liberal contributions of the people. The value of our church property is about three hundred thousand dollars, which, it must be observed, has nearly all been obtained since 1834. When, therefore, we take all these things into consideration we may well say, "What hath God wrought!"

We cordially reciprocate the sentiments expressed by your worthy representatives, and trust that the intercourse opened up between the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada and the parent body in the United States may never be interrupted, and that the bonds of friendship now existing may be as lasting as time.

We have appointed the Revs. S. W. Ladu, James Gardiner, and Samuel Morrison as our representatives to your General Conference, to be held at Philadelphia in May, 1864. These brethren will be able to convey to you our fraternal greetings, and explain more fully our position as a Church, and the efficiency of her institutions.

Signed for and in behalf of the General Conference.

PHILANDER SMITH,

JAMES RICHARDSON,

General Superintendents.

JAMES GARDINER, *Secretary.*

B, VII.—Journal, pages 210, 257.

REPLY TO THE ADDRESS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN CANADA.

TO THE BISHOPS AND MEMBERS OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN CANADA:

REVEREND AND DEAR BRETHREN,—We received with great pleasure your truly fraternal Address, and have been highly gratified with the visit and addresses of your highly-esteemed delegates.

We are pleased to exchange Christian salutations and expressions of friendly feeling with all who love our Lord and Saviour in sincerity and truth, and rejoice in the increasing indications of union in spirit and purpose among Christians of every name. The origin of your Church, and the doctrines and usages you cherish, give us a special interest in your welfare.

We rejoice to learn that you are enjoying so great prosperity, that God is extending your field of usefulness, and multiplying your numbers and increasing your resources. Our prayer is for your continued success, and that your hearts may rejoice in the gracious manifestations of God's power and presence with you.

We thank you for your expressions of kindness and sympathy in our present national struggle, and the assurance that our cause is remembered in your prayers.

We are happy to assure you that through the blessing of God upon us during the past four years, so full of trial and sorrow, our Church has been singularly prosperous. Our Annual Conferences have all held their sessions, and there has been but little interruption of our regular work. Our Church, as in years past, has been earnest in her loyalty and devotion to the interests of our national government, and our members have cheerfully borne the sacrifices and burdens the war now desolating our land has caused. We are fully confident our cause will triumph, and that, chastened by affliction, we shall come out of this trial purified, and better prepared for our great work as a people. Slavery has long been our reproach. In times past the peculiar relation of the different states composing our Union to each other and the national government did not allow millions who deplored the evil to use direct means for its removal, but we rejoice to inform you that the General Conference has declared that slaveholding should be a disqualification for membership in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and we believe that slavery will soon be removed from the nation.

We have appointed Rev. George Webber, D.D., and Rev. Mighill Dustin, brethren dear to us and held in high esteem as our representatives to your body, and we refer you to them for further information relative to our interests.

We have great pleasure in renewing an expression of Christian sympathy and interest in your welfare.

B, VIII.—Journal, page 149.**ADDRESS OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE WESLEYAN
METHODIST CHURCH IN CANADA.**

REVEREND AND FONDLY REMEMBERED FATHERS AND BRETHREN,—
We greet you much in the Lord, and desire to express the exquisite pleasure afforded us by your last fraternal epistle to us, as also by the visit of your excellent representatives, the Revs. Drs. Hibbard and Hodgson, who brought us good tidings of your faith and charity, and whose urbane and brotherly intercourse with us, whose efficacious evangelical sermons in the pulpit, and whose discriminating, eloquent, and nobly Methodistic address on our Conference platform afforded us great pleasure and refreshment of spirit.

The recollection of our former nearer relationship to you, and the religious indebtedness of our Church and country to yours at the commencement of their history, is as grateful to our hearts as it can be to yours.

As you have a few of the early pioneers who traversed the intervening forests on horseback, in days gone by, to reach our then wilderness country, so have we a few, at least a few survivors out of those who constituted their work in the Lord who fondly dwell on the self-denying spirit of those devoted evangelists, a spirit which we, their sons in the Gospel, on both sides of the dividing line between our respective governments, would do well to cherish and preserve.

As we are proud to acknowledge our parentage, so also we humbly presume to trust that we have not compromised the Methodism planted by the early missionaries from the United States.

It is true, providential circumstances prevented our consecrating any one of the three excellent men successively elected from among your ranks to superintend our infant Canadian Church in the character of bishops, and it is also true that we do not now even hear the name of Episcopal Church. Yet the substance of a true scriptural and Methodist Episcopacy is preserved in the person of our annual President, who performs all the functions and receives all the respect of your Episcopoi.

These and all subordinate changes in our Church have been made in accordance with the Constitution adopted from the model of your own Church when you consented to our independence; changes which have stood the ordeal of civil persecution in our provincial courts of justice from those who claimed to be the original Church and to possess its property, the claims of these changes to constitutionality coming forth as gold.

Furthermore, our subsequent and now long-established connection with the British Conference, we opine, constitutes a pledge for the maintenance of all that is essential to Methodism; such as our evangelical Arminian doctrine, our ministerial itinerancy in its integrity, and the faithful preservation of our peculiar prudential means of grace, the class-meeting in particular.

We flatter ourselves that in no branch of the Methodist family will more of the ancient simplicity of character, more clearness of experience in divine things, and more reverence in the form and more fervor in the spirit of devotion be found than among the Wesleyan Methodists of United Canada.

Our circuit system is honestly maintained. Upward of five hundred ministerial laborers are permeating every settled part of our vast country; for the Hudson Bay territory and the colonies of British Columbia and Vancouver's Island, as well as the two Canadas, are comprehended within our mission field.

Fishermen, new settlers, and miners of English origin share our attention; while our French and German populations are now enlisting our sympathies, as well as the Indians of our forests, to whom we had an early and strikingly providential call, and among whom glorious trophies have been won.

Our missions in all—Domestic, Foreign, French, German, and Indian—are about one hundred and sixty in number, comprising no less than a hundred and seventy-five ministers in that department alone, besides interpreters, school-teachers, and other agents, paid and unpaid.

As far as the circumstances and extent of our country will allow, we are endeavoring to follow your worthy example in promoting the work of liberal Christian education. We lend one of our most highly endeared senior ministers to superintend the common school education in the Upper Province.

The University of Victoria College has educated and given a right impulse to hundreds of the most active public men of the country. It has graduated a large number in the several faculties of Arts, Medicine, and Law, all of which faculties it now comprehends. The number of students the last year was 308. Nineteen graduated at the last Convocation in the faculty of Arts alone, the largest number that has ever yet graduated in any British North American College.

Although it has no theological chair, it has done much to liberalize and give efficiency to our rising ministry, who are also put through an extensive course of theological training during four years of their probation by examiners appointed for that purpose.

Within the last few years we have succeeded in establishing a collegiate institution for the liberal education of the daughters of our people also. This institution, in its situation, buildings, and faculty, is of the most approved character, and promises much in the future. The large number of one hundred and seventy-three students received instruction within its walls the last year.

We deeply sympathize with you in the calamity of civil war which your country is now enduring, and in which you as a Church are no doubt largely sufferers.

We pray that the interests of true religion may be preserved throughout the whole, and that the Ruler of all events may crown the struggle with peace which shall be favorable to national unity,

the supremacy of law and order, and the freedom of those who are now enslaved.

We feel that on the Christian people of both your country and ours depends the perpetuation of that feeling which ought to be preserved among Anglo-Saxons, and which will tend to make our common Protestantism a power for good in the evangelization and advancement of the religious freedom of the world.

Praying that Almighty God may abundantly multiply your seed sown and increase the fruit of your righteousness, we would beg, dear fathers and brethren, to subscribe ourselves your affectionate fellow-laborers in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ.

Signed by order and in behalf of the Conference of the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Canada.

ANSON GREEN, *President.*
JAMES SPENCER, *Secretary.*

QUEBEC, *June 12, 1863.*

B, IX.—Journal, pages 210, 257.

**REPLY TO THE ADDRESS OF THE CONFERENCE OF
THE WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH IN CANADA.**

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE CONFERENCE OF THE
WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH IN CANADA.

REVEREND AND DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN,—We have received your friendly greetings, and have enjoyed pleasant intercourse with your representatives, our beloved brethren Carroll and Nelles, and we cannot forbear to reciprocate the kindly message thus conveyed to us. Ye are beloved of us in the Lord, for we have not forgotten how ye were once of us, and went out from us not of your own desire, but because it was evidently for the advancement of the Master's kingdom, and our benediction went with you at our parting. We remember you are an integral part of the Wesleyan body of England, our common parent, with whom our intercourse must ever be more intimate and precious than with any other. We know that your mode of government is in harmony with that of the parent Church, and it is completely satisfactory to us, nay, it is even our admiration and joy. We are glad to know of the purity of your faith, of the fervor of your preachers, of the unity and prosperity of your Churches, of the increasing efficiency and power of your schools, and of your missionary zeal. We are also glad to be so explicitly assured that there is no abatement in your devotion to an itinerant ministry and the class-meeting, but that you are disposed to preserve in all their integrity the peculiar instrumentalities that, by the grace of God, gave to Wesleyan Methodism its surpassing power. In all this we are with you, and

by much of the past, as well as the present, we are bound to you by peculiar ties. We receive your delegates in the same character and upon the same basis as heretofore; yet your own noble Christian hearts will, we are sure, not deny us the pleasure of out-reaching the hand of Christian regard to any that love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity and truth. Neither time nor circumstances have wrought any change in our hearts toward you, save to make us feel more deeply than ever that as we have one Lord, one faith, and one baptism, so we have one common interest; and your friendly deputation have been received upon the same footing and with the same warmth as in days past.

We need not say to you that the civil war which now afflicts our country engrosses much of our attention, and has materially modified many parts of our work. We are ourselves amazed at the new fields that have opened before us. The vast armies of the United States have elicited the purest affections and sincerest efforts of the Christian Church, and glorious harvests have resulted. In the victorious track of these armies we have found thousands of our fellow-men, from whom the shackles of a most inhuman bondage have fallen, in perishing need of religious instruction. The great South, which slavery once snatched from us, is returning to our watchcare. The middle wall of partition is broken down, and we are there substituting a Church whose Discipline now excludes the slaveholder for one that has blotted out even our chapter on slavery.

Our people with commendable zeal and liberality have met the emergencies of the hour. Never were our benevolent contributions so large as at present, and never were personal efforts and sacrifices more cheerfully made for the good of souls. Our Church is nowhere declining, but rather exhibiting unusual vigor and activity, and as a consequence receiving unusual blessings.

God is evidently on our side, and the issue out of our present troubles is not to us doubtful. Ours is the cause of government as a divine institution; it is the cause of the oppressed African, which, by a strange providence, has become bound up with the nation's life; it is the cause of liberty and civilization everywhere. Your delegates to our body will inform you with what unanimity and enthusiasm we sustain our government. Thousands of our beloved brethren, many of them of the ministry, have not counted their lives dear so that they might save their country.

We are grateful for your sympathy in this time of trial, and for your desire for our nation's unity. It would almost be pardonable in us to measure all other loves by the love that is borne to our land, and it would be difficult indeed for us to conceive that British Christians could look with any favor upon the establishment of a nation whose avowed corner-stone is slavery. We feel that the peace and wellbeing of this continent, the success of Protestantism and the evangelization of the world, will be promoted by fraternal relations between us as Christian Churches, so that our interests but second the promptings of our hearts in this interchange of Christian greetings.

We have therefore appointed two of the most honored and venerable of our number, Rev. Charles Elliott, D.D., and Rev. George Peck, D.D., to bear you this letter, and to express in person our sentiments toward you, and our undiminished interest in your advancing work.

Since our last to you the venerable Nathan Bangs, D.D., whose name must for all time be identified with Canadian Methodism, has gone to his reward. His was the fitting end of so worthy a life, and we glorify God both for his living and dying.

We pray that God may bless you more and more, multiplying your numbers and your power, that you may more fully honor Him who gave himself for us.

B, X.—Journal, page 41.

**ADDRESS OF REV. WILLIAM L. THORNTON, M. A.,
DELEGATE FROM THE BRITISH WESLEYAN CON-
FERENCE.**

At the close of the reading of the Address of the British Conference, Rev. Mr. Thornton spoke to the General Conference as follows:

MR. PRESIDENT, REVEREND FATHERS, REVEREND BRETHREN,—I feel that little can be required of me in dealing with the topics introduced in the document just read by your secretary; and yet, perhaps, you will allow the living voice to re-echo some of the words to which you have so respectfully listened. I am here to assure you, in the strongest terms, of the undying regard we cherish for the ministers of this Church, and for that large and influential part of the flock of God over which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers. I am here by instruction, and prompted by the deepest feelings of my heart, to assure you of our sympathy in your griefs, our admiration of your labors, our solemn and earnest prayers that the God of hosts may command his blessing upon this Church, upon all the Christian Churches of this land, and upon the country in which you live; that the blessing from above may be upon you, rich, lasting, satisfying.

Your extensive labors as a Church we have marked with admiration. Your joy is our joy. Your successes have lighted up in our distant bosoms the sparks of emulation. We have seen you following the tide of emigration toward the lands of the setting sun—following did I say? nay, often forerunning the flood of that emigration. We have met your messengers in South America, in the center of Europe, in Africa, and in the north of India. We have beheld your messengers shining like lights in the land of darkness. It would be a delight to dwell upon these themes; but I will not thus occupy your time. Your time is "more golden than gold." Weighty questions await your discussion, and what-

ever might be the fascinations to me of reviewing your course, I must forbear. But I will venture to say this much: we honor this proof of a living Christianity among you. The missionary cause is not only worthy of the noblest energies of the Church of Christ, but it is the grand object for which the Church exists in the world; and this principle is illustrated by your whole history.

In one single sentence let me say—and I am uttering the sentiment of the British Conference without an exception—Grace, mercy, and peace be with you, in all the spheres you occupy, from Him who was, and is, and is to come, and from the sevenfold Spirit, and from Jesus Christ, our common Lord and Saviour.

Bishop Morris and my reverend friends, we are not unaccustomed to look with joy upon your educational institutions. In your undertakings in this department you have shown yourselves not unworthy sons and disciples of the great man whose name you bear, nor of the memory of the early Methodist preachers, men these whose brows we would bind with chaplets of immortal green. Their names and works will be held in everlasting remembrance. God gave at first to our united societies some men of high renown—men of refined culture, men of extensive learning and great natural gifts. But many of these great helpers were not called from the quiet of classic shades, but from the avocations of laborious life—many from the mine, many from the loom, many from the plow, and others from the ranks of the common soldier. But they were too meek, too wise, too magnanimous to decry sound learning. They never designed to send a legion to the battlefield leaving their artillery behind them. They were mighty in the Scriptures. They had mastered the science of mind. They were versed in the knowledge of human nature. Above all, they had mastered the great argument of experience. They could say, “We speak that we do know, and testify that we have seen.” They knew the power of saving grace. They had a witness within them that sufficed to satisfy all their wants. Many of them preached little more than the recital of their own religious experience; but wherever they went the hand of God was with them, and that hand was mighty with them, and I will add, it is as mighty now as it was then. It has power to awaken, it has power to renew. Christianity is as mighty now upon the banks of the Thames, the Severn, the Hudson, and the Mississippi, as it was on those of the Jordan and the Tiber, when apostles preached and martyrs gave their bodies to be burned.

My dear and honored friends, we rejoice to mark that influence which you have upon the press, and to find that you are maintaining our grand primitive principles. It would ill become me to offer criticism on your publications. I may, perhaps, touch upon the correspondence which comes from our shores. I refer to the English correspondence of some of your papers, and may say we sometimes learn from it things that we did not know before, though affecting our own particular departments. There has been some cause for this hint, but half a word is sufficient.

True sympathy is not eloquent. That is my plea for the stammering and inadequate expression I shall give to another sentiment. We have not heard of your bereaved families, your scattered Churches, your bleeding country, without many tears, without many prayers. What we desire for you is an honorable and abiding peace. What we desire is the extinction of the blot of slavery from the escutcheon of a people called Christians.

I say, we wish for you an honorable peace. I read in Psalm xl, "Come, behold the works of the Lord, what desolations he hath made in the earth." But if God, the God of peace, makes desolations in the earth, it is not for the sake of the desolations, but for the bringing in of everlasting tranquillity; for it follows immediately, "He maketh wars to cease unto the ends of the earth; He breaketh the bow and cutteth the spear in sunder; He burneth the chariot in the fire." I would express my own conviction, and it is the conviction of many of my countrymen, that the Prince of Peace will claim for himself the glory for rescuing and saving your magnificent country. Bishop Morris, and reverend fathers and brethren, I rejoice to address those whose trust is not in the battle-bow or in the spear; not in the horsemen or in the chariots, but in the might of the Highest. "The Lord of Hosts is with us, the God of Jacob is our refuge." Light shall come out of darkness, God shall be glorified, and glory shall dwell in your land. We know what is the teaching of history. God works in marvelous obscurity. He makes the darkness his pavilion. He once made Babylon "the hammer of the whole earth, and the Assyrian the rod of his anger." The men of the world are a sword, but the hand that wields it is God's. I thank God that you, as a Conference, have undertaken to acknowledge this on next Friday. Surely you will have power with Him to whom the shields of the earth belong. Let me say, as we have been accustomed to say in our country in times of conflict:

"God of battles! all sustaining,
Guard the valiant soldier's head;
Let him, other dread disdaining,
Thee, the God of battles, dread!"

My own conviction just now is that we need, more than anything else, the baptism of the Spirit—floods upon the dry ground; not merely the dews or the rills, but floods upon the dry ground. This would do more than all else to settle the question. O for reviving visitations! for floods on the dry ground! There is not an instance in all history in which a nation declined even in material prosperity while religion flourished, and churches grew upon its soil. While you are true to God, he will be true to you. If God be for you, who can be against you? Many may be; but none with honor, none with success, none with impunity.

It is delightful to trace this thought, which runs like a line of light throughout the Bible. The first name given to Christ reminds us that he is the great Pacificator. "The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh

come." The prophecies announcing peace upon earth I need not repeat; and the song of the angels echoes in our ears, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, and good will to men." We know that the gates of war were closed by Augustus the very year when Christ was born. Rome was at peace when Christ came. Let his religion go everywhere in its spirit and power, and liberty and peace will flourish everywhere. Let the Prince of Peace be acknowledged throughout the earth, and it requires no prophetic glance to declare with confidence that the battle-bow will be broken, and a voice shall be heard above the tumults of the earth, "Be still, and know that I am God." This is the only true victory; for if the Neros and Catalines were chained, still wishing to be at liberty to ravage the world, that would not be a moral triumph. But Christ will speak peace to the people by extinguishing in their bosoms the unhallowed fires whence war is kindled.

I must now refer distinctly to the central point of this complication. In antislavery sentiment I will not say we are one with you—may I not say, respectfully, that you are one with us? We do not modify one word we have formerly spoken upon this subject; but there is one word in the address read by your reverend secretary to which I will just now refer. We hold slavery to be not only depressing, demoralizing, exhausting to any community, a curse to the men who suffer it, and a greater curse to the men who inflict it, but we hold it to be, in the eyes of yon pure and equal skies, evil and only evil, and evil continually. I will not say that our sentiment is unchanged. It is deepened; it is deepening. And if any supernumerary impulse had been needed to stimulate our abhorrence of a system which forbids us to "honor all men," and to "love our neighbor as ourselves," that new impulse has come from a quarter from which it was least expected. I refer to the style of advocacy which has been adopted in behalf of the institution of slavery, as though casual good, wrung from evil, altered the complexion of the evil; as though a mere permission implied a divine sanction; as though the code of morals could be reversed and iniquity hallowed at the will of those who are bold enough to trace it to the providence of God, or to seek its apology in his holy and blessed word; willing to draw darkness from eternity's own light, as though a malediction, which belongs to the earliest post-diluvial times, and limited in terms to one branch of the family of Ham, and that not the branch to which our ethnology refers the origin of the African tribes, were now to be applied to a vast continent, and in the ages of Christian peace; as though, were it otherwise, were the awful text ever so comprehensive, ever so clear, it could ever be for us to assume to do the work of God, and with one puny, erring hand to hurl his thunderbolts. God rules, and it is enough! The rod of empire can never for a moment be taken from his hands. Be glad, O Earth! and shout for joy, ye morning stars!

My reverend friends—pardon me for calling you friends, for I love you—dear, honored friends, permit me to say one earnest

word. The document, which is already indicated by some of these remarks, has been largely circulated in Europe, stitched up in many magazines. I thank God it was not stitched up in any document issuing from the Wesleyan Conference office. That document was not admitted by us. We did not wish to set such fallacies before our children, nor before children of larger growth, for we have some of that description, as I suppose you have.

And let me add that our press has always uttered a profound sympathy for the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the land in which you exercise your ministry. And so of all the smaller serials from the City Road office, and of the larger ones which are understood to be semi-official, the *Watchman*, the *Methodist Recorder*, the *London Quarterly Review*. And what else could we do unless we would erase the name of Wesley from our publications? You know his sentiments upon this subject—his words of lightning and thunder—in the letter to Wilberforce, the last he ever wrote. We must have blotted his name from our books if we had entertained any other sentiment than that to which I have referred.

And now, dear brethren, I will say a few words respecting our work in the Old World. I may speak of doctrine, polity, the present state of our Churches, our schemes and enterprises, their bearing on sister communities, and the secessions which have occurred among us. I may also glance, if time permits, at the progress of Christianity in Europe and throughout the Old World. I do not wish to boast, but to speak words of gratitude. I must say that on the great doctrines of Christianity our pulpits give no uncertain sound. Other pulpits there are which deny the inspiration of the Bible and the divinity of the Lord Jesus Christ, and which explain away his sacrificial work. A man may talk in that way once in our pulpits, but he will not do it a second time.

No surge of skepticism, no labor of a destructive historical criticism, no boast of man's power to discover in these days what the greatest of the ancients never conceived—nothing, nothing has driven us from our moorings in the Word of God, that Word which liveth and abideth forever. Rationalism, falsely so called, could never have dreamed as it has done in the light of spiritual religion, and its dreams are dispelled by the lamp of biblical science. We have taught our people that the true order of argument is this: first, to establish the authenticity of the Bible, and then its inspiration. The first battle has been fought and won. The champions of Deism, from Lord Herbert to Paine, have been met and defeated. The great champions of the truth, Leland and Leslie, Lardner and Butler, Paley and Watson, are unanswered. We have been striving to show our young people that the force of objections to the Scriptures is often magnified. We say, why lay again the foundations already so securely fixed? Let objections go for what they are worth; but let them never be held to invalidate the positive proof already in our possession. As to the question of questions, we have taught our people that the Bible is not merely the best of books, but that it is the *one book* of supreme, unchal-

lenguable authority, by which all other books are to be tested and approved. Further, that it not only *contains* the Word of God, but it *is* God's Word, as truly as if no human pen had been employed in its sacred pages; that not only do the inspired authors speak to us in God's name, but rather that he speaks to us by them.

In regard to the great system of Trinitarian doctrine, we claim to be as orthodox as Athanasius, and as evangelical as Augustine; and I am persuaded you also are so. We resolve to preach Christ, to preach him in his divine majesty, in his atoning work, in his dying love. Christ is the all in all of the Christian ministry. His is the name which is above every name. He loved us and died for us—not only for our benefit, but in our stead. We never felt the necessity more than now of affirming man's utter fall, ruin, and helplessness, and his need of a divine Saviour. Still, we proclaim a divine assurance of salvation as the common privilege of believers—light of God's countenance, as set forth in the Old Testament, the testimony of the Spirit in the New. A true faith in the Lord Jesus we know to be a faith which is of the operation of God. We hold further, the doctrine of a full salvation in Christ, and a salvation for all mankind. The doctrine of universal atonement, taught so plainly in the Scriptures, is receiving tribute and homage on all sides, and not least from the aggressive missionary efforts of the age. Some very marked indications have met us in Europe of the value of this free and unfettered preaching in Italy and in London.

And now a word on the subject of our ecclesiastical polity. We don't believe that there is any detailed system of Church government prescribed in the Bible, though we find there certain leading principles, and with these we think our Church complies. I may glance at this point again.

Those means of grace which our fathers valued we value, and pre-eminently the class-meeting. It is our prayer that the Methodist Churches may never give up the class-meeting. We believe, Bishop Morris, that the pulpit has not always vindicated the class-meeting on the highest grounds, for there are many precepts of the New Testament which can hardly be obeyed without some such arrangement. At least we ask, How can we better exhort and edify one another, or confess our faults one to another, and pray one for another, that we may be healed or bear each other's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ? Class-meeting is, to many, the criterion of a high state of spiritual life. God forbid that the class-meeting should ever come to be an institution of the past. Societies and our best people are most noted for their faithful observance of class meetings.

We have not been very earnest in maintaining the Bands. And why? Not because we think that they have not proved eminently useful to many, not because we magnify the objections to them as being particularly open to abuse, but because of the multiplied activities of the Church, and the difficulty of sustaining

them all. And our anxiety is to uphold the class-meeting, and make it do what the band-meetings were designed to do: to promote holiness among the people, and set the privilege before every believer, not as a branch of esoteric teaching, but as a blessing to be sought by all the pardoned people of God.

In passing let me say a word respecting another of the means of grace. Among the most valuable of our plans, some of us are wont to reckon the old eight o'clock Sabbath evening prayer. Time was when bands of good men hastened from each of our central chapels, at the close of public service, to conduct these meetings in every part of Sheffield, of Leeds, of Manchester, of Hull, and of many other places. The voice of prayer was heard, and songs of praise went up from many parts of our towns and cities, and hundreds were converted to God. And I venture to say that the revival and effective maintenance of these meetings—at least on our side of the water—would have a blessed result. The great matter is, we need the baptism of the Holy Ghost. How often have we said, in the language of the Nicene divines, "I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and giver of life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son." How often have we protested that our services without Him are clouds without water, clouds which (as Richard Watson said) may be gay with all the hues of light, but which mock the husbandman as they pass in brilliant career over his parched fields. The clouds we long to see are charged with the vapors of spring, tremble to the impulse of the breeze, and impatient to pour the vital shower on the dry and thirsty earth. We want the Holy Ghost.

We want the constant baptism, not merely a fruitful rain here, and sterility there and then; not excitement to-day and miserable coldness to-morrow; but zeal fed from the celestial altar, a fire that will not go out. We want a constant revival, one continual ingathering of souls. Then he that reapeth shall receive wages, and gather fruit to life everlasting. But while we desire a constant baptism of grace, we value the extraordinary effusions also, when God shall send them, and when the living waters cut their own channels. Then all hail to the life-giving floods! May they come on Europe and on America! "Awake, awake, O north wind, and blow! thou south wind, awake. Then shall the spices of the garden of the Lord flow out, and Zion will be the joy of the earth." Had I the voice of thunder, I would lift it up in affirming that what the Church wants more than everything else is the power from on high, the glory of the Holy Ghost, the pentacostal flame. Pentecost is not an obsolete word. It does not belong to old history only. The Spirit is coming—the gentle and pacific Dove is even now hovering above this assembly.

I will not dwell on the statistics of our missionary cause, but will pass on to one or two illustrations of a general kind. I am thankful that we have not been tried (as some have been) with long delays. The Church Missionary Society labored for sixteen

years before it could point to one native convert, and in the seventeenth year it numbered six or seven only. But God did not try us in that furnace. Further: our resources are now ampler than ever before. We have the Bible in one hundred and sixty-three languages, representing the vast majority of the human race. It is an impressive sign of the times, that all medical science and all sound learning are to be found in Christian lands. Around Lebanon there are Arab tribes supporting Christian schools. Throughout the Turkish empire trade and industry (agriculture alone excepted) are rapidly passing from Mohammedan into Christian hands. The Jewish mind is also trembling toward important change. In Hamburg, Berlin, and other cities of the continent, where the Jews are very numerous, they have ceased to observe with any care the Seventh Day Sabbath. There are at least seventy Jews preaching the Gospel in the Established Church, and some also in the non-conformist bodies. The meeting of a "Universal Israelite Alliance" at Paris, in 1862, was under the presidency of a literary Jew, a man of mark, who declared, "We do not come here to attack Christianity. Christianity is a sister creed, and it comes from the same spring with our own." New language, this, from Hebrew lips.

We have always observed a beautiful proportion between active missionary efforts and the prosperity of our Churches at home. These have had more light at home when they have sent the most light abroad. There is among us a deepening conviction of the greatness of the missionary work. All Evangelical Churches in England are pledged to the missionary work; all, indeed, but those who deny the Godhead and atonement of the Redeemer, and I believe they are wisely abstinent, for their cool abstraction will never convert the soul.

The record of our numbers abroad does not describe the extent of our work. Many native ministers are there who are not so marked on our stations. One hundred colonial pastors, for example, are found among our brethren in Australia. I may just refer to the jubilee movement. Before I left England the contributions promised were approaching £170,000 sterling, and this without diminishing local efforts or the ordinary revenue of the Missionary Society. In Manchester, where I attended the anniversary one week before I left England, it was announced that in that district, representing the distressed cotton population, the amount of contributions for the year just closed exceeds that of any former year, and that of the year immediately preceding by £700 sterling.

It is high time to refer to the bearing of British Methodism upon other Churches, and of other Churches upon ours. I thank God we have never striven to disturb any other communion. There is not an example, from Shetland to the Land's End, in which we have lent our churches as an arena of attack upon any other Church. We have never meddled with any other Church, save to bless it. I wish I could say as much of some others. We stand in the middle, and those who stand in the middle are liable to be assaulted

from both extremes. We stand in the middle between Pelagianism and Predestinarianism—between High Churchism and strenuous dissenters—between formalism and rant. We are in the middle, the safe middle, but we have to pay the tax for it.

High-flying ecclesiastics have said we are nobody, and less than nobody. They boldly assert their uninterrupted succession from the apostles, and make everything turn on that. Our answer is, if this is so, Why is there not a text in the New Testament to sustain you? why no list of bishops kept by the early Churches? no direction in the sacred page for the consecration of prelates? In a word, why is there no scriptural, no documentary evidence, and why do you derive only one line from twelve apostles? We have said, "If you belong to Peter, and will allow us to belong to Paul, or to holy John, we are just as well satisfied." Many earnest dissenters have been quite as willing to put us down. But the best and the greatest of men on both sides have been ready to do us justice. Our trouble has been with great men in a small way. Perhaps you have none such in these states. Smatterers have charged us with illiteracy; bigots with sectarianism; men eager to rule all except their own spirits have painted us as the worst of tyrants. Some have smiled on us while we were locally of small account, but, wanting magnanimity, have been unable to bear a rival, or calmly to see others outstrip them in the race.

Some again are ready to step into our labors and rob us of their results. There is abundant evidence, however, all over England, that what the people want is the simple Methodist preaching; and this, though not a few gentlemen have taken pains to disparage us both in regard to doctrine and discipline. These gods have come down too often from their little Olympus, but always in the likeness of men, and often intensely and insignificantly human. In this case, truly, "'tis distance lends enchantment to the view." When you come near them you find they have neither superior learning nor logical acumen, nor, in short, any great quality at all to sustain their pretensions.

It has been common in some quarters to charge us with seeking to be a hierarchy, and with the assumption of undue powers in the Church; whereas, in our judgment, no Church gives its people greater opportunities of doing good and acquiring influence. All our meetings, save those which deal with character of the clergy, are open to laity. The salaries of the ministers are in their hands. The large revenue from the pew rents of our chapels the Conference cannot touch. Each connectional fund is administered by a mixed committee.

It is true the Conference is, by the poll deed, a clerical body. To change that instrument, even in the slightest degree, would require parliamentary action. And, in truth, where the Bible is the statute book little legislation can be required; while in regard to that little a check is provided in favor of the people. Any one may freely represent his views to the Supreme Court. Finally, the guards of ministerial discipline are preserved by this arrangement.

It appears to us that these would naturally come to be weakened if gentlemen not amenable to examination were admitted to the examining body. In fact, there is a notable instance in which the result has been the entire omission of the inquiry into ministerial character. And now I must refer to some of our numerous secessions; and not with a view to disparage any one, but with a practical aim. For, to borrow a sentence from the greatest speech of the greatest orator of antiquity, "although the time of the events is past, the time to learn from them is always present." First, then, in every case agitation has arisen with one or two individuals; never with the masses of our people. And never in the direction of popular power, strictly understood; but in the direction of an oligarchy, and mainly a lay oligarchy. At one time the assaults came from opposite poles at the same time, from those who wished to go toward the Church of England, and from those who wanted to get to the greatest distance on the other side. But of late all the agitation had gone in one direction; and yet, strange to say, the seceders have always been slow to join one another. We have also observed that they have often come to adopt the very thing which at first they had condemned among us. For instance, the use of the title "Reverend," and the introduction of organs into the Churches. Further, the leaders in these movements seldom prospered in after life. They had been shamefully neglected by the people whom they had misled; and, in some notable cases, the old Wesleyans had found it necessary to give them relief in order to save them from extreme humiliation. And these secessions had contributed little or nothing to the general cause of Christian progress. I will not interpret this, I will simply mention the facts. I remember the hint of Jeremy Taylor about the writing which gleamed on the palace wall in Babylon, that it was a message of vengeance, but written in so dark a character that it needed a prophet for its interpretation.

Again: after each struggle the parent Methodist Society has put on new strength, and prepared for some new enterprise. Once more the holy discipline received from our fathers has been maintained on the side of the line marked by these controversies. In every part of England you will find that men who are lax in their theology and lax in their conduct prefer the seceders before the old Methodists. And this is no new thing, for we have had the honor to be pronounced in the cloisters of the Vatican "the worst of all Protestants." We are hated above all the rest. Yet, while we have been accused of seeking power, the tendency of all our recent legislation has been toward popular privileges; and our wish is only to be able to do our duty, and to bear the sacred burden which our Divine Master has imposed upon us.

And now, with thanks for your courtesy in listening so long, I go back to my first point. It is a delightful coincidence to me, and, let me say, a bright and blessed presage, that I meet you in Philadelphia, bringing a message of that amity from which the city draws its beautiful name, *Semper floreat Philadelphia*. Honor

and peace to her Churches! May the glory of the Lord rest upon you! Your triumph is our triumph; and who is afflicted among you and we burn not? Don't listen to men who say otherwise, bold and noisy though they be. Time was when they spoke words of war. But shall the mother country, dear and venerable, and the illustrious daughter states, ever lift up the sword against each other? Forbid it, humanity! Forbid it, sound statesmanship! Forbid it, every glance at the graves and monuments of ancestors! Forbid it, every principle of a divine and most benevolent religion! What! shall the two peoples, conspicuous to all angels and to all mankind for the profession of Christianity, conspicuous for Protestantism, conspicuous for Methodism, conspicuous for missionary zeal, and for plans of carrying the bread of life to a famishing world; these two peoples, whose renown has far outrun the flight of the Roman eagle, and the terror of the Arabian cimeter; shall these nations to whom the world is looking for light and liberty and truth, shall these nations go to war with each other? I trust in God as I answer, No! A thousand times, No! Ten thousand times, No! It shall not be told, as Satan would have it, to the Jew, nor to the roving Arab, nor to the wondering heathen, who waits for the Gospel from us, that we have lifted up the sword against each other. Sooner let our right hand forget her cunning and moulder in dishonored dust. Never! never! But I will come nearer home, and ask, Shall the Methodist Churches of these lands be estranged and separated? Shall we, who are one in religion, in doctrine, in leading principles of discipline, one in the hope of heaven, one in Christ, shall we be separated? Never! The sainted ghosts of Wesley, Coke, and Asbury would rebuke us if we thus abjured their great design. Shall these Churches, then, be divided? I answer, No! a thousand times, No! ten thousand times, No! We have written upon our banners, *one Lord, one faith, one baptism.*

And surely God is in this place. How dreadful, yet how delightful! If there is one instance above all the rest to which the word of Christ applies, "Where two or three are met together in my name, there am I in the midst," surely this is the instance and the place! (I pause not to remind such an assembly as this of the original reference of the promise.) Jesus is here. The mild, pacific Dove hovers near this assembly. Angels are here! The spirits of the mighty dead are here! I hear a word which breaks from the sepulcher of martyrs and apostles: "As touching brotherly love, ye have no need that I write unto you; for ye yourselves are taught of God to love one another." And the voice of the Spirit answers. The Lover of peace and the Lover of souls will give us his peace.

My dear and reverend brethren, you will send me back I know, I feel, with a message to my brethren in strains of the sweetest singer of our Israel, strains which have often trembled on your lips and on ours:

“ Who of twain hath made us one,
Maintains our unity ;
Jesus is the corner-stone,
In whom we all agree.

“ Servants of our common Lord,
Sweetly of one heart and mind,
Who can break a threefold cord,
Or part whom God hath joined ?

“ Partakers of the Saviour’s grace,
The same in mind and heart,
Nor joy, nor grief, nor time, nor place,
Nor life, nor death can part.”

B, XI.—Journal, pages 60, 97, 159.

**SERMON BY REV. WILLIAM L. THORNTON, M. A.,
PREACHED BEFORE THE GENERAL CONFERENCE,
MAY 16, 1864.**

[PHONOGRAPHICALLY REPORTED.]

The church was densely crowded to hear this eminent and esteemed minister and official visitor, who, by his Christian sympathy with the American Church and nation, by his sanctified talents, and by his urbane demeanor, has endeared himself to all who have had the pleasure of intercourse with him.

The reverend gentleman opened the services by reading the 11th Hymn, commencing :

“ From all that dwell below the skies,
Let the Creator’s praise arise.”

The Conference and congregation united in singing the hymn, after which the preacher led the devotions of the congregation by offering a most impressive prayer, concluding with the recitation of the Lord’s Prayer.

He then read the song of Zacharias, beginning at Luke i, 68, as the lesson for the occasion.

The 739th Hymn, commencing,

“ Jesus, the conqueror, reigns,
In glorious strength arrayed,”

was then sung by the congregation.

The preacher then announced as the text the eighteenth verse of the tenth chapter of the Gospel by St. Luke: “ I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven.”

The power of the wicked one is a marvel. That the enemy of God and man should have been permitted so long and so dreadingly to wave his iron scepter over the fairest and amplest realms of the world, that this Moloch should have been permitted to sacrifice upon his horrid altars myriads of human victims, is, indeed, more than a marvel—it is a profound mystery. It is true that the power

of the enemy is not an absolute power any more than it is a legitimate power. This is very significantly implied in the text, which speaks of his ruling "in the hearts of the children of disobedience." It is by man's guilty concurrence that the empire of Satan is maintained.

It is true, to use the striking expression of Charnock, that the power of Satan is rather that of an executioner than of a prince and sovereign. But the fact is still there. St. Paul speaks of Satan as "the ruler of the darkness of this world," and our blessed Redeemer styles him, more than once, "the prince of this world."

The fact, I repeat, is still there; and he who denies it throws away the only key for the solution of the mystery. The fact reappears on any theory. All the experiences and convictions of mankind, all the dreams of Persian and Manichean sages, all the strugglings of the soul against the pressure of an overmastering power, all show that Satan reigns. And there is no solvent of the mystery but the scriptural account.

We need not deny to a variety of reasonings on this subject their need of relative and comparative value. It may be well demanded, Was God to abstain from his noblest work in creation lest the intelligent mind should go wrong? The creation of our intelligent mind is a greater work than the projection of ten thousand shining worlds in the realms of space. But an intelligent mind implies freedom, and freedom implies the contingency of sin.

Again, is not man stimulated by hostility to more heroic virtue during his period of probation? And would the divine mercy have been developed had there been no sin and no sorrow? It is a cheering thought that we may now glorify Christ in innumerable ways that will not be open to us when we take our places among the blood-washed and glorified before the throne. This world is the battle-ground, and the eyes of the universe are fixed upon it. Lastly, have we not herein, by contract, an illustration, a magnifying evidence of the excellence of God, as contrasted with the weakness and imperfection of his creatures?

Whatever may be the result of our questionings, one thing is certain: God intends to bring light out of this darkness. A wise and gracious end is to be accomplished. The universe is to be the gainer by the experiment; and Satan's overthrow will be all the more tremendous because of his long-continued sway over the children of disobedience. On the very field which he has chosen for the display of his terrible power shall he be cast down. On this very globe, where he has so long ruled, shall he be defeated; and Christ shall be conqueror, and more than conqueror. It is to this the text refers. Swiftly, surely, as the electric flash, which comes down from the laden cloud to the earth; so swiftly, so surely shall the tyranny of Satan be destroyed, and the grand enemy be brought down, even as lightning from the skies. This province of the empire of God, so long alienated, shall be reclaimed amid the loud and louder acclaim of men and angels. Jesus shall more than conquer his great foe, who shall be humbled and tortured forever.

And whose words are these we are considering? They are the words of Him whom Satan most abhors. The lion hates the shepherd, the wolf hates the shepherd of the sheep, and Satan hates the Saviour of sinners. But that Saviour came to earth to secure the victories of the Cross. He came to destroy the works of the devil, and to deliver mankind from the iron thralldom of evil.

There were some moments in the sorrowful life of Christ when his countenance was irradiated with new and unwonted joy. Even Jesus exulted in spirit. One of these occasions was when the disciples brought him the tidings of their first victory. Their first missionary report was, "Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name." They wondered at the marvelous power which attended them. He wondered not at the power of his name. He knew that before that name devils would fear and fly; he knew that earth would rejoice and hell be forever discomfited. When as yet there were no depths, no fountains of water; long before the sun had shone and planets rolled; ere the morning stars had sung together, he knew the victories of grace that would be won.

"I was beholding your victories, I was marking your successes, I was beholding Satan fall as lightning from heaven."

Let us study these words: 1. In their original reference; 2. In some of the larger illustrations which arise in the kingdom of grace; and, 3. In some of the lessons and sentiments proper to the present time and occasion which the vision suggests.

1. We will trace the primary reference of these words by the light of the chapter in which they stand.

Among the Evangelists St. Luke alone relates the calling and mission of the Seventy. He writes in this very chapter: "After these things the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come." "Seventy," perhaps in allusion to the elders of antiquity—perhaps in allusion to the Seventy, popularly regarded, but strictly the seventy-two members of the Jewish Sanhedrim. "The Lord appointed other seventy also." This was a special and temporary agency. They were sent before him to announce his coming; to publish "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace, that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation, that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!"

This occurrence was late in time, near the close of the ministry of Christ. But he desired to give them one warning more, one voice more of entreaty and mercy. Wherever he is coming he sends his messengers before him. He knew the bloodthirsty crowd that panted for his murder. He knew the rebellious hearts of those to whom he sent his messengers; but he would give them one warning more.

Here let me say that even now it may be the case with some in this favored assembly, that the voice of God is now uttering those words: "My spirit shall not always strive with man." There is not one here, not one, not the youngest of you all upon whom

the Holy Spirit has not moved. O vex him not! O delay not to attend to the whispers of his voice! If there is one here who has provoked the Spirit so long that he is now about to depart, let me say, in the name of this assembly and on your behalf,

“Stay, thou insulted Spirit, stay,
Though I have done thee such despite,
Nor cast the sinner quite away,
Nor take thine everlasting flight.”

It is a remarkable fact that the Saviour sends the Seventy two and two, not one alone. Not one, to be found in the dread battle alone, to lie down in despondency, uncheered by the voice of a brother. Indeed, I cannot find in the New Testament one instance in which a Church was committed to the charge of one pastor. It may be right, but I cannot find the instance. I speak of the long continuance of one pastor in charge of one congregation. Nor is there a man living, we may say, who is able to minister to the necessities of a large Church and congregation for a long succession of years.

My dear and reverend friends, you will be among the first to admit the advantage of a collegiate ministry. I mean a ministry in which one is sustained by another. Your ministry is indeed, in a high and blessed sense, a united pastorate; and may the blessing of God continue to crown your labors.

What did the Master say when he commissioned the Seventy? He saw that the time of harvest was coming, and he said: “Go and preach my word, and say, The kingdom of God is at hand; but as you go, pray that the Lord of the harvest would send forth laborers into his harvest.” The tone of the instructions given to the Seventy may be paraphrased in very simple words: “Wait for nothing; provide no superfluity of attire; take no staves; salute no man by the way; don’t be anxious to make friends or strengthen your appeal. Go in my name alone, a name that has never lost its power to charm, to bless, and to save the world. Go in my great name, which will never, *never*, NEVER lose its power.”

But these disciples were likewise empowered to work miracles, to heal the sick, to cure the blind; and even the devils were made subject unto them. And they go to bless the houses into which they entered, and to carry out the great and beneficent powers conferred upon them. The power of miracles is done away because the evidence of Christianity is complete. The splendor of the miracles would grow pale if the miracles were constantly repeated. Perhaps the late Dr. Arnold is correct in his acute remark that, “None later than apostles had the power to confer the gift of miracles.” If so, the miracles wrought by the apostles in the name of Christ fulfilled a great but temporary purpose. The disciples went forth to work wonders.

At their word diseases fled; yea, even to their own amazement, the devils, the unclean spirits, bowed before them. Their mission was soon fulfilled, and they hastened back to their Master to report, “Even the devils are subject unto us.” We have often

said that God is able and willing to do for us more than we can ask or think. But does he not multiply his blessings even beyond his promises? He goes on to be gracious even beyond his written word. There is not a term in the commission of the Seventy about a power over unclean spirits. It is only, Go and heal the sick, and say unto them, "The kingdom of God is come nigh unto you." But when that triumphant name, which is above every name, was uttered, devils feared and fled; and the Seventy marveled, and they gathered up their report in that one word, "even the devils are subject unto us."

Brethren, look at the case here referred to. We have all been so familiar with the narrative of these demoniacs that we have not stopped to consider how dreadful was the case. Think of a man inhabited by demons, for Satan is not represented as possessing the man; it is by his emissary demons that this work is done. But think of an athletic, noble frame tortured, ruled, employed, the very organs of the body used by a legion of indwelling fiends. The limbs, the vocal organs, all usurped by these tyrants. I deny that this is a mere orientalism. I deny that this narrative implies epilepsy, lunacy, or any other form of mental disease. It signifies the casting out of devils. It is identified most particularly in Matthew: "And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the Gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness, and all manner of diseases among the people. And his fame went throughout all Syria; and they brought unto him all sick people that were taken with divers diseases and torments, and those which were possessed with devils, and those which were lunatic, and those that had the palsy, and he healed them." Matt. iv, 23, 24.

How marvelous the case of the demoniac! Some of our philosophic students have said that it shows the contiguity to us of unseen powers; that spirits, inhabitants of heaven or hell, are even now near us. How does the case suggest the longing of the spirit for union with some animal organism? How did the demons dread the sentence which should remit them to their own abyss? What a fearful example of Satan's power and malice! What a world he would make of this world if he were uncontrolled! He would make it far more terrible than the most terrible field of blood over which your tears have fallen during the last three years. Here is a concrete example of his power and malice. See how he tyrannizes over the poor demoniac. Here is a manifest reply to Sadduceism. Here is an argument obvious even to the vulgar apprehension; here is a proof of the existence of evil spirits; here is a case for Christ's benefic interference; here is a proof that Christ was sent to bind up the broken hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captive, and the opening of prison doors to them that are bound; to give life, and joy, and gladness to the world.

There were many bright omens when Christ came; and there was this fearful omen. I know of no other cases in history like these. It was to show that he had power extending beyond

the limits of the world, reaching even to Hades; that he had power over matter and over mind; that he had power in the unfathomable receptacles of the unseen, and over the rulers of the darkness of this world.

Now to be defeated there, to be defeated at this great and critical point, to be defeated in that very instance to which all the malice and power of Satan had been concentrated; to be defeated there, while all angels were looking on, and the whole intelligent universe marvelingly observed it; for the arch fiend to see the wasted, tortured victims of his power snatched from his grasp, relieved, comforted, solaced, exulting; to see here the presage of universal shame and defeat, and of the final triumph of the Redeemer; O what a fall! I beheld Satan like lightning fall from heaven.

Nay, further, to be defeated by such an instrumentality. A few poor men—a few tax-gatherers, tent-makers or fishermen, obscure inhabitants of an obscure district of an unimportant country of the world—a few poor men carrying only a message of peace, and strong only in the Lord. And this the Redeemer had significantly pointed out. He said, not according to his usual term, “I send you forth as *sheep*,” but, “I send you forth as *lambs* among wolves”—as though he would remind them of their feebleness and insufficiency for the work before them, and how exposed they would be to the rage of the roaring wolf, the lion of hell, and all the enmity of mankind.

Reverend fathers and brethren, you wield a power greater than the power of the warrior or the statesman or the critic. The pulpit is higher than any other stand in the world; and yet preaching is the simplest arrangement that could have been suggested. Granted that the wisdom of the arrangement can be traced even by our glimmering eyes; for preaching fixes upon the study of the Bible ten thousand of the brightest intellects of the world from day to day and from generation to generation. The preaching of the word is mighty; it runs from heart to heart; but it is powerless without the power of God. When the primitive apostles went out they boasted of no power, no learning, no armor, nothing but the panoply divine. They had the armor of righteousness upon the right hand and upon the left.

They preached in the name of their Master. Even within a few months or years they filled Jerusalem with their doctrine. Samaria with one accord believed, and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith.

See the flood of truth and light as it flows on and on and on, until it extends from Jerusalem round about unto Illyricum, to Athens, to Rome, and then onward and onward until, in a few centuries, the master of the world wrapped in imperial purple sat beneath the shadow of the cross; until the religion of Jesus became the established religion of the most erudite and powerful nations of the earth. Surely, we may say, it is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes. Fifteen hundred years ago Chrysostom, when

preaching in the Cathedral of Constantinople, said, in reference to the extension of the Gospel, "It has gone from the Ægean to the German shores;" and when finishing a magnificent climax, added, "Even Britain has heard the word of life!" Ah, brethren, Chrysostom had never heard of these Hesperian shores.

Yes, blessed be God! Britain has heard the word of life, and Britain and America are now publishing that word in one hundred and sixty-three languages of the earth. Fly, everlasting Gospel! Fly, till all men shall hear the glad tidings of salvation! And it shall fly. The preaching of the Gospel shall never cease until the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of God. We have heard the press magnified, and its power is great. We have heard the lecture-room magnified, and the power of the lecture-room is great; but, brethren, the preaching of the Gospel is higher, nobler, grander, more powerful. Never, never may the pulpit become the place of mere lecturing! O for the power to preach the Gospel as when apostles taught and martyrs bled!

And here let me say everything in the Bible is true—everything from Moses to Revelation; but in the whole Bible one doctrine is magnified above all the rest. It is *the truth*, that which saves the soul. We write on our banners, "It is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." O let that word fill every laud; let it be echoed in every dwelling; let it bless every family; let it save every soul by the power of the Holy Spirit. To borrow a word from Chalmers: "I am standing on the coast and looking at the low line of blue land stretching away, away, and I see nothing but that line of blue land. But bring me the telescope, and immediately there shall burst on my view groves, cornfields, villages, spires, rivers—a charming variety. But the glass brings no object on the field, only enables me to see what is there already. So of the Spirit's glass."

Here is Paradise regained and reopened to us. Give me the Bible, and the Bible alone, to discover to me the great facts to which inspiration has given expression.

Had Jesus merely healed diseases of the body there had been no proof of his power over both worlds. But in the expulsion of Satan he has achieved an obvious triumph. When the disciples rejoicingly informed him of their success he said in effect, "I was beholding it. I witnessed your triumph. I saw 'Satan like lightning fall from heaven.' I knew it of old, even in the beginning, when there were no depths, when there were no fountains abounding with water; even then I rejoiced, foreseeing in the habitable parts of the earth, and my delights were with the sons of men."

And now the Redeemer enlarges the powers of the Seventy. "Behold I give you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing shall by any means hurt you." I know not whether Satan has not had some remarkable power over serpents from the beginning; certainly some of the most remarkable signs and wonders in heathendom have been

wrought on serpents, or by means of them. "I give you power over serpents;" but let there be no martial pride, no party enthusiasm, no human flame of ambition. Do not exult merely or mainly that to you is given the victory over opposers, but cherish such a joy as Jesus felt. Once he rejoiced, but it was a joy in the accomplishment of his father's purposes. Let your joy be self-forgetting—a rapture that loses itself in his blessed presence and everlasting praise. "Rejoice that your names are written in heaven." Let me have that joy, let my dear friends here, you, have that joy. Your grateful hearts respond, "Yes, we know that our names are written in heaven." We are not in the mist, else why did the prophets of old desire to see what we see, and to know what we know? Why, then, did they desire our dimmer day? Ah, brethren, you walk in the light of a glorious Gospel day.

You have often sung,

"Long my imprisoned spirit lay,
Fast bound in sin and nature's night:
Thine eye diffused a quick'ning ray;
I woke; the dungeon flamed with light:
My chains fell off, my heart was free,—
I rose, went forth, and followed Thee."

"Rejoice, then, because your names are written in heaven." The greatest miracle is less than an enfranchisement in heaven, the city of the great King.

II. But it is high time to remind you that the victory over these unclean spirits, and their expulsion from the human habitation they had insulted, degraded, and tortured, was a mere pledge of things to come; a prelude to higher conquests and sublimer achievements. "These great words," says a learned German commentator, "look back, and look forward also." The great thing is not the expulsion of a few wretched demons, but the light thus shed upon the great work of man's redemption. The great doctrine is this: The hour is come that the Son of man should be glorified. The subjection of the unclean spirits is not the cause, but the effect, of a higher triumph, accomplished by a stronger than the strong man armed.

Christ must reign. "Shall the prey be taken from the mighty? Shall the lawful captive be delivered?" The prey shall be taken; and, though we deny that the captivity is lawful, the captive shall be delivered. The stronger man shall gain the victory, and on this terrestrial field, for this is the very ground on which wonders are to be wrought out. The eyes of the universe are fixed on this planet as the scene of most stupendous strife and of the greatest victories of grace. And let it never be forgotten that Jesus triumphs *in or by the cross*. "And having spoiled principalities and powers," says St. Paul, "he made a show of them openly, triumphing over them in it," that is, in the cross. Two glorious words assure us of it; one from the father God, and one from the filial God. The first is, "But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is forever and ever; a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of thy kingdom; thou hast loved righteousness and hated iniquity:

therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with gladness above thy fellows." The other is the word of the Redeemer: "All power is given unto me, both in heaven and earth."

Now the divine government is reinstated on safe and ample foundations; now, while man is saved, God is glorified; now the divine perfections are brought out in new splendor.

"The first archangel never saw
So much of God before."

Redemption is accomplished. "I have finished the work," said Christ, "which thou gavest me to do." But that work could never be accomplished without the dethronement of Satan, the enemy of God and of man. The sentence of dethronement is already passed. "Now is the crisis of the world; now shall the prince of this world be cast out." There never was such a crisis before. The world has had many memorable hours, but never one like that.

Under the new dispensation Christ dethrones Satan:

1. By an exposure of his character, aims, plans, and certain ruin.

Has it ever struck you how little is said of Satan in the Old Testament? He is not mentioned in the five books of Moses, except (it may be) in one allusion to a "Child of Belial." In the sacred books following he appears but a few times; for example, as tempting David to number the people; again, as appearing in the company of worshipers, according to Job; and again, as confronting the high priest, as you read in Zechariah. How dark the enigma of his history would be if it were not for the light shed upon it in the New Testament!

How little is said, save in these later inspired books, of the great battle of life. How little of the use of the sword of the Spirit, that we may overcome the darts of the evil one. It is in the New Testament he appears not only as Satan the adversary, and Belial the wicked one, but also as the devil the accuser, and Apollyon the destroyer. It is there we see Christ assailed by the tempter, but coming forth more than conqueror, while angels come to minister unto him. The more we know of Satan's character the less the influence he can wield over us. In fact, to show him up is to put him down. If he be known in his true characteristic—an assassin of souls, a liar from the beginning, a destroyer—he will be driven from the throne he is ambitious to fill, the throne of the world's mind and homage; and we learn all this from the teachings of Christianity.

2. There is an actual limitation of his power wherever the Gospel comes, and this far beyond the limits of the Church. History has never done justice to the fact.

No historian, even down to Macaulay or Prescott, has duly shown the obligation of the world to the Gospel. Satan can never reign in a sphere of liberty, and love, and light; he flies away, scared by the new splendors. O what we owe to the Gospel! say for our literature, our equal laws, our manifold institutions.

Wherever the Gospel comes Satan's power declines. Where now is witchcraft, magic, sorcery? In no land which the Gospel has irradiated.

3. The recovery of souls is a yet grander illustration. Souls renewed and saved. The lion tamed into the lamb, and the desert blossoming as the rose. Dear brethren, you have often marked the victories of Jesus, exemplified in "turning men from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God." And ah! with what malignity does Satan look upon the awakened soul! He will do anything and everything to prevent his salvation and compass his ruin, to keep him back from Christ, and prevent him from coming into the kingdom of God. He will willingly allow him to make a pilgrimage to Mecca, to Rome, to Canterbury, to holy shrines and martyr's tombs, but he is not willing for him to come to the cross. Christ sees this. It is the moment. All things are ready, and Satan throws many an impediment and obstacle in the way. He seeks to make the truths of the Gospel obscure. He exults if he can keep the sinner away from Christ. You remember the case of the poor sufferer who was coming to Christ, and the devil threw him down. He has thrown many down in coming to Christ; but when the soul fully resolves to come, saying, "If I perish, I perish." I will perish where no man has ever perished; where the trembling sinner casts himself upon Jesus, and under the shadow of the cross says, in the words of the old Moravian hymn:

"Lo! glad I come; and thou, blest Lamb,
Shalt take me to thee, as I am;
Nothing but sin have I to give,—
Nothing but love shall I receive."

"I believe in Christ, my Saviour. I trust him. I take the blessing on his terms;" then the Divine Spirit enables the struggling soul to believe and enter into rest. Then Satan fell from heaven. Then he loses a slave and Christ gains a subject. And it shall be said of Zion, "This and that man were born there." These victories will be multiplied as they were in the primitive days, for the power of Christ is not abridged; his arm is not shortened; neither is his ear heavy, "that he cannot save." "Awake, awake; put on strength, O arm of the Lord; awake, as in the ancient days, in the generations of old. Art thou not it that hath cut Rahab, and wounded the dragon? Art thou not it which hath dried the sea, the waters of the great deep; that hath made the depths of the sea a way for the ransomed to pass over?" The usurper shall not forever reign over the spirit of man. This world shall be recovered and restored to its allegiance, and Satan shall be forever cast out.

4. Once more, in the experiences of the Christian's life, and in the triumph of his death, Satan is cast down.

I will refer to one or two points only. First, it is said in the Epistle to the Hebrews that, "In that he himself hath suffered, being tempted, he is able to succor them that are tempted." I dare not say, as some do, that Christ could not have entered into

our case if he had never been tempted, but I will say that his sympathy comes to us as more real, more appreciable, because he has trodden the same path. I am tempted, so was he. I am poor, so was he. I am standing on the brink of the grave, so did he. I am to lie down in the dust, so did he, and

"Where should the dying members rest
But with their dying Head."

He is "touched with the feeling of our infirmities." He understands all about us by his own experience of sorrow and woe, and in this respect he gains a glorious victory.

But I have referred to the dying hour, the last conflict, the time when all earthly things fade from our vision, when eternity comes near. What can enable us to triumph then? I read in the same epistle: "Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; and deliver them, who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage."

I will frankly confess that for years that word appeared to my mind one of the most obscure in the Bible, that Satan had the power of death in any sense. He never had the power of life, but, in some awful sense, he had the power of death. He had the power to make death terrible, and the grave gloomy. But Jesus comes, according to the latter clause of the text, which is exegetical, to deliver us from the fear of death.

Have you noted how little of victory over death there is in the Old Testament? We know that the fathers of the Old Testament Church looked forward to a glorious resurrection. When the man of Uz wished to write his words on the rock forever, the testimony he wished to render imperishable was, "I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: and though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God: whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another; though my reins be consumed within me."

Yes, they looked for a glorious resurrection. But what of Hades? What of the intervening state? They spoke of "the land of darkness and of the shadow of death," the subterranean cavern of the dead. They seemed to think they were drearily to await the coming morning. Read the elegiac words of Hezekiah, or those of David: "The dead praise not the Lord: neither any that go down into silence."

My dear and honored friends, it is in the New Testament that victory over death becomes complete, and death is swallowed up of life. And what mean those words, "If a man keep my saying he shall *never see death*?" And again, "Who *hath abolished death*, and hath brought life and immortality to light?" And again, "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord *from henceforth*." Even so, saith the spirit, for they rest from their labors, and their

works do follow them." Why do we speak of dying? Death is no longer death! It is the entrance of life, the messenger of glory. The Master says: "I am the resurrection and the life." Is it not with him as with good Josiah, who was smitten by archers on the blood-red field? and yet it is said that he was gathered to his fathers in peace. If the outward man decay, and agony and sorrow mark the occasion, yet the inward man is renewed day by day. And there is a spirit of health which is "most vigorous when the body dies."

"The soul's dark cottage, battered and decayed,
Lets in new light through chinks which time hath made;
Stronger by weakness wiser men become
As they draw near to their eternal home."

We have heard dying Christians declare, "There is light in the valley." "This enemy is forever vanquished."

"I trample death beneath my feet,
And gladly die, my Lord to meet."

So in the very article of death, on that dread occasion which Satan brought into the world by sin, there, on his own field, is Satan brought down like lightning from heaven.

III. And now, reverend brethren and friends, allow a few words of application.

And, first, let us learn not to magnify our great adversary unduly and unreasonably.

I grant that he is a terrible enemy; but he is not omnipotent. I grant that he has many marshaled legions; but he and his forces are not omnipresent. He is shrewd and subtle; but he is not prescient. He knows many things; but he cannot search the heart. God only can do that. The enemy is great; but if we fight him in our Master's strength we shall conquer. He that is for us is more than all that are against us.

"The weakest saint shall win the day,
Though death and hell obstruct the way."

Secondly, see the secret of all spiritual success. "I send you forth as lambs among wolves."

There are in this assembly many men of power, men of learning, men of piety; but the chiefest among you, the wisest and most reverend among you, will be the first to acknowledge that all their power is from above. "All my springs are in thee." On our banners, streaming in the breeze, is the motto: "When I am weak then am I strong." Of our great forerunners in the race, it is said that they subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword," but, also, *out of weakness were made strong*, waxed valiant in fight, turned to fight the armies of the aliens." But it was all done "through faith," faith in the word and power of the Highest.

And God still helps us to conquer. We have often seen his interposition just when we might least have expected it; when prominent and gifted men of the Church have been taken away,

or some great calamity has swept over the Church. Then the Redeemer has come to our help. Then he has shown himself mighty to save. Indeed, he seems to delight to show himself the one, the only one, mighty to save. Then we have asked, "Who is this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah? this that is glorious in his apparel, traveling in the greatness of his strength." And he has answered for himself, "I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save." And when remonstrating we have said, "Wherefore, if thine errand is one of saving, art thou red in thine apparel, and thy garments like him that treadeth in the wine-fat?" He has answered again, "I have trodden the wine-press alone, and of the people there was none with me. And I looked, and there was none to help, and I wondered that there was none to uphold; therefore mine own arm brought salvation unto me; and my fury, it upheld me."

Fathers and brethren, if He be for us who can be against us? Strong are we in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

Classical writers speak of warriors whose armor was so glittering as to spread terror among their enemies. O for armor of glorious light! O for the sword of etherial temper! O for the shield of faith and the helmet of salvation and the breastplate of righteousness!

Go, fathers and brethren, go in the might of your Saviour. He will be with you; and to the eye of your faith, as to the eye of the prophet's servant, the mountains shall appear covered with chariots of fire and horses of fire, celestial squadrons your willing allies. Victory, eternal victory, shall crown your labor. The vineyard is before you, and the great Redeemer waits with the amaranthine crown in his hands to hail you to immortal glory.

But, brethren, let us give God all the praise in the moment of triumph. We have seen marked instances in which a great revival has been stopped by human boasting or folly, and the Holy Spirit has been grieved; and perhaps he lingered a while and then departed. And let there be no sectarian boasting, no irreverence before God. Is it not wonderful that he suffers us, his humblest creatures, to speak in his great name; that he sends us as lambs among wolves? Not unto us—not to Paul, or James, or John; not to Luther, or Wiclif, or Latimer; not to Wesley, or Whitefield, or Asbury; not to our fathers here—"not unto us, not unto us: but unto the name of the Lord be the praise." I know you will allow me to collect the incense of your praise, as in one censer, and to pour it out in humble gratitude; "Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen."

Let me acknowledge for you, and for my European friends, that from that divine spring all blessing comes, in every age, in every clime, from the Father through the Son, and by the Holy Ghost. Brethren, we have not magnified the Spirit as we ought to have done; we have not felt the force of that inspired word, "Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it; except

the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain." Have we not sometimes spoken as though by our own skill, power, church organization, the wonder and admiration of the world, the talents and learning of our ministers, the wealth flowing into our coffers, as if by these things the victory is to be accomplished? But God has often taught us, by humiliating lessons and by painful discipline, that he alone will be magnified.

And now, brethren, farewell. Grace, mercy, and peace be upon you. May the blessing of God be with you. May Satan fall before you like lightning from heaven. May these realms be soon crowned with glorious peace. May America rise to be, more than ever, a benefactress of the world. We have sometimes called England "the lighthouse of the world." America is now one of the lighthouses of the world. O may the light spread more and more! Why should it not be as when Vattor preached near Leeds, and a hundred souls were then melted in penitence? Why not as when Whitefield received in one week a thousand letters from individuals who had been awakened under his preaching? Why not as when the "Great Revival," under Edwards and others, occurred in New England? Christ is the same. His arm has not lost its power to save. Christianity is not obsolete or effete. The day was not brighter at its dawn than it is at its meridian. And it is a day that shall be succeeded by no night. It is a day that shall shine brighter and brighter until the prayer shall be fulfilled which you have often prayed, which has arisen from Australia, from Nova Scotia, from Africa, from India, from all parts of the world.

"Thou Saviour of all,
 Effectually call
 The sinners that stray;
 And O let a nation be born in a day!
 * * * * *
 "Then, then let it spread,
 Thy knowledge and dread,
 Till the earth is o'erflowed,
 And the universe filled with the glory of God."

At the close of the sermon the hymn commencing

"Jesus, the name high over all,
 In hell, or earth, or sky"

was sung, and the services were closed with the benediction by Bishop Morris.

REPORTS ON PUBLISHING INTERESTS.

C, I.—Journal, page 75.

REPORT OF THE BOOK AGENTS AT NEW YORK.

FATHERS AND BRETHREN,—The four years embraced in this report have involved unusual difficulty and solicitude, arising from the slaveholders' rebellion, and the consequent derangement of all kinds of business. Yet through the good providence of God the Book Concern has continued to prosper. For particular information in regard to its operations and present condition you are respectfully referred to the following statements :

OF REAL ESTATE.

In this department some changes have occurred worthy of special notice. The house in Seventh-street has been sold on the recommendation of the Book Committee. We have also sold a part of our land in Michigan, and taken some other small lots in payment of debts. In the autumn of 1860 we purchased the two lots on Sutter-street, in San Francisco, recommended to us by the General Conference at its last session, for the sum of *Five Thousand Dollars*. Deeming it inexpedient, in view of the state of the country and other circumstances, to build a store just then, the lots were leased until the summer of 1862, when we sold them for the sum of *Twelve Thousand Dollars* cash, and purchased three other lots on Mission-street for *Seven Thousand Three Hundred Dollars*. During the past year we have erected a store on one of these lots twenty feet front by sixty feet deep, four stories high above the basement, with a back building for the accommodation of the *Advocate* published in that city. The *real* value of the property as it now stands we are unable to give. It is said to be worth \$25,000. But in our Exhibit for 1863 it is put at \$5,000, just the original cost of the Sutter-street lots. The reason for this was that we did not receive a detailed report of the property in season to present it in its full proportions. It will be safe to estimate it at \$20,000, and add to the estimate \$11,894 43, which is our actual profit on the investment inclusive of interest and rent.

Before leaving this subject it is our duty to say that these encouraging and valuable results have been reached through the special agency of Rev. E. Thomas, editor of the *California Christian Advocate*, and Capt. I. B. Thomas, a distinguished gentleman and friend at San Francisco, to both of whom the Church is much indebted for their active and faithful labors.

NEW BUILDINGS.

By referring to the Journal of the last General Conference, page 442, it will be seen that we were authorized to take early steps to secure a new store in the city of New York. This was well, and has been under consideration; but, owing to the unsettled state of the country, nothing has been consummated. Every month renders such a store more and more necessary, and our increasing business imperatively demands the appropriation of our store-rooms to manufacturing purposes, or the extension of our buildings. We think that you will be safe to *instruct* the Agents that may be appointed to attend to this important interest at their earliest convenience.

The last General Conference also recommended to us to provide, by purchase or otherwise, a building in the city of Boston for the accommodation of our Depository. Another resolution was passed with regard to Pittsburgh, looking to the accommodation of the Depository and the *Pittsburgh Christian Advocate* in that city. The reasons which deterred us from erecting a store in New York, with others of great weight, have seemed to your Agents and the Book Committee to lie with superior force against the immediate consummation of these enterprises. It will afford us great pleasure to give the conference or its committee full information on the subject.

BOOK BUSINESS.

In this department we have followed the policy indicated in our last report as the *true* one, issuing small editions, and keeping our books new and fresh. The result is we have very little unsalable stock on hand.

NEW ISSUES.

The general depression of trade arising from the breaking out of the rebellion rendered it necessary for us to move cautiously in this branch of the business. We have, however, issued new works during the last four years ending Jan. 1, 1864, as follows:

On the General Catalogue.....	47
On the Sunday-School Catalogue.....	204
Tracts, 12mo.....	30
Total.....	281

Besides these, we have published Picture Papers, Sunday-School Tracts and requisites, and other valuable works, all of which go to increase our variety and meet the wants of the Church.

Business being very dull, and our numerous and long-trying workmen needing employment, in the summer of 1862 we introduced a branch not necessarily involved in our main objects, but perfectly consistent with them. We refer to the Album business.

This required but little outlay for machinery or tools, but it proved signally advantageous to the workmen and to the profits of the Concern. We are doing a little at it at present, but not enough to interfere with our regular business.

SALES.

Our sales were at first considerably injured by the rebellion cutting off all our southern trade, and greatly restricting that of other parts of the country. But taking the four years together we have done a large business.

Sales of Books in 1860.....	\$284,607 21	
“ Periodicals “	97,073 73	
		\$381,680 94
“ Books in 1861.....	\$179,024 85	
“ Periodicals “	91,965 01	
		270,989 86
“ Books in 1862.....	\$225,007 25	
“ Periodicals “	90,725 71	
		315,732 96
“ Books in 1863.....	\$428,572 61	
“ Periodicals “	110,896 81	
		539,469 42
Total sales.....		\$1,507,873 18

Special efforts on your part to promote the circulation of our books and tracts will be exceedingly appropriate. There is probably no power in the hands of the Church that is comparatively so little appreciated as that which is embraced in these publications. When preachers shall come to avail themselves of these appliances in a skillful manner they will certainly secure a degree of success which few have realized.

PRICES AND DISCOUNTS.

The prices of our books are generally higher than at our last report, owing to the remarkable advance in the cost of material and labor. Toward the close of 1862 we added about twenty per cent. This, however, was not done until it became indispensable, nor until most, if not all other publishers had moved in the same direction. Nor have we made any general advance since, though the cost of stock and labor have increased very considerably, and other houses have increased their prices accordingly. Our discounts remain about the same. We would repeat what we said on this subject in our last report with emphasis.

DEPOSITORIES.

The Depositories reported as in successful operation four years ago have been managed with skill and fidelity by their respective

agents, and have contributed much to the prosperity of the Concern. The sales have been as follows:

BOSTON, 1860.....	\$54,374 18
“ 1861.....	42,694 25
“ 1862.....	50,003 97
“ 1863.....	82,725 17
Total.....	\$229,797 57
PITTSBURGH, 1860.....	\$20,320 59
“ 1861.....	12,101 90
“ 1862.....	15,443 92
“ 1863.....	25,738 97
Total.....	\$73,605 38
BUFFALO, 1860.....	\$24,188 87
“ 1861.....	17,074 44
“ 1862.....	21,545 03
“ 1863.....	43,055 29
Total.....	\$105,863 63

In accordance with the instructions of the last General Conference, we have lately opened a Depository in our new store, before-mentioned, at San Francisco, Cal., under the agency of Rev. E. Thomas. It has been our object to supply it with a complete stock of our own and other useful books, stationery, etc., but owing to the miscarriage of one heavy shipment, and the shortness of time, we have as yet failed to do so. It appears, however, to have made a good beginning, and bids fair to become a valuable auxiliary to the business and usefulness of the Concern.

For our views in regard to the general question of Depositories we beg leave to refer you to our last report. (See *Journal*, pp. 340, 341.)

DEBTS AND CREDITS.

The debts of the Concern January 1, 1860, were \$104,294 99. A large portion of this was due the Church South, and was paid at maturity. Our present indebtedness, indicated by the exhibit, which forms a part of this report, is \$34,899 83, more than half of which is on account, and accrued in the necessary course of business. The principles of business adopted prior to the last General Conference, and reported to that body under the head of “debts and credits,” have been generally adhered to, and have worked well for the Concern.

PERIODICALS.

Owing to the very great advance in the cost of stock and labor we have been obliged to increase the prices of all our periodicals. This, as a matter of course, decreased their circulation; but as the people have become accustomed to higher prices, they seem quite satisfied with our present terms.

The Christian Advocate and Journal.

This paper has done well, though it has paid less profit than formerly. Four years ago we reported some restriction on its circulation, arising from the establishment of a competing paper within its patronizing territory called the "Baltimore Advocate." This difficulty, however, would soon have been overcome. But a more formidable one awaited it in the publication of another paper, started soon after the General Conference, in the city of New York, by certain influential brethren who were dissatisfied with the action of that conference on two points. This paper was sent to our subscribers far and near, with circulars and agents, appealing to them in the most ingenious and energetic manner to rally to its support. These measures were too successful for our convenience, and caused much division and alienation among our subscribers. It should also be known that we had the steady competition of three other outside papers within the State, which sought and received no inconsiderable patronage from our people. But, thanks be to God! and to the faithful friends who stood by us, the old Advocate was not driven from the field, nor did it fail to pay expenses. We are now circulating about 26,500 weekly, with a growing prospect of a liberal increase.

The Quarterly Review.

This valuable work suffered somewhat by our national convulsions, but still maintains its high reputation and pays its expenses, charging it one half of the editor's salary, the other half being charged to the book department under his care. Its present circulation is about 3,300, which existing measures must augment by some hundreds before the close of the volume.

The Sunday-School Advocate.

This popular sheet has gone safely through the storm of the last four years. Its average semi-monthly circulation has been 127,975 copies at New York, and 101,250 at Cincinnati. The work pays expenses, and is likely to run a long and increasingly useful race.

The Sunday-School Teachers' Journal.

This work has failed to meet our expectations. It was thought to be much needed to aid teachers in their difficult duties, and we issued it with great confidence that it would be received with joy by that noble class of laborers in our common cause. But we have been disappointed. Though it is a most interesting work, and the only one of the kind published, but few comparatively have seen fit to take it. It has never had over 25,000 subscribers, and much of the time not more than fifteen thousand. We have thought of suspending it, but its patrons have prized it so highly, that with the advice of the Book Committee we have continued it to the present time, though it has hardly paid expenses, allowing

nothing for editorial service. It still seems to be greatly needed, and we are unwilling to believe that it will not come to be appreciated and sustained.

The Good News.

Four years ago we were publishing the Good News for the Tract Society. In the spring of 1861 we adopted it as a Book Room publication, since which time it has had an increasing circulation and paid expenses. No issue of the Concern has met with a more hearty welcome, or has been more useful. Some 50,000 copies go monthly to the army and navy. It is a power for good, reaching thousands who would not read a tract or listen to a sermon.

The Pacific Christian Advocate.

For particular information concerning the success of this paper we refer you to the quadrennial report, which will probably be presented by the Publishing Committee. The investment made in the purchase of the printing office, and reported four years ago, stands upon our books as then, without alteration. We credited the aforesaid committee \$2,000, ordered by the last General Conference, and have since paid them \$4,000 to meet deficiencies. (See *Journal* of 1860, p. 434.)

California Christian Advocate.

The interests of this paper too will doubtless be presented to you by the Publishing Committee. The paper having failed to meet expenses, we have advanced to the said committee \$4,000, under the order of the General Conference of 1860. (See *Journal*, p. 442.)

EXHIBIT FOR 1864.

The following statement shows the property of the Concern January 1, 1864:

Assets.		
1. REAL ESTATE.—House and Lot in Sixth-street.....	\$7,000 00	
Buildings and Lots on Mulberry and Mott streets.....	70,000 00	
Lots in San Francisco.....	5,000 00	
Other Real Estate.....	1,300 00	
		\$83,300 00
2. CASH.—Cash on hand.....		6,940 00
3. MERCHANDISE.—Bound Books, Editors' Library, etc.	\$90,196 10	
4. PRINTING OFFICE.—Presses, Type, Stereotype Plates, Paper, Steel Engravings, etc..	108,540 75	
5. BINDERY.—Sheet-stock, Tools, Materials, etc.....	119,489 30	
		318,226 15
6. NOTES AND BOOK ACCOUNTS.—Due on Notes and Book Accounts.....	\$231,342 88	
Deduct 33½ per cent. for bad debts.....	77,114 29	
		154,228 59
Total Assets.....		\$562,694 74

Liabilities.

The Concern owes on Notes.....	\$16,999 79	
" " Accounts.....	17,900 04	
		<u>\$34,899 83</u>
		\$527,794 91
To this should be added \$11,894 43 on account of the real estate in San Francisco, now estimated at \$20,000.....		<u>11,894 43</u>
Making our Total Assets.....		\$539,689 34

But this amount, being \$1,032 46 less than the capital stock in 1860, you will be misled in regard to the success of the business during the last four years, and the relative value of the property, unless we bring to view an important change made in the bases of estimation. Believing that the property of all kinds was over-estimated, to the disadvantage of the Church in many respects, we have reduced the estimate as follows:

On the Real Estate, the same or nearly so as that reported four years ago.....	\$38,703 53
On Machinery, Tools, Cuts, Sheet-stock, Books, etc.....	69,384 23
Additional discount on dues to the Depositories.....	18,570 51
	<u> </u>
Total Reduction.....	\$126,658 27

Something of the ratio of reduction may be seen by comparing the exhibit presented four years ago with the present one. In that the buildings and lots on Mulberry and Mott streets were put at \$101,585 30; in this at \$70,000. This change has been made purely from economical considerations. No serious damage can accrue from an under-estimate, but an over-estimate has led to many evils, and may lead to many more. Further explanations will be given if desired.

THE PROFITS OF THE CONCERN.

The following items will show you the profits of the Concern during the last four years:

Amount added to the capital stock of 1860 to make up for the reduction above named.....	\$125,625 81
Paid to the Publishing Committee of the Pacific Christian Advocate, as per order of the General Conference, \$2,000, on old account, and on current expenses, \$4,000	6,000 00
Paid the Publishing Committee of the California Christian Advocate, as per like order.....	4,000 00
Paid on account of expenses of delegates to the last General Conference, \$3,717 19, less \$1,239 06 paid by Poe & Hitchcock ..	2,478 13
Paid expenses of Committee on Ritual.....	178 71
Paid dividends to the Conferences in 1863	19,600 00

Paid on account of salaries and traveling expenses of Bishops and allowances to widows of Bishops.....	\$46,186 69
Sundry other expenses ordered by the General Conference, \$1,472 29, less amount paid by Poe & Hitchcock, \$256 29.....	1,216 00
Total.....	\$205,285 34

DIVIDENDS.

The policy of the Church to appropriate the profits of the Book Concern to the benefit of the traveling, supernumerary, superannuated and worn-out preachers, their wives, widows, and children, was founded in wisdom. The Concern doubtless owes much of its success to it. But in consequence of the division of the property with the Church South, dividends were suspended in 1853, with the assurance that they should be restored so soon as the Southern claims should be discharged. In view of this fact, and the imperative obligations imposed by the Discipline, we felt that we could do no less than to concur in the recommendation of the Book Committee, adopted in February, 1863, upon which we declared a dividend of \$400 to each conference. Religious bodies must keep good faith with all parties in interest if they would be trusted. Whether these dividends are of any real advantage to the conferences or the needy beneficiaries, and whether circumstances do not demand a change of the Discipline at this point, are questions worthy of your consideration. But, as Agents, we had no alternative but to carry out the settled policy and Discipline of the Church as we found them. We ought not, however, to conceal the conviction that some modification is necessary. It is difficult for us to see the authority for certain appropriations that have been made. But should no change occur excluding dividends to the conferences, we submit to you whether it may not be expedient for you to determine the percentage of the profits hereafter accruing that shall be distributed in this way.

CARLTON & PORTER, *Agents.*

C, II.—Journal, page 75.

REPORT OF THE BOOK COMMITTEE AT NEW YORK.

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN,—The Book Committee at New York ask leave to lay before you the following report:

Since the last General Conference we have held a meeting in each year in the month of February, at which all the members of the committee have been present, except in a single instance of absence occasioned by sickness.

Careful investigation has satisfied us that the Agents in charge of the "Concern" are interested, capable, and faithful men. Each successive year the conviction has strengthened that they are the "right men in the right place."

Notwithstanding the unhappy condition of the country, these have been four years of prosperity, which has increased annually, enabling the Agents not only to pay the balance of award to the Church South, together with all the salaries and appropriations ordered by the General Conference, but also to declare a dividend of \$400 to each of the Annual Conferences in 1863, and to make it advisable, as we think, to declare the same dividend in 1864.

In accordance with instructions given by the last General Conference to the Book Agents and Book Committee "to have the accounts of the Book Concern audited," one of the most competent accountants in New York was employed, to whose inspection (accompanied by one of our number) said accounts in all departments of the "Concern" were submitted without reserve; and who, after a thorough investigation, made an able and elaborate report, in which he remarks: "An examination such as is proposed will be of no practical value unless it is made thorough by tracing every entry to its source." "It is of course impossible to say just how much time would be needed to make the examination; but I do not hesitate to say that if the work were performed by an accountant sufficiently master of his business to do it well, *it would be a labor of months to examine and audit the accounts of the Concern for a single year!*" "The books of the Concern appear to contain a full record of the business in all its departments." "As far as my observation extended I discovered no omission in recording every fact that was necessary to a perfect understanding of the business, or to a full statement of its results." These opinions, reached after careful deliberation, harmonizing with the views of the Agents and the Committee, they deemed it inexpedient and needless to push the investigation further.

The premises are becoming too restricted for the work, constantly increasing because of the prosperity of the Book Concern. Progress in the same ratio will soon render enlargement, by removal or otherwise, necessary.

We regret to learn that the "Sunday-School Teachers' Journal" is published at a small loss; but as it is a requisite in our economy we think it should be continued.

A comparison of the Exhibits made by the Agents in 1860 and 1864 shows only about \$25,000 more assets in the latter year than in the former. This showing, which may mislead, and which will be fully explained in the forthcoming Quadrennial Report of the Agents, arises from the fact that a large share of the profits have been applied to the reduction of the estimated value of the property of the "Concern."

We think it due to the Agents in charge of the Depositories to say that by their prudent and skillful management they have contributed largely to the prosperity of our publishing interests.

In conclusion, your Committee deems it both a duty and a pleasure to express their gratification in view of the undisturbed harmony which has pervaded all their meetings, and all their interviews with the Agents and Editors; and their belief that their joint labors have been promotive of the interests of this great publishing agency of the Church.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

GEORGE PECK, *Wyoming Conference.*

C. B. TIPPETT, *East Baltimore Conference.*

GARDNER BAKER, *Black River Conference.*

W. H. PILSBURY, *East Maine Conference.*

JOHN COIL, *Pittsburgh Conference.*

M. D'C. CRAWFORD, *New York Conference.*

S. Y. MONROE, *New Jersey Conference.*

C, III.—Journal, page 75.

REPORT OF THE AGENTS OF THE WESTERN BOOK CONCERN.

TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, PHILADELPHIA, PENN.

DEAR BRETHREN,—In presenting our report of the condition of the Western Book Concern, and its management for the last four years, we feel that we have special reasons for gratitude to God for his providential care.☉

Our situation during the strife that has agitated our country has been somewhat critical. Our city has been threatened, and business greatly interrupted, and at times entirely suspended by the military authorities. Notwithstanding this, we have suffered no serious interruption in our business.

Our sales for four years ending January 31, 1864, have been as follows:

Books and Periodicals in Cincinnati.....	\$783,059 65
Books and Periodicals in Chicago.....	465,739 40
Periodical Sales in St. Louis.....	38,895 31

Total.....	\$1,287,694 36
Total sales of Books and Periodicals for the four years ending January 31, 1860.	1,127,851 00

Showing an increase of Sales for the last four years over the four preceding of.....	\$159,843 36
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The present circulation of our periodicals is as follows :

Ladies' Repository.....	33,500
Western Christian Advocate.....	33,787
Northwestern Christian Advocate.....	25,000
Christian Apologist.....	20,000
Central Christian Advocate.....	8,204
Quarterly Review.....	1,008
Sunday-School Advocate.....	120,000
Missionary Advocate.....	22,868
Good News.....	15,000
Sunday-School Teachers' Journal.....	3,343
Sunday-School Bell.....	13,273

The circulation of our periodicals was lessened a little during the first year of the war, but is now greater than four years ago. Our greatest gain has been on the Northwestern Christian Advocate, and the Christian Apologist; the circulation of the former having increased over eleven thousand, and the latter nearly the same.

Owing to the large advance in the cost of stock, we found it necessary to increase the price of our books and periodicals. The increase, however, has not been in proportion to the advance in material; hence our profits on our regular trade have not been proportionate to the increase of our business. Though our net profits are a little more for the term just closed than during the preceding one, considerable of this amount has been received for advertising.

Our Exhibit for November 30, 1863, shows our condition at that time as follows:

Resources.

Books, bound and in sheets, Stationery, etc., in Cincinnati.....	\$67,731 26	
Books, bound and in sheets, Stationery, etc., in Chicago.....	16,994 14	\$84,725 40
Presses, Plates, Type, Printing Paper, etc., in Cincinnati.....	\$48,004 74	
Presses, Plates, Type, Printing Paper, etc., in Chicago.....	11,014 25	59,018 99
Materials and Tools in Bindery in Cincinnati.....		6,114 57
Editors' Library and Furniture in Offices in Cincinnati.....	\$800 00	
Store Fixtures and Furniture in Offices in Chicago.....	925 00	1,725 00
		<u>\$151,583 96</u>

Notes and Accounts in Cincinnati.....	\$61,007 82	
Notes and Accounts in Chicago.....	53,674 28	
		\$114,682 10
Deduct 20 per cent. for probable losses		22,936 42
		<u>\$91,745 68</u>
Real Estate in Cincinnati.....	\$75,000 00	
Real Estate in Chicago.....	29,246 37	
		<u>104,246 37</u>
Hamilton County Bonds and Stock in Cincinnati Fuel Company		1,500 00
Cash and Drafts in Cincinnati.....	\$14,343 67	
Cash and Drafts in Chicago.....	10,638 37	
		<u>24,982 04</u>
Books, Type, and Accounts in St. Louis.....		6,053 83
		<u>\$380,111 88</u>
Liabilities.		
Notes and Accounts in Cincinnati and Chicago.....		\$82,791 08
		<u>\$297,320 80</u>
Net Capital, November 30, 1863.....		263,112 24
		<u>\$34,208 56</u>
Profits for year ending November 30, 1863.....		\$34,208 56

Our net profits, after deducting \$18,417 42, the amount paid out by order of the General Conference, have been as follows:

For the year ending November 30, 1860.....	\$16,384 75
For the year ending November 30, 1861.....	5,955 44
For the year ending November 30, 1862.....	18,459 22
For the year ending November 30, 1863.....	34,208 56
	<u>\$75,007 97</u>
Total net profits for the last four years.....	\$75,007 97

IMPROVEMENTS.

During the present term we have found it necessary to make some improvements both at Cincinnati and Chicago.

The last General Conference instructed us to give more attention to the retail trade. We have endeavored to comply with this direction; in doing which we found it necessary to improve the front of our store in Cincinnati, so as to indicate more fully to those outside the character of our business; the cost of which, however, was only about \$500. This, together with increasing the variety of our stock, has increased our retail trade more than threefold at Cincinnati, and there has also been a large increase in the retail trade at Chicago.

We were obliged to procure also, at Cincinnati, a double cylinder printing-press for the Advocate and Apologist, as it was not possible to print both on a single cylinder. In doing this, we purchased one of sufficient size to print a paper as large as will probably ever be advisable to publish by the Concern; this cost us, put up in Cincinnati, \$4,400.

We found our engine and boilers also too small for the increased business of our printing office and other machinery, and were under the necessity of replacing them by larger ones.

These improvements cost us when finished, including the enlargement of the room in which our engine and boilers stand, about \$4,000.

CHICAGO DEPOSITORY.

We found it important, also, to provide for printing our own paper at Chicago. Our Depository there had suffered great inconvenience in sending out the North-Western Christian Advocate to be printed by other establishments. Supposing it to be desirable that the size and quality of our papers should be alike, as soon as the subscription list would warrant it we purchased the same kind of a press for Chicago as the one we use in Cincinnati. We were the more ready to do this, as it was apparent that the surplus time of the press not needed to print the North-Western Advocate could be profitably employed in printing for other parties.

We also purchased and put up at Chicago a first-class four-roller Adams press, on which to print the Sunday-School Advocate sent out from that place.

Our subscription list was greater than we could print on one press, and we had but one suitable for that class of work in Cincinnati, and no room for another. We could not displace one of our book presses, as we have more work for them than we can do, being obliged to send some of our work out to be printed. We found, also, that we could make a saving by doing the printing of the Sunday-School Advocate in Chicago, by avoiding the expense of sending to that place sixty thousand copies by express from Cincinnati—the duplicating and sending the plates costing much less than to express the papers.

We therefore erected a building on the rear of our lot in Chicago suitable for engine and boiler, and storage room for fuel in the basement, a press room on the floor above, and a composing room, drying room, and mailing room above the press room. The building consists of three stories besides the basement, and is 68 by 20 feet, costing, including engine, boilers, and apparatus for warming the building by steam, \$15,000.

We also made arrangements for warming our main building by steam, and made some repairs needed to put our property there in good condition. We have now made all the ground we own available, and have the Chicago Depository in excellent order for doing all the business at present demanded at that place. As evidence that our outlay has not been premature, we would state that the sales of books and periodicals at Chicago during our present term have increased over the previous term nearly \$100,000.

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE.

In consequence of the unsettled state of affairs in Missouri, the circulation of the Central Christian Advocate was for a time greatly diminished. We therefore found it necessary to diminish the size of the paper to keep our loss within the four thousand dollars, as directed by the last General Conference.

At the present prices of paper we save on that article alone, by the reduction in size, on our present circulation, nearly \$2,000 a year.

It was the opinion of the Agents, and of the Book Committee, that the causes which were temporarily reducing its circulation were rendering its continuance the more necessary. We therefore felt called upon to make such a change in the expenses of the paper as would enable us to continue it, if possible, till the session of this General Conference.

During the fall of 1862 the editor, Dr. Elliott, declared his intentions to receive no more salary for editing it after January 1, 1863, till the General Conference should meet. He made this declaration to the Conferences, and through his paper, without consulting us, and we were satisfied that the other expenses of the paper could be kept nearly within the limits fixed by the General Conference; that is, including the present year as one of the four for which the present Agents were responsible, which we conceive to be the design of the action had four years ago, as the volume then being issued was arranged for before we had the matter in charge.

We find the loss sustained, as near as we can estimate, for the three years ending in December last, was \$3,973 61. And should the loss on the current year be no greater than in 1863, our loss for the four years ending in December next will be about \$4,700. This, however, does not embrace the salary of the editor since January 1, 1863, and remaining unpaid. In view of the importance of the enterprise, and the circumstances that surrounded the editor at that time, we need hardly say to the Conference that we deem it an imperative duty for this body to authorize the Agents to pay the arrears due to Dr. Elliott.

The prospects now opening up for our success in the South-West fully justify the expenditures we have been obliged to make to maintain our ground in Missouri.

DEPOSITORY IN ST. LOUIS.

We have not felt authorized, owing to the unsettled state of affairs in Missouri, to establish a general depository of books in St. Louis. We have continued to keep a depository of Sunday-school books, and have filled such orders as our agent there has sent us to supply the immediate demand. We think, however, the time has come when something more may be safely done to supply that region with our books.

But we think that it will be necessary to success that a location should be selected favorable to a retail trade, and a judicious selection be made of stationery and such books outside of our publications as will be adapted to the retail trade of the city, keeping a supply of our own books for such as may find it more convenient to order from St. Louis than from Cincinnati or Chicago. It is our judgment, however, that the success of the enterprise will depend greatly on the amount of city and miscellaneous retail trade that we may be able to command.

DIVIDENDS TO THE CONFERENCES.

During the past term no dividends have been given by us to the Annual Conferences. This subject has been carefully considered by the Agents and the Book Committee.

In applying the profits of the Concern to the extension of our business, we think we have carried out the letter and intent of the Discipline; also the expressed desire of the General Conference. The Discipline directs that "the profits arising from the Book Concern, *after a sufficient capital to carry on the business is retained*, shall be regularly applied to the support of the deficient traveling preachers and their families, the widows and orphans of preachers," etc. And the General Conference has left the Agents to judge of the amount needed to carry on the business. We suppose, however, that the Agents should have constantly in view the original object of the Book Concern; that is, the circulation of religious literature. It is evident that the fathers, in establishing our publishing house, had this great work in view as the primary object of the Concern, while dividends were only an incidental result. It was seen that in the judicious management of so large a business a surplus of capital would naturally accumulate in time, and hence some disposition should be made of it in harmony with the genius of our economy.

To limit the amount of capital that the Agents should retain would be to stop all growth or expansion of our publishing interests. This amount can only be fixed by a careful consideration of the demands of the Church and the country for our books and periodicals. One thing we think will be granted by all, that the Agents should not be required to borrow money to pay dividends, and that it was not the intention of the General Conference that the life and safety of the Concern should be endangered by doing so. The question, then, that the Agents have felt called upon to settle, is simply the *expansion* in our business on the one hand, so as to meet the pressing wants of our Church, or, on the other, to let these wants go unsupplied, and donate the accumulation of profits to the conferences.

It has been our settled conviction that it was our duty, having charge of this important department of our Church interests, to provide reading for our people. Our attention has been given more especially to the preparation of books adapted to the adult portion of our community. Our Sunday-school library is large and useful, and well adapted to the purposes for which it was designed. And our theological works, also, furnish useful and instructive denominational literature, and yet these need to be increased. But there is a great want of miscellaneous useful books, such as will be called for by the officers and teachers in our Sunday-schools and the families of our congregations. Scarcely a day passes but such books are inquired for at our counter by those who have access to our Sunday-school libraries, but fail to find in them the reading adapted to their wants. To prepare for meeting this want has

been one of our fixed purposes during the term just closed ; still we have done but little more than to commence the work. Owing to the heavy drain upon the Concern during the four years immediately preceding the present term, in paying the claims of the Church South, and other claims and losses, by order of the General Conference, amounting in all to \$156,311 87, we found, as might be expected, the available capital of the Concern altogether insufficient to meet the wants of the growing business forcing itself upon our hands. Hence, during the first four months of our present term we were obliged to borrow from bank forty thousand dollars to carry on our ordinary business till the session of our fall Conferences. Of course, our first object was to secure an active capital sufficient for our ordinary business, so as, if possible, to avoid the recurrence of a similar necessity. This, in view of the condition of the country, required nearly the first two years of the term just closed. And in such enlargement of our business as we have ventured upon we have not exceeded our available means, so as to require us to resort to borrowing money.

During the last year we have ventured to invest a portion of our profits in adding a few volumes to our general catalogue. The whole number of books added to our list during the past four years is, in German, including Sunday-school books, 82, and in English, 26. The most of the English publications have been issued during the past year. A second edition of several of these has already been printed.

Our facilities for printing at Cincinnati need to be increased. We have not presses sufficient to do the work required of us. To accomplish this it will be necessary to replace our present printing office with a new one. The building now used for a printing office has stood about twenty-seven years, and is badly constructed in reference to light and ventilation, and is also quite too small for our increased business, and also must require considerable outlay for repairs if used much longer. Our editors' offices, also, are inconvenient and uncomfortable. These offices are in the building once occupied by the Governor of the North-western Territory, and have been used without essential improvements being made since first erected, something over sixty years ago. They have also been obstructed by the erection of stores in front, and manufacturing establishments by the side. Our Book Committee carefully examined our buildings, and unanimously recommended the erection of a new building for a printing-office, and such other offices as might be needed, at the earliest convenient period.

We have ground enough and an excellent location for just such a building as we need, and have no doubt that it would be wisdom to erect, at the earliest practicable moment, such a building as the wants of the Concern require. We therefore judge that it may be some time before the Agents may see their way clear to pay a dividend to the Conferences without materially lessening the usefulness of the Concern.

It is evident that there must be a very great increase in the de-

mand on us for books. The natural growth of the West, and the increased attention now being given to the subject of useful reading matter for adults connected with our Sunday-schools and congregations, would of itself cause such an increase.

The probable opening up to us again the trade of the South and South-west will, in that event, add largely to our business in a short time.

From our position, the country in the Lower Mississippi valley will naturally seek its supply from us either at Cincinnati or St. Louis, and sound business policy would dictate the publishing in Cincinnati as extensively as our means will allow.

We therefore think that the subject of dividends for the future should be left discretionary with the Agents, as it has been in the past, feeling assured that any temporary delay in this matter is more than compensated by the increased ability of the Book Concern to accomplish the legitimate work for which it was established.

It is hardly necessary, as an additional reason for leaving the Agents some discretionary power, to remind this body of experienced men of the inflated condition of the currency of our country. While our financial condition appears hopeful and flattering, prudence admonishes us to prepare for a crisis that must necessarily follow with the reaction sure to take place at some period not very remote. We think too much care cannot be exercised by this body to avoid such drafts upon the Book Concern for the next term as might prove a source of serious embarrassment. We deeply feel that this is no time to diminish the available capital of our Book Concern.

UNIFORM DISCOUNT ON BOOKS.

We think the subject of uniform discounts on our books demands the attention of the General Conference. We deem it important that there should be uniformity in the price of our books, whether bought at New York, or Cincinnati, or either of the depositories established by order of the General Conference. We regard this as essential to secure the confidence of our ministry and people, and of those of the general trade who deal with us. By establishing this rule, the natural laws of trade will give to each point selected as a depository of our books the trade to which it is justly entitled.

Our general trade with book-dealers is constantly increasing; and as our ministers on stations find their duties to multiply on their hands, and their facilities for selling books diminished, there is a natural tendency to give up this branch of business to book-dealers.

The Western Agents are much better situated to reach dealers in the West, and to judge of their responsibility, than the Agents at New York can be; and so of the New York Agents in reference to the East. Hence the importance of such regulations by the General Conference as will protect each branch of the Concern in this legitimate part of its trade.

The same may be said of our depositories. It would ruin the business of these depositories to fill the bookstores in their vicinity with our books on the same terms as we supply them, or at so

nearly the same rates as to necessarily limit their sales to a local retail trade.

The principle should be established that our publishing houses and our depositories are the only places where application should be made for our books at wholesale rates; and parties applying to any one of these should feel assured that they will be supplied on the same terms as at any other point. It is hardly necessary to state that this principle is adopted by all manufacturing parties who establish agencies for the better accommodation of their customers.

When the Western Book Concern was first established for the accommodation of the western portion of our Church, the General Conference required the Agents at New York to furnish books to Cincinnati at cost, and the Discipline stood thus till 1844. At that time, in arranging the rates of discount, the Discipline fixed the discount to be given to the Agents at Cincinnati at ten per cent. greater than the lowest wholesale rates to any other parties, justly supposing that this difference of ten per cent. was necessary to cover the ordinary expenses of selling, and the risks that are always unavoidable in a general trade.

There can be no possibility of a loss to the Concern by simply transferring these books from New York to Cincinnati, or from Cincinnati to New York, as each Concern is equally solvent. And the same may be said of books sent to either of the depositories, as in either case the Concern is responsible for the debts its depositories may contract. Hence this transfer has never been regarded as subject to the risks or involving the principle of ordinary trade. And we regard it as very important for the welfare of our publishing interests that this *unity of interest* should be had in view in all our legislation upon the subject, and that it should be strictly observed by those to whom its management is intrusted.

We look upon this as essential, in view of our peculiar connective principle as a denomination. In all our organization we know no local barriers. In reality, the Church in her general superintendency, her missions, her tract and Sunday-school movements, knows no sectional interests, and enters into the work of promoting the general welfare of the whole Church, without any reference to the question of East or West, North or South. And any tendency in the management of our great publishing interests conflicting with this principle, and tending to disturb this general harmony of feeling or action, should be timely discountenanced.

We think this important, also, in reference to a sound business policy. In this light we wish to be understood as referring both to the most extensive circulation of our books and the ultimate profits resulting to the Church from their sale.

In reference to the circulation of our literature, it is evident that we must, for a long time to come, depend mainly upon our preachers. They circulate our books not for the money they realize, but from a conviction of their usefulness to our people and their influence upon their congregations. This motive is necessary to stimulate the minister to this important work. But even ministers are

men; and it is easy to conceive how a minister, who has a right to consider himself as one of the proprietors of our publishing houses, would feel his responsibilities lessened if we, as Agents, should sell our books to some one right by his side on much better terms than we would sell to him, and that, too, when he has advanced to us the money, and taken risks outside of his profession for the benefit of the Concern and the good of the Church. It is, therefore, a dangerous experiment to diminish the zeal and interest of our preachers in the sale of our books. Should their effort be lessened, it would be felt essentially in its influence on our sales.

And what we have said of ministers as agents acting for the Concern in general, is true of each department acting as agent for the other in the sale of our books, whether we refer to either branch of the Concern or to our Depositories. Take, as an example, the attention given to the New York publications by the Western Book Concern for the last four years. These publications have been largely noticed and freely advertised in every paper under our control, considerable space being devoted to them each week by our issues in Cincinnati, Chicago, and St. Louis.

As a result, we have purchased of the Agents at New York, during the last four years, books amounting to nearly \$200,000, which we have sold to our customers in the West. And yet should parties within our bounds, buying only a few hundred dollars' worth, be furnished by the New York Agents, either at the same discount they have sold to us, or so near the same as to render it impossible for us to supply them at New York rates, would not the tendency be to diminish, rather than increase, the New York sales?

While the number of customers actually induced to buy at New York would be very few, others would become dissatisfied with paying us more for the same books than was paid by their neighbors, and consequently abandon the trade.

It is easy, in our judgment, to see that this practice, adopted, will tend to diminish rather than increase the sale of our books in the West. The interest felt in advertising the New York publications in our Western papers will naturally be diminished, and the vigorous exertions necessary to push their sales will be lessened, and, as a result, the general circulation of the New York publications would fall off. Notwithstanding the addition of a few to the list of those who would purchase directly from New York, the sales to our Western Concern and depositories would necessarily be lessened. Hence there would not only be a falling off in the actual sales of our books, but also the profits would be given to outside dealers rather than to our own depositories. We do not see how this danger can be avoided, only by fixing the rule, and requiring it to be observed by all parties, that the publishers shall give to the other Concern, and to all our depositories, ten per cent. greater discount than to any other purchasers, assuming, as it seems to us the General Conference always has, that this is the least possible margin that will justify the ordinary expenses and risks connected with the management of our business.

By doing this the business and policy of the Church in her publishing interests becomes settled in harmony with the general unity of our other great Church enterprises; and having no tendencies to sectionalism, the business would be expanded in accordance with the general laws of trade.

We therefore ask the attention of the General Conference to it, confident that such deliberation will be productive of the unity of our publishing interests, and thus tend greatly to strengthen this important agency of the Church.

POE & HITCHCOCK, *Agents.*

CINCINNATI, *April 18, 1864.*

C, IV.—Journal, page 75.

REPORT OF THE BOOK COMMITTEE OF THE WESTERN BOOK CONCERN.

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN,—The undersigned, Book Committee of the Western Book Concern, respectfully report that they have held annual meetings in the February of each year, and have given careful attention to the interests committed to our watchcare, and are prepared to say that the Agents have, with fidelity and becoming assiduity, performed their duties. They will give you, in their Exhibit, a detailed account of their sales, resources, liabilities, losses, and profits. By the blessing of God, a good degree of success it will be seen has crowned their labors. With the advice of the Committee, important and necessary improvements have been made to the buildings in Chicago, so as to introduce two presses to be employed by that branch of the Concern. This was deemed imperiously necessary.

At the earnest recommendation of the Committee, the Agents have been increasing the publications of the Western Book Concern by adding to the works on the general catalogue. In view of the use of capital necessary for carrying out the views of the Committee relative to improvements at Chicago, and the increase of our publications, the Committee have not seen their way clear to advise any dividends for the Annual Conferences. And in view of improvements that must be made in order to carry on the operations of the Western Book Concern, and the means that must be employed in meeting the wants of the South-west by an investment in St. Louis, the Committee cannot see its way clear to advise that a dividend can now be declared by the Concern.

The Central Christian Advocate has been continued by the Agents, although they have been compelled, by circumstances not anticipated by the last General Conference, to exceed the amount for its support authorized by that body. But we heartily indorse the action of the Agents in the continuance of the Central. The necessity of a paper at that point we need not argue now; it is patent to all.

The Western Book Committee desire respectfully to represent that Dr. Elliott, editor of the Central Christian Advocate, in order to maintain the publication of that paper during the perils of its recent history, relinquished a portion of his salary amounting to three thousand dollars; and believing that if the General Conference, at its last session, had anticipated the occurrences that have since its session transpired, would have made provision for the maintenance of this paper, would ask the General Conference to refund to Dr. C. Elliott the amount he has so generously relinquished.

The papers published at Cincinnati and Chicago are receiving merited patronage, and are well sustained. The Repository retains its deserved popularity, and its circulation is still steadily increasing. The Apologist maintains its influence and usefulness, and its circulation is still enlarging.

One of our number, the Rev. John T. Mitchell, of the Cincinnati Conference, has been removed by death. His loss we lament, but his labors and memory are still with us. His place has been filled by the appointment of Rev. William Young, of the Cincinnati Conference, whose name is appended to this report, and who is also a member of the General Conference.

JOSEPH M. TRIMBLE,
 THOS. E. CORKHILL,
 SAMUEL HUFFMAN,
 WILLIAM YOUNG,
 ORANGE V. LEMON,
 ELNATHAN C. GAVITT,
 JOHN KIGER,
 W. E. BIGELOW,
 R. HANEY.

CINCINNATI, OHIO, *February 11, 1864.*

C, V.—Journal, page 100.

FINANCIAL EXHIBIT OF THE PITTSBURGH CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE.

The financial exhibit for the quadrennial period now closed is as follows:

	Receipts.	Expenses.
1860.....	\$9,813 99	\$9,000 49
1861.....	7,764 43	8,015 13
1862.....	6,662 75	7,134 94
1863.....	11,129 51	10,188 43
Total.....	\$35,370 68	\$34,338 99
	<u>34,338 99</u>	
Excess of receipts over expenditures	\$1,031 69	

Among the items of expense is one relating to "Dick's Addressing Machine" and the cost of a font of old type, amounting to \$557 54. This is stock put into the office, and if added to the excess of receipts above expenses will make the whole net gain of the four years \$1,589 23.

We have to report an equally fine improvement in the list of subscribers. Early in the quadrennial period the list fell off. This was owing in part to the troubled times, and in part to an enlargement of the other Church papers without an increase of price. But for the last two years the list has steadily improved. It now is greatly in excess of any former circulation. Four years ago the subscribers numbered something over 8,000; now they are about 11,500.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN COIL,
C. A. HOLMES, } *Ex. Com.*
WM. COX,

C, VI.—Journal, page 192.

**REPORT OF THE PUBLISHING COMMITTEE OF THE
NORTHERN CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE.**

The Publishing Committee of the Northern Christian Advocate present to the General Conference the following report for the four years ending May 1, 1864:

EXPENSES AND RECEIPTS.

Expenses.

Total cash payments from May 1, 1860, to May 1, 1864.....	\$34,634 65
Amount due and unpaid for paper, etc., at this time.....	1,291 40
<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	
Total expense from May 1, 1860, to May 1, 1864, including the payment of amount outstanding May 1, 1860	\$35,926 05

Receipts.

Cash on hand May 1, 1860	\$967 87
Cash receipts from May 1, 1860, to May 1, 1864.....	32,165 70
<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	
Total available resources for the four years.....	\$33,133 57
Leaving a deficiency of	\$2,792 48

PRESENT CASH LIABILITIES:

Loan of Carlton & Porter.....	\$2,300 00	
“ Sundries	1,575 77	
Due for paper, etc.....	1,291 40	
	<hr/>	
Total present liabilities.....		\$5,167 17

ASSETS.

Building and lot	\$5,000 00	
Library	300 00	
Safe.....	75 00	
	<hr/>	
Property valuation.....		5,375 00
Cash on hand May 1, 1864	\$2,374 69	
Now due from agents.....	2,788 00	
Due, and to become due, for advertising	650 00	
	<hr/>	
		5,812 69
		<hr/>
Total assets		\$11,187 69

JAMES ERWIN,
D. A. WHEDON,
G. H. BLAKESLEE, } *Pub. Com.*
A. C. GEORGE,
B. F. M'NEIL, }

AUBURN, N. Y., *May 1, 1864.*

EPISCOPACY.

D, I.—Journal, page 140.

REPORT NO. I OF THE COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY.

QUESTIONS REFERRED.

FIRST ITEM.—Among the matters referred to this committee, with instructions to examine and report, are the following:

“Is it in accordance with the general usage of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with the spirit of her economy, and with the law of the same given in Discipline, Part II, chap. iii, § 1, in answer to question 3, and in chap. iv, § 1, that on the decease of a presiding elder in the interim of an Annual Conference, a bishop divide the district into two or more sub-districts, and appoint thereto as many presiding officers, having power to perform all the duties of presiding elders in Quarterly Conferences, and to represent in the ensuing Annual Conference the preachers in charge of the circuit or station to which they were previously appointed?”

We find among the duties of the bishop the following: “To form the districts according to his judgment.”—*Discipline*, ans. 2, page 92. The same authority (see *Discipline*, page 98) declares the presiding elders are to be chosen by the bishops, thus referring the whole

power to determine the size of the district, the number of its charges, and the selection of the presiding elder; to the bishop. We, therefore, answer the question thus:

He has the legal right to arrange the districts according to his own judgment.

CAN PRESIDING ELDERS BE STATIONED?

SECOND ITEM.—“*Resolved*, That the Committee on Episcopacy be instructed to report to this Conference at an early day whether, in the judgment of the committee, the bishops have authority, under the present rule of Discipline, to appoint a presiding elder to the charge of a circuit or station.”

We answer, in our judgment they have such right.

CERTIFICATE OF WITHDRAWAL.

THIRD ITEM.—The following question and answer are from the Journal of the Central Illinois Conference, and were referred to this committee:

“When a superannuated member of a sister Conference, residing in the bounds of our Conference, concludes to withdraw from the Church, can the presiding elder give him a certificate of withdrawal?”

“*Answer*. No.”

We respectfully recommend concurrence in the decision of the Chair as the correct ruling. J. M. TRIMBLE, *Chairman*.

D, II.—Journal, pages 148, 158, 232.

REPORT NO. II OF THE COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY.

PRESIDENT OF ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

By a resolution, the expediency of slightly changing the rule providing for the election of President of an Annual Conference was submitted, and, after due consideration, we report the following as a substitute for the answer to quest. 4, § 3, chap, i, Part II, page 49 of Discipline:

“Who shall preside in the Annual Conferences?”

“*Answer*. The bishop. In case no bishop be present a member of the Conference, appointed by the bishop, shall preside. But if no appointment be made, or the person appointed do not attend, the Conference shall elect a president by ballot from among the elders without debate.”

LIMITATION OF PASTORAL SERVICE.

The committee was instructed to “inquire and report at an early day whether the rule limiting the term of pastoral service has been observed in the letter and spirit during the last four years.”

An inquiry was made by calling for reports from each Conference in the connection, and we report that in the main the letter and spirit have been observed. The exceptional cases will be considered in the report upon the administration of the bishops.

POWER OF COMMITTEE OF TRIAL.

We have been instructed to consider and report whether a committee of trial (or select number) may hold a session after the final adjournment of the Annual Conference for trial of a minister.

We find no specific law in this case. "The Committee of Trial" or "Select Number" is evidently only the representative of the Annual Conference, and subject to its laws of action. Specific provisions are made for proceeding against an accused minister "in the interval of the Annual Conference," which precludes the method of trial by the committee of the Annual Conference.

It seems hardly logical to say the Annual Conference can perpetuate its existence after its official adjournment, or that the *Annual* Conference can meet more than once a year.

It is, therefore, the opinion of the committee that the question referred to them should be answered in the negative.

POWER OF PRESIDING ELDER.

Having considered a resolution referred for inquiry, we recommend the alteration of Discipline, Part II, chap. iv, § 1, quest. 4, ans. 3, to read as follows:

"To change, receive, and suspend preachers in his district during the interval of the Conference, and in the absence of the bishop, as the Discipline directs. *Provided*, however, that a presiding elder shall not change a preacher in his district from a charge to which he has been appointed by the bishop, and appoint him to another to which he could not be legally appointed by the bishop."

T. M. EDDY, *Secretary.*

J. M. TRIMBLE, *Chairman.*

D, III.—Journal, pages 160, 175, 233.

REPORT NO. III OF THE COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY.

APPOINTING PREACHERS.

Your committee have respectfully considered the resolution directing us to consider the expediency of so amending the Discipline as to provide that the bishop shall "fix the appointments of the preachers with the advice of the presiding elders," and report that in our judgment said change should not be made.

EMPLOYING SUPPLIES.

Your committee have considered the resolution respecting the appointment of superannuated and local preachers, and report that we deem a more explicit law, regulating the labors of superannu-

ated and local preachers, desirable; and in the mean time submit the following opinion in the case as embodying the spirit of the Discipline, namely:

Resolved, That when superannuated and local preachers are employed in the pastoral work the law of limitation applies to them, and that the limitation upon the appointing power applies to the Presiding Elder as well as to the bishop.

BISHOP MORRIS.

The following preamble and resolutions having been adopted by a unanimous vote of the committee, are submitted for your approval:

Whereas our honored and beloved senior superintendent, Rev. Thomas A. Morris, has for nearly half a century rendered valuable and effective service in various important relations to the Church, and for nearly thirty years has officiated acceptably and usefully as a general superintendent; *and whereas* his advanced age demands a respite from his arduous labors; therefore

Resolved, That whether Bishop Morris shall continue to travel and perform episcopal duties during the next quadrennial term, and if so, to what extent, shall be left to his judgment and that of his episcopal colleagues.

Resolved, That our satisfaction with the eminent and highly useful services of our venerated senior superintendent is recorded with profound gratitude to God, and with fervent prayers that we may long enjoy his presence and counsels, and that his path may "shine more and more unto the perfect day."

EPISCOPAL DISTRICTS.

The important subject of dividing the whole Church into Episcopal districts was submitted for our consideration. It has engaged much time and received careful deliberation, and we now respectfully report back the same to you, without any recommendation of change from the committee.

NUMBER OF BISHOPS.

The subject of strengthening the Episcopacy having been submitted to us, and with it a note from the bishops in answer to an inquiry from the General Conference, giving, as their judgment, a statement that the interests of the work require the election of two bishops for the superintendency of the work in the United States and Territories, and of two missionary bishops, one for the missions in Europe and Asia, and the other for our missions in Africa, we have given it careful consideration and report:

1. That we decline recommending the election of two missionary bishops.

2. That we recommend the General Conference to proceed, on Friday, the 20th inst., immediately after the reading of the Journal, to the election of three additional bishops.

Respectfully submitted,

T. M. EDDY, *Secretary*.

J. M. TRIMBLE, *Chairman*.

D, IV.—Journal, pages 186, 187.

REPORT NO. IV OF THE COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY.

APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS.

But two cases of formal appeal from or complaint of the decisions of the bishops, on the ground of illegality, have been referred to your committee, namely: The Memorial of Union Chapel, Cincinnati Conference, and the paper of Joseph Counts. Both cases have been carefully and impartially considered, and our report upon each is here presented:

UNION CHAPEL.

Your committee have examined the memorial of Union Chapel, Cincinnati Conference, complaining of the administration of the bishops in their case, and also the official correspondence which it occasioned.

They find the facts to be, that in 1861 the minister appointed as pastor of Union Chapel was rejected by the officary, not because of anything personally objectionable in the appointee, but because the officary aforesaid had not been consulted in the matter of the appointment, they desiring to retain the services of a man who had already been regularly appointed to them the preceding two years; further, that they not only voted to reject the pastor appointed, but advertised in the daily newspapers that Union Chapel was without a pastor, and locked the doors of the Church on Sabbath morning, thus excluding the pastor and presiding elder, claiming for themselves the right so to do because of the peculiarity of their deed. Under these circumstances Bishop Morris released the minister appointed to Union Chapel, and notified the official Board that he could not consent to the appointment of another preacher to the charge except upon the following conditions, namely:

“1. That the official and private members should jointly agree that hereafter they would receive and support such ministers of the Methodist Episcopal Church as her regular appointing authority should from time to time appoint to the pastorate of Union Chapel.

“2. That they should receive such presiding elder as should from time to time be appointed to the district, including Union Chapel, and pay their proper proportion of his claim, according to Discipline.

“3. That the Trustees of Union Chapel should guarantee to such regular appointees, whether as pastors or presiding elders, the free use of the pulpit.”

He further stated to them as follows:

“Union Chapel is in a state of insubordination, and if it remains so till next Conference it will be left off the list of Conference charges, and cease to appear in our official minutes.”

In accordance with this, Bishop Morris gave special instruction

to the presiding elder to give certificates of membership to all loyal members desiring to remove their relation to some other Church.

At the session of the Cincinnati Conference, in 1862, these terms not having been complied with, Union Chapel was stricken by the presiding bishop from the "list of Conference charges."

In all this, so far from seeing anything to censure, the committee believe the administration to have been wise and just, and that Bishop Morris is to be commended for the firmness with which he maintained the Discipline and order of the Church.

COMPLAINT OF JOSEPH COUNTS.

The paper of Joseph Counts, complaining of a decision delivered by Bishop Baker in the Ohio Conference, by which he claims to have been wronged, has been before us. We did not see any right to go into the merits of the case, but confined our attention to the single question of law.

The question, as stated in the paper submitted by Mr. Counts, differs from the form found in the Journal of the Conference. The Journal reads thus: "When a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church is charged with immorality and brought before a committee, and found guilty of a crime forbidden by the word of God, and so make out their verdict, but fail to affix the penalty, can the preacher in charge rightfully expel said member without first having a penalty affixed by the committee?"

This question the Chair answered affirmatively. Mr. Counts recites two grounds of complaint:

1. The committee failed to declare him guilty of a crime "sufficient to exclude a person from the kingdom of grace and glory," and that this failure vitiated the verdict.
2. The committee failed to affix a penalty, and therefore the exclusion was void.

The bishop presiding holds that when an accused person is declared by the committee "guilty of a *crime expressly forbidden* in the word of God," it is not necessary to afford a basis for the pastor's action to add "sufficient to exclude him from the kingdom of grace and glory," as the immorality is explicitly set forth in the former clause.

As to the second exception, he holds that when a member is tried and found guilty, as above, "of crime expressly forbidden by the word of God," the Discipline declares the penalty, and adds, "let the minister or preacher who has charge of the circuit expel him."

Believing these positions well taken, the committee recommend the following resolution:

Resolved, That the ruling of Bishop Baker in the Ohio Annual Conference in the case of Joseph Counts be approved, as in harmony with the law and discipline of the Church.

We also recommend that the complaint of Joseph Counts be dismissed.

THE ADMINISTRATION.

The administration of the bishops in the Annual Conferences has been subjected to a sifting examination, conference after conference having been called and heard through the delegates. The past four years have been marked by national disturbance, and great pressure has borne upon the bishops to consent to irregular appointments on the plea of necessity. In some few instances we think there has been a yielding; but we express our gratification that, upon the whole, the law of the Church has been wisely upheld even in troublesome times.

After full consideration, the committee offer the following touching the cases to which our attention has been called :

Resolved, That in reviewing the administration of the bishops we find that it has been eminently satisfactory, except in the following cases, wherein the rule requiring a superintendent not to continue a preacher in the same appointment more than two years in six appears to have been infringed, to wit :

1. In 1864 a charge in St. Louis, Missouri and Arkansas Conference, was so left by the presiding bishop that it is now served by the preacher who has been its regular pastor during the two years preceding.

2. In 1863, in the New England Conference, a preacher was stationed a third year over an appointment in the city of Charlestown which, having only changed its name and location, was substantially the same charge which he had served the two years preceding; also in the same conference and the same year, at Coleraine and Quincy Point, the preachers after serving two years were assigned nominal appointments, while their real work was with the people they had served the two years preceding.

To these exceptions we add one case of infringement of the rule forbidding the appointment of a presiding elder to the same district until six years after the expiration of his first term of four years' service, namely: In 1863, in the New York East Conference, a preacher who had served as presiding elder of the Long Island District for four years immediately preceding the session of the Conference in the spring of that year was, after eight months, appointed to the same district to fill a vacancy caused by the death of the presiding elder who had succeeded him.

In view of these cases we earnestly recommend our superintendents to administer the rules respecting the appointment of preachers and presiding elders with unvarying strictness.

With these statements, we recommend that their characters be passed.

BISHOPS' RESIDENCES.

The following resolution was unanimously recommended for your adoption :

Resolved, That in the judgment of this General Conference the bishops ought, and therefore are hereby respectfully requested to so

distribute their residences as to be the most accessible to and in the intervals of the conferences, to be able to oversee every part of our extended work so far as possible.

T. M. EDDY, *Secretary.*

J. M. TRIMBLE, *Chairman.*

ITINERANCY.

E, I.—*Journal, page 102.*

REPORT NO. I OF THE COMMITTEE ON ITINERANCY.

The Committee on Itinerancy having examined that part of the Journal of the West Wisconsin Conference which relates to the case of O. B. Knudson, referred to them for consideration, would report that, as it appears, charges and specifications were preferred against the said brother, and referred by the conference for trial to a select number of nine, according to the Discipline, with a chairman appointed by the bishop. On the assembling of the select number their chairman, without the consent of the committee, dismissed the case on account of informality and indefiniteness in the charges and specifications. Notice was given that the action in the case would be brought before this General Conference. Your committee recommend for adoption the following, namely:

Resolved, That the select number appointed to try accused members of an Annual Conference act in the case in the stead and with the powers of the conference itself, and its chairman is in the place of the bishop. It is therefore improper for the chairman in such a case to dismiss a complaint.

E, II.—*Journal, pages 126, 149, 162, 173, 174.*

REPORT NO. II OF THE COMMITTEE ON ITINERANCY.

PART I.

Your Committee on Itinerancy have carefully considered all matters referred to them respecting the extension of the time of ministerial service in the same charge, and are of opinion that the interests of the Church will be promoted by granting to the bishops the right to reappoint for a third year, and they therefore recommend that the word "two," wherever it occurs in chap. iii, § 1, quest. 3, ans. 3, pp. 92 and 93, be changed to the word "three," namely: on 92d page, on the 4th line of the question, and on the 4th and the 9th line from the top of the 93d page. The length of the answer will excuse our reciting it in full.

Part II.

Your committee have also considered the mode of examining character in the Annual Conferences, and respectfully submit the following for adoption:

Resolved, That it is the sense of this General Conference that it is unnecessary for an Annual Conference to require its members who are elders to retire when their names are called in the examination of character.

JNO. MORRISON REID, *Chairman.*

E, III.—Journal, pages 147, 233.

REPORT NO. III OF THE COMMITTEE ON ITINERANCY.

Part I.

The Committee on Itinerancy, to whom the matter was referred, recommend the restoration of the supernumerary relation, and in order to this the following disciplinary modifications, namely:

1. Change the caption of chap. vii, part 2, page 114, from “superannuated or worn-out preachers” to “supernumerary and superannuated preachers.”

2. To insert as the opening paragraph of this chapter the following:

“A supernumerary preacher is one who, because of impaired health or some other disability, is temporarily unable to perform effective work. He may receive an appointment, or be left without one, according to the judgment of the Annual Conference of which he is a member; but he shall have no claim on the beneficiary funds of the Church except by vote of his Conference, and he shall be subject to all the limitations of the Discipline in respect to reappointment and continuance in the same charge that apply to effective preachers. In case he be left without an appointment he shall have a seat in the Quarterly Conference, and all the privileges of membership in the place where he may reside.”

3. Insert in Part II, chap. i, § 3, page 50, as question 7: “Who are the supernumerary preachers?”

Part II.

In regard to the matter of preachers refusing to occupy parsonages provided for them, we recommend that Part V, chap. i, § 2, ans. 4, page 233, be stricken out.

Respectfully submitted,

JNO. MORRISON REID, *Chairman.*

E, IV.—Journal, pages 152, 155, 196.

**REPORT NO. IV OF THE COMMITTEE ON ITIN-
ERANCY.**

Part I.

The Committee on Itinerancy have had under consideration the subject of extending the time of probation in Mission Annual Conferences, and respectfully report that they are unable at the present time to recommend such discrimination.

The subject of Church records has also been before the committee, and we recommend for adoption the following, namely:

Resolved, That a uniform and thorough mode of keeping Church records is of great importance, and that we advise careful attention thereto on the part of all our preachers; and we especially commend to the attention of our people and preachers the new Church Record, published by our Book Agents, as admirably adapted to promote this desirable end.

Part II.

We have also carefully considered the propriety of placing among the exceptions to the two year limitation of the Discipline the editors of such papers as may be patronized by at least two Annual Conferences, as referred to them. While it seems to us that such a provision might open a wide door for abuse, and is therefore not to be advised, we do recommend that Part II, chap. iii, ques. 3, ans. 3, page 93, be amended by inserting in the eleventh line of the answer, after the words "San Francisco, the words "the editor of Zion's Herald," thereby placing that officer, when a member of an Annual Conference, under the exceptions.

Respectfully submitted,

JNO. MORRISON REID, *Chairman.*

E, V.—Journal, pages 189, 213, 234.

**REPORT NO. V OF THE COMMITTEE ON ITIN-
ERANCY.**

Part I.

The Committee on Itinerancy would respectfully report that they have considered the subject of providing for District Conferences; and although they believe the subject important, are unable to present a satisfactory plan for their formation.

We have also considered the propriety of changing the time of the meeting of the General Conference, but deem such change inexpedient at present.

We have also considered the resolution submitted, requiring the Committee on Itinerancy to place upon each Journal after it has been examined a certificate, signed by the Chairman and Secretary of the Committee, and designating all points of exception taken, and all criticisms upon the record. We believe this a most valu-

able suggestion, but coming too late to be carried out at the present session, and therefore recommend the following:

Resolved, That in the opinion of this General Conference it should hereafter be the duty of the Committee on Itinerancy, after reading the Journals of the several Conferences, to place upon each a certificate of the fact, signed by their Chairman and Secretary, noting all exceptions taken to the record.

Your committee have also considered the paper referred to them, complaining of the administration of the Black River Conference. We find that a private member of the Church was, in 1845, tried by a committee and expelled; that he presented complaints to the Conference against the administration by which he was expelled, from year to year, until the session of 1853, at which the Conference resolved that the proceedings of the original trial were irregular, it having appeared that one member of the committee which tried him was not a member of our Church; and the Conference instructed the preacher in charge of the Church where he was expelled to re-enter his name upon the Church record. Having only the journal of the Conference for the last four years before us, we propose for adoption the following:

Resolved, That there has been some manifest irregularity in the case, which, however, seems to have been connected with its earlier history; and, with the light we have before us, we do not feel prepared to condemn the action complained of.

We have also considered the memorial of Fort Ann Station, complaining of the action of the Troy Conference in the case of Moses Miller, and report that, in our opinion, the Annual Conference had no jurisdiction in the case, the appeal being from the decision of the Quarterly Conference, which affirmed the decision of the select committee that tried the case, and not on any question of law or method of trial.

The memorial of the Milwaukee District Association of the Wisconsin Conference, petitioning the General Conference to authorize the Wisconsin Annual Conference to reconsider its action in the case of Samuel W. Martin, has also been considered. We find that said Samuel W. Martin was in 1860 charged before his Conference with marrying a woman who held slaves, and under these charges was allowed to withdraw from the Church, as it is said, under promise that the charges against him should be withdrawn. The best examination we have been able to give the case has not convinced us that any action should be taken in the premises.

Part II.

Your committee have also considered the memorial of the Ladies' Home Missionary Society of Cincinnati, asking that the preacher stationed in their work shall be placed among the exceptions to the limitation of the Discipline upon the term of ministerial service, and believe that such provision should be made not only for them but also for all like associations, and therefore recommend that the Discipline be altered, Part II, chap. iii, § 1, quest. 3, ans. 3,

on the sixteenth line of the answer, by inserting after the word "missionaries" the words "to neglected portions of our cities," so as to include preachers appointed to such work among the said exceptions.

We have also considered that part of the Journals of the Central Ohio Conference asking that superannuated preachers residing without the bounds of their Conference may be located without their consent when they utterly neglect the rule of Discipline with regard to forwarding testimonials to the Conference, and we recommend that Part II, chap. vii, § 1, page 114 of the Discipline be altered by adding at the close of the section these words, "and may locate him without his consent," so that it shall read, "without which the Conference shall not be required to allow his claim, and may locate him without his consent."

All the matters referred to us have received a careful consideration, although some of them, having been laid on our table, have not been returned to the General Conference.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN MORRISON REID, *Chairman.*

E, VI.—Journal, pages 200, 235.

REPORT NO. VI OF THE COMMITTEE ON ITINERANCY.

Your Committee on Itinerancy have carefully examined the Journals of the following Conferences, namely: Baltimore, Black River, California, Central Illinois, Central Ohio, Cincinnati, Detroit, East Baltimore, East Maine, East Genesee, Erie, Genesee, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri and Arkansas, Nebraska, Newark, New England, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, New York East, North Indiana, North Ohio, Northwest Indiana, Northwest Wisconsin, Ohio, Oneida, Oregon, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Providence, Rock River, Southeastern Indiana, Southern Illinois, Troy, Upper Iowa, Vermont, Western Iowa, Western Virginia, West Wisconsin, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

The minutes of the Baltimore Conference for 1861 are not in the Journal before us, having been withheld by the former Secretary.

The examination of the journals is the only mode in which the administration of the bishops and Conferences can be fully brought under revision, and your committee have felt it to be a most important duty. They are happy to assure the Conference that, for the most part, the Journals are commendable for their neatness, accuracy, and completeness, and that, in the main, the business of the Conferences has been conducted according to the Discipline and usages of the Church.

Some irregularities have presented themselves, the offspring, as your committee believe, of the disturbed state of the country, and therefore not likely to be repeated. The Journals of the East Baltimore Conference for 1861 record action of the Conference that might have resulted in the nullification of the acts of the last General Conference, and the Philadelphia Conference indorsed these resolutions; but your committee are relieved from all responsibility in the case, inasmuch as the resolutions have themselves been nullified by most positive and satisfactory action on the part of both these Conferences.

Some of the Journals have not been properly signed by the presiding officer. The necessity of hurrying from Conference by the bishops has in part doubtless led to this, but the neglect of secretaries to have the Journals promptly written up has also contributed its part to this omission. In the opinion of your committee a Journal is not signed at all unless it be signed upon the book. The increased force of the Episcopacy will, no doubt, to some extent, remedy this defect, but it is highly obligatory upon Secretaries of Conferences to use all possible diligence to have the records properly copied and ready for signature at the earliest possible moment after the adjournment.

The provisions made by the General Conference that reports may be entered in another book, while only the resolutions in such reports need be spread upon the Journals, will greatly facilitate this matter. Several of the Conferences, so far from attending to this last provision, have failed to enter even the resolutions, and some have even failed to indicate whether the reports are filed or recorded. In a few Journals the pages are not numbered, and some are without marginal readings, and in an instance or two the marginal references are not as full as could be desired. In a few cases there is no roll of the Conference recorded.

The entire omission of statistics in most of the Journals is greatly to be regretted. There are, doubtless, books for the purpose in many of the Conferences; but in all cases, as your committee think, the total by districts, or at least the total for the Conference, should be on record, and reference made to the book of particulars.

Some Conferences spread upon the Journals in full the appointments as announced by the bishops, a practice that your committee think should become universal.

In some instances the books are of inconvenient size. A book that will be sufficient for four or eight years would be most desirable.

Among the imperfections most deeply to be regretted are those which occur in reference to investigations or trials, where the interests of our brethren and the Church require the greatest completeness and accuracy. Interlineations and abbreviations are always to be avoided, but especially in such matters; and all papers in the case should be carefully marked and referred to. Correctness of orthography and beauty of penmanship are always to be studied, as for the most part they are.

Resolved, That Conferences and their Secretaries are hereby requested:

1. To see that the book provided for the Journal is of suitable size, and that books are also provided for recording reports and statistics.

2. To provide a Secretary, besides the principal one, whose duty it shall be, with great neatness, carefully to enter the proceedings after they have been approved by the Conference.

3. Let each page of the Journal be numbered, and properly headed with date of session.

4. Let the names of those in attendance upon the Conference be recorded upon the Journal.

5. Give a wide margin, in which full references are distinctly written.

6. Enter *all* resolutions, and refer to reports.

7. Enter at least the total of all statistics.

8. Enter the appointments of the preachers, and for this purpose let a certified copy be furnished by the bishop, to be filed with the Conference papers.

9. In all cases of trial before the Conference, or a select number, let the record be full; and where papers are referred to, let them be carefully distinguished. Let the charges be spread upon the Journal, and the decision; and let it be carefully noted that the papers are deposited with the conference papers.

10. Let the proceedings of each session be promptly entered, and amid the pressure of the business of the closing session let great diligence be used in this respect, that all may be ready for the signature of the President. The appointments may be entered after the signature of the President.

11. It is needless to say that blots, erasures, interlineations, abbreviations, careless orthography, or hasty penmanship can only be discreditable to a Conference when the Journal is under the revision of the Committee on Itinerancy.

JOHN MORRISON REID, *Chairman*.

E, VII.—Journal, pages 208, 235.

REPORT NO. VII OF THE COMMITTEE ON ITINERANCY.

The Committee on Itinerancy, having considered the matter of certain property in Vermilion County, Illinois, which, in the judgment of certain petitioners, should revert to Stephen Griffith, recommend the following, namely:

Resolved, That the General Conference has no claim or jurisdiction in the matter.

In the case of I. N. M'Abbe, a superannated preacher of the Pittsburgh Conference, made such without his consent, and who complains that no allowance has been made him, it is the opinion

of your committee that the claim of a superannuated preacher has very properly been committed to the judgment of his Conference, and that it is not proper for us to act in the case.

We also recommend for adoption the following, namely:

Resolved, That the General Conference hereby authorize the Book Agents at New York to issue, in a cheap and convenient form, a Manual of Methodism, which shall contain the articles of religion, the General Rules of our societies, the leading features of our Church organization, the outlines of different benevolent societies connected with our Church, together with such other items of information as will be desired by such as seek an acquaintance with our Church.

Your committee have also considered the second restrictive rule referred to them, and believe that as the number of Annual Conferences, small for the present in the number of their members, may be largely multiplied by our work extending itself southward and westward, it is expedient that it should be changed, and we recommend the following, namely:

Resolved, That the second restrictive rule be amended by striking out the last two words of the rule, namely, "two delegates," and inserting in their place the following, namely, "one delegate," so that it may read, "*Provided*, also, that no Conference shall be denied the privilege of one delegate."

Resolved, That the bishops be directed to present the above at the next session of each Annual Conference for their concurrence, and when all the Annual Conferences have acted upon it, publicly to announce the result and authorize the Book Agents to amend the published copy of the Discipline accordingly.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN MORRISON REID, *Chairman.*



E, VIII.—Journal, page 126.

REPORT OF THE MINORITY OF THE COMMITTEE ON ITINERANCY.

The committee have had under consideration the petitions and memorials on the subject of extending the time of ministerial service. They have also considered the action of the Annual Conferences on that subject. They find a division of opinion on this subject among both preachers and people. A majority of the preachers are in favor of this change, while, as we believe, a majority of the people are opposed to it. It is the deliberate opinion of those best qualified to judge, that if the question were submitted to a vote of the laity it would be lost by a large majority. On such a question it is neither wise nor safe to ignore the wishes of the people.

We believe, furthermore, that the proposed change would shorten rather than lengthen the time of service actually rendered.

Many preachers remain after the first year because they have but one year more to serve; whereas if the time is extended they will remove at the end of one year, thus more frequently disturbing the quiet of our Churches and injuring the reputation of our ministers.

The same implied censure will attach itself to the man who does not remain three years that now follows the one who removes at the end of the first year.

Yet the minority are free to admit that there are cases where it is desirable that a pastor should remain longer than two years in the same appointment, and therefore submit the following:

Resolved, That we deem it inexpedient to change the rule limiting the appointment of a preacher to two years; nevertheless, as cases occur where it would subserve the best interests of the Church for a pastor to remain three years in the same charge, we hereby add another exception to Part II, chap. iii, § 1, quest. 3, ans. 3, page 92, after the word "superintendence," second line from the bottom, to wit: "or when in his judgment, and the judgment of a majority of the presiding elders, the interests of the work *imperatively* demand it, in which case he may return a preacher to the same charge the third year."

L. H. KING,
A. WOOD,
S. SHINN,
L. D. WARDWELL,
G. C. SMITH,
A. L. BRICE,
H. PENFIELD,
G. W. WALKER,
L. M. REEVES,
C. H. WHITECAR.

BOOK CONCERN.

G, I.—Journal, page 122.

REPORT NO. I OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE BOOK CONCERN.

The Committee on the Book Concern have considered the resolution referred to them of "depositing with each Annual Conference a copy of the General Minutes, and also the Journals of all the General Conferences," and report that it is inexpedient to do so.

C. B. TIPPETT, *Chairman.*

G, II.—Journal, page 125.

REPORT NO. II OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE BOOK CONCERN.

The Committee on the Book Concern have had under consideration the memorial of Dr. Roberts in behalf of the "American Methodist Historical Society," and report that it is not expedient to comply with the request.

C. B. TIPPETT, *Chairman.*

G, III.—Journal, page 141.

REPORT NO. III OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE BOOK CONCERN.

The Committee on the Book Concern, to whom the subject of publishing a paper in the Swedish language was referred, report that the General Conference refer the adoption of the "Ambassador" to the discretion of the Book Agents at Cincinnati; that if they find upon investigation that they can publish it without serious loss to the Concern they are authorized to do so, either at Rockford or Chicago.

C. B. TIPPETT, *Chairman.*

G, IV.—Journal, page 141.

REPORT NO. IV OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE BOOK CONCERN.

The Committee on the Book Concern have had under consideration the proposition of T. A. Goodwin in relation to the "Central Christian Advocate," and report adversely.

C. B. TIPPETT, *Chairman.*

G, V.—Journal, page 147.

REPORT NO. V OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE BOOK CONCERN.

The Committee on the Book Concern report the following resolution concerning a Book Depository in the city of Philadelphia:

Resolved, That the Book Agents at New York be instructed to establish a Book Depository in the city of Philadelphia if, in their judgment, it can be done without loss to the Concern, and under such conditions as shall be entirely satisfactory to them.

C. B. TIPPETT, *Chairman.*

G, VI.—Journal, page 155.

REPORT NO. VI OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE BOOK CONCERN.

The Committee on the Book Concern beg leave to report the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Book Agents at Cincinnati be and are hereby authorized to sell all books of the general catalogue published by the Agents at New York at the same rates that they are sold at in New York, and the Book Agents at New York shall, in cases of sales to the trade, make such discounts to the Agents of the Western Concern that they can afford to sell to their customers at New York prices, granting them six per centum difference in discount on sales made to the trade, and the Western Agents shall sell to the New York Agents at the same rates.

They further report in relation to a paper in Philadelphia as follows:

Resolved, That we deem it inexpedient to authorize our Agents to establish a paper in Philadelphia, that city and its surrounding country being an important part of the territory patronizing the "Christian Advocate and Journal," which is now restricted as much as we can afford if published at its present subscription price.

C. B. TIPPETT, *Chairman.*

G, VII.—Journal, pages 160, 178.

REPORT NO. VII OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE BOOK CONCERN.

The Committee on the Book Concern beg leave to report as follows in reference to the establishment of a Book Depository at St. Paul, Minnesota:

Resolved, That the Western Book Agents be and are hereby instructed to establish a book depository at St. Paul, Minnesota, if after examination they think it can be done without loss to the Concern; and to carry out this object they are authorized to make with any person in St. Paul such arrangement as they may judge economical and necessary for supplying our people in that part of the work with our literature.

They further report:

That they find, from a report adopted by the California Annual Conference and referred to them, and also by the delegates from that conference, that the book depository has been established in San Francisco, Cal., by the Book Agents at New York, in obedience to the direction of the last General Conference, and that an eligible lot has been purchased and a substantial brick edifice has been erected thereon, covering one third of the lot, all valued at

\$21,000, but costing the Book Concern at New York only some \$8,000 or \$9,000, not far from \$13,000 having resulted from the growth and judicious exchanges of property purchased for the Church by Rev. E. Thomas by authority of the Agents.

The committee also find that both the California and Pacific Christian Advocates have failed to be fully self-sustaining; yet believing that both are needed, and will in time become sources of income, we recommend the following resolutions for adoption by the General Conference:

Resolved, That the Book Agents at New York be and they are hereby instructed to pay annually to the California and Pacific Christian Advocates during the next four years such sum, not exceeding one thousand dollars to each, as in the judgment of the Publishing Committees of said papers shall be deemed necessary to their continued publication.

They further report on a

BOOK DEPOSITORY AT DETROIT.

Resolved, That the Book Agents at Cincinnati be and they are hereby authorized to establish a depository of our books at Detroit, Michigan, if in their judgment it can be done without loss to the Concern, or to make such other arrangements as may be necessary to keep our books on sale there at book-room prices.

B. F. CRARY, *Secretary*. C. B. TIPPETT, *Chairman*.

G, VIII.—Journal, page 160.

REPORT NO. VIII OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE BOOK CONCERN.

The Committee on the Book Concern further report in reference to the Central Christian Advocate and Depository at St. Louis:

Resolved, That the Agents at Cincinnati be and they are hereby instructed to enlarge the Central Christian Advocate so as to make it equal to the Western or Northwestern Advocates.

Resolved, That the Agents at Cincinnati be instructed to furnish books for the Depository at St. Louis as provided for in the Discipline, page 227, ninth line from the top.

Resolved, That we direct the Book Agents at Cincinnati to pay to C. Elliott, D.D., Editor of the Central Christian Advocate, all that part of his salary which he relinquished to enable the Agents, under the restrictions imposed on them by the last General Conference, to continue the publication of the paper.

B. F. CRARY, *Secretary*. C. B. TIPPETT, *Chairman*.

G, IX.—Journal, pages 160, 228.**REPORT NO. IX OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE BOOK CONCERN.****PITTSBURGH CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE AND DEPOSITORY.**

Resolved, That we instruct the Book Agents at New York to secure without unnecessary delay, by purchase or otherwise, such a building in the city of Pittsburgh as may be required for publishing the Pittsburgh Christian Advocate, and for the business of the Depository in that city.

B. F. CARY, *Secretary*.

C. B. TIPPETT, *Chairman*.

G, X.—Journal, pages 190, 229.**REPORT NO. X OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE BOOK CONCERN.**

The Committee on the Book Concern further respectfully report :

That the accumulation of capital for the relief of worn-out preachers is not the only nor the chief reason for the establishment of our Book Concern. It has a higher, holier mission : the enlightenment of millions of souls. We wish the whole Church to know that the means we have at New York and Cincinnati are inadequate to supply the urgent demands for our literature. Shall we exhaust our resources in benefactions of doubtful expediency when millions of souls are pleading for our books? when our presses cannot turn out enough to meet the necessities of our people?

None but God can know what this ministry to mind can yet do in "spreading scriptural holiness over these lands." We recommend for adoption the following :

Resolved, That in our judgment the paramount object of our publishing interest should be the wider diffusion of a sanctified literature.

C. B. TIPPETT, *Chairman*.

B. F. CARY, *Secretary*.

G, XI.—Journal, pages 208, 229, 230.**REPORT NO. XI OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE BOOK CONCERN.**

The Committee on the Book Concern further report :

That our publishing interests east and west unquestionably present an example of great financial success, of wonderful development, and of usefulness illimitable.

We are overwhelmed with the imperative obligation to supply the increasing demand for our books and periodicals. We *must* do that; and that will multiply our presses, increase our depositories, extend the circulation of our papers, and from millions we shall go to tens and hundreds of millions in our sales. Who can

limit the mighty field before us? Who would contract, or cease to expand, our means of supplying the people with reading matter?

We would have our agents enter every open door, enter the market generally, sell to everybody, husband our means, increase our presses, and send out over the whole continent our literature.

We cannot be too careful of our resources. Every quadrennial should show an increase in our permanent capital and in our facilities for publishing. Prudence, economy, and tact have marked the conduct of our Agents and Book Committees, and we are happily united in counsel and in faith. We respectfully report as to the

BOOK CONCERN AT NEW YORK.

The Quadrennial Report of the Book Agents at New York and the Report of the Book Committee have been carefully examined, and afford most gratifying evidence that the vast interests of the Church have been in the hands of enterprising, faithful, and capable men. The aggregate sales have been more than \$1,500,000, and the profits have been judiciously expended; but we learn from the Agents that there is pressing need of more room and more presses. The Book Committee seem, with conscientious thoroughness, to have examined the internal working of our colossal publishing house, both as to its manufactures and accounts, and have shown that the New York Concern and all of its branch depositories have been managed with integrity, harmony, and signal success.

The "Advocate and Journal," the "Northern" and the "Pittsburgh Advocates" have all succeeded well. We offer for adoption the following resolution:

Resolved, That we approve the course pursued by our Agents at New York, and are gratified with the marked advancement our Concern has made; and we earnestly express our desire that nothing should deter our Agents from making the attempt to supply fully the demand for our publications.

WESTERN BOOK CONCERN.

The book and periodical sales of the Western Book Concern amount to \$1,127,851 during the last quadrennial, being an increase over the preceding four years of \$159,853 36.

The presses of the Concern have worked to their utmost capacity. Two large first-class presses have been added at Chicago, and yet the Concern cannot fill the market opened to it.

The policy of expansion, in order to supply the people with reading matter, is the only one reason and religion could justify. When the market is glutted and our presses idle we may discuss the question of diverting the proceeds; until then we can only try to keep pace with the people and supply them if possible.

We recommend for adoption the following resolution:

Resolved, That we are gratified with the financial success and present condition of the Western Book Concern, and that we regard

the additions and improvements at Chicago as necessary and judicious, and heartily approve the management and conduct of our Agents.

NORTHERN CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE.

Resolved, That the Publishing Committee of the Northern Christian Advocate be directed to transfer the property in their hands to the Book Agents at New York, and that said Agents are hereby instructed to take possession of that paper, with its assets and liabilities, and to continue the publication of the same in Western New York, in the same manner as the Northwestern Christian Advocate at Chicago is published by the Book Agents at Cincinnati.

Resolved, That the Discipline, Part IV, § 5, be amended as follows:

1. Insert in paragraph 5, page 218, after the words "Advocate and Journal," the words "and an Editor for the Northern Christian Advocate."

2. In paragraph 6, page 219, after the words "the condition of the Book Concern," insert "including the Northern Christian Advocate."

3. Strike out in paragraph 10, page 224, the words "the Northern Christian Advocate in Western New York."

4. In paragraph 20, page 228, second line, after the words "New York," insert "and the Editor of the Northern Christian Advocate."

5. In the same paragraph, ninth line from the top, strike out "Western New York."

6. Strike out paragraph 12, page 225.

AUTHORITY OF THE AGENTS TO PURCHASE REAL ESTATE AND TO BUILD IF NECESSARY.

Resolved, That the Agents of the Book Concern at New York and at Cincinnati be and they are hereby authorized to purchase real estate for the depositories under their care, or to erect buildings for them, or for the main Concerns, when in their judgment it can be done for the interest of the Church.

EASTERN AND WESTERN BOOK COMMITTEES.

The Committee recommend the following plan for districting the work:

Committee at New York.

1. New York and New York East Conferences.
2. Providence, New England, and Maine.
3. East Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont.
4. Philadelphia, New Jersey, and Newark.
5. Baltimore and East Baltimore.
6. Troy and Black River.
7. Oneida and Wyoming.
8. Genesee and East Genesee.
9. Erie, Pittsburgh, and West Virginia.

Book Committee at Cincinnati.

1. Ohio Conference.
2. Cincinnati and Kentucky.
3. Central Ohio and North Ohio.
4. Indiana and Southeastern Indiana.
5. North Indiana and Northwest Indiana.
6. Detroit and Michigan.
7. Illinois and Southern Illinois.
8. Rock River and Central Illinois.
9. Iowa, Upper Iowa, and Des Moines.
10. Wisconsin, West Wisconsin, Northwest Wisconsin, and Minnesota.
11. Missouri and Arkansas, Nebraska and Kansas.
12. German Conferences.

We recommend that the Discipline be amended as follows:

In paragraph 5, page 222, strike out "eleven" and insert "twelve," so that it shall read, "The Book Committee of this department of the Book Concern shall consist of *twelve* traveling ministers." And in paragraph 6, page 219, strike out "seven" and insert "nine," so that it shall read, "The Book Committee at New York shall consist of *nine* traveling ministers."

B. F. CRARY, *Secretary.*

C. B. TIPPETT, *Chairman.*

SLAVERY.

H, I.—Journal, pages 147, 165, 167.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SLAVERY.

The Committee on Slavery respectfully submit the following report:

The long contest on the subject of slavery seems drawing to a close, and no doubtful tokens indicate the will of God, and point unerringly to the destruction of a system so inhuman.

The sufferings to be endured cannot be as great as those we have passed, and the heroism of the hour is adequate to bear the burdens which may be imposed upon us.

Patriotism and piety lead us to the conclusions to which we have arrived, and, aside from all questions of expediency, impel us to adopt the policy so strongly urged in the Episcopal Address.

We rejoice that we have from the beginning been foremost among American Churches in the contest against slavery.

Slavery has nothing to commend it to our forbearance; on the other hand, it has inflicted upon us injuries we cannot forget. It has rent the Church in twain, and seeks to divide the nation. It has kindled the fires of inextinguishable hatred along an extended border, and brought indescribable distress on our brethren who have labored there. These brethren we not only admire and love,

but we pledge ourselves to share with them in all that is possible or necessary in the labors of the future.

The question has reached its present status not so much through our efforts in this behalf as through the guidings of the Divine hand, whose power we reverently behold in the grand movements of our times.

The proposed new rule is only an expression of a conviction long entertained by the majority of the Church, the utterance of an edict which conscience dictates, and the teaching of God's Word approves.

Abhorrence of slavery has increased with the progress of the people in moral and religious knowledge, showing that morality and religion are against the system. The voices of our common humanity protest against its longer existence, and this judgment is God's decision, for nature is true to her author.

Your committee could not do otherwise than give expression to the truth which more than ever affects the Church and the nation, and array at once the moral force of Methodism on the side of emancipation.

The great families of Methodism throughout the world will rejoice that we have taken a step which wipes out the imputation of complicity with this evil, and gives us the decided advantage of leading still in the question which has so long perplexed the Church.

We feel that no answer is needed to the pleadings of expediency once so powerfully and eloquently urged. The grandeur of an overwhelming moral conviction uttered by the whole nation and Church, should not be impaired by answers to logic which the course of events have shown to be fallacious.

So far as we are concerned, then, the question, "What shall be done for the extirpation of slavery?" shall be answered by a rule uprooting it and forbidding it forever. Local difficulties and special cases will adjust themselves, and we shall be untrammled in our future operations in territory blighted by this departing curse.

Relying on the promise and mercy of God, as far as we can we "proclaim liberty throughout all the land to all the inhabitants thereof."

Loyalty to the government leads us to accept emancipation whenever and wherever the President proclaims it or the states decree it, and devotion to truth and to God impels us to bring the controversy to an end in the Church by adopting a rule which casuistry cannot distort into a license for slavery.

While reviewing the past we gratefully acknowledge the goodness of God in guiding us so harmoniously to these conclusions, and with firm trust in him, commit our work to the judgment of the Church and of mankind.

We recommend for adoption the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. By the delegates of the several Annual Conferences in General Conference assembled, That we recommend the amendment of the General Rule on Slavery so that it shall read:

Slaveholding; buying or selling slaves.

Resolved, 2, That we recommend the suspension of the fourth restrictive rule for the purpose set forth in the foregoing resolution.

Resolved, 3, That the bishops be requested to submit the foregoing resolutions to the Annual Conferences at their next sessions, and if the requisite number of votes be obtained, to report to the Book Agents, who are hereby instructed to insert the new rule in all subsequent editions of the Discipline.

D. WISE, *Secretary.*

B. F. CEARY, *Chairman.*

H, II.—Journal, page 158.

REPORT OF THE MINORITY OF THE COMMITTEE
ON SLAVERY.

The minority of the Committee on Slavery beg leave to say that they have not been able to concur with the majority in the conclusions reached by them. For good and sufficient reasons, as they think, it would not be proper to change the General Rule on Slavery so as to exclude all persons sustaining the relation of master from the Church; they therefore respectfully submit the following as a substitute for the General Rule on Slavery reported by the majority, namely:

“The selling of human beings, or the buying or holding them, except for reasons purely humane.”

E. P. PHELPS,
L. M. REEVES,
J. W. REGER.

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

I, I.—Journal, page 147.

REPORT NO. I OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE STATE
OF THE COUNTRY.

The Committee on the State of the Country have carefully considered the following subject, submitted to them by the General Conference, namely:

Whereas, It is a well-known fact that the Methodist Episcopal Church was the first to tender its allegiance to the government under the Constitution in the days of Washington; and

Whereas, The fair record of the Church has never been tarnished by disloyalty; and

Whereas, Our ministers and people are deeply in sympathy with the government in its efforts to put down rebellion and set the captives free; therefore

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed, whose duty it shall be to proceed to Washington, to present to the President of these United States the assurances of our Church in a suitable address that we are with him in heart and soul in the present struggle for human rights and free institutions;

And beg leave to report, That they recommend that *five* be substituted for *three* as the number of the committee, and that the resolution as thus amended be adopted.

Respectfully submitted,

JOSEPH CUMMINGS, *Chairman.*

I, II.—Journal, page 155.

REPORT NO. II OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

The Committee on the State of the Country, after further consideration of the subject of the delegation it is proposed to send with an Address to the President of the United States, beg leave to report that they have instructed their chairman to present for the approval of the General Conference the Address contemplated in the resolution referred for consideration.

The committee still further report that they have nominated as the delegation

BISHOP EDWARD R. AMES,
 REV. JOSEPH CUMMINGS,
 REV. GEORGE PECK,
 REV. CHARLES ELLIOTT,
 REV. GRANVILLE MOODY.

The committee also report the following

ADDRESS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE TO PRESIDENT LINCOLN.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY ABRAHAM LINCOLN, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

The General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, now in session in the city of Philadelphia, representing nearly seven thousand ministers and nearly a million of members, mindful of their duty as Christian citizens, takes the earliest opportunity to express to you the assurance of the loyalty of the Church, her earnest devotion to the interests of the country, and her sympathy with you in the great responsibilities of your high position in this trying hour.

With exultation we point to the record of our Church as having never been tarnished by disloyalty. She was the first of the

Churches to express, by a deputation of her most distinguished ministers, the promise of support to the Government in the days of Washington. In her Articles of Religion she has enjoined loyalty as a duty, and has ever given to the government her most decided support.

In this present struggle for the nation's life many thousands of her members, and a large number of her ministers, have rushed to arms to maintain the cause of God and humanity. They have sealed their devotion to their country with their blood on every battle-field of this terrible war.

We regard this dreadful scourge now desolating our land and wasting the nation's life as the result of a most unnatural, utterly unjustifiable rebellion, involving the crime of treason against the best of human governments and sin against God. It required our government to submit to its own dismemberment and destruction, leaving it no alternative but to preserve the national integrity by the use of the national resources. If the government had failed to use its power to preserve the unity of the nation and maintain its authority it would have been justly exposed to the wrath of heaven, and to the reproach and scorn of the civilized world.

Our earnest and constant prayer is, that this cruel and wicked rebellion may be speedily suppressed; and we pledge you our hearty co-operation in all appropriate means to secure this object.

Loyal and hopeful in national adversity, in prosperity thankful, we most heartily congratulate you on the glorious victories recently gained, and rejoice in the belief that our complete triumph is near.

We believe that our national sorrows and calamities have resulted in a great degree from our forgetfulness of God and oppression of our fellow-men. Chastened by affliction, may the nation humbly repent of her sins, lay aside her haughty pride, honor God in all future legislation, and render justice to all who have been wronged.

We honor you for your proclamations of liberty, and rejoice in all the acts of the government designed to secure freedom to the enslaved.

We trust that when military usages and necessities shall justify interference with established institutions, and the removal of wrongs sanctioned by law, the occasion will be improved, not merely to injure our foes and increase the national resources, but also as an opportunity to recognize our obligations to God and to honor his law. We pray that the time may speedily come when this shall be truly a republican and free country, in no part of which, either state or territory, shall slavery be known.

The prayers of millions of Christians, with an earnestness never manifested for rulers before, daily ascend to heaven that you may be endued with all needed wisdom and power. Actuated by the sentiments of the loftiest and purest patriotism, our prayer shall be continually for the preservation of our country undivided, for the triumph of our cause, and for a permanent peace, gained by the

sacrifice of no moral principles, but founded on the word of God, and securing in righteousness liberty and equal rights to all.

Signed in behalf of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Respectfully submitted,

JOSEPH CUMMINGS, *Chairman.*

PHILADELPHIA, *May 14, 1864.*

I, III.—*Journal, page 177.*

PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S REPLY TO THE ADDRESS.

GENTLEMEN,—In response to your address allow me to attest the accuracy of its historical statements, indorse the sentiments it expresses, and thank you in the nation's name for the sure promise it gives.

Nobly sustained as the government has been by all the Churches, I would utter nothing which might in the least appear invidious against any. Yet without this it may fairly be said that the Methodist Episcopal Church, not less devoted than the best, is, by its greater numbers, the most important of all. It is no fault in others that the Methodist Church sends more soldiers to the field, more nurses to the hospitals, and more prayers to heaven than any. God bless the Methodist Church! bless all the Churches! and blessed be God! who in this our great trial giveth us the Churches.

[Signed]

A. LINCOLN.

I, IV.—*Journal, pages 208, 264.*

REPORT NO. III OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

The Committee on the State of the Country beg leave to present the following report:

No previous General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church has met in a period so important as the present. It is crowded with thrilling events that must affect the highest interests of the Church, of our country, and of the world. A fearfully wicked rebellion, having no justification in its origin or continuance, and involving the crime of treason against the best of human governments and sin against God, is wasting the energies of the nation and destroying thousands of precious lives. Our government is struggling with a desperate, maddened foe for the national life, having no alternative but to maintain its authority or yield itself to dismemberment and destruction. In such circumstances it becomes our duty as Christian ministers and citizens to do all in our power to sustain our government in this just cause of humanity and God.

Our Church, which was the first to give to the government under Washington the assurances of allegiance and the promise of support, has ever been loyal and devoted to the best interests of the country. In this present war, wherever her influence has prevailed, the government has received decided support. Her members have been prompt to meet the burdens and sacrifices imposed, and have rallied by thousands to the standard of their country. They have sealed with their blood their devotion to a righteous cause. Her ministers, in the gift of their sons, in personal efforts and sacrifices, and in all the ways in which their services might be available, have given the highest proof of Christian patriotism. Many of them have been called to endure privation, sacrifice, and bitter persecution, and some have fallen martyrs to the principles they have boldly avowed. One member of the last General Conference, Rev. Anthony Bewley, a worthy and estimable man, fell a victim to the brutal violence of a mob while in the discharge of his duty.

The causes of this desolating war are not recent. Early in our history the Christian spirit manifested by the first colonies on the New England shores declined, and a new theory of government was introduced. Our statesmen turned away from the recognition of God as the source of all civil authority, and his Word as the foundation of law, and announced the will of the people, the consent of the governed, as the source of power. It is a matter of regret and a cause of reproach that in our otherwise most excellent Constitution the name of God does not appear, not even in the oath prescribed for the President. There is nothing in that instrument that indicates that we are a Christian nation. It is not strange that, under such circumstances, slavery, an institution ever offensive to God and contrary to the first principles of a republican government, was allowed and guarded. But in the hour when, in defiance of the teachings of Providence and of history, this wrong was recognized, it became a necessity that it should be removed peaceably or by war. The causes of this conflict are coeval with our history as a nation.

Our forgetfulness of God has been manifested in a disposition to sacrifice moral principle to expediency in order to secure a temporary peace, in the scorn with which the enunciation that there is a law higher than the Constitution was received, and in the shameless corruption that characterized legislation for many years.

Slaveholding, essentially aristocratic, fostering a spirit of arrogance and exaction, is necessarily opposed to the doctrine of human equality. Too long the nation met the haughty exactions of slaveholders with servile compliance; but at length the limit was reached when there was no alternative but resistance or the sacrifice of all manhood and virtue. Then was exhibited that sublime uprising of the people that astonished the world, and the determination was avowed to defend at any cost our Constitution and the integrity of our government. But still, forgetful of God, we boasted of our power to crush the foe, and were not prepared to render justice to the oppressed.

God suffered our armies to be turned back in confusion and our pride to be cast down in the dust. We have struggled on, expending our treasures with a lavish hand, sacrificing the lives of our young men, and mortgaging the industry of coming centuries to meet our accumulating debt.

Chastened by adversity, may we learn to acknowledge our dependence on God for power and victory, and also to recognize fully the brotherhood of man. Our country hitherto has been the land of the free only in name; but we trust the time will soon come when in no part of its wide domain will slavery be known.

The safety in the rebellious states of our civil institutions, as well as justice to those who have been enslaved, requires that in all the privileges of citizenship, as well as in all the other rights of a common manhood, there shall be no distinction founded on color. Those who have periled their lives with less encouragement than any other class has received to defend our liberty may surely by right, human and divine, claim all the privileges the ballot can bestow. Most certainly free institutions will be as safe with them as with the descendants of those who have incurred the crimes of perjury and treason to overthrow our government. Provision should be made to give those a share in the soil who have cultivated it without recompense and defended it with their blood.

It becomes us to pray most earnestly for the end of this conflict, and for a peace established in righteousness, on the word of God; but we should jealously guard against a false and hollow peace, gained at the sacrifice of moral principles. We should consent to no division of our country. The land our fathers gained, with all its historic renown, is ours, doubly sacred and dear, and sacred since it holds the graves of the noble men who have fallen in this war. We will not reproach their memories by acts that shall intimate they died in an unworthy cause. The widow shall not be compelled to sue for liberty to weep over the grave of her son, nor will we ask of a foreign power permission to stand by the tomb of Washington.

We should frown with indignation on all as guilty of disloyalty who coldly criticise every measure of the administration in this struggle for the national life, under the hypocritical pretense that they are careful that the fundamental law shall not be violated; and we should give to all honest, earnest, righteous measures to crush this rebellion our hearty support.

We rejoice in the victories God has given us, and have full assurance our cause will triumph. The events that have transpired in our country are but incidents in the great struggle for freedom that ages have witnessed. All revolutions and efforts to secure true Christian liberty, fraternity, and equality are connected. Each preceding event has prepared the way for those that follow. The triumph of civil freedom is connected with that of Christianity. When the Gospel shall be proclaimed and understood all oppression and wrong will be removed, and liberty and knowledge,

with all their attendant blessings, will be proclaimed throughout the world.

The committee submit the following resolutions :

1. *Resolved*, That in this hour of the nation's trial we will remember the President of the United States, all other officers of the government, and our army and navy, in never-ceasing prayer.

2. *Resolved*, That it is the duty of the government to prosecute the war with all its resources of men and money till this wicked rebellion shall be subdued, the integrity of the nation shall be secured, and its legitimate authority shall be re-established, and that we pledge our hearty support and co-operation to secure this result.

3. *Resolved*, That we regard our calamities as resulting from our forgetfulness of God, and from slavery, so long our nation's reproach, and that it becomes us to humble ourselves and forsake our sins as a people, and hereafter, in all our laws and acts, to honor God.

4. *Resolved*, That we will use our efforts to secure such a change in the Constitution of our country as shall recognize the being of God, our dependence on him for prosperity, and also his word as the foundation of civil law.

5. *Resolved*, That we regard slavery as abhorrent to the principles of our holy religion, humanity, and civilization, and that we are decidedly in favor of such an amendment to the Constitution and such legislation on the part of the states as shall prohibit slavery or involuntary servitude, except for crime, throughout all the states and territories of the country.

6. *Resolved*, That while we deplore the evils of war that has filled our land with mourning we rejoice in the sublime manifestations of benevolence it has developed, as seen in the Sanitary and Christian Commissions, and in the associations formed to aid the vast multitudes who have recently become freemen, and that we pledge to these institutions our hearty co-operation and support.

Respectfully submitted, JOSEPH CUMMINGS, *Chairman.*

MISSIONS.

J, I.—Journal, pages 83, 137, 138, 199.

REPORT NO. I OF THE COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

ORGANIZATION OF FOREIGN ANNUAL CONFERENCES.

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

1. *Resolved*, That, in the judgment of this General Conference, our foreign missions should be organized into Mission Annual Con-

ferences so soon as their condition severally shall render such organization proper, and that such Mission Conferences should possess all the rights, powers, and privileges of other Annual Conferences, with the concurrence of the presiding bishop, excepting that of sending delegates to the General Conference and of drawing its annual dividends from the avails of the Book Concern and the Chartered Fund, and of voting on constitutional changes proposed in the Discipline.

2. *Resolved*, That the General Conference instruct the bishops to organize the missions in India into a Mission Annual Conference, with powers limited as above, as soon as practicable.

3. *Resolved*, That the General Conference authorize the bishops to organize any other of our foreign missions into Mission Conferences, subject to the above limitations, when in their judgment it is desirable and practicable.

4. *Resolved*, That it is the judgment of this General Conference that a visitation to our principal foreign missions should be made by one of our bishops as often as practicable, at least once in four years.

WM. H. GOODE, *Chairman*.

I. W. WILEY, *Secretary*.

J, II.—Journal, pages 126, 146, 148, 227.

REPORT NO. II. OF THE COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

The Committee on Missions beg leave to report to the General Conference the following resolutions for its adoption :

1. *Resolved*, That the General Conference grant the request of the Foreign German Mission Conference, and change the name of that Conference into "The Mission Conference of Germany and Switzerland."

2. *Resolved*, That the last sentence of Article IV of the Constitution of the Missionary Society be so amended as to read, "There shall also be two Assistant Corresponding Secretaries, who shall be elected by the General Conference, the first of whom shall reside in New York, and the second of whom shall reside in the West, at such place as the Board of Managers shall direct, and they shall labor to promote the interests of the missionary cause under the direction of the Board of Managers at New York.

3. *Resolved*, That in view of the largely increased annual disbursements of the Missionary Society the Contingent Fund be increased to \$25,000, and that the increase be made available for the current year.

4. *Resolved*, That each Annual Conference be and is hereby required to furnish annually to the Corresponding Secretary of the Missionary Society at New York a report of its doings on the subject of missions, which report shall specify the name of each district,

circuit, or station within its bounds sustained in whole or in part by said Conference as a mission, together with the amount of missionary money appropriated to each respectively for that conference year.

I. W. WILEY, *Secretary.*

WM. H. GOODE, *Chairman.*

J, III.—Journal, pages 156, 199.

REPORT NO. III OF THE COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

The Committee on Missions beg leave to submit to the General Conference the following resolutions for adoption :

1. *Resolved*, That the Board of Managers of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church be and they hereby are authorized, so far as the General Conference may authorize, to convey to the trustees of the Wallamet University in Salem, Oregon, all the lands in and near Salem, Oregon, now belonging to the said Board of Managers ; the said lands and their avails to be used by the trustees of the said Wallamet University as an endowment fund, the interest only of which shall be used for the support of said institution.

2. *Resolved*, That in the appointment of the General Missionary Committee the bishops be directed to constitute corresponding members of the said committee for Oregon and California Conferences respectively, who shall have a corresponding relation to the said committee, and shall be allowed to vote by proxy in its annual meetings on all subjects relating to domestic missions on the Pacific coast.

3. *Resolved*, That the words "*of fifty cents or upward*" in the Discipline, Part IV, § 2, page 210, paragraph 8, be stricken out so that it shall read, "Comprehending the name of each collector in his charge, and the name, real or assumed, of each contributor to each collector, that they may be by said executive committee," etc.

The Committee on Missions beg leave further to report as follows on the claim of Rev. William Wilmot, of the California Conference, for traveling expenses, as contained in the papers referred to the committee :

1. That he claims for expenses arising in California from his going to his several appointments, and this claim is addressed to the California Conference, and though without date, the committee suppose it was presented at its last session. The committee see no reason why it should have been presented to this General Conference, and judge that this Conference is in no way responsible for such expenses as are set forth in the claim ; neither does the committee judge the Missionary Society to be responsible. The committee therefore report this petition back to the Conference, with their judgment that no action is necessary on the part of this Conference.

2. That he claims for his expenses with his wife in returning to California after a visit to the Atlantic States of some two years. Your committee find that his petition in this case was also addressed to the California Conference in 1856, and found its way to the General Conference in 1860, and was by this Conference referred to the Board of Managers of the Missionary Society for adjudication; that the Board did examine the case and resolved "that this claim be not allowed;" and of this decision of the Board Brother Wilmot was duly notified by the corresponding secretary in July, 1860.

The committee therefore judge that no further action on the part of this Conference is necessary in this case.

I. W. WILEY, *Secretary.*

W. H. GOODE, *Chairman.*

J, IV.—Journal, pages 160, 227.

REPORT NO. IV OF THE COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

The Committee on Missions beg leave to report the following resolution for adoption by the General Conference:

Resolved, That we recommend the observance of the first evening of each month on which the regular prayer-meeting is held as a concert of prayer for missions; and that we recommend all our Churches to observe the "Annual Week of Prayer for the Conversion of the World."

I. W. WILEY, *Secretary.*

W. H. GOODE, *Chairman.*

J, V.—Journal, pages 184, 197, 226.

REPORT NO. V OF THE COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

The Committee on Missions respectfully submit the following resolutions for adoption by the General Conference:

1. *Resolved*, That by and with the concurrence of the Board of Managers at New York the twelfth article of the Constitution of the Missionary Society be amended so that it will read as follows:

ARTICLE XII.

The Annual Conferences shall be divided into as many mission districts as there are effective superintendents; and there shall be a committee consisting of one from each mission district, to be appointed by the bishops, and to be called the General Missionary Committee. It shall be the duty of this committee,

First. To meet annually in the city of New York between the 1st and 15th of November, as shall be determined by the Corresponding Secretary, Assistant Corresponding Secretary, and the Treasurer.

Secondly. To act jointly with the Board of Managers, the Corresponding Secretary, Assistant Corresponding Secretary, Second Assistant Corresponding Secretary, and Treasurer, in fixing the amount which may be drawn for during the ensuing year.

Thirdly. To divide said amount between,

1st. Foreign Missions.

2d. Domestic Missions.

3d. Missions in the United States and Territories not included in the bounds of any of the Annual Conferences.

4th. Other missions not under our immediate care.

Fourthly. Said committee shall, with the concurrence of the Board of Managers, and with the concurrence of at least two of the bishops, determine what fields shall be occupied or continued as foreign missions, and the number of persons to be employed on said missions, and shall, in conjunction with the Board, estimate the sums necessary for the support of each mission, subject to the approval of two or more of the bishops. Said committee, with the concurrence of the Board and bishops as aforesaid, shall determine the amount for which each bishop may draw for the domestic missions of those conferences over which he shall preside, and shall divide the amount appropriated to the missions in the United States and territories not included in the Annual Conferences to such sections of the country as, in their judgment, the interests of the work require; and the bishop shall not draw on the treasurer for more than said amount.

In the intervals of the annual meetings of the committee the bishops shall have full power to administer these missions.

The Board shall appoint a committee, who, with the bishop making the appointment, shall fix the amount for the support of each missionary in this third class of missions.

Fifthly. Said committee, by and with the concurrence of the Board and bishops as aforesaid, shall also determine the amount to be appropriated for the support of missions not under our immediate care, and the mode of disbursement thereof.

Provided, nevertheless, that in the intervals between the meetings of the General Missionary Committee, the Board of Managers, with the concurrence of the bishop who has charge, or is to have charge of the work proposed, may, if they shall deem it important, adopt a new missionary field, and also provide for any unforeseen emergency that may arise; and to meet such demands may expend any additional sum not exceeding twenty-five thousand dollars.

Should any of the members of said committee, in the interval of the General Conference, go out of office by death, resignation, or otherwise, the bishop presiding in the conferences where the vacancy shall occur shall appoint another to fill his place.

Said committee to be amenable to the General Conference, to which it shall make full reports of its doings.

Any expense incurred in the discharge of its duties shall be met by the treasurer of the society.

2. *Resolved,* That the bishops be and they hereby are authorized,

when in their judgment the interests of the work require it, to organize Annual Conferences in the states and territories not embraced at the close of this General Conference in any of the Annual Conferences, such Conferences to possess all the rights, powers, and privileges of other Annual Conferences, excepting that of sending delegates to the General Conference, and of drawing an annual dividend from the avails of the Book Concern and Chartered Fund, and of voting on constitutional changes proposed in the Discipline, which restrictions shall continue until the next ensuing General Conference.

3. *Resolved*, That the name of the *Rocky Mountain Conference* be and hereby is changed into *Colorado Conference*.

4. *Resolved*, That we recommend the appointment of a Missionary Bishop, who shall reside in Liberia, on the Western Coast of Africa, or in its vicinity, and have episcopal jurisdiction in Africa only. The said bishop and Churches in Africa shall still be under the supervision of the Methodist Episcopal Church of the United States.

5. *Resolved*, That we recommend and authorize the Liberia Annual Conference, under the direction of the bishop having charge of said Conference at present, assisted by the Corresponding Secretary of the Missionary Society, to elect, by a vote of two thirds of all the members of the said Conference, an elder in good standing in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and present him for episcopal ordination to the bishops, or any of them, who are hereby authorized to ordain such person so elected, certifying in the parchment of ordination that his episcopal jurisdiction is expressly limited to Africa.

W. H. GOODE, *Chairman*.

I. W. WILEY, *Secretary*.

J, VI.—Journal, page 226.

REPORT OF THE GENERAL MISSIONARY COMMITTEE
FOR 1860-1864.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.	APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE YEARS				Total.
	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	
Africa.....	\$22,015	\$15,003	\$13,750	\$13,355 00	\$64,123 00
China.....	20,076	13,879	17,222	29,694 00	80,871 00
Germany.....	20,688	16,699	23,156	29,163 50	89,706 50
Scandinavia.....	10,395	12,820	13,820	32,019 75	69,054 75
India.....	36,820	34,400	52,918	72,103 50	196,241 50
South America.....	2,000	1,000	1,300	16,775 00	21,075 00
Arizona.....	2,000	500	.....	.....	2,500 00
Bulgaria.....	6,000	6,046	8,866	10,623 39	81,535 39
Total for four years.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$555,107 14

APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE YEARS

DOMESTIC MISSIONS.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	Total.
American Domestic Missions...	\$88,135	\$74,650	\$82,250	\$136,600	\$381,635
German Domestic Missions.....	50,850	37,250	36,900	41,000	166,000
Scandinavian Missions.....	11,800	8,550	8,300	10,550	39,200
French Missions.....	200	200	200	200	800
Welsh Missions.....	900	600	600	500	2,600
Indian Missions.....	5,150	3,600	3,200	3,400	15,350
Contingent Fund.....	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	40,000
Incidental Fund.....	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	40,000
Office Expenses.....	8,671	10,000	10,000	10,000	38,671
Toward extinguishing Debt.....	.....	.....	7,518	.....	.....
Total.....	\$28,671	\$30,000	\$37,518	\$30,000	\$118,671

RECEIPTS OF MISSIONARY MONEY FOR THE YEARS

CONFERENCES.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	Total.
Baltimore.....	\$9,950 98	\$2,841 79	\$2,558 78	\$8,503 18	\$23,854 73
Black River.....	3,529 69	3,112 16	3,951 47	5,305 87	15,899 19
California.....	2,632 58	.....	2,210 00	35 00	4,877 58
Central Illinois.....	2,282 70	3,023 62	3,526 46	7,558 95	16,391 73
Central Ohio.....	5,706 64	4,072 75	7,136 25	9,802 33	26,717 97
Cincinnati.....	12,138 32	11,840 53	10,420 36	17,832 82	52,232 03
Detroit.....	3,073 15	2,734 68	3,451 49	8,071 88	17,331 20
East Baltimore.....	8,593 85	6,517 56	7,512 47	9,926 72	32,550 60
East Genesee.....	3,902 34	3,709 35	4,297 65	6,519 18	18,428 52
East Maine.....	1,079 27	932 29	890 27	1,179 01	4,080 84
Eric.....	7,036 73	5,961 31	7,272 65	11,193 44	31,464 13
Genesee.....	1,877 62	2,619 85	3,186 42	5,170 96	12,854 85
Illinois.....	5,455 45	5,890 52	6,185 75	12,768 80	30,400 52
Indiana.....	4,114 83	2,583 72	4,251 42	9,561 45	20,511 42
Iowa.....	1,622 35	1,220 04	1,377 35	3,745 65	7,965 39
Kansas.....	639 23	400 15	352 00	1,849 79	3,241 17
Kentucky.....	272 21	203 73	257 46	229 76	963 16
Maine.....	2,062 87	2,529 34	2,111 74	2,891 90	9,595 85
Michigan.....	2,352 14	2,841 15	3,235 73	5,608 89	14,037 91
Minnesota.....	400 69	1,419 12	1,186 52	3,036 97	6,043 30
Missouri and Arkansas.....	109 40	35 25	102 85	1,136 15	1,383 65
Nebraska.....	.....	93 18	.....	379 10	472 23
Newark.....	7,224 46	7,060 24	7,369 35	9,624 60	31,288 65
New England.....	9,289 71	9,160 91	8,424 06	11,488 32	38,363 00
New Hampshire.....	2,095 28	2,160 56	2,040 19	2,378 00	8,674 03
New Jersey.....	6,217 97	6,239 50	6,343 90	9,074 86	27,876 23
New York.....	12,282 50	18,085 45	12,480 99	23,141 04	65,989 98
New York East.....	15,312 17	13,143 24	13,626 38	17,469 03	59,550 82
North Indiana.....	3,134 51	4,574 04	4,511 77	8,107 01	20,327 33
North Ohio.....	8,236 65	7,730 78	9,769 95	12,808 83	38,546 21
North-west Indiana..	2,930 11	2,711 58	4,574 21	8,141 59	18,357 49
North-west Wisconsin	119 34	257 19	176 82	661 38	1,214 73
Ohio.....	10,255 25	8,405 05	9,260 16	13,429 34	41,349 80
Oneida.....	3,258 49	3,693 69	5,268 03	7,494 24	19,714 50
Oregon.....	695 70	.....	1,870 25	1,323 40	3,889 35
Philadelphia.....	28,847 65	22,198 52	25,337 00	37,030 10	113,413 27
Pittsburgh.....	9,916 49	9,538 27	10,588 76	15,675 58	45,719 10
Providence.....	4,876 59	4,605 15	5,380 50	6,576 41	21,438 65
Rock River.....	4,647 32	7,784 23	7,454 24	18,892 80	38,778 59
Rocky Mountain.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
South-eastern Indiana.	5,320 62	5,066 64	6,192 32	10,803 35	27,382 93
Southern Illinois.....	2,599 03	3,005 42	4,101 60	7,607 19	17,312 69
Troy.....	9,461 45	6,190 71	6,023 65	8,088 93	29,764 74
Upper Iowa.....	1,676 40	2,399 19	2,365 61	4,813 00	11,254 20
Vermont.....	1,550 40	2,439 19	2,631 77	4,065 08	10,686 44
Western Iowa.....	.....	376 31	520 45	1,840 95	2,737 71
Western Virginia.....	1,674 50	1,816 48	931 89	2,337 03	6,259 90
West Wisconsin.....	1,202 91	2,147 41	1,773 54	2,783 59	7,907 45

CONFERENCES.	RECEIPTS OF MISSIONARY MONEY FOR THE YEARS				Total.
	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	
Wisconsin	\$1,625 02	\$3,996 85	\$3,639 92	\$6,098 17	\$15,359 96
Wyoming	2,768 60	2,520 64	2,647 44	3,337 56	11,274 24
Legacies	10,109 97	10,051 44	12,874 78	17,641 24	50,677 43
Assistant Treasurer ..	5,000 00	.....	.....	.....	5,000 00
Sundries	16,830 59	18,469 21	18,401 64	24,718 33	78,419 77
Total .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$1,219,827 16

MOSES HILL, for the Committee.

EDUCATION.

K, I.—Journal, page 123.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION,

APPOINTED BY THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF 1860.

The Special Committee on Education appointed by the last General Conference ask leave to present the following report :

By the action of the last General Conference it was made the duty of the committee,

1st. To prepare and present to this General Conference a plan for the organization of a permanent Board of Education.

2d. To correspond with the literary institutions and friends of education in the several districts, and, as far as practicable, to collect and diffuse information upon the general subject of education in the Church, and also aid in calling and holding educational conventions.

3d. To prepare for publication at the Book Concern an annual educational register, which shall contain the educational statistics of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and such other educational matters as may be deemed proper.

1. After such deliberation as the committee have been able to give the subject, they find themselves unable to fix upon any plan for the organization of a permanent Board of Education which they deem practicable. Were the educational movement of the Church to be commenced *de novo*, with the experience the Church now has, the organization of such a board and the formation of a general system would be comparatively easy. But we are compelled to take things as they are. Heretofore the General Conference has assumed no control over the literary institutions under the patronage of the Church, nor attempted to regulate the general movement by the enactment of any law upon the subject. Its action has been confined to encouragement and advice. What of ecclesiastical control has been exercised has been by the Annual Conferences. The movement has been conducted with much of energy and zeal, and not without a large measure of success ; but having been conducted

without any established law or uniform plan, and with but little concert between the Conferences or the different institutions, that there should be seen in it a want of system and completeness, and no little of conflict and disaster, should excite no surprise nor provoke severe animadversion. May not, indeed, the very circumstances which have led to unavoidable defects have contributed largely to our eminent success? It has been our cherished boast that our branch of the Church not only had a providential origin, but that it has had a providential development. Has Providence forsaken us in our educational labors, or have we altogether failed in recognizing the true providential indication of duty in this department of Christian effort?

The committee are confident that the Annual Conferences would not consent to a transfer of the control of the literary institutions under their care to the General Conference, or a board created by its appointment; nor are they sure, could this be done, that the educational movement of the Church would not be robbed of much of its vitality and freedom of action in adapting itself to the peculiar wants of the different sections of the country by attempting to direct it by a uniform and rigid system. Will it not gradually take form, and probably the most efficient form, if left to the guidance of that practical wisdom which comes of experience?

As the committee would recommend that the literary institutions be left under the control of the Annual Conferences, so would they recommend that educational societies be left under the same control, and for similar reasons.

While, however, the committee would recommend no radical change in the relation of our educational enterprises to the Church, they are of opinion that these might be aided by measures which they propose to effect by changes in the Discipline, and which will be suggested in an appended resolution.

2. The committee have corresponded with all the literary institutions under the patronage of the Church, chiefly in connection with the collection of statistics. They have also corresponded to some extent with the friends of education in the several districts, but the results of this correspondence are not deemed of sufficient importance to be made a matter of communication to the Conference.

A general convention of professional teachers and friends of education in the Church was called by the committee, and held in Delaware, Ohio, in connection with a meeting of the committee in July, 1863. Though not large, the attendance was respectable. Several important matters were discussed; and as the resolutions, which were unanimously adopted, were placed in the hands of the committee, and have reference to action by the General Conference, they are submitted as a part of this report. (See *paper* marked A, page 393.)

A similar convention for the North-west was held soon after at Chicago during the session of the National Convention of Teachers. At this convention, which was of considerable interest, similar resolutions to the abovenamed were also passed.

The committee have held three meetings, the results of which are in part embodied in this report.

3. In reference to the third duty assigned them the committee have been able to accomplish but little. Upon consultation with the Book Agents at New York, and others, after having made some preparation for the publication of the first number of the proposed Annual Register, it was thought advisable, in view of the disturbed state of the finances of the country at that time, not to issue a separate publication. Full statistical tables were prepared for the Almanac, and beyond that nothing has been attempted.

The statistical tables appended to this report have been made up from such responses as have been received in answer to circulars sent to the presidents of all the schools under the patronage of the Church of which the committee had any knowledge. As some failed to respond to the call the tables are necessarily imperfect. The committee would recommend that hereafter the educational statistics be collected at the Annual Conferences, through the agency of the presiding elders.*

The committee submit for adoption by the Conference the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That the Discipline be amended as follows: Part II, chap. iv, § 1, in sixth answer to question 4, after the words "and Sunday-School Books," insert "to report to the Annual Conference the statistics of such literary institutions as may be located within his district."

2. That there be inserted in the Discipline, in Part IV, an additional section, as follows:

SECTION II.—*Education.*

Question 1. How shall the Church provide for the higher education of her youth?

Answer 1. It is recommended that each Conference have at least one academy or seminary under its direct supervision, and that such institutions confine themselves to their legitimate sphere of duties.

2. It is also recommended that not less than four Conferences unite in the support of a college or university; and the Conferences are earnestly advised not to multiply institutions, especially of the higher grade, beyond the wants of the people, or their ability to sustain them.

3. All these schools are to a certain extent beneficiary institutions. The seminary must be furnished with buildings and apparatus by the benevolence of the Church. The college must, in addition to these, have such endowment as shall yield a regular income sufficient to meet the current expenses. And, that our people may be properly instructed in this matter, it shall be the duty of each preacher in charge to preach on the subject of education once a year, to diffuse information by the distribution of tracts or otherwise, and specially to bring to the attention of our wealthy

* The *statistical tables* mentioned in this paragraph were not furnished to the secretary, and therefore do not appear "appended to this report."—EDITOR.

members and friends the duty of making liberal donations and bequests to this object. It is also recommended that each Conference take up annually a collection to aid the work of education.

4. It is advised that educational societies for the aid of poor young men be established in connection with each of our colleges and biblical institutes, or Annual Conferences.

As the duties of the committee were specific, they have not felt called upon to enter into a more general discussion of the cause of education in the Church.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

F. MERRICK, *Chairman.*

H. M. JOHNSON,

M. RAYMOND,

J. M. REID,

C. NUTT.

(A.)

Resolutions passed by the Educational Convention held at Delaware, Ohio, July, 1863 :

1. That this convention believe it to be proper and necessary that the General Conference take some action in regard to our educational interests.

2. That this convention request the Education Committee to recommend to the next General Conference to adopt such measures as shall result in directing the funds that may accrue from the efforts in connection with the ensuing centennial celebration to the cause of education in the Church.

3. That, in the judgment of this convention, our educational interests are of sufficient importance to justify and require a central agency, to serve as a medium of communication between our literary institutions, collect their statistics, embody their experience, and give such aid and advice as may be deemed necessary to success.

K, II.—Journal, pages 208, 257.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

The Committee on Education ask leave to present the following report :

The literary institutions under the patronage of our Church are not the property, nor are they under the control of the General Conference. The Conference has, however, for the past thirty years or more manifested a deep interest in the cause of education in the Church, and has done what it could, by advice and encouragement, to aid in carrying forward this great and noble enterprise. And this, we doubt not, it will continue to do with increasing zeal.

Notwithstanding the terrible war which has raged for the last

three years our schools generally are represented as in a flourishing condition. Most have indeed been reduced in the number of their pupils, though not all; but most, also, have increased their endowments and facilities for instruction.

But while we are permitted to speak of this general prosperity, the fact should not be concealed that all of our colleges and biblical institutes, as well as many academies, are seriously embarrassed for the want of adequate funds to give them their full measure of efficiency. It is a mortifying fact that we have not one liberally endowed college or university under the patronage of the Church, and what little endowment most have has been secured by the sale of cheap scholarships, thus, in some instances, cutting off all income from tuition. Something must be done to remedy this evil or many of these institutions prove a total failure, and all be seriously crippled in their operations.

The bishops in their address well remark: "Either we now have more educational institutions than are really demanded, or than our people are able suitably to sustain, or our men of means are sleeping over an interest the magnitude of which they do not appreciate, or are not willing to recognize." That there has been an undue multiplication of schools, especially of colleges and universities, in some parts of the country, we fully believe; and though the General Conference cannot by law prevent the evil, we recommend that it repeat its advice upon the subject, and that it give this advice a permanent form in the Book of Discipline.

While we fear that it is indeed true that many of our men of means are sleeping over this great interest, we rejoice that there are others who appreciate its importance, and have given substantial evidence of this in munificent donations to some of our schools. All honor to the noble few! May their number be greatly multiplied! We trust that, through its pastoral address, the Conference will send forth an earnest appeal to our men of wealth to come forward, and of their abundance liberally endow as many of our colleges and other schools as the wants of the Church demand.

Special attention has been given by the committee to the remarks of the bishops in reference to the relation of the biblical institutes to the Church. These remarks we regard as worthy of serious consideration. The General Conference of 1856 indorsed and adopted these institutions, subject to guards sufficient to protect them from heretical instruction in doctrine or discipline, and from recognizing any candidates for the ministry save such as God calls thereto. It is indispensable that checks be strongly secured and maintained both by Church and civil law. The present legal protection over these interests is as follows:

1. The Institute at Concord, N. H., is controlled by sixty trustees, all members or ministers of the Methodist Episcopal Church, appointed by eight patronizing Conferences, and retained at the pleasure of said Conferences, which Conferences also annually appoint visitors, whose duty is to examine the character of the

instruction and the affairs of the school and jointly report thereon. Each member of the faculty is a member of an Annual Conference, to which he is responsible for his soundness in doctrine as well as correctness of life. The faculty report annually to each of these Conferences. They also report each year to the Board of Bishops. Bishop Baker is president elect of the faculty.

2. The Institute at Evanston, near Chicago, was endowed with valuable property situated in Chicago, held in trust, and subject to the management of five trustees, two laymen and three ministers, all members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to be appointed by the Annual Conference in whose territory the City of Chicago and County of Cook is or shall be situated. At present it is in the Rock River Conference. The charter provides for visitors, to be appointed each year by any Annual Conference recognizing it. The Conference in whose bounds the institute is located is forever held responsible to protect the school from instructions contrary to the doctrines and discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in case of any false teaching in doctrine or discipline, the professors are subject to trial and removal by said Conference; and the trustees of the institute are held responsible to report annually to said Conference the internal condition and all the affairs of the school. Bishop Simpson is president elect of the faculty.

By act of General Conference in 1856 both these institutes are required to report through the bishops quadrennially to the General Conference. All these requirements have thus far been fulfilled by both schools. It is to be noticed that both have one of the bishops at the head of their respective faculties. The object of this arrangement was not to secure instruction from them, except occasional lectures on the spirit of the itinerancy and of its general work, but for the professors to receive their special counsel and guidance, and for the students to feel more closely bound to the work for which they are preparing, and the effect of this arrangement has been most happy in securing these ends.

The bishops, acting in this capacity, have, however, experienced some embarrassment from feeling that their position is somewhat anomalous, it not having been specially authorized by the General Conference. Your committee recommend that this arrangement be authorized at the present session of the Conference, and that the bishops appoint at least one of their number annually to act with such president as a Visitorial Committee of their Board in examining annually the condition and arrangement of the institutes.

These restrictions, added to those which are imposed by their respective charters, will, it is believed by your committee, sufficiently secure our biblical institutes to the government of the General Conference, and command the confidence of the entire Church.

Heretofore no provision has been made for collecting educational statistics. Your committee recommend that this be done at the Annual Conferences through the agency of the presiding elders.

To present the views contained in this report in a form to be acted on, the committee recommend for adoption the following resolutions:

ON NEW SECTION IN DISCIPLINE.

Resolved, That there be inserted in the Discipline, in Part IV, an additional section, as follows:

SECTION II.—EDUCATION.

Question. How shall the Church provide for the higher education of her youth?

Answer 1. It is recommended that, wherever practicable, each Conference have at least one academy or seminary under its direct supervision, and that such institutions confine themselves to their legitimate sphere of duties.

2. It is also recommended that, as a general thing, not less than four Conferences unite in the support of a college or university; and the Conferences are earnestly advised not to multiply schools, especially of this higher grade, beyond the wants of the people, or their ability to sustain them.

3. All these schools are, to a certain extent, beneficiary institutions. The academy must be furnished with buildings and apparatus by the benevolence of the Church. The college must, in addition to these, have such endowment as shall yield a regular income sufficient to meet its current expenses; and that our people may be properly instructed in this matter, it shall be the duty of each preacher in charge to preach on the subject of education once a year, to diffuse information by the distribution of tracts, or otherwise, and specially to call the attention of our wealthy members and friends to the duty of making liberal donations and bequests to this object. It is also recommended that each Conference take annually a collection to aid the work of education.

4. It is advised that educational societies for the aid of poor young men be established in connection with each of our colleges and biblical institutes, or Annual Conferences.

ON BIBLICAL INSTITUTES.

1. *Resolved*, That this General Conference reaffirms the resolutions passed on the subject of biblical institutes, and of biblical departments in connection with our colleges, by the General Conference of 1856.

2. That to relate our biblical institutes more intimately to the regular itinerant work of the ministry, and to render the supervision of the General Conference over them more obvious, it is the opinion of this General Conference that the appointment by the proper authorities of a bishop to each of our biblical institutes as president of the faculty thereof, whose duty shall be to guide and advise, and act as the immediate representative of the Board of Bishops and of the General Conference, is both proper and desirable.

3. That in order further to secure an appropriate supervision over the biblical institutes, the bishops appoint one or more of their number to act as a Visitorial Committee with the president, provided he be one of the bishops, who shall annually examine the character of its instruction, condition, and arrangements of these institutes, and give such advice and direction in all respects as they in their judgment may deem necessary.

ON STATISTICS.

Resolved, 1. That the words "to report to the Annual Conference the statistics of the literary and biblical institutions located within the bounds of his district and under the care of our Church, according to the form published in the Appendix to the Discipline," be inserted in answer 6, question 4, § 1, chap. iv, Part II, page 98 of the Discipline, after the words, "and Sunday-school Books."

2. That the secretaries of the Annual Conferences shall send to the Book Agents at New York a copy of the reports furnished by the presiding elders.

3. That the Book Agents at New York be and are hereby instructed to publish in the Appendix to the Discipline the following form for educational statistics, and also the resolution requiring the secretaries of Conferences to furnish copies of the reports to the Book Agents, and the one recommending a day of prayer for colleges.

FORM OF BLANK FOR EDUCATIONAL STATISTICS.

1. Name of institution.*
2. Grade.
3. Location.
4. Name and title of president or principal.
5. When founded.
6. Number of instructors.
7. Whole number of students.
 - (a.) Collegiate.
 - (b.) Preparatory.
 - (c.) Academic.
8. Number of graduates.
9. Number of graduates in the ministry.
10. Honorary degrees conferred.
 - (a.) A. M.
 - (b.) D. D.
 - (c.) LL. D.
11. Value of grounds, buildings, and furniture.
12. Endowment.
13. Volumes in libraries.
14. Value of apparatus.
15. Number of specimens in cabinet.
16. Income from tuition.
17. Income from other sources.

* If the institution is open for both sexes affix a * after the name.

18. Indebtedness.
19. Patronizing Conferences.
20. Time of commencement, or anniversary exercises.

ON COLLEGIATE COURSE OF STUDY.

Resolved, That the General Conference do hereby earnestly recommend that the course of study for graduation to the Baccalaureate degree in our colleges be rendered uniform, and in all cases be raised to the grade of the best colleges in our country.

ON THE OBSERVANCE OF A DAY OF PRAYER.

Resolved, That we recommend our people to observe the fourth Thursday of February of each year as a day of prayer for our colleges and other institutions of learning, and where practicable, in a public manner.

Respectfully submitted,

JABEZ BROOKS, *Secretary*.

F. MERRICK, *Chairman*.

K, III.—Journal, page 134.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE METHODIST GENERAL BIBLICAL INSTITUTE.

TO THE BISHOPS AND MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH TO BE HELD IN PHILADELPHIA, MAY, 1864.

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN,—The faculty of the Methodist General Biblical Institute, Concord, N. H., are happy to report the institution in a state of prosperity. The number of students, though slightly diminished at the outbreaking of the war by the departure of a few of southern proclivities, is now enjoying from the loyal states a patronage unsurpassed. Our young brethren have as a whole been consistent and earnest in their piety, faithful in their studies, and have enjoyed the blessing of God upon their ministerial and pastoral labors. We have dwelt together in the unity of the Spirit, and enjoyed the presence and blessing of the God of our fathers.

The trustees in their annual meeting in June, 1862, unanimously resolved that the raising of *one hundred thousand dollars* toward the adequate endowment of the institution, and a sum sufficient to procure suitable buildings for its accommodation, would be an appropriate centennial thank-offering to Almighty God for the blessings that have come to the Church through the agency of Methodism. The *seven* Annual Conferences patronizing the institute unanimously approved of this resolution, and resolved to heartily co-operate with the trustees in all appropriate measures for the accomplishment of these objects. Accordingly a commission, consisting of three ministers and three laymen from each patronizing

Conference was appointed to act in conjunction, with power to mature and carry out plans to secure the proposed sums. These committees met in convention in Boston, May 2, 1863, Bishop Baker presiding. With surprising unanimity it was resolved that the time has fully come when the institution should be liberally endowed and placed on a broad and generous foundation, and be adapted in all respects to the demands of the Church. They believed the Church would respond to this call, and rally not only to place the institution beyond embarrassment, but to make it the pride and joy of our Zion. Nor was their confidence delusive. Two of our large-hearted and wealthy brethren, to whose many other princely benefactions the Church is indebted, have already responded in *twenty-five thousand dollars* each, others in smaller sums; and the subscription is in other respects in a state of forwardness.

With profound gratitude to God for his goodness in the past, we commend our cause to his favor and care in the future.

We earnestly ask, as we shall gladly receive, your godly counsel and aid in all matters pertaining to the welfare of our "school of the prophets."
D. PATTEN.

SUNDAY-SCHOOLS AND TRACT CAUSE.

L, I.—Journal, page 75.

REPORT OF THE TRACT SOCIETY.

TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, TO BE HELD IN PHILADELPHIA, MAY 1, 1864.

FATHERS AND BRETHREN,—The operations of the Tract Society during the past four years were as follows:

Its receipts for the year ending December 31, 1860, were.....	\$2,803 60
“ “ “ “ “ 1861, “	4,042 43
“ “ “ “ “ 1862, “	4,756 82
“ “ “ “ “ 1863, “	8,718 25
Total receipts for the four years.....	\$20,321 10

These amounts do not include the sums received and expended by the conference auxiliaries. The General Minutes show that the entire sum contributed by the Church for tract purposes during the four years was \$55,512, considerably more than a moiety of which was expended under the direction of the conference societies.

The expenditures of the society for 1860 were.....	\$5,776 32
“ “ “ “ 1861 “	4,049 22
“ “ “ “ 1862 “	4,691 24
“ “ “ “ 1863 “	8,718 25
Total.....	\$23,235 03

Of this sum, nearly \$4,500 was expended in the purchase of tracts and "Good News" for our soldiers and sailors.

In the department of publication it appears that the circulation of the "Good News" is 85,000, an increase of 35,000 in the four years.

That thirty-five new tracts have been added to the list, besides twenty-four handbill tracts, and thirty-two leaflets for letters.

That the number of pages of tracts printed was.....	20,321,250
Pages of tracts contained in the "Good News".....	80,330,120

Total number of pages of tracts printed..... 100,651,370

Considering the restrictions on the action of the Society, and the disturbed state of the country, the above showing, if not entirely satisfactory, is not without its encouraging aspects. Over one hundred millions of pages of evangelical reading cannot have been circulated in vain.

In behalf of the Board of Managers,

DANIEL WISE, *Cor. Sec.*

L, II.—Journal, page 54.

REPORT AND MEMORIAL OF THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL UNION.

TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, TO BE HELD AT PHILADELPHIA, MAY 1, 1864.

FATHERS AND BRETHERN,—We respectfully submit the following report of our operations during the last four years:

1. The amounts contributed to our treasury are as follows:

Amount received in 1860.....	\$12,007 32
“ “ 1861.....	11,214 64
“ “ 1862.....	9,595 89
“ “ 1863.....	12,978 48

Total for four years..... \$45,796 33

2. Our disbursements during the same period were as follows:

Amount disbursed in 1860.....	\$12,412 60
“ “ 1861.....	9,373 81
“ “ 1862.....	10,394 03
“ “ 1863.....	11,108 78

Total disbursement for four years..... \$43,289 22

3. The progress of our Sunday-school work for the four years past is shown by the following table:

	Schools.	Offic's & Teach'a.	Scholars.
The returns of 1859 gave	12,809	140,527	747,148
“ 1863 “	13,088	148,582	841,706
Increase for four years	279	8,055	94,558

4. The conversions reported during the four years amounted to 70,076.

5. The returns of the Publication Department are as follows :

New works added to our bound volume lists.....	168
New children's tracts and paper-covered books.....	129
Total.....	<u>297</u>

The total number of Sunday-school books bound was	2,193,422
Sunday-school tracts and books in paper covers.....	2,595,941
Total.....	<u>4,789,363</u>

The number of 18mo. pages of books printed was ...	336,631,250
Number of 18mo. pages contained in the Sunday-school papers.....	1,327,568,000
Total.....	<u>1,664,199,250</u>

6. The Periodical Department shows that the maximum circulation of the "Sunday-School Advocate" in 1863 was 243,000. In 1859 its maximum circulation was 208,000, showing an increase of 35,000.

The circulation of the Teachers' Journal is 14,000. We deeply regret that this paper has not met with the success that we anticipated when it was started four years ago. The peculiar condition of the nation has doubtless rendered it unusually difficult to establish a new paper of this class. We respectfully request your venerable body to order its continuance, and to give it the influence of your approval.

7. A review of the above returns, taken in connection with the state of the country, affords us great encouragement. To have maintained the status of the department through the dark days of the past three years would have been to do well. Our cause has done better—it has made progress. To God be glory!

8. In the performance of our work we often receive solicitations for aid to Sabbath-schools from charitable and reformatory institutions, from associations for the benefit of freedmen, from various Churches of Colored Methodists, and from other parties in sympathy with our Church, but not in connection with it. These solicitations we are compelled to deny, often unwillingly, because our constitution limits us to the assistance of schools "in connection with the Methodist Episcopal Church." It seems desirable to us that this restriction should be modified; we therefore request your venerable body to recommend the Sunday-School Union to amend the second article of its Constitution by inserting after the phrase "in connection with the Methodist Episcopal Church," the following words, to wit: "and in such other spheres of Christian labor as in the judgment of the Board of Managers may have claims upon its charity." The article, when so amended, will read as follows:

"The object of this Society shall be to promote the cause of Sabbath-schools in connection with the Methodist Episcopal Church,

and in such other spheres of Christian labor as in the judgment of the Board of Managers may have claims upon its charity, and thus, by a careful religious training of those who may be brought within its influence, seek and promote the glory of God and the happiness of mankind."

In behalf of the Board of Managers,
DANIEL WISE, *Cor. Sec.*

L, III.—Journal, page 142.

REPORT NO. I OF THE COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS AND THE TRACT CAUSE.

The Committee on Sunday-Schools and Tracts have had under consideration the report of the Board of Managers of the Sunday-School Union, and beg leave to report the following resolutions, to wit :

1. *Resolved*, That we have great cause for devout gratitude to Almighty God for the signal success and healthy outgrowth of the Sunday-school cause during the past four years, under the fostering care of the Church, and the vigilant and faithful supervision of Dr. Wise, our Corresponding Secretary.

2. *Resolved*, That we hail with joy the pleasing intelligence that the returns of 1863 show the number of schools in the Church to be 13,088; officers and teachers, 148,582; scholars, 844,706; conversions during the term, 70,000; making an increase of 279 schools, 8,055 officers and teachers, and 94,588 scholars; which, with an addition of 168 bound volumes, and 129 paper-covered books and tracts to our catalogue, affords the highest encouragement to continued effort in this noble cause.

3. *Resolved*, That we cordially recommend the Sunday-School Teachers' Journal to the largest patronage of all our people, believing that it is eminently calculated to assist teachers in their difficult work.

4. *Resolved*, That we recommend to the Sunday-School Union to amend the second article of its Constitution so that it shall read :

"The object of this Society shall be to promote the cause of Sabbath-schools in connection with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in such other spheres of Christian labor as in the judgment of the Board of Managers may have claims upon its charity; and thus, by a careful training of those who may be under its influence, seek to promote the glory of God and the happiness of mankind."

J. PORTER, *Chairman.*

L, IV.—Journal, pages 161, 261.

REPORT NO. II OF THE COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS AND THE TRACT CAUSE.

I. The Committee on Sunday-Schools and Tracts have carefully considered the question of a new rule of Discipline, requiring preachers to preach once in three months to children, and beg leave to report, that while they fully believe in the utility of frequent sermons to children, they hardly deem it advisable to alter the Discipline as proposed, and would respectfully suggest to preachers to recognize the wants and capacities of children more fully in their ordinary discourses.

II. The committee have also considered the propriety of adding a department to the Sunday-School Advocate more especially adapted to youth and larger scholars, and report against it. It has no room to spare for this purpose, and the Teachers' Journal is admirably calculated to meet the want contemplated by the proposition, as well as to benefit teachers. They believe that a special effort should be made by all the pastors to extend the Journal among this class of scholars.

III. The committee have also examined the report of the Board of Managers of the Tract Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and have to say that while there is much cause for devout thanksgiving to Almighty God in the records of the operations of the Tract Society for the past four years, they can but feel that our efforts in this noble field of Christian labor are wholly inadequate alike to the exigencies of the times and to the abilities of the Church. The quadrennial report of the Board of Managers shows that the receipts of the Society for the past four years amount to \$20,321, being an increase of \$2,914 over the receipts of the corresponding period preceding the last report. It should be remembered also in this connection, that while the aggregate collections have been increased, the expenses have been largely diminished by the discontinuance of the office of Corresponding Secretary of the Tract Society, as well as of a number of Conference Tract Agents and Colporteurs, who had been employed in the period preceding the General Conference of 1860.

Another fact also should not be overlooked in this connection, namely, that in addition to the \$20,321 reported, more than \$34,191 have been raised and expended by Conference and local auxiliaries, as appears from the general Minutes, which do not enter into the general report. Moreover, large contributions have been made by our Churches and people in view of the pressing calls growing out of the war through other channels, for which neither the Society nor the Church has received any credit.

The circulation of Good News has reached 85,000 copies, an

increase of 35,000 over the preceding quadrennial; but the fact should not be lost sight of that this increase is almost entirely owing to the demand for army distribution, and will cease with the war, unless special efforts are made to extend its circulation in the home fields.

In view of these facts, the committee offer the following resolutions for adoption, to wit:

Resolved, 1. That a more energetic, vigorous, and persevering prosecution of the Tract enterprise is indispensable to the growth and efficiency of the Church.

Resolved, 2. That it is the duty of every pastor to take up a regular annual Tract collection in every congregation in his charge.

Resolved, 3. That all moneys raised for Tract purposes in our congregations, whether for home or army distribution, should be reported to and expended in accordance with the regulations of our own Tract Society.

IV. The committee recommend that the Discipline be altered, Part II, § 4, page 55, in relation to the business of the Quarterly Conference, by adding another item, as follows, after the fifth item:

"To appoint a Tract Committee, as provided for in Part IV, § 3, item 1, page 214."

Also by adding to the third section, Part IV, page 214, another item, as follows:

"3. It shall be the duty of each presiding elder to bring the Tract cause before the first Quarterly Meeting Conference of each year in each circuit and station within his district, and said Conference shall appoint a committee, whose duty it shall be to devise and execute plans for local tract circulation."

J. PORTER, *Chairman.*

L, V.—Journal, pages 190, 261.

REPORT NO. III OF THE COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS AND THE TRACT CAUSE.

The Committee on Sunday-Schools and the Tract Cause recommend the following changes in the Discipline, namely:

1. To so amend Part II, chap. i, item 7, page 55, as to add after the word "Church" the words "the first male superintendents of our Sunday-schools shall be members of our Church, and approved by the Quarterly Conference of the charge; and said Quarterly Conference shall have the right to inquire into the conduct of each school or society in the bounds of the circuit or station, and to remove any superintendent who may prove to be unworthy or inefficient," so that the whole paragraph shall read as follows, namely:

"7. (a) Each Quarterly Conference shall have supervision of all

the Sunday-schools and Sunday-school societies within its bounds, which schools and societies shall be auxiliary to the Sunday-School Union of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

“The first male superintendents of our Sunday-schools shall be members of our Church, and approved by the Quarterly Conference of the charge; and said Quarterly Conference shall have the right to inquire into the condition of each school or society in the bounds of the circuit or station, and to remove any superintendent who may prove to be unworthy or inefficient.

“(b) It shall be the duty of each Quarterly Conference at the first Quarterly meeting of each year to appoint a committee of not less than three nor more than nine, who shall be members of our Church, to be called the Committee on Sunday-Schools, of which the preacher in charge shall be the chairman.” (See page 205.)

2. To so amend Part II, chap. i, question 3, page 57, as to add these references: “Page 87, item 19, and page 206, item 4.”

And also amend Part II, chap. i, question 4, page 57, so as to make the question read, “*Question 4.* Who shall constitute the Sunday-School Committee?” (See page 205.)

3. To amend Part II, chap. ii, § 12, item 19, page 87, by striking out the words “as far as practicable” in said section in third line of said item, and also by striking out the word “and” in the fourth line of said item 19, and by inserting after the word “state” the words “average attendance,” so that the whole paragraph shall read thus: “19. To lay before the Quarterly Conference at each quarterly meeting, to be entered on its journal, a written statement of the number, state, and average attendance of the Sunday-schools in the circuit or station, and report the same to the Annual Conference, according to the form published by the Sunday-School Union of the Methodist Episcopal Church, together with the amount raised for the support of missions and for the publication of Bibles and tracts.” (See page 206, item 4.)

4. To so amend Part IV, § 1, page 205, as to make the section read:

PART IV.

BENEVOLENT INSTITUTIONS.

Sunday-Schools and the Instruction of Children.

Ques. 1. What shall we do for the moral and religious instruction of our children?

Ans. 1. It shall be the duty of each Presiding Elder to bring the subject of Sunday-schools before the First Quarterly Conference of each year, and said Quarterly Conference shall proceed to appoint a committee of not less than three nor more than nine, to be called the Committee on Sunday-Schools, of which the preacher in charge shall be the chairman, whose duty it shall be to aid the preacher in charge and the officers of the Sunday-schools in procuring suitable teachers, in promoting in all proper ways the attendance of children on our Sunday-schools and on our regular public worship,

and in raising money to meet the expenses of the Sunday-schools of the charge.

It shall be the duty of the preacher in charge, aided by the superintendent and the Committee on Sunday-Schools, to decide as to what books shall be used in our Sunday-schools. (See page 55.)

2. It shall be the special duty of the preachers having charge of circuits or stations, with the aid of the other preachers and the Committee on Sunday-Schools, to form Sunday-schools in all our congregations where ten children can be collected for that purpose; and to engage the co-operation of as many of our members as they can, and to visit the schools as often as practicable; to preach on the subject of Sunday-schools and religious instruction in each congregation at least once in six months; and to form Bible-classes wherever they can for the instruction of youths and adults; and where they cannot superintend them personally, to see that suitable teachers are provided for that purpose.

3. It shall be the duty of our preachers to enforce faithfully upon parents and Sunday-school teachers the great importance of instructing children in the doctrine and duties of our holy religion, to see that our catechisms be used as extensively as possible in our Sunday-schools and families, to preach to the children, and publicly catechize them in the Sunday-schools and at public meetings appointed for that purpose.

4. It shall be the duty of every preacher in his pastoral visits to pay special attention to the children, to speak to them personally and kindly on the subject of experimental and practical godliness, according to their capacity, pray earnestly for them, and diligently instruct and exhort all parents to dedicate their children to the Lord in baptism as early as convenient. (See pages 23, 33, and 86.)

5. Each preacher in charge shall lay before the Quarterly Conference, to be entered on its journal, the number, state, and average attendance of the Sunday-schools and Bible-classes in his charge, (page 87,) and the extent to which he has preached to the children and catechized them, and make the required report on Sunday-schools to his Annual Conference.

4. That the Discipline be amended, Part II, chap. iii, § 1, item 3, page 93, by striking out of said item all appertaining to the appointment of Sunday-school agent, commencing with "he shall have authority," in the ninth line, and closing with the words "Sabbath-schools," in the fourteenth line from the top.

5. That a section be added to Part IV, comprising a suitable and concise Constitution for the use of our Sunday-school societies.

Your committee would recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That it is the duty of each preacher in charge, aided by the other preachers and the Sunday-School Committee, to see that our Sunday-schools be continued through the winter as well as other seasons of the year.

Respectfully submitted,

J. POETER, *Chairman.*

LAY DELEGATION.

M, I.—Journal, page 176.

ADDRESS OF THE LAYMEN'S CONVENTION.

TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

FATHERS AND BRETHREN,—The laymen of the Methodist Episcopal Church accepted with gratitude the resolution adopted in the General Conference of 1860, declaring the assent of that body to the principle of lay representation, and its willingness to admit lay delegates as associate members. The language of the pastoral address, in which it was said, "*The discussion of the question led us to approve the principle of lay delegation in the General Conference,*" was hailed as the expression of a conciliatory spirit, and the recognition of the scriptural right of the laity to participate in the general administration of the Church. The reference of the question to the vote of the male members was not, however, asked by us, nor did we ourselves regard it as expedient. There were in our minds serious objections to such a process of legislation, and these, with our observations upon the vote as taken, we beg leave to present to your consideration.

1. A popular vote upon any question of connectional interest is without precedent in the history of American Methodism. The facilities for *adequately* employing this method of ascertaining the popular judgment do not as yet exist. Whether the vote should be properly taken depended solely upon the fidelity and care of the pastors. In our opinion the preachers should have been required to notify the people by reading the resolutions of the General Conference, and the passage of the pastoral address which touches upon lay delegation from their pulpits, and not by verbal statement; and the General Conference papers should have been directed to publish the same resolutions conspicuously a certain number of times during the period appointed for the taking of the vote.

2. In point of fact the vote was very imperfectly, and in some churches irregularly taken. In some instances preachers neglected or wholly refused to present the subject to their congregations; in other cases that have come to our knowledge the people were requested to give their judgment upon the admission of laymen to the Annual Conferences as well as the General Conference, thus having before them a question totally different from that which was by your order presented to their consideration. We have evidence of circuits where, by the ruling of the presiding elder, but one time and place were permitted for the voting of all the Churches therein. We take these to be but samples, and we have a painful impression that in hundreds of the churches the

people were very imperfectly advised of the duty laid upon them by the General Conference. No other result could therefore be expected than a comparatively small vote, which cannot be said fully to reflect the opinion of our laity.

3. The breaking out of the war which is now raging has withdrawn the attention of our members from this subject, and rendered its proper consideration difficult, if not impossible. It is not easy for the people to fix their thoughts upon changes of ecclesiastical polity during a period when the whole fabric of society is rocked to its foundations. They must first save the state before they can, with sufficient concentration of purpose, address themselves to the work of improving the organization of the Church. Yet, despite these disadvantages, the vote, as summed up, shows a degree of favor for lay representation which induces us to believe that had the subject been presented to the people under more favorable circumstances it would have received their unqualified approval.

In the Conferences situated east of the Alleghany Mountains, embracing the New England states, the central states, and the eastern border states, making nineteen conferences in all, the sum total of the votes cast gives a majority of over one thousand for lay delegation. These are the original seats of Methodism. In these regions our Church had its early home, and in them first grew to vigor and power. They are Conferences whose lay members may be taken to represent the most advanced consciousness of the wants of Methodism. The people in this important part of the territory of Methodism having spoken thus emphatically for the admission of laymen into the General Conference, we feel warranted in urging the subject afresh upon your consideration. We speak for more than ourselves. We speak for the Methodism of the oldest conferences of our connection, and for a respectable minority of the laity within the newer conferences of the West.

It cannot have escaped the attention of the General Conference that the conviction of the utility and propriety of lay representation is, among both our ministers and members, a growing one; that it prevails especially among those laymen who have contributed most freely by their labors, and the dedication of their time and means to the advancement of Methodism, and that this change of our form of government is sought by them in no factious spirit. We are all of us lovers of Methodism; its growth and prosperity are our chief joy. Its life has been so associated with our life that we cannot conceive of ourselves as being separated from its destiny. Our Church in the order of Providence has an important part to perform in the moral culture of the American people, yet we do not see how it can find that acceptance with the people which we desire for it, and *retain* its hold upon them, if it shall be decided that, in its form of government, it is to be so far unlike the Protestantism of the whole world as to remain *permanently* under the sole government of the clergy. With the habits of American Christians, as they are habits acquired under the forms of a free political com

monwealth, it is not likely that they will regard with abiding favor a Church purely hierarchical in its structure.

To resist the claim of the laity to participate in the general administration of the Church is, as it seems to us, a resistance of the whole tendency of the Christian life in this our age. In all the Protestant Churches of the world—unless our own be the sole exception—a more perfect association of the ministry with the laity in the administration of the interests of the kingdom of Christ is forming. This fact is one of the salient features of the Church history of our times. We need not do more, fathers and brethren, than refresh your recollection of facts upon this point. In the Church of England the revival of the “convocation” (which is an effort to secure more perfectly the privilege of self-government) is accompanied by a movement to secure therein a direct representation of the laity. In this movement all parties of the national establishment concur. The world has recently seen the illustrious and venerable Guizot come forward, as an elder of the Reformed Protestant Church of France, in the defense of evangelical religion against the assaults of rationalism.

Standing among the associated pastors of his Church, he has uttered words which we commend to the consideration of an American Methodist General Conference. “It is one of the essential facts,” says this distinguished Protestant statesman, “one of the great results of the Reformation of the sixteenth century, that it did not leave the *religious* society under the exclusive empire of the *ecclesiastical* society. *It gave to the laity, to the faithful, a part in the government of the Church by the side of the clergy. The authority resides in the bodies, in which the clergy and the laity sit, deliberate, and decide together.* Let us beware of allowing this great characteristic of our Church to be altered; faith and liberty would equally suffer from it.”

May we not, under such high sanction, say to a Methodist General Conference: Let us beware of allowing this great characteristic of the Church of Christ to remain unrecognized as it is at present with us; for if we do, faith and liberty will equally suffer. Such is our conviction of the importance of the association of the laity with the ministry in the administration of Christ's Church, that, in our judgment, it would be wise in our ministers to urge upon the laymen the acceptance of a larger share of the responsibilities, which are now borne by the ministry alone.

But we are told that the Methodist system is peculiar, unique, and will not safely admit a sharing of the responsibilities of a General Conference between the ministry and the laity. We answer that the admission of laymen to the General Conference will not interfere with any essential peculiarity of Methodism. The administration will still remain in the hands that hold it now. Bishops will still appoint preachers to their stations; itinerant ministers and itinerant presiding elders will still revolve in their fixed orbits as they have revolved heretofore. The composition of the General Conference will be modified, but we are bold to say that the laity

will be found as staunch in their adherence to all the essentials of Methodism as the ministry. The experience of this General Conference proves that the passion for innovation is already strongly developed in our preachers. The laity hear with some apprehension proposals for changes of our economy which, if adopted, would make Methodism something different from what it has been and now is. The experience of all ecclesiastical bodies in which laymen are members is, that the laity are more prone to resist than to encourage innovation, and that they consent with reluctance to the removal of old landmarks. This will, in our opinion, prove to be the experience of the Methodist Episcopal Church when laymen are admitted into its General Conference.

There is another consideration to which we attach much importance. The proposal is, on our part, an offer that the ministry shall take into more perfect association with them all the resources of the Church. It is substantially an offer of partnership. So long as the General Conference is a purely clerical body, it cannot act with sufficient decision in founding and conserving the great charitable endowments which are, in our day, a part of the working force of an earnest Christianity. The Conference can now reach, in an imperfect way only, the resources of Methodism. The bearing of this fact upon the approaching commemoration of the Centenary of American Methodism you will, fathers and brethren, readily perceive. As now constituted, the Conference cannot command the resources of the Church as it would be able to do were the laity to be united with the ministry in the expression of its supreme legislative will. On many subjects it must be content to recommend; but composed of both orders, it would speak with their joint authority; laymen would feel the binding force of directions in the adoption of which their own representatives had concurred; and the authority of the General Conference would be far greater than now, great as it now is.

We are met, however, with the declaration, that the ministers have managed the Church well, and that we should "let well enough alone." With such rare devotion and self-sacrifice as characterized our Methodist fathers almost any system would have worked well. The high-toned piety of the early preachers, and the earnest love for the Church cherished by their successors, have prevented thus far a full development of the evils of a purely clerical system of government. But prudence suggests that every system should be provided with the checks and balances which are requisite to secure stability. And we should give heed to the teachings of Church history, which has demonstrated the fact, that a government of the clergy alone develops in time the most fearful evils—evils which, when they have become inveterate, are well nigh incurable. And we should never forget that the great reformation was just as much a reform of the *polity* of the Church, by the distribution of its powers between the clergy and laity, as it was a revival of the Christian life. American Methodism should here, as well as elsewhere, follow the great lines of Protestant development.

But are we doing well enough now? Let our failure to keep pace with the growth of our large cities and towns answer. Witness again the numbers of youth who, nourished in the lap of Methodism, yet if they embrace religion at all so often join other communions where the lay element is more influential. Are our literary institutions adequately endowed? Where are our munificent foundations for the education of the ministry? These and others are grave problems, the solution of which will be found to involve the identical failure to which we have been adverting, to place the laity in proper relations to these chief interests of the Church.

We are gratified to find, fathers and brethren, that in urging our claim we are occupying the doctrinal ground of the greatest teachers of Methodism. The prince of Methodist theologians, Richard Watson, whose "Institutes" you have made a ministerial text-book, distinctly asserts that those regulations, which are subsidiary to the great end of the Church's commission, are intended, in Christ's plan, *to rest upon the mutual concurrence of the ministry and the people*. Suffer us, at this point, to quote a brief passage from his statement of the doctrine of the Church: "The consent of the people," he observes, "to all such regulations, either tacitly, by the adoption of them, or more expressly through any regular meetings of different officers who may be regarded as acquainted with and representing the sentiments of the whole; as also by the approval of those aged, wise, and, from different causes, influential persons, who are to be found in all societies, is necessary to confidence and harmony, and a proper security for good and orderly government."

The opinions of this eminent theologian are the more entitled to your consideration from the fact that he was, through life, an opponent of the extreme democratic theory of ecclesiastical government. Yet he fully concedes that the *consent of the people through their representatives* is essential to the right ordering of the Church. We stand then firmly on Methodist ground; we stand on Protestant ground; we stand on the sure ground of Scripture. What we seek is in harmony with the New Testament, accords with primitive usage, and is the distinctive mark of Protestant Christianity. Lay representation in the General Conference once accomplished, the laity and the ministry will be more firmly bound to each other; the tie that unites them will be indissoluble. The Church will then have given to the Christian world a new guaranty of its perpetuity. American Methodism has, in our judgment, acquired the maturity which makes the union of the laity with the ministry, in its general government, both wise, safe, and necessary.

We leave it to you, fathers and brethren, to note the signs of the times, confident that in your mature deliberation this important and growing want of Methodism will receive from you the attention which the magnitude of the question demands. With sincere respect and affection, in behalf of the Laymen's Convention,

JAMES STRONG, *Secretary*.

THOS. KNEEL, *President*.

PHILADELPHIA, May 18th, 1864.

The following resolution accompanies the address, and was presented at the same time :

Resolved, That we respectfully ask the General Conference so to alter the organic law of our Church that the male members of the several charges over the age of twenty-one years may choose representatives, to meet in convention within the bounds of their respective Conferences and elect delegates to the General Conference, and that the General Conference prescribe the mode of such elections, and fix the ratio of such representation.

We hereby certify that the above is a correct copy of a resolution adopted at the Laymen's Convention of the Methodist Episcopal Church, held in Philadelphia, May, 1864.

JAMES STRONG, *Secretary*.

THOS. KNEIL, *President*.

M, II.—Journal, pages 209, 255.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON LAY DELEGATION.

The Committee on Lay Delegation have had under consideration the papers referred to them, namely, the Address of the Bishops, the address and resolution of the Laymen's Convention, the resolutions of various Annual and Quarterly Conferences, and sundry petitions, some in favor of lay delegation, others against it; a third class asking that the subject be submitted again to a popular vote, and a fourth protesting against such re-submitting of the question. Your committee have also been favored with the views and arguments of the Committee of the Lay Convention, which, they are happy to say, were uttered in the most kind and loyal spirit. After a careful consideration of the question in all its bearings, they submit the following preamble and resolutions :

Whereas the General Conference, at its last session, declared its approval of the introduction of lay delegation into this body when it shall be ascertained that the Church desires it; provided for submitting the question to the male members over twenty-one years of age, in full connection, in all our charges; instructed the bishops to lay the question before the Annual Conferences at their session in the year 1862, and requested them to report to this body the results of these several votes; and whereas the bishops reported the vote as follows, namely, "Of the ministers there were 1,338 votes for, 3,069 against; of the male members, 28,884 for, 47,855 against; showing a majority against lay representation in the General Conference of 1,731 ministers and 18,971 male members;" therefore,

1. *Resolved*, That while we reaffirm our approval of lay representation in the General Conference *whenever it shall be ascertained that the Church desires it*, we see no such declaration of the popular will as to justify us in taking advanced action in relation to it.

2. *Resolved*, That we are at all times ready to receive petitions and memorials from our people on this subject, and to consider them most respectfully.

Respectfully submitted; E. THOMSON, *Chairman*.
EDWARD G. ANDREWS, *Secretary*.

PHILADELPHIA, May 23, 1864.

REVISALS.

N, I.—Journal, pages 125, 200.

REPORT NO. I OF THE COMMITTEE ON REVISALS.

The Committee on Revisals beg leave to report in part, as follows:

ITEM I.—Your committee recommend that the Discipline, Part II, chap. ii, § 11, quest. 1, page 82, be amended by adding after the words “Wesleyan Connection in Europe and Canada,” the words “or from the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada;” and in the answer to said question, after the words “British, Irish, or Canada Conference,” the words “or the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada,” so that the question and answer will read as follows:

Question 1. In what manner shall we receive those ministers who may come to us from the Wesleyan Connection in Europe and Canada, or from the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada?

Answer 1. If they come to us properly accredited from either the British, Irish, or Canada Conference, or from the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, they may be received according to such credentials, provided they give satisfaction to an Annual Conference of their willingness to conform to our Church government and usages.

ITEM II.—Your committee also recommend that the Discipline, Part II, chap. i, § 4, and answer to question 1, be amended by striking out the word “and” before the words “class-leaders;” and also by inserting the words “and trustees” after the words “class-leaders;” and also by inserting the words “churches in the” before the word “circuit;” and also by inserting the word “all” before the words “being members,” so that the whole question and answer shall read as follows:

Question 1. Of whom shall the Quarterly Conferences be composed?

Answer. Of all the traveling and local preachers, exhorters, stewards, class-leaders, and trustees of the Churches in the circuit or station, and the first male superintendents of our Sunday-schools, said trustees and superintendents being members of our Church and approved by the Quarterly Conference. The Missionary Committee shall have a right to a seat during the action of the conference on the subject of missions, but at no other time.

ITEM III.—Your committee recommend that the paragraph marked “N. B.,” and attached to ans. 3, ques. 2, chap. vi, page 112 in the Discipline be amended so as to read:

“N. B.—Whenever a preacher on trial shall be appointed by a bishop to a mission, or a chaplaincy in the army or navy, or in hospitals or prisons, he may, if elected by an Annual Conference, with the approbation of a bishop, be ordained by him before his probation ends.”

ITEM IV.—Your committee recommend that ans. 2, ques. 3, § 3, chap. i, Part I, commencing on page 34 of the Discipline, be stricken out, and the following answer be inserted in its place, namely:

Answer 2. At the age of ten years (or earlier) the preacher in charge shall organize the baptized children of the Church into classes, and appoint suitable leaders, (male or female,) whose duty it shall be to meet them in class once a week and instruct them in the nature, design, and obligations of baptism, and the truths of religion necessary to make them “wise unto salvation;” urge them to “give regular attendance upon the means of grace;” advise, exhort, and encourage them to an immediate consecration of their hearts and lives to God, and inquire into the state of their religious experience; *provided*, that children unbaptized are not to be excluded from these classes.

ITEM V.—Your committee recommend the striking out of the word “shall” from the sixth line of ans. 3, ques. 3, § 3, chap. i, Part I, and page 35 of the Discipline, and inserting in its place the words “may, with their assent,” so that the first part of that answer will read as follows:

“*Answer 3.* Whenever they shall have attained an age sufficient to understand the obligations of religion, and shall give evidence of a desire to flee from the wrath to come and to be saved from their sins, their names may, with their assent, be enrolled on the list of probationers.”

Respectfully submitted,

D. W. CLARK, *Chairman.*

N, II.—Journal, pages 141, 203.

REPORT NO. II OF THE COMMITTEE ON REVISALS.

Your committee recommend the following amendments in the Discipline:

I. CHAPLAINS TO HOSPITALS.

On page 92, 3d answer to question 3, § 1, chap. iii, ninth line from the bottom of the page, strike out the word “state” and insert the word “hospitals;” so that the clause shall read, “chaplains to hospitals, prisons, and in the army or navy.”

II. AGENTS FOR BENEVOLENT INSTITUTIONS.

On page 93 of the Discipline, to answer 3 add the following words, "and other benevolent institutions;" so that the clause shall read as follows:

"He shall have authority, when requested by an Annual Conference, to appoint an agent, whose duty it shall be to travel throughout the bounds of such Conference, for the purpose of establishing and aiding Sabbath-schools and distributing tracts, and also to appoint an agent or agents for the benefit of our literary institutions, an agent for the German publishing fund, and for other benevolent institutions."

III. PREACHING WITHOUT LICENSE.

On page 115 of the Discipline, chap. viii, § 1, ques. 1, ans. 1, 3d line from the bottom of the page, after the words "leaders' meeting" add the words, "and no member of the Church shall be at liberty to preach without such license," so that the first sentence of the *proviso* shall read as follows:

"*Provided*, That no person shall be licensed to preach without the recommendation of the society of which he is a member, or of a leaders' meeting, and no member of the Church shall be at liberty to preach without such license."

Respectfully submitted,

D. W. CLARK, *Chairman.*

N, III.—Journal, pages 156, 204, 207, 208, 236, 250.

REPORT NO. III OF THE COMMITTEE ON REVISALS.

Your committee recommend the following revisions of the Discipline, namely:

I. OF CLASS-MEETINGS.

On page 41 of the Discipline add a *fifth* answer to question 2, and strike the words "and love-feasts" from the heading of § 3, page 40, so that the whole section shall read as follows:

SECTION III.—*Class-Meetings.*

Quest. 1. How may the leaders of classes be rendered more useful?

Ans. 1. Let each of them be diligently examined concerning his method of meeting a class. Let this be done with all possible exactness at least once a quarter. In order to this, take sufficient time.

2. Let each leader carefully inquire how every soul of his class prospers; not only how each person observes the outward rules, but how he grows in the knowledge and love of God.

3. Let the leaders converse with those who have the charge of their circuits frequently and freely.

Quest. 2. Can anything more be done in order to make the class-meetings lively and profitable?

Ans. 1. Change improper leaders.

2. Let the leaders frequently meet each other's classes.

3. Let us observe which leaders are the most useful, and let these meet the other classes as often as possible.

4. See that all the leaders be not only men of sound judgment, but men truly devoted to God.

5. Let the leaders be directed to such a course of reading and study as shall best qualify them for their work; especially let such books be recommended as will tend to increase their knowledge of the Scriptures and make them familiar with those passages best adapted to Christian experience. Wherever practicable, let the preachers examine the leaders in the studies recommended.

II. NEGLECT OF THE MEANS OF GRACE.

Your committee recommend the formation of a new section to take the place of the balance of § 3, commencing with question 3, page 41, as follows:

SECTION IV.—*Neglect of the Means of Grace.*

Question 1. What shall we do with those members of our Church who habitually neglect the means of grace, such as the public worship of God, the supper of the Lord, family and private prayer, searching the Scriptures, class-meetings, and prayer-meetings?

Answer 1. Let the elder, deacon, or one of the preachers visit them whenever it is practicable, and explain to them the consequence if they continue to neglect.

2. If they do not amend, let him who has the charge of the circuit or station bring the case before the society, or a select number, before whom they shall be cited to appear; and if they be found guilty of willful neglect by a decision of a majority of the members before whom the case is brought, let them be excluded.

III. ON SEEING THAT THE PREACHERS BEHAVE WELL AND WANT NOTHING.

On page 84 of the Discipline, from answer 1 to question 1, in § 12, strike out the words, "To see that the other preachers in his circuit behave well and want nothing," and insert the following answer: "He shall have the oversight of the other preachers in his circuit or station."

Respectfully submitted,
S. C. BROWN, *Secretary.*

D. W. CLARK, *Chairman.*

N, IV.—Journal, pages 161, 239.

REPORT NO. IV OF THE COMMITTEE ON REVISALS.

Your committee recommend the following changes in the Discipline:

I. IN RELATION TO PUBLIC WORSHIP.

On page 38, § 1, chap. ii, Part I, change the section on *Public Worship* so that it shall read as follows:

Question. What directions shall be given for the establishment of uniformity in public worship among us on the Lord's day?

Answer 1. Let the morning service consist of singing, prayer, the reading of a lesson from the Old Testament and another from the New, and preaching.

2. Let the afternoon or evening service consist of singing, prayer, the reading of one or two Scripture lessons, and preaching.

3. On the days of administering the sacrament of the Lord's Supper the reading of the Scripture lessons may be omitted.

4. In administering the sacraments and in the burial of the dead let our ritual invariably be used. Let the Lord's Prayer also be used on all occasions of public worship in concluding the first prayer, the congregation being exhorted to join in its audible repetition. Let a Doxology be sung at the conclusion of each service, and the Apostolic Benediction be invariably used in dismissing the congregation.

5. Let the people be earnestly exhorted to join in all these acts of worship, and especially to respond to the prayers of our ritual.

6. Let the society be met, whenever it is practicable, on the Sabbath-day.

II. IN RELATION TO SINGING.

On page 40, in § 2, let the 4th answer read as follows:

Answer 4. Let one or more be chosen in each society to lead the singing.

III. RECEPTION OF MINISTERS FROM THE M. E. CHURCH, SOUTH.

On page 82, § 11, chap. ii, Part I, insert the following as a second question and answer, changing the numbers of those that follow to correspond:

Question 2. How shall we receive those ministers who may offer to unite with us from the Methodist Episcopal Church, South?

Answer. Upon the same conditions as specified in answer to question 1, provided they give satisfactory assurances to an Annual or Quarterly Conference of their loyalty to the National Government, and hearty approval of the antislavery doctrine of our Church.

IV. NUMBER OF A COMMITTEE FOR TRIAL.

On page 128, § 2, question 1, answer 1, after the words "or a select number," insert the words "of not less than five."

V. REARRANGEMENT OF THE DISCIPLINE.

Your committee, to whom was referred the resolution of the New Hampshire Conference, recommending a rearrangement of the Discipline, according to the plan proposed by Bishop Baker, respectfully report that they have examined the new arrangement proposed by Bishop Baker, and most cordially approve the same, as in their judgment much more simple, logical, and convenient than the old, and accordingly submit the following resolutions:

1. *Resolved*, That the "Table of Contents" herewith submitted be printed.

2. *Resolved*, That Bishop Baker be associated with the committee authorized to edit the new edition of the Discipline in the execution of that work, and that they be instructed to adopt (so far as it is practicable, consistently with the modifications of the Discipline, ordered at this General Conference) the arrangement proposed by Bishop Baker.

DISCIPLINE OF THE M. E. CHURCH.

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- Sec. 17. The duties of preachers in charge.
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- Sec. 1. Building churches.
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- Sec. 1. The boundaries of Annual Conferences.
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6. REGISTRATION OF MARRIAGES AND BAPTISMS.

On page 125, from answer 1, question 3, strike out the words, "to register the marriages and baptisms," and add to answer 9, § 12, chap. ii, Part II, page 85, the words, "and also to register the marriages and baptisms."

The effect of the above change is to transfer the duty of making the register from the stewards to the minister.

7. PREACHER'S QUARTERLY REPORT.

On page 85 amend the first line of answer 11, so that the answer shall read, "To make a written report at each Quarterly Conference and love-feast of the names of those who have been received into the Church or excluded therefrom during the quarter; also the names of those who have been received or dismissed by certificate, and of those who have died or withdrawn from the Church."

8. DUTIES OF STEWARDS.

On page 125 strike out the following, relating to the duties of stewards, from question 3, answer 1, namely, "and to be subject to the bishops, the presiding elder of the district, and the elder, deacon, and traveling preachers of their circuit."

Respectfully submitted,

S. C. BROWN, *Secretary.* D. W. CLARK, *Chairman.*

N, V.—Journal, pages 184, 242.

REPORT NO. V OF THE COMMITTEE ON REVISALS.

The committee report the following as a substitute for section 2, chap. x, Part II, commencing on page 128:

SECTION II.—TRIAL OF AN ACCUSED MEMBER.

I. FOR IMMORAL CONDUCT.

Ques. 1. How shall an accused member be brought to trial?

Ans. Before a committee of not less than five, who shall not be

members of the Quarterly Conference, (and if the preacher judge it necessary he may select the committee from any part of the district,) in the presence of the preacher in charge, who shall preside in the trial, and cause exact minutes of the evidence and proceedings in the case to be taken. In the selection of the committee the parties may challenge for cause.

If the accused person be found guilty by the decision of a majority of the committee, and the crime be such as is expressly forbidden by the word of God, sufficient to exclude a person from the kingdom of grace and glory, let the preacher in charge expel him.

If the accused person evade a trial, by absenting himself, after sufficient notice given him, he may be tried in his absence, and if found guilty he shall be expelled.

II. FOR NEGLECT OF DUTY, OR IMPRUDENT CONDUCT.

But in cases of neglect of duties of any kind, imprudent conduct, indulging sinful tempers or words, the buying, selling, or using intoxicating liquors as a beverage, or disobedience to the order and discipline of the Church; first, let private reproof be given by a preacher or leader, and if there be an acknowledgment of the fault, and proper humiliation, the person may be borne with. On a second offense, the preacher or leader may take one or two faithful friends. On a third offense let him be brought to trial, and if found guilty, and there be no sign of real humiliation, he shall be expelled.

III. FOR DISSENSION.

If a member of our Church shall be accused of endeavoring to sow dissensions in any of our societies by inveighing against either our doctrines or discipline, the person so offending shall first be reprimanded by the preacher in charge, and if he persist in such pernicious practices he shall be brought to trial, and if found guilty expelled.

IV. DISAGREEMENT IN BUSINESS AND NON-PAYMENT OF DEBTS.

Ques. 2. How shall disputes between members of our Church concerning business transactions be settled?

Ans. 1. On any disagreement between two or more members of our Church concerning business transactions which cannot be settled by the parties, the preacher in charge shall inquire into the circumstances of the case, and shall recommend to the parties a reference, consisting of two arbiters chosen by the plaintiff, and two chosen by the defendant, which four arbiters so chosen shall nominate a fifth, the five arbiters being members of our Church.

If either party refuse to abide their judgment he shall be brought to trial, and if he fail to show sufficient cause for such refusal he shall be expelled.

Ans. 2. If any member of our Church shall refuse, in cases of

debt or other disputes, to refer the matter to arbitration when recommended by the preacher in charge, or shall enter into a lawsuit with another member before these measures are taken, he shall be brought to trial, and if he fail to show that the case is of such a nature as to require and justify a process at law he shall be expelled.

V. INSOLVENCY ON THE PART OF ANY OF OUR MEMBERS.

Ques. 3. What shall be done in cases of insolvency?

Ans. 1. The preachers who have the oversight of circuits and stations are required to execute all our rules fully and strenuously against all frauds, and particularly against dishonest insolvencies, suffering none to remain in our Church on any account who are found guilty of any fraud.

2. To prevent scandal when any of our members fail in business, or contract debts which they are not able to pay, let two or three judicious members of the Church inspect the accounts, contracts, and circumstances of the case of the supposed delinquent; and if they judge that he has behaved dishonestly, or borrowed money without a probability of paying, let him be brought to trial, and if found guilty expelled.

VI. GENERAL DIRECTIONS.

1. In all the foregoing cases of trial witnesses from without shall not be rejected; and the testimony of an absent witness may be taken before the preacher in charge, or a preacher appointed by the presiding elder of the district within which such witness resides; provided in every case sufficient notice has been given to the adverse party of the time and place of taking such testimony. The accused shall have the right to call to his assistance, as counsel, any member in good and regular standing in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

2. If in any of the above-mentioned cases the preacher in charge differ in judgment from the majority of the committee concerning the guilt or innocence of the accused, he may refer the trial to the ensuing Quarterly Conference, which shall have authority to order a new trial.

3. If there be a murmur or complaint from any excluded person in any of the above-mentioned instances that justice has not been done, he shall be allowed an appeal to the next Quarterly Conference, except such as absent themselves from trial after sufficient notice is given them; and the preacher in charge shall present exact minutes of the evidence and proceedings of the trial to the Quarterly Conference, from which minutes the case shall finally be determined.

4. After such forms of trial and expulsion such person shall have no privileges of society or of sacraments in our Church without contrition, confession, and satisfactory reformation.

Respectfully submitted,

S. C. BROWN, *Secretary.*

D. W. CLARK, *Chairman.*

N, VI.—Journal, pages 225, 246, 250, 263.

REPORT NO. VI OF THE COMMITTEE ON REVISALS.

The Committee on Revisals recommend a change of the Discipline, Part II, chap. i, § 4, pages 56–58, so that question 5 and the answer will read as follows:

Ques. 5. What is the order of business in the Quarterly Conferences?

Ans. To inquire:

1. Are there any complaints?
2. Are there any appeals?
3. Is there a written report from the pastor:
 - (1) Of the number, state, and average attendance of the Sunday-schools and Bible-classes, and the extent to which he has preached to the children and catechised them? (See Part IV, § 1.)
 - (2) Of the religious instruction of the children as provided for in Part I, § 3, question 3?
 - (3) Of the general condition of the charge, embracing the items in answer 11, question 1, § 12, chap. ii, Part II.
4. Is there a report from Standing Committees?
 - (1) The Committee on Missions?
 - (2) The Committee on Sunday-schools?
 - (3) The Committee on the Tract Cause?
 - (4) Are the Church Records properly kept?
5. Have the General Rules been read this quarter?
6. Who shall constitute the Disciplinary Committees:
 - (1) On Missions?
 - (2) On Sabbath-schools?
 - (3) On the circulation of Tracts?
7. What amount has been estimated for the support of the pastor or pastors the present year?
8. What sum has been apportioned to be raised by this charge:
 - (1) For the support of the Presiding Elder?
 - (2) For the Conference claimants?
 - (3) For missionary, tract, Sunday-school, educational, and other benevolent objects?
9. Is any change desired in the Board of Stewards?
10. Are there any recommendations:
 - (1) For license to preach?
 - (2) For admission into the traveling connection?
 - (3) For election of local preachers to deacon's or elder's orders?
11. Will you now attend to the examination of character and the renewal of licenses?
12. Who shall be the district steward?
13. Who shall be the estimating committee or committees?
14. Is there a report from the trustees of the church property?
15. How many subscribers have been obtained for our periodicals?
16. What amounts have been received for benevolent objects?

- (1) For missions?
- (2) For Tract Society?
- (3) For Sunday-School Union?
- (4) For American Bible Society?
- (5) For other objects?

17. Who shall be the stewards for the ensuing year?

18. What amount has been raised during the quarter for the support of the ministry, and how has it been applied?

19. Is there any other business?

20. Where shall the next quarterly meeting be held?

The Committee also recommend that N. B. 2, page 58, be changed so as to read:

Questions 6 and 7 are asked only at the first Quarterly Conference; question 8 only at the second; and all from item 2, in question 10, to question 17, inclusive, only at the last.

We recommend a change of question 3, page 54, § 4, chap. i, Part II, so that it shall read: "The Quarterly Conference shall appoint a secretary to take minutes of the proceedings thereof, to be recorded by the Recording Steward in a book kept for that purpose."

Also Part II, chap. ix, answer to question 5, page 126, so that it shall read: "Not less than three nor more than nine, one of whom shall be appointed Recording Steward by the Quarterly Conference after each annual election."

The Committee also recommend the striking out of answer 4 to question 1, § 3, chap. ii, page 63, of the Discipline, which reads: "To preach in the morning where he can get hearers. We recommend morning preaching at five in the summer and six in the winter wherever it is practicable."

Also, that § 5, chap. viii, Part II, page 122, relating to "the rights and privileges of preachers and official members of our colored membership," be stricken from the Discipline.

Also, the following addition, on page 217, second paragraph, after the words "Assistant Agent," the following, namely, "to conduct the Book Concern at New York," so that it may read, "There shall be an Agent and an Assistant Agent to conduct the Book Concern at New York," etc.

Also on page 225, in top line, after the word "California" add "for each of which there shall be an editor, who, if chosen from among the traveling preachers, shall be a member of such conference as he may, with the approbation of the bishops, select."

The committee also recommend the addition of a sixth paragraph, § 2, chap. viii, page 118, as follows: "Whenever a local preacher shall have a pastoral charge he shall hold his Church relation in said charge."

Also on page 91, chap. iii, answer to question 2, the substitution of the following words: "shall consecrate him according to the Ritual."

Also on page 93, seventh answer to question 3, the following (in the "Duty of Bishops,") namely:

“To consecrate bishops, and ordain elders and deacons.”

Also to strike out, on page 117, chap. viii, § 2, paragraph 3, these words, “or at the place where he shall reside at the time of his location,” so that it shall read: “When a preacher is located, or discontinued by an Annual Conference, he shall be amenable to the Quarterly Conference of the charge where he had his last appointment.”

S. C. BROWN, *Secretary*.

M. RAYMOND, *Chairman*.

GERMAN WORK.

O, I.—Journal, page 126.

REPORT ON GERMAN HYMN BOOK BY A COMMITTEE APPOINTED AT THE GENERAL CONFERENCE, 1860.

TO THE BISHOPS AND MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, ASSEMBLED AT PHILADELPHIA.

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN,—The last General Conference appointed a committee to make a new collection of hymns better adapted to meet the wants of the German members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in this and in other countries, consisting of the following brethren: C. Yost, of the New York Conference; Jacob Rothweiler, of North Ohio; G. L. Mulfinger, of Rock River; T. L. Walther, of Illinois; J. H. Barth, of Southeastern Indiana; and William Nast, the editor of the *Christian Apologist*, as Chairman. We beg leave to report that we have completed the work intrusted to us, and desire to offer it now for the approval of this General Conference.

One of the committee, the Rev. J. L. Walther, of the Illinois Conference, never met with the committee, having fallen in the battle of Shiloh, as chaplain of the Fifty-ninth Illinois regiment. The first meeting of the committee was held at Cincinnati, in June, 1862. The general outlines and plan of the new Hymn Book were then laid out, and the labor of filling up the different departments, was divided among the members of the committee. In June, 1863, we had our second meeting at Berca, Ohio, and labored to our best ability for about three weeks. All the rich treasures of German hymnology were carefully examined and sifted, and the result is a collection of about 700 hymns, arranged in the following order:

	No. of Hymns.
I. Ascriptions of praise to the Triune God.....	7
II. Of the attributes and works of God:	
1. Of the attributes of God.....	16
2. Of the work of creation.....	8

	No. of Hymns.
III. Of the redemption of man by the Second Person in the Trinity :	
1. Of the divine promise of redemption in consequence of man's fall.	3
2. Of the person and incarnation of the Son of God.	16
3. Of the earthly life and ministry of our Lord.	6
4. Of the atoning suffering and death of Christ.	15
5. Of His resurrection from the dead.	12
6. Of Jesus Christ in the state of his exaltation :	
a. Of His ascension to heaven.	4
b. Of His priestly office.	4
c. Of His regal office.	6
d. Of His second coming.	6
7. General hymns in praise of Jesus, the Saviour from sin.	22
IV. Of the Holy Ghost :	
1. Of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost.	6
2. Of the ordinary operations of the Holy Spirit.	7
V. Of the Church of Christ :	
1. Of the foundation, nature, conflict, and protection of the Church.	12
a. On the occasion of laying the corner-stone of a house of worship.	2
b. On the occasion of dedicating a house of worship.	3
2. Of the blessings which the Church dispenses :	
a. Of the Holy Scriptures.	11
aa. Hymns suitable to be sung between the opening prayer and sermon	11
bb. Hymns suitable to be sung after hearing the word of God.	5
b. Of the ministry.	11
c. Of the sacraments :	
Of baptism.	7
Of the Lord's supper.	7
d. Of the Sabbath.	9
e. Of the communion of Saints and mutual edification :	
aa. Praise and thanksgiving	9
bb. Supplication and intercession.	12
cc. Christian experience.	40
3. Hymns for invitation and reception into the Church :	
a. Invitation.	8
b. Reception into full connection.	4
4. Missionary Hymns.	14
VI. Of the order of salvation :	
1. Of general depravity.	4
2. Awakening.	22
3. Penitential.	25
4. Of faith.	10
5. Of justification, regeneration, and adoption.	15
6. Of perfect love.	18
VII. Of the duties and marks of true Christians :	
1. Taking up the cross and self-denial.	6
2. Self-examination.	6
3. Spiritual warfare and watchfulness.	18
4. Of growth in grace.	11
5. Of brotherly and universal love, love of enemies, and forgiveness.	9
6. Of the right use of the tongue, and of uncharitable judging and backbiting.	5
7. Of the faithful use of all talents and goods intrusted to us.	15
8. Of humility, patience, gentleness, and meekness.	7
9. Of temperance and chastity.	3
10. Of truthfulness, keeping vows and oaths.	4
11. Of trust in God in trials, and resignation to all the dispensations of Divine Providence.	22
12. Of joy in God and lively hope of heaven.	26
VIII. Of Death and Eternity :	
1. Of death :	

	No. of Hymns.
a. Brevity and uncertainty of life	6
b. Hymns for the death-bed.....	10
c. Funeral hymns.....	13
2. Of the resurrection of the dead.....	6
3. Of the last judgment, and of eternal bliss and glory.....	8
IX. For especial conditions of human life:	
1. For family life:	
a. On the occasion of wedlock.....	3
b. On the responsibilities of the married state.....	2
c. For parents.....	3
d. For children.....	16
e. For widows and orphans.....	4
f. For old age.....	2
g. For the sick.....	2
h. Morning hymns.....	11
i. Evening hymns.....	9
k. Hymns to be sung at social meals.....	5
l. Hymns for birthday.....	3
2. On the rising generation, and its moral and intellectual culture.....	18
3. On our duties to our country and government:	
a. Patriotism and loyalty.....	6
b. Thanksgiving for national blessings.....	5
c. National humiliation on a day of public prayer and fasting.....	5
4. For special seasons:	
a. Spring, summer, fall, and winter.....	4
b. Close of the year, watch-night, and New Year.....	11
c. Hymns of parting.....	6
X. Doxologies.	

Your committee begs leave to submit the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Book Agents of the Western Book Concern be instructed to have a tune book prepared, adapted to the new hymn book, if the latter is approved by this General Conference.

WILLIAM NAST, *Chairman.*

O, II.—Journal, pages 158, 196.

REPORT NO. I OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE GERMAN WORK.

Your committee have had the subject of the organization of "German Annual Conferences" under careful consideration, and after mature deliberation would present the following report:

It is a most gratifying fact that the most friendly relations have and do now exist between the German and American members of the Conferences with which the German work is connected, nor do we fear the possibility of separation however this question may be decided here.

1. We believe that the natural enlargement of the Conferences in membership and numbers involves the separation and diffusion of the German preachers in small numbers through our Confer-

ences, to such a degree that the objects of our itinerant system cannot be accomplished.

(a) In not leaving a sufficient number of preachers connected with a Conference to supply the various charges under our usage of change of appointments.

(b) There will likely be too large a number of preachers for one district, and not enough for two; hence some purely German congregations must fall under the ministrations of presiding elders who do not speak the German language.

(c) It is not practicable to have less than two German Presiding Elder's Districts in any Conference, (as none of our Conferences have a less number,) that they may consult with men who understand the nature of the peculiar work committed to them, in the providence of God, by the great Head of the Church.

(d) Under the distributing system above alluded to, there will not remain together a sufficient number to judge of the qualifications of candidates for admission into the "traveling connection," nor for examining committees.

(e) Even as it now is, our bishops do not readily become acquainted with the German preachers, who at our Conferences are almost mere spectators of our Conference business.

2. The German preachers do not understand the details of the American work, and at Conference have not the opportunity of bringing forward their own work efficiently and successfully.

(a) They have no Conference, Sunday-school, or other anniversaries in the German department of the work.

(b) They make no impression upon the German population during Conference sessions, because they are merged into and almost covered up by the American Conferences, and no impression upon the American population at Conferences, because they are Germans. To do this, they must possess a positive existence.

3. They have no German minutes for their people to read, that they may know how the business is transacted; no advantage of education in Church polity.

4. They have no opportunity for concentration of effort upon educational and publishing interests for the development of the German preachers and people.

5. There is now a German-speaking population of nearly five million souls in this country, and the number is being augmented by tens of thousands annually from the land of Huss, Luther, and Nast. These vast crowds come to our shores with a language unlike our own, and sympathies altogether different, with well-defined systems of rationalism and organized societies. They must be met (if saved from sin) with the Gospel of Peace, proclaimed in their own language. This language will be continued in use as the medium of thought while Germany continues to send her teeming thousands to our western world.

6. To meet these thousands and lead them to Christ appears to be the particular mission of the German Methodist Episcopal Church in this country. To accomplish this there must be cen-

tralization of energy, increase of learning, activity of effort, as well as deep piety. Therefore we recommend the adoption of the following:

1. *Resolved*, That the German work be organized into three Annual Conferences, each containing about seventy-five preachers.
2. *Resolved*, That the German work at present connected with the Rock River and Minnesota Conferences, and the Galena German District of the Upper Iowa Conference, be formed into a Conference, to be called the Northwestern General Conference.
3. *Resolved*, That the German work at present connected with the Illinois, Southern Illinois, and Kansas Conferences, and the Burlington German District of the Upper Iowa Conference, be formed into a Conference, to be called the South-western German Conference.
4. *Resolved*, That the German work at present connected with the Cincinnati, North Ohio, and South-eastern Indiana Conferences be formed into a Conference, to be called the Central German Conference.

I. C. PERSHING, *Secretary*.

GEORGE PECK, *Chairman*.

O, III.—Journal, pages 185, 197.

REPORT NO. II OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE
GERMAN WORK.

The last General Conference appointed C. Yost, Jacob Rothweiler, George L. Mulfinger, J. L. Walther, J. H. Barth, and William Nast, a committee to make a new collection of hymns better adapted to meet the wants of the German members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in this and other countries. Your committee have examined the manuscript prepared by the committee of the last General Conference, and respectfully submit the following resolutions for adoption:

1. *Resolved*, That the Agents of the Western Book Concern be requested to publish the manuscript hymn book prepared for the German members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.
2. *Resolved*, That the same parties be requested to have a tune book, adapted to the hymn book, prepared for the use of our German members, under the supervision of a committee of three Germans, to be appointed by the Agents, and to publish the same as soon as possible after the preparation of the manuscript.

The committee have also had under consideration the subject of a closer union with the Evangelical Association, and respectfully submit the following:

- Resolved*, That the bishops be requested to appoint a committee of three members of this General Conference, to visit the next General Conference of the Evangelical Association, and to corre-

spond with the authorities of that Church should the way be opened in the order of Providence for a closer union between the Churches.

Your committee have also considered the memorial of the German preachers connected with the New York Conference, and recommend for adoption the following resolution:

Resolved, That the German work in the New York Conference remain for the present as it is, but that the bishop, with the concurrence of the New York Conference at its next session, shall have power to form the same into a German Annual Conference.

They also recommend the following with regard to the German work in California:

Resolved, That the German work in California remain in its present form.

I. C. PERSHING, *Secretary.*

GEORGE PECK, *Chairman.*

P.—Journal, pages 209, 265.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE CHRISTIAN AND THE SANITARY COMMISSIONS.

War, seen from afar, dazzles the imagination. The mind is filled with emotions of admiration as it contemplates the pomp of martial array, the skill of leaders, the valor of the contending forces, the attack, the thunder of the battle, which shakes the earth and darkens the heavens, the final charge, and the victory, the glad news that thrills along the wires which form the nerves of the nation, the mighty joy which rolls out from the field of strife in an ever-widening circle. But viewed more closely the scene changes. The moral grandeur of the contest may remain, but we learn the fearful price with which victory is bought. We behold the weary march, the crowded hospital, the horrors of the bloody field when the battle is over; and the place of strife is a true Aceldama, where the mangled forms of the living and the dying are sometimes left for days, because, though there are many that pity, there are few that can be spared from the ranks to save them.

In the fearful war which foul rebellion has brought upon the land, our Government has done all that lies in its power to alleviate the sufferings of our brave soldiers. Surgeons, hospitals, medical stores have been provided in abundance. Yet when a great battle occurs, and thousands fall in an hour, some agency is needed to supplement the appliances provided by the public authorities. When a single day's fighting numbers half the officers and men of a regiment among the wounded, the surgeon and his assistant may do all that lies in their power, but many must suffer and die, because they are so many that they cannot all be reached in time. In the permanent hospitals too there is work for the humane and the patriotic—a work of benevolence and love,

as well as of wisdom, in supplying various comforts and delicacies which the stern rules of military life never provide, but of which the sick room even of the poor at home is not destitute.

Here then is the field of the two commissions, whose agencies for good the present contest has called into existence. They are the free outgrowth of a nation's grateful regard for its defenders—the voice of peace and good-will heard even amid the lowering storm of war. It is matter of congratulation to note with what liberality the money of the poor and the rich has been contributed, how many willing hands and patriotic hearts have engaged in these blessed ministries of humanity. The Sanitary Commission from its abundant treasures, the gift of a generous people, has provided the means whereby many a brave man has been saved to the armies of his country, many a husband, a brother, a son has been preserved to return to the home which mourns his absence. For the past six months the Commission has also been laboring with great usefulness and success in behalf of the freedmen of the Mississippi. The Christian Commission, in its proposed department of labor, sweeps a still wider circle. It looks at all the wants of the soldier, physical, mental, and religious, and seeks to do what may be done to provide for them all. It not only has food for the hungry, and clothing for the naked, but sends them by the hands of sympathizing Christian men, who follow the sound of the battle, that they may bear away the wounded and pray beside the dying. At Gettysburg, before the smoke of the deadly contest had been dispelled, the delegates of the Christian Commission were at their noble toil, which they prosecuted day and night till every bleeding sufferer, patriot or rebel, was found and cared for. The number of delegates thus engaged was over two hundred. Surgeons have declared that, through the agency of the Christian Commission, at least one thousand lives were saved on that field alone. Ministers who were there engaged in Gospel labors, under the auspices of the Commission, estimate the souls converted in the hospitals at Gettysburg at one thousand. At this present hour, while the fierce storm of battle beats on the banks of the Rapidan and the Po, more than two hundred delegates of the Commission, a large majority of whom are ministers of the Gospel, are prosecuting their labors among the thousands of the wounded and the dying, striving with heart and voice to save the lives and the souls of those to whom they minister. On every great battle-field, and in every hospital in all the land, their presence has brought comfort and hope, and many a wanderer have they led, through grace, to the fold of God. The cash value of the benefactions of the Christian Commission during the past year amounts to nearly a million of dollars, and more than twelve hundred delegates have responded to its calls without fee or reward.

The Tract Society of our Church and the Commission are acting together with entire harmony. The Commission purchases the Good News, tracts, and our other publications largely. The Society has donated hundreds of thousands of copies of the Good News

and over two million pages of tracts to the Commission, which have been distributed in the army by its agents. The Tract Board value the Commission very highly, and are ready to contribute for its benefit as unsparingly as the liberality of the Church to their treasury will permit.

All honor to the generous and patriotic men and women who have contributed of their substance that the treasury of the Commission might not fail. All honor to the Christian delegate who, with a courage not less worthy of praise than that of the soldier, hastens to rescue the fallen. Their labors belong to history; they stand as vouchers for the civilization and Christianity of the age, and gild the page with a light hitherto unknown to the dark picture of war.

In conclusion, your committee recommend the passage of the following resolutions:

1. That this nation owes a debt of gratitude to the Sanitary and Christian Commissions for their labors in behalf of the sick and wounded men of our noble army and navy.

2. That the Christian Commission is especially entitled to the cordial support and co-operation of the Church of God, inasmuch as the work which it aims to do is eminently Christian, as well as humane and patriotic, seeking to care both for the mortal and the immortal, and prepare men for all the perils that hover over the camp and the field of blood.

3. That as, according to the estimate of our honored senior bishop, the Methodist Episcopal Church has probably given one hundred thousand of her membership to the army and the navy, we feel it to be our duty to follow them, not only with our prayers and our words of cheer, but with active ministerial labors; and we deem it right and desirable when there is a call for men to care for the sick and the wounded, that our Churches take such action as will tend to furnish our due proportion of Christian men, and especially Christian ministers, for the holy work.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

JAMES ERWIN, *Secretary.*

GEO. PECK, *Chairman.*

Q.—Journal, page 256.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PASTORAL ADDRESS.

Your committee beg leave to report the following Pastoral Address:

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH:

DEARLY BELOVED BRETHREN,—As your pastors and representatives, at the close of a most important session of our General Conference, we deem it our duty to address to you a few words of Christian salutation and earnest counsel.

Our session has been generally harmonious. However grave the

questions we have been called upon to decide, whatever differences of opinion we have entertained, our deliberations have been kind and respectful, and, we trust, with a single eye to the glory of God. We doubt not this is to a great extent due to your faithful prayers in our behalf, for we are profoundly impressed with the evident fact that God has been with us, guarding the interests of His Church, and controlling our action for the future enlargement and greatly increased usefulness of our beloved Zion.

We have received and welcomed your petitions upon various subjects as a gratifying evidence of your lively interest in the Church of God, and in all cases they have been most respectfully considered. We have endeavored to weigh carefully all the facts and arguments submitted to us, and to decide honestly and in the fear of God.

We have not deemed it wise to make fundamental changes in the constitution of the Church, nor to unsettle the general principles of administration under which we have so long and successfully labored. The Church needs stability, and it is most agreeable to us, as it doubtless is to you, to observe how firmly our beloved Church has adhered to all the principles of government inherited from the wisdom of the Fathers.

But we may remind you that Methodism is eminently the child of Providence. It is flexible, but not revolutionary. Steadily adhering to its fundamental polity, it adjusts itself to all the new developments of the race in the progress of Christianity.

You will accord to your representatives vigilant attention to any indications of a demand for readjusting our great system, when you remember that, four years since, suspecting that the time had come when we could usefully enjoy the privilege of Lay councils in our General Conference, we opened the way for you to settle this question by your own votes. You are aware that the results were such as to indicate a further postponement of this change, however desirable it might be. We, however, by no means regard the question so conclusively determined as to admit of no further inquiry or consideration. The respectful reception of a committee of highly esteemed brethren from the laity, the reference of their address to a large committee on that subject, as well as the action taken in reaffirming the principle, will, we trust, give general satisfaction.

We have observed for some years what seemed to be sufficient indications that the work might in some instances be better accommodated by extending the time during which a pastor might be allowed to minister to the same people. We have judged that the time for this change has arrived. We have therefore given the appointing power a discretion of three years instead of two. We hope this modification will have some tendency to relieve the Church without danger to our itinerancy, and that it will supersede all necessity for further discussions upon this subject.

We have held our session in the midst of the fearful agitations and struggles of war. Our nation has reached a most eventful

crisis. Ambitious and wicked men have led the people and States of the South into a most cruel and unprovoked rebellion. The Government has been compelled to resist this rebellion by force, and the delegates of all the Annual Conferences, in General Conference assembled, have solemnly recognized this stern necessity. Our reports, resolutions, and acts, of which you have been already apprized, all sustained by unanimous votes, will show the Church and the world how heartily we are identified with the nation in her struggles, with our beloved army and navy in the deadly conflicts of this war, with the President and all other officers of Government in the grave responsibilities of their present position, and with surviving sufferers whether bond or free.

We call your attention to the fact that slavery is the evident and guilty cause of this terrible war, and express to you our deliberate opinion that there will be no peace or safety to the Republic till this vile usurpation is utterly destroyed. We have, therefore, resolved not only to sustain the Government most heartily in the struggle against treason, but in the high purpose to extirpate the guilty *cause* of the rebellion. And, in consistency with these resolutions, as well as under the highest sense of imperative duty, we have determined that the Methodist Episcopal Church shall, with the least possible delay, be delivered entirely from this enormous evil. We have, therefore, proposed to the Annual Conferences such a change in the General Rules as will hereafter leave no occasion for misunderstanding or controversy. Providence has at length mysteriously led us through the struggles of ages to the highest unity in the assertion and vindication of the highest right. Let us give the glory to God alone.

The war is not yet over. We can have no adequate idea of the wrongs yet to be endured, of the valuable lives yet to be sacrificed, before the nation's new life shall be placed beyond the reach of the bloody hands which seek to destroy it; but we state to you calmly and solemnly, that, in our judgment, all true patriots ought to regard their lives and treasures, without reservation, as subject to the exigencies of this conflict, until it is honorably and triumphantly ended.

And especially do we urge you to obey, at all times, the great law of love; to pray for our unnatural enemies, as well as their surviving suffering victims—extending your most active sympathy to our numerous families and friends who mourn the loss of brave husbands, fathers, brothers, sons by this dreadful war. You will, we trust, on no account relax your efforts for the relief and Christian education of the multitudes of freedmen now appealing to your humanity. We do also most earnestly commend to your devoted attention our suffering soldiers, and urge you to enlarged liberality in the support of those humane institutions, the Christian and Sanitary Commissions.

It becomes us, dear brethren, to humble ourselves in the dust in view of our manifold sins, individual and national. We are yet, it may be feared, a haughty and rebellious people, and God will

humble us. There can be no good reason to expect the restoration of order and unity until we properly deplore our sins and turn to God with deep self-abasement and fervent prayer.

A gracious revival of religion, deep, pervading, and permanent, is the great demand of our times. We beg you, brethren, turn your most thoughtful and prayerful attention to this demand. Let God our heavenly Father behold us in tears and confidence before his throne, pleading night and day, through the Redeemer, for the outpouring of the Holy Ghost upon the Church, the nation, and the world. This is our only hope; let our faith command it and it shall be.

We ask your special attention to the ordinances of God. We exhort you to attend regularly and faithfully to the ministry of the Word, the supper of the Lord, family and private prayer, searching the Scriptures, fasting or abstinence, and to such other means of grace as are required by the order of our Church. This is no time to neglect prayer or class-meetings. We beseech you, stir up each other to increased faithfulness in the use of these invaluable religious privileges.

We are anxious to secure more consistent and thorough attention to the children of the Church. You will see in the new edition of the Discipline the advanced position we have taken for this purpose. We have long felt the need of some regular system of special religious instruction preparatory to voluntary probation in the Church. This we have now provided for all; requiring, however, the particular attention of the pastor to the training of our baptized children. To carry out this measure we shall need your faithful co-operation. Our Sunday-schools, as another indispensable means of early religious culture, are commended to your warm and faithful devotion.

Our great missionary cause is growing rapidly in commanding importance and power. We entreat you to support it with increased liberality and fervent prayers, and especially by adopting, so far as practicable, the plans and methods recommended in the Discipline.

Our religious press is moving grandly forward among the evangelizing agencies of the day. We trust you will feel the importance of sustaining our own publishing houses. Circulate the books of the General Catalogue, supply our Sunday-schools with our own books, and the people largely with our own tracts and authorized periodicals, and co-operate heartily with the American Bible Society in the distribution of the Word of God.

We are greatly anxious for the more effective support of our institutions of learning. They yet lack concentration of effort, wise discrimination as to the most hopeful localities for our largest exertions, and adequate funds. Our Church building also demands more careful supervision and larger liberality. The time is approaching when we may hope that a powerful movement of the whole Church will bring adequate relief and secure proper development to both these departments of Christian enterprise. We are about complet-

ing the first century of Methodism on this continent. Plans will be submitted to your prayerful consideration, and for your hearty co-operation, for the celebration of this glorious centenary, and inviting your thank offerings for the enlargement of our great work, especially by means of education, Church extension, and the organization and direction of the missionary spirit. May we beg you to enter most earnestly into these plans, and thus contribute effectively to the salvation of souls and the glory of God.

By order of the General Conference.

JESSE T. PECK,	} <i>Committee.</i>
JOSEPH CASTLE,	
L. B. GURLEY,	
E. ADAMS,	
N. E. COBLEIGH,	
W. H. FERRIS,	

BIBLE CAUSE.

R.—Journal, pages 172, 210, 225.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE BIBLE CAUSE.

The Committee on the Bible Cause having considered the subject referred to them with especial reference to the action of the American Bible Society, through whose agency our Church's efforts in behalf of Bible circulation are made, respectfully report:

That the action of the American Bible Society during the past four years has been highly satisfactory both for its energy and its judiciousness. The statistics of the Society's operations, some portions of which are herewith submitted, will, your committee believe, fully justify to the General Conference and the Church generally this expression of satisfaction by your committee. We also cheerfully record our gratification with the broad and impartial catholicity evinced in all the actions of the American Bible Society. We believe that it is the settled conviction and sentiment of our whole Church that our relations to the cause of Bible publication and distribution through that Society are especially good, and deserving to be cherished and perpetuated.

The reports of the Society show a most gratifying progress in its receipts and expenditures, and in the distribution of the Holy Scriptures. The total receipts, including donations and sales, were as follows:

For 1860, 1861.....	\$389,551 52
1861, 1862.....	378,132 08
1862, 1863.....	422,588 00
1863, 1864.....	560,578 60
Total for four years.....	\$1,750,850 20

Issues of copies of the Scriptures for four years have been:

	Volumes.
1860, 1861	721,878
1861, 1862	1,093,842
1862, 1863	1,259,117
1863, 1864	1,500,578
Total for four years.....	4,575,415

Grants in funds to the foreign work have amounted to:

For 1860, 1861	\$22,283 90
1861, 1862	28,800 00
1862, 1863	39,365 00
1863, 1864	60,063 92
Total for four years.....	\$150,512 82

These grants show only what has been given in money. Besides this, much has been done for the foreign field by printing and issuing at home for foreign use the Holy Scriptures in foreign languages, the expenses of which are not comprised in the above statement.

The grants made by the Society to the Foreign Missions of our Church have been all that could be desired as to their amounts and the cheerful liberality with which they have been given. They have been as follows:

1860, 1861.....	\$6,250 00
1861, 1862.....	9,750 00
1862, 1863.....	8,200 00
1863, 1864.....	11,000 00
Total for four years.....	\$35,200 00

The above is exclusive of grants made to the Bulgarian Mission, which is supplied by the agent of the Society at Constantinople, and also of the books donated directly to our missions by the Parent Society.

We rejoice to be assured from the Annual Circular of the Society that "the army and navy have been freely supplied through the United States Christian Commission, Auxiliary Bible Societies, agents, chaplains, and other distributing agencies. Besides the very large circulation by local Bible societies, specific grants have been made by the Board of Managers for soldiers, prisoners of war, etc., of 362,802 volumes to the United States Christian Commission, and distributed by it without cost to this Society. The total number of Bibles, Testaments, and parts of Scripture granted for the army and navy within the past two years is 766,075 volumes."

The collections made by our Churches, and reported in the Annual Minutes for the last four years, are also given below. It is, however, only just to add that these comprise only a part of the contributions of our people to that cause, as in many cases our peo-

ple co-operate with local associations, and their contributions do not appear in our Church statistics :

1860.....	\$39,903 00
1861.....	40,176 00
1862.....	36,187 06
1863.....	55,685 23

Total for four years..... \$171,951 29

Your committee would respectfully submit the following for the action of the General Conference :

Resolved, by the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, That the relations of our Church with the American Bible Society have been most salutary in their operations and results, and we gladly recognize that Society as an efficient agency for the diffusion of the Holy Scriptures throughout the world.

Resolved, That we congratulate our people in view of their steady and persistent liberality toward that Society, and we commend it to their continued confidence and beneficence.

DANIEL CURRY, *Chairman*.

TEMPERANCE.

S.—Journal, pages 226, 265.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE.

Your committee report an urgent necessity for special efforts to stay the advancing ravages of intemperance. The old position of total abstinence needs to be restated and enforced; the growing tendency to social drinking should be checked, and, as far as may be, the youth rescued from the more open forms of this deadly vice.

We have only to indicate our duty *as a Church*, leaving the employment of outside social or political agencies to be determined by individual conscience. We therefore submit the following :

1. *Resolved*, That this General Conference recommend each pastor to preach specifically upon the subject, to point out the danger of social and the more public and common forms of intemperance, and to urge total abstinence from all that can intoxicate.

2. *Resolved*, That the editors of our Church papers be requested to publish in their columns such articles on this subject as shall at once instruct and interest, pointing out the evil and the cure.

3. *Resolved*, That our publishers be requested not to neutralize the teaching of such articles by the insertion of advertisements of alcoholic drinks, notwithstanding they may be called by some other name.

4. *Resolved*, That we earnestly recommend that in all cases the pure juice of the grape be used in the celebration of the Lord's supper.

T. M. EDDY, *Chairman.*

FREEDMEN.

T.—*Journal, pages 184, 266.*

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FREEDMEN.

Your committee would respectfully submit the following statement and resolutions :

In the present struggle of our country for nationality, liberty, and law, God manifestly is causing the wrath of man to praise him. A rebellion begun in the interests of American slavery; a ruthless war, prosecuted by rebels for the extension and perpetuation of this "sum of all villainies," is now certain to cause its overthrow and extinction, and prepare the way for the elevation of the people it has so long crushed and degraded.

The national policy, fully inaugurated January 1, 1863, by the Proclamation of Emancipation, a measure the government was providentially led to adopt, is producing results which philanthropists, patriots, and Christians everywhere must regard with profound interest. Under it our every success becomes a triumph of humanity and freedom. As our armies have advanced, reclaiming territory in Virginia, along the Atlantic coast, on the shores of the Gulf, and in the Valley of the Mississippi, multitudes of slaves, hailing their jubilee, have sought and found refuge under our flag. These multitudes are augmented by every advance of our lines.

The whole South is so impoverished by the war that these freed people, men, women, and children, come to us in a condition of wretchedness and suffering. By order of our government they are collected into camps and supplied with food. But they have other pressing wants, only to be relieved by benevolent efforts in their behalf. This work of charity has given rise to the societies comprised in the "United States Commission for the Relief of the National Freedmen," and others co-operating therewith, organized to aid the government in supplying the physical wants of this people, to establish schools among them, and send them teachers and books, and thus, by elevating, prepare them for the privileges and duties of freemen. The government accepts this co-operation, furnishes transportation for goods and books, and where practicable, supplies the teachers with rations.

These freed people are proving themselves worthy of the efforts made in their behalf. Amid all the sufferings incident to their

transition from slavery to freedom there is much to assure our hopes. The able-bodied men enlist as soldiers, or engage as laborers, either in the national service or with private parties; even the women and boys able to work find employment. These soldiers have vindicated their bravery; the laborers are supporting themselves by compensated labor. As soon as their most pressing physical wants are relieved, they ask for teachers and books. This appeal comes from every freedman's camp and leased plantation and colored regiment. They welcome their teachers as the best among their benefactors; they receive books, so long withheld from them, as though they were the pledge of every restored right. Whether old or young, they study with eagerness and learn rapidly, even amid their privations, and many are animated in these efforts by the hope of reading the Holy Scriptures for themselves. At several points they have been organized into quiet, orderly, and thrifty communities. Wherever properly cared for they may soon become qualified for the blessings and responsibilities of freedom.

But dwarfed by slavery, they, as a race, are children, subject to become victims of the heartless and avaricious. To make their freedom a blessing, our government must foster them, and protect those laboring for their relief and elevation until they acquire habits of economy, self-reliance, and self-government, and are inspired with respect for marriage, the family, and home. They are now the laborers on abandoned and confiscated plantations, leased or sold by government; their labor is and will be needed throughout the South, and they should be stimulated to industry by the guarantee of equitable compensation. Some of them have purchased confiscated lands; the thrift and enterprise of all should be developed, and their interest in peaceful government cherished by encouragement to become proprietors of the soil forfeited by rebels and traitors. Congress has directed its attention to this subject, and measures are now pending for the creation of a Bureau suitable to supervise and control these important interests.

The grave problem in regard to this people, which has long baffled both statesmen and Christians, is being wrought out in our own day. While the government is investing the neglected and despised bondmen with freedom, the way opens for Christian benevolence to throw around them those elevating influences of civilization by which they may be prepared for the higher achievements of man. The way opens for the Church of Christ to carry to them a Gospel which, instead of countenancing their servitude, sanctions their liberty, and recognizes their manhood.

Therefore, by the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, be it

1. *Resolved*, That in the events which have thrown the thousands of freed people upon the benevolence of the humane and loyal people of the North, we recognize a providential call to the Christian public for contributions for their physical relief and mental and moral elevation, and especially to the Church of Christ for the means of their evangelization.

2. *Resolved*, That the above-named associations, organized in behalf of the freed people, are engaged in a work of benevolence that we regard with special interest, and commend to the liberality of our people everywhere as worthy of their sympathy and support.

3. *Resolved*, That the best interests of the freedmen and of the country demand legislation that shall foster and protect this people, and we hereby respectfully but earnestly urge upon Congress the importance of establishing, as soon as practicable, a Bureau of Freedmen's Affairs, as contemplated in the bills now pending.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

S. Y. MONROE, *Secretary*.

E. THOMSON, *Chairman*.

PHILADELPHIA, May 20, 1864.

TEMPORAL ECONOMY.

U, I.—Journal, page 192.

REPORT OF TRUSTEES OF THE CHARTERED FUND.

TO THE BISHOPS AND MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE M. E. CHURCH, MEETING IN PHILADELPHIA, MAY, 1864.

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN,—We herewith present the usual quadrennial statement of the affairs and funds of the Chartered Fund of the M. E. Church, showing the state of the Fund at the last annual meeting, held January 6, 1864:

Amount of Invested Funds at the above date.....	\$21,850 50	
Uninvested Funds.....	1,683 80	
Total.....		\$23,534 30
Amount as per statement of 1860:		
Invested Funds.....	\$23,294 00	
Uninvested Funds.....	210 00	
Total.....	\$23,504 00	
Increase.....	30 30	\$23,534 30

Of the amount of \$1,683 80 Uninvested Funds above reported; \$1,600 was, on the sixteenth day of January, invested by authority of the Trustees in the United States 5-20 six per cent. Registered Bonds. So that the whole Fund, as it is now invested, is as follows:

Bonds and Mortgages of Real Estate.....	\$16,600 00
82 shares North American Insurance Co. stock.....	779 00
21 shares Union Mutual Insurance Co. stock.....	420 00
Ground Rents.....	2,850 00
Philadelphia City 6 per cent Loan.....	201 50
United States 5-20 6 per cent. Registered Bonds.....	2,600 00
Balance uninvested.....	83 80
Making together a total of.....	\$23,534 30

Since the last report the Trustees have been enabled to pay the following dividends to each of the Annual Conferences of the M. E. Church:

In 1860,	\$25	to each of the Annual Conferences.
In 1861,	25	" " " "
In 1862,	25	" " " "
In 1863,	30	" " " "

The dividend for the year 1864 is also thirty dollars to each of the Annual Conferences, as they stood on the 6th of January, 1864.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

THOMAS WILMER, *President.*
ARTHUR M. BURTON, *Secretary.*
JOHN WHITEMAN, *Treasurer.*

PHILADELPHIA, *May 17th, 1864.*

U, II.—*Journal, page 142.*

REPORT NO. I OF THE COMMITTEE ON TEMPORAL ECONOMY.

The Committee on Temporal Economy respectfully report:

1. That they deem it inexpedient for the General Conference to make more stringent rules in relation to members who fail to support the institutions of religion according to their ability, as proposed by the Ohio Conference.

2. The committee also report adversely to striking out of the Discipline the 21st and 22d paragraphs of the answer to question 1, in Part II, chap. ii, § 12, providing for a yearly subscription in those circuits that can bear it, etc.; said paragraph having fraternal purposes, and being of service still in some parts of our work.

J. PORTER, *Chairman.*

U, III.—*Journal, pages 142, 228.*

REPORT NO. II OF THE COMMITTEE ON TEMPORAL ECONOMY.

ITEM I.—The Committee on Temporal Economy have duly considered the subject of restoring the paragraph stricken from the Discipline four years ago, relating to the accountability of the Church for deficiencies in the payment of allowances to preachers, as in case of debt, and recommend that the following words be added to Part I, chap. i, § 1, page 232, paragraph 4: "In no case,

however, shall the Church or Conference be holden accountable for any deficiency, as in the case of debt."

ITEM II.—The Committee on Temporal Economy, having considered the subject of the support of bishops referred to them, beg leave to recommend the modification of Part II, § 3, pages 96 and 97, so that it shall read thus:

Question.—What provision shall be made for the support of bishops, and the widows and children of deceased bishops?

Answer.—It shall be the duty of the Book Committee at New York to make an estimate of the amount necessary to furnish a competent support to each bishop residing east of the Alleghany Mountains, considering the number and condition of his family, and the amount necessary to assist the widows and children of deceased bishops residing within the same territory; and it shall be the duty of the Book Committee at Cincinnati to make a similar estimate with regard to bishops and the widows and children of bishops residing west of the Alleghany Mountains, and the bishops are authorized to draw on the Book Concern for said amount, and also for their traveling expenses. The bishop presiding at an Annual Conference, within whose bounds a widow or orphan of a deceased bishop may reside, shall be authorized to draw on the Book Concern for such amount as may be estimated as aforesaid.

JAMES PORTER, *Chairman.*

U, IV.—Journal, page 191.

REPORT NO. III OF THE COMMITTEE ON TEMPORAL ECONOMY.

1. The Committee on Temporal Economy have considered the resolution of M. Himebaugh in relation to supporting Conference claimants, and beg leave to report that they deem it inexpedient to alter the Discipline as proposed. The whole subject is now left to the Annual Conferences, as they think it should be.

2. The committee also beg leave to report that they are unable to recommend any plan for the more equitable division of the dividends of the Book Concern among Conference claimants, proposed in a resolution offered by L. D. White, and referred for their consideration.

Resolved, That a committee of seven be appointed to prepare and report some method by which societies in the newer and weaker portions of our extended field may be assisted in securing suitable houses of worship.

J. PORTER, *Chairman.*

U, V.—Journal, pages 225, 266.

REPORT NO. IV OF THE COMMITTEE ON TEMPORAL
ECONOMY.

OF THE CHARTERED FUND.

The Committee on Temporal Economy have examined the quadrennial report of the Trustees of the Chartered Fund, and beg leave to recommend the following resolutions for adoption by the Conference:

Resolved, 1, By the members of the General Conference, that we have full confidence in the wisdom and integrity of the Trustees of the Chartered Fund, and we hereby tender to them our grateful acknowledgments for the faithful manner in which they have managed the trust confided to them.

Resolved, 2, That the Secretary of this Conference be instructed to forward a copy of the foregoing resolution to Thomas Wilmer, Esq., President of the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

J. PORTER, *Chairman.*

CENTENARY OF AMERICAN METHODISM.

V.—Journal, pages 209, 253.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CENTENARY OF
AMERICAN METHODISM.

Whereas, Methodism in the United States of America will complete the first century of its history in 1866;

And whereas, under the special blessing of God, it has risen in power and extended in usefulness to a degree hardly paralleled in the history of the Church;

And especially in view of the many thousands that have been saved through its instrumentality, the influence it has exerted upon the theology of its times and the evangelization of the world, we deem it right to observe the closing period of this first centenary with special solemnities and pious offerings, which shall present before God some humble expression of our devout gratitude, and lead to a renewed consecration of ourselves, our services and means to the glory of our Divine Master; therefore be it

Resolved, By the delegates of the Annual Conferences of the Methodist Episcopal Church in General Conference assembled, as follows:

1. The centenary of Methodism in America shall be celebrated by all our churches and people with devout thanksgiving, by special religious services and liberal thank offerings.

2. This celebration shall commence on the first Tuesday in October, 1866, and continue through the month, at such times and places as may best suit the convenience of the Societies.

3. The primary object of the celebration shall be the spiritual improvement of our members, and especially by reviewing the great things God hath wrought for us, the cultivating of feelings of gratitude for the blessings received through the agency of Methodism.

4. As the gratitude of the heart ever seeks expression in outward acts, we invite as a spontaneous offering to Almighty God on this occasion pecuniary contributions from each "according as God hath prospered him," to be so appropriated as to render more efficient in the century to come those institutions and agencies to which the Church has been so deeply indebted in the century past.

5. Two departments of Christian enterprise shall be placed before our people, one connectional, central, and monumental, the other local and distributive, and all shall be urged to make liberal appropriations to both according to their own discretion.

6. The Board of Bishops shall appoint twelve traveling preachers and twelve laymen, who, in connection with the members of their own Board, shall be a committee to determine to what objects and in what proportions the moneys raised as connectional funds shall be appropriated, and have power to take all steps necessary to their proper distribution.

7. The local funds shall be appropriated to the cause of education and church extension under the direction of a committee consisting of an equal number of ministers and laymen appointed by the several Annual Conferences within the bounds of which they are raised.

8. Each Annual Conference shall provide for the delivery of a memorial sermon before its own body at the session next preceding the centennial celebration, and also appoint a committee of an equal number of ministers and laymen to give advice and direction for the appropriate celebration of the centennial in our principal Churches.

9. As the highest authority of the Methodist Episcopal Church, we commend this whole subject to the prayerful consideration of every minister, traveling and local, and every official and private member of the Church, calling for the most systematic and energetic efforts everywhere to carry out in their true spirit these noble plans; and after due consideration, we deem it right to ask for and to expect not less than two millions of dollars for achievements which will be worthy of our great and honored Church, and which shall show to our descendants to the latest generations the gratitude we feel for the wonderful Providence which originated and has so largely blessed and prospered our beloved Church.

10. We cordially invite our brethren in all the branches of the great Methodist family, in this and in other lands, to unite with us in this grand Centennial Celebration, that together we may lift our

thanksgivings to the God of our fathers, and renew our consecration to his spiritual service.

J. B. WAKELEY, *Secretary*.

D. PATTEN, *Chairman*.

TRUSTEESHIP OF GENERAL CONFERENCE.

W.—Journal, page 195.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PLAN OF TRUSTEESHIP OF GENERAL CONFERENCE.

The Committee on the Plan of Trusteeship for the General Conference would present the following :

In the judgment of your committee there is a pressing necessity that some measure of this kind should be inaugurated in the Church. The plan we propose we think will meet this necessity. It can at least do no harm, and may result in much practical good; it may save to the Church donations, bequests, etc., which otherwise would be lost to it. We therefore recommend that the following question and answer be inserted in the Discipline in the chapter on temporal economy :

“ *Quest.* 1. What shall be done for the better security of donations, bequests, grants, etc., made for benevolent purposes to the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States of America ?

“ *Ans.* 1. The General Conference shall appoint and perpetuate a Board of Trustees, composed of ministers and laymen, consisting of not less than five nor more than nine, who shall be invested with corporate powers, and shall be authorized to receive and hold in trust for the benefit of the Methodist Episcopal Church, under the direction of the General Conference, any and all donations, bequests, grants, etc., made to the Methodist Episcopal Church, not specially designated or directed, but simply made to the ‘ Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States of America.’

“ 1. When any such donation, bequest, grant, etc., is made to the Church, it shall be the duty of the preacher in the bounds of whose charge it occurs to give an early notice thereof to the Board, who shall proceed without delay to take possession of the same, according to the provisions of their charter.

“ 2. The Board shall make a faithful report of their doings, and of funds or property on hand, at each quadrennial session of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and all donations thus reported and received shall be disposed of by order of the General Conference for the benefit of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States.”

The committee would further recommend to the General Conference the passage of the following resolutions :

“ 1. *Resolved*, That the foregoing Board shall be located at Cincinnati, in the State of Ohio.

"2. *Resolved*, That the following persons be and are hereby appointed to fill the said Board, to wit: Rev. D. W. Clark, Rev. J. M. Trimble, Rev. W. Nast, Rev. A. Poe, Rev. W. Young, A. N. Riddle, Esq., M. B. Hagans, Esq., T. H. Whetstone, Esq., and John Fudge, Esq.

"3. *Resolved*, That the Board so appointed are hereby instructed early to take steps to secure corporate powers under the laws of the State of Ohio, under the name and style of 'The Board of Trustees of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States,' to enable them legally to execute the prescribed trusts."

Respectfully submitted,

WM. YOUNG,
E. H. PILCHER,
A. CHURCH,
W. TERRELL,
JAS. LAWSON,
K. P. JEEVIS,
JNO. MILEY.

RITUAL.

X, I.—Journal, pages 122, 146.

REPORT NO. I OF COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF THE RITUAL.

The Committee upon the Revision of the Church Ritual beg leave to report in part, and recommend for adoption the following three forms, to wit:

I.

FORM FOR RECEIVING PERSONS INTO THE CHURCH AFTER PROBATION.

Upon the day appointed, all that are to be received shall be called forward, and the Minister, addressing the congregation, shall say,

DEARLY BELOVED BRETHREN,—The Scriptures teach us that the Church is the household of God, the body of which Christ is the Head, and that it is the design of the Gospel to bring together in one all who are in Christ. The fellowship of the Church is the communion that its members enjoy, one with another. The ends of this fellowship are, the maintenance of sound doctrine, and of the ordinances of Christian worship, and the exercise of that power of godly admonition and discipline which Christ has committed to his Church for the promotion of holiness. It is the duty of all men to unite in this fellowship, for it is only those that "be planted in the house of the Lord, that shall flourish in the courts of our God."

Its more particular *duties* are, to promote peace and unity; to bear one another's burdens; to prevent each other's stumbling; to seek the intimacy of friendly society among themselves; to continue steadfast in the faith and worship of the Gospel; and to pray and sympathize with each other. Among its *privileges* are, peculiar incitements to holiness from the hearing of God's word and sharing in Christ's ordinances; the being placed under the watchful care of pastors, and the enjoyment of the blessings which are promised only to those who are of the household of faith. Into this holy fellowship the persons before you, who have already received the sacrament of baptism and have been under the care of proper leaders for six months on trial, come seeking admission. We now propose, in the fear of God, to question them as to their faith and purposes, that you may know that they are proper persons to be admitted into the Church.

Then addressing the applicants for admission, the Minister shall say:

Dearly beloved, you are come hither seeking the great privilege of union with the Church our Saviour has purchased with his own blood. We rejoice in the grace of God vouchsafed unto you in that He has called you to be His *followers*, and that thus far you have run well. You have heard how blessed are the privileges and how solemn are the duties of membership in Christ's Church; and before you are fully admitted thereto, it is proper that you do here publicly renew your vows, confess your faith, and declare your purpose, by answering the following questions:

Do you here, in the presence of God and of this congregation, renew the solemn promise contained in the baptismal covenant, ratifying and confirming the same, and acknowledging yourselves bound faithfully to observe and keep that covenant?

Answ. I do.

Have you saving faith in the Lord Jesus Christ?

Answ. I trust I have.

Do you believe in the doctrines of Holy Scripture, as set forth in the Articles of Religion of the Methodist Episcopal Church?

Answ. I do.

Will you cheerfully be governed by the rules of the Methodist Episcopal Church, hold sacred the ordinances of God, and endeavor, as much as in you lies, to promote the welfare of your brethren and the advancement of the Redeemer's kingdom?

Answ. I will.

Will you contribute of your earthly substance, according to your ability, to the support of the Gospel and the various benevolent enterprises of the Church?

Answ. I will.

Then the Minister, addressing the Church, shall say:

Brethren, you have heard the responses given to our inquiries. Have any of you reason to allege why these persons should not be received into full membership in the Church?

No objection being alleged, the Minister shall say to the candidates :

We welcome you to the communion of the Church of God ; and in testimony of our Christian affection and the cordiality with which we receive you, I hereby extend to you the right hand of fellowship ; and may God grant that you may be a faithful and useful member of the Church militant till you are called to the fellowship of the Church triumphant, which is "without fault before the throne of God."

Then shall the Minister offer extemporary prayer.

II.

FORM FOR LAYING THE CORNER-STONE OF A CHURCH.

The Minister standing near the place where the stone is to be laid, shall say unto the Congregation,

DEARLY BELOVED,—We are taught in the word of God that, although the heaven of heavens cannot contain the Eternal One, much less the walls of temples made with hands, yet his delight is ever with the sons of men, and that, wherever two or three are gathered in His name, there is He in the midst of them. And in all ages His servants have separated certain places for His worship: as Jacob erected a stone in Bethel for God's house; as Moses made a tabernacle in the desert; as Solomon builded a temple for the Lord, which He filled with the glory of His presence before all the people. We are now assembled to lay the corner-stone of a new house for the worship of the God of our fathers. Let us not doubt that he will favorably approve our godly purpose, and let us now devoutly unite in singing his praise, and in prayer for his blessing on this our undertaking.

Let one of the Hymns 959-963 be sung.

Then shall the Minister say,

Let us pray.

Most glorious God, the heaven is Thy throne and the earth is Thy footstool: what house then can be builded for Thee; or where is the place of Thy rest? Yet, blessed be Thy name, O Lord God, that it hath pleased Thee to have Thy habitation among the sons of men, and to dwell in the midst of the assembly of the saints upon the earth. And now, especially, we render thanks unto Thy holy name that it hath pleased Thee to put it into the hearts of Thy servants to erect in this place a house for Thy worship. We

thank Thee for Thy grace which has inclined them to contribute of their substance for the glory of Thy name: and we pray Thee to continue Thy blessing upon their pious undertaking. *Amen.*

May many unite with them in their holy work, until this habitation of Thy house shall be completed, and ready for dedication to Thy service, free from all debt or claim of man. *Amen.*

May peace and harmony prevail in the counsels of Thy servants, and may no selfish or divided aims find place among them. May the work of this building be completed without hurt or accident to any person. And when Thou shalt have prospered the work of their hands upon them, and this house shall be prepared and finished for Thy service, grant that all who shall enjoy the benefit of this pious work, may show forth their thankfulness, by making a right use of it, to the glory of Thy blessed Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Grant that all who shall hereafter worship Thee in the temple here to be builded, may so serve and please Thee in all holy exercises of godliness, that in the end they may come to that temple on high, even to the holy places, made without hands, whose builder and maker is God. *Amen.*

Hear us, O Lord, for Thou art our God in whom we trust. And when we shall cease to pray unto Thee on earth, may we, with all those who in like manner have erected such places to Thy name, and with all Thy saints and redeemed ones, eternally praise Thee for all Thy goodness vouchsafed unto us here on earth and laid up for us there in heaven. *Amen.*

Accept these our prayers, we beseech Thee, for the sake of Thy dear Son, and to Thee, the only true and living God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, be honor, praise, and glory, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Then shall the Minister read the following Psalm, or the Minister and people may read it in alternate verses; the parts in italics to be read by the people.

Psalm cxxxii.

Lord, remember David, and all his afflictions:

How he swore unto the Lord, and vowed unto the mighty God of Jacob;

Surely I will not come into the tabernacle of my house, nor go up into my bed;

I will not give sleep to mine eyes, or slumber to my eyelids,

Until I find out a place for the Lord,

A habitation for the mighty God of Jacob.

Lo, we heard of it at Ephratah: we found it in the fields of the wood.

We will go into his tabernacles: we will worship at his footstool.

Arise, O Lord, into thy rest; thou, and the ark of thy strength.

Let thy priests be clothed with righteousness;

And let thy saints shout for joy.

For thy servant David's sake, turn not away the face of thine anointed.

The Lord hath sworn in truth unto David; he will not turn from it;

Of the fruit of thy body will I set upon thy throne.

If thy children will keep my covenant and my testimony that I shall teach them, their children shall also sit upon thy throne for evermore.

For the Lord hath chosen Zion; he hath desired it for his habitation.

This is my rest forever; here will I dwell; for I have desired it.

I will abundantly bless her provision:

I will satisfy her poor with bread.

I will also clothe her priests with salvation:

And her saints shall shout aloud for joy.

There will I make the horn of David to bud:

I have ordained a lamp for mine anointed.

His enemies will I clothe with shame:

But upon himself shall his crown flourish.

The Lesson. 1 Cor. iii, 9-23.

For we are laborers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building. According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise master-builder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire. Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are. Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you seemeth to be wise in this world, let him become a fool, that he may be wise. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, He taketh the wise in their own craftiness. And again, The Lord knoweth the thoughts of the wise, that they are vain. Therefore let no man glory in men. For all things are yours; whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come; all are yours; and ye are Christ's; and Christ is God's.

Then shall follow the Sermon, or an Address suitable to the occasion, after which the contributions of the people shall be received.

Then shall the minister, standing by the stone, exhibit to the congregation a box to be placed in an excavation of the stone. It may contain a copy of the Bible, the Hymn Book, the Discipline, the Church Almanac for the year, Church periodicals of recent date, the names of the Pastor, Trustees, and Building Committee of the Church, with such other documents as may be desired. A list of these may be read, after which the Minister may deposit the box in the stone and cover it: and the stone shall be laid and adjusted by the Minister, assisted by the builder.

Then shall the Minister say,

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, we lay this corner-stone for the foundation of a house to be builded and consecrated to the service of Almighty God, according to the order and usages of the Methodist Episcopal Church. *Amen.*

The service may conclude with extemporary prayer, the Lord's Prayer, and the Benediction.

III

FORM FOR THE DEDICATION OF A CHURCH.

The Congregation being assembled in the Church, the Minister shall say,

DEARLY BELOVED, The Scriptures teach us that God is well pleased with those who build Temples to His name. We have heard how He filled the Temple of Solomon with His glory, and how in the Second Temple He manifested himself still more gloriously. And the Gospel approves and commends the centurion who built a synagogue for the people. Let us not doubt that He will also favorably approve our purpose of dedicating this place in solemn manner, for the performance of the several offices of religious worship; and let us now devoutly join in praise to his Name, that this godly undertaking hath been so far completed; and in prayer for His further blessing upon all who have been engaged therein, and upon all who shall hereafter worship His name in this place.

Let one of the Hymns 964-971 be sung, and extemporary Prayer be offered, the Congregation all kneeling.

Then shall the Minister, or some one appointed by him, read

The First Lesson. 2 Chron. vi, 18-33.

But will God in very deed dwell with men on the earth? behold, heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain thee; how much less this house which I have built? Have respect,

therefore, to the prayer of thy servant, and to his supplication, O Lord my God, to hearken unto the cry and the prayer which thy servant prayeth before thee: that thine eyes may be open upon this house day and night, upon the place whereof thou hast said that thou wouldest put thy name there; to hearken unto the prayer which thy servant prayeth toward this place. Hearken, therefore, unto the supplications of thy servant, and of thy people Israel, which they shall make toward this place: hear thou from thy dwelling place, even from heaven; and when thou hearest, forgive.

If a man sin against his neighbor, and an oath be laid upon him to make him swear, and the oath come before thine altar in this house; then hear thou from heaven, and do, and judge thy servants, by requiting the wicked, by recompensing his way upon his own head; and by justifying the righteous, by giving him according to his righteousness.

And if thy people Israel be put to the worse before the enemy, because they have sinned against thee; and shall return and confess thy name, and pray and make supplication before thee in this house; then hear thou from the heavens, and forgive the sin of thy people Israel, and bring them again unto the land which thou gavest to them and to their fathers.

When the heaven is shut up, and there is no rain, because they have sinned against thee; yet if they pray toward this place, and confess thy name, and turn from their sin, when thou dost afflict them; then hear thou from heaven, and forgive the sin of thy servants, and of thy people Israel, when thou hast taught them the good way, wherein they should walk; and send rain upon thy land, which thou hast given unto thy people for an inheritance.

If there be dearth in the land, if there be pestilence, if there be blasting, or mildew, locusts, or caterpillars; if their enemies besiege them in the cities of their land; whatsoever sore, or whatsoever sickness there be; then what prayer or what supplication soever shall be made of any man, or of all thy people Israel, when every one shall know his own sore, and his own grief, and shall spread forth his hands in this house: then hear thou from heaven thy dwelling place, and forgive, and render unto every man according unto all his ways, whose heart thou knowest; (for thou only knowest the hearts of the children of men;) that they may fear thee, to walk in thy ways, so long as they live in the land which thou gavest unto our fathers.

Moreover concerning the stranger, which is not of thy people Israel, but is come from a far country for thy great name's sake, and thy mighty hand, and thy stretched-out arm; if they come and pray in this house; then hear thou from the heavens, even from thy dwelling place, and do according to all that the stranger calleth to thee for; that all people of the earth may know thy name, and fear thee, as doth thy people Israel, and may know that this house which I have built is called by thy name.

The Second Lesson. Heb. x, 19-26.

Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the vail, that is to say, his flesh; and having a High Priest over the house of God; let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;) and let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works; not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another; and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching. For if we sin willfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins.

Then shall one of the Hymns, 967-971, be sung, after which the Minister shall deliver a Sermon suitable to the occasion, after which the contributions of the people shall be received.

Then shall the Minister read the following Psalm, or the Minister and the Congregation may read it alternately; the parts in italics to be read by the Congregation.

Psalm cxxii.

I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord.

Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is builded as a city that is compact together;

Whither the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord,

Unto the testimony of Israel, to give thanks unto the name of the Lord.

For there are set thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:

They shall prosper that love thee.

Peace be within thy walls,

And prosperity within thy palaces.

For my brethren and companions' sakes, I will now say, Peace be within thee.

Because of the house of the Lord our God I will seek thy good.

Then let the Trustees stand up before the altar, and one of them, or some one in their behalf, say unto the Minister,

We present unto you this building, to be dedicated as a Church for the service and worship of Almighty God.

Then shall the Minister request the congregation to stand, while he repeats the following

DECLARATION.

Dearly beloved, It is meet and right, as we learn from the Holy Scriptures, that houses erected for the public worship of God should be specially set apart and dedicated to religious uses. For such a dedication we are now assembled. With gratitude, therefore, to Almighty God, who has signally blessed His servants in their holy enterprise of erecting this Church, we dedicate it to His service, for the reading of the Holy Scriptures, the preaching of the Word of God, the administration of the Holy Sacraments, and for all other exercises of religious worship and service, according to the Discipline and usages of the Methodist Episcopal Church. And, as the dedication of the Temple is vain without the solemn consecration of the worshipers also, I now call upon you all to dedicate yourselves anew to the service of God. To Him let our souls be dedicated, that they may be renewed after the image of Christ. To Him let our bodies be dedicated, that they may be fit temples for the indwelling of the Holy Ghost. To Him may our labors and business be dedicated, that their fruit may tend to the glory of His great name, and to the advancement of His kingdom. And that He may graciously accept this our solemn act, let us pray.

The Congregation kneeling, the Minister shall offer the following Prayer.

O most glorious Lord, we acknowledge that we are not worthy to offer unto thee anything belonging unto us; yet we beseech thee, in thy great goodness, graciously to accept the Dedication of this place to thy service, and to prosper this our undertaking; receive the prayers and intercessions of all those thy servants who shall call upon thee in this house; and give them grace to prepare their hearts to serve thee with reverence and godly fear; affect them with an awful apprehension of thy Divine Majesty, and a deep sense of their own unworthiness; that so approaching thy sanctuary with lowliness and devotion, and coming before thee with clean thoughts and pure hearts, with bodies undefiled, and minds sanctified, they may always perform a service acceptable to thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Regard, O Lord, the supplications of thy servants, and grant that whosoever shall be dedicated to thee in this house by Baptism, may ever remain in the number of thy faithful children. *Amen.*

Grant, O Lord, that whosoever shall receive in this place the blessed Sacrament of the Body and Blood of Christ, may come to that holy ordinance with faith, charity, and true repentance; and being filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, may, to their great and endless comfort, obtain remission of their sins, and all other benefits of his death. *Amen.*

Grant, O Lord, that by thy holy Word which shall be read and preached in this place, and by thy Holy Spirit grafting it inwardly in the heart, the hearers thereof may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and may have power and strength to perform the same. *Amen.*

Now, therefore, arise, O Lord, and come unto this place of Thy rest, Thou and the ark of Thy strength. Let thine eye be open toward this house day and night; and let thine ears be ready toward the prayers of Thy children which they shall make unto Thee in this place: and whensoever Thy servants shall make to Thee their petitions here, do Thou hear them from heaven, Thy dwelling place, the throne of the glory of Thy kingdom; and when Thou hearest, forgive. And grant, O Lord, we beseech Thee, that here and elsewhere Thy ministers may be clothed with righteousness, and Thy saints rejoice in Thy salvation. And may we all, with thy people everywhere, grow up into a holy temple in the Lord, and be at last received into the glorious temple above; the house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. And to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be glory and praise, world without end. *Amen.*

The services to conclude with Doxology and Benediction.

D. W. CLARK, *Chairman.*

X, II.—*Journal, pages 126, 246.*

REPORT NO. II OF COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF THE
RITUAL.

Your committee beg leave again to report in part, and recommend the adoption of the following forms, to wit:

I.

THE FORM OF SOLEMNIZATION OF MATRIMONY.

[The parts in brackets throughout may be used or not, at discretion.]

At the day and time appointed for solemnization of matrimony, the persons to be married—having been qualified according to law—standing together, the man on the right hand, and the woman on the left, the Minister shall say:

DEARLY BELOVED, We are gathered together here in the sight of God, and in the presence of these witnesses, to join together this man and this woman in holy matrimony; which is an honorable estate, instituted of God in the time of man's innocency, signifying unto us the mystical union that is between Christ and his Church; which holy estate Christ adorned and beautified with His presence, and first miracle that he wrought in Cana of Galilee, and is commended of St. Paul to be honorable among all men; and therefore is not by any to be entered into unadvisedly, but reverently, discreetly, and in the fear of God.

Into which holy estate these two persons present come now to be joined. Therefore if any can show just cause why they may not lawfully be joined together, let him now speak, or else hereafter forever hold his peace.

[*And also speaking unto the persons that are to be married, he shall say :*

I require and charge you both, that if either of you know any impediment why you may not be lawfully joined together in matrimony, you do now confess it: for be ye well assured, that so many as are coupled together otherwise than God's word doth allow, are not joined together by God, neither is their matrimony lawful.]

If no impediment be alleged, then shall the Minister say unto the man,

M., wilt thou have this woman to be thy wedded wife, to live together after God's ordinance in the holy estate of matrimony? Wilt thou love her, comfort her, honor, and keep her, in sickness and in health: and forsaking all other, keep thee only unto her, so long as ye both shall live?

The man shall answer,

I will.

Then shall the Minister say unto the woman,

N., wilt thou have this man to be thy wedded husband, to live together after God's ordinance, in the holy estate of matrimony? Wilt thou love, honor, and keep him, in sickness and in health: and forsaking all other, keep thee only unto him, so long as ye both shall live?

The woman shall answer,

I will.

[*Then the Minister shall cause the man with his right hand to take the woman by her right hand, and to say after him as followeth :*

I *M.* take thee *N.* to be my wedded wife, to have and to hold, from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death us do part, according to God's holy ordinance: and thereto I plight thee my faith.

Then shall they loose their hands, and the woman with her right hand taking the man by his right hand, shall likewise say after the Minister :

I *N.* take thee *M.* to be my wedded husband, to have and to hold, from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death us do part, according to God's holy ordinance: and thereto I plight thee my faith.]

Then shall the Minister say :

O, eternal God, Creator and Preserver of all mankind, Giver of all spiritual grace, the Author of everlasting life; send thy blessing upon these thy servants, this man and this woman; whom we bless

in thy name ; that as Isaac and Rebecca lived faithfully together, so these persons may surely perform and keep the vow and covenant between them made, and may ever remain in perfect love and peace together, and live according to thy laws, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

[If the parties desire it, the man shall here hand a ring to the Minister, who shall return it to him, and direct him to place it on the third finger of the woman's left hand. And the man shall say to the woman, repeating after the Minister,

With this ring I thee wed, and with my worldly goods I thee endow, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.]*

Then shall the Minister join their right hands together, and say,

Forasmuch as *M.* and *N.* have consented together in holy wedlock, and have witnessed the same before God and this company, and thereto have pledged their faith either to other, and have declared the same by joining of hands ; I pronounce that they are husband and wife together, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Those whom God hath joined together, let no man put asunder. *Amen.*

And the Minister shall add this blessing :

God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, bless, preserve, and keep you ; the Lord mercifully with His favor look upon you, and so fill you with all spiritual benediction and grace, that ye may so live together in this life, that in the world to come ye may have life everlasting. *Amen.*

Then shall the Minister offer the following prayer :

O God of Abraham, God of Isaac, God of Jacob, bless this man and this woman, and sow the seed of eternal life in their hearts, that whatsoever in thy holy word they shall profitably learn, they may indeed fulfill the same. Look, O Lord, mercifully on them from heaven and bless them : as thou didst send thy blessings upon Abraham and Sarah, to their great comfort, so vouchsafe to send thy blessings upon this man and this woman, that they, obeying thy will, and always being in safety under thy protection, may abide in thy love unto their lives' end, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Almighty God, who at the beginning did create our first parents, Adam and Eve, and did sanctify and join them together in marriage, pour upon these persons the riches of Thy grace, sanctify and bless them, that they may please Thee both in body and soul, and live together in holy love unto their lives' end. *Amen.*

Here the Minister may use extemporary prayer.

Then the Minister shall say,

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give

us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. *Amen.*

II.

THE ORDER FOR THE BURIAL OF THE DEAD.

The Minister, going before the corpse, shall say:

I AM the resurrection and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth, and believeth in me, shall never die. John xi, 25, 26.

I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: and though, after my skin, worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God, whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another. Job xix, 25-27.

We brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away: blessed be the name of the Lord. 1 Tim. vi, 7; Job i, 21.

At the grave, when the corpse is laid in the earth, the Minister shall say:

Man that is born of a woman hath but a short time to live, and is full of misery. He cometh up, and is cut down like a flower: he fleeth as it were a shadow, and never continueth in one stay.

In the midst of life we are in death: of whom may we seek for succor, but of thee, O Lord, who for our sins art justly displeased?

Yet, O Lord God most holy, O Lord most mighty, O holy and most merciful Saviour, deliver us not into the bitter pains of eternal death.

Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts; shut not thy merciful ears to our prayers, but spare us, Lord most holy, O God most mighty, O holy and merciful Saviour, thou most worthy Judge eternal, suffer us not at our last hour for any pains of death to fall from thee.

Then, while the earth shall be cast upon the body by some standing by, the Minister shall say:

Forasmuch as it hath pleased Almighty God, in his wise providence, to take out of the world the soul of the departed, we therefore commit *his* body to the ground; earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust; looking for the general Resurrection in the last day, and the life of the world to come, through our Lord Jesus Christ; at whose second coming in glorious majesty to judge the world, the earth and the sea shall give up their dead; and the corruptible bodies of those who sleep in Him shall be changed, and made like unto His own glorious body; according to the mighty working whereby He is able to subdue all things unto Himself.

Then shall be said:

I heard a voice from heaven, saying unto me, Write, From henceforth blessed are the dead who die in the Lord: Even so, saith the Spirit; for they rest from their labors.

Then shall the Minister say:

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Collect.

O merciful God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the resurrection and the life: in whom whosoever believeth shall live, though he die, and whosoever liveth and believeth in Him shall not die eternally: We meekly beseech thee, O Father, to raise us from the death of sin unto the life of righteousness; that when we shall depart this life we may rest in Him; and at the general resurrection on the last day may be found acceptable in thy sight, and receive that blessing which thy well-beloved Son shall then pronounce to all that love and fear thee, saying, Come, ye blessed children of my Father, receive the kingdom prepared for you from the beginning of the world. Grant this, we beseech thee, O merciful Father, through Jesus Christ our Mediator and Redeemer. *Amen.*

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. *Amen.*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. *Amen.*

Respectfully submitted, D. W. CLARK, *Chairman.*

X, III.—Journal, pages 156, 246.

**REPORT NO. III. OF THE COMMITTEE ON REVISION
OF THE RITUAL.**

Your committee recommend the adoption of the following form, to be inserted in the place of that now in the Discipline, for

THE MINISTRATION OF BAPTISM TO INFANTS.

The Minister coming to the Font, which is to be filled with pure Water, shall use the following:

DEARLY BELOVED, Forasmuch as all men are conceived and born in sin, and that our Saviour Christ saith, Except a man be born of

water, and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God; I beseech you to call upon God the Father, through our Lord Jesus Christ, that having, of his bounteous mercy, redeemed *this child* by the blood of His Son, He will grant that *he*, being baptized with water, may also be baptized with the Holy Ghost, be received into Christ's holy Church, and become *a lively member* of the same.

Then shall the Minister say,

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who of thy great mercy hast condescended to enter into covenant relations with man, wherein thou hast included children as partakers of its gracious benefits, declaring that of such is thy kingdom; and in thy ancient Church didst appoint divers baptisms, figuring thereby the renewing of the Holy Ghost; and by thy well-beloved Son Jesus Christ gavest commandment to thy holy apostles to go into all the world and disciple all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: We beseech thee, that of thine infinite mercy thou wilt look upon *this child*: wash *him* and sanctify *him*; that *he*, being saved by thy grace, may be received into Christ's holy Church, and being steadfast in faith, joyful through hope, and rooted in love, may so overcome the evils of this present world, that finally *he* may attain to everlasting life, and reign with thee, world without end, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

O merciful God, grant that all carnal affections may die in *him*, and that all things belonging to the Spirit may live and grow in *him*. *Amen.*

Grant that *he* may have power and strength to have victory, and to triumph against the devil, the world, and the flesh. *Amen.*

Grant that whosoever is dedicated to thee by our office and ministry, may also be endued with heavenly virtues, and everlastingly rewarded through thy mercy, O blessed Lord God, who dost live and govern all things, world without end. *Amen.*

Almighty, ever-living God, whose most dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ, for the forgiveness of our sins, did shed out of His most precious side both water and blood, regard, we beseech thee, our supplications. Sanctify this water for this holy sacrament; and grant that *this child*, now to be baptized, may receive the fullness of thy grace, and ever remain in the number of thy faithful and elect children, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Then shall the Minister address the parents [or guardians] as follows:

Dearly beloved, Forasmuch as *this child* is now presented by you for Christian baptism, *you* must remember that it is your part and duty to see that *he* be taught, as soon as *he* shall be able to learn, the nature and end of this holy sacrament. And that *he* may know these things the better, *you* shall call upon *him* to give reverent attendance upon the appointed means of grace, such as the

ministry of the word and the public and private worship of God; and further, ye shall provide that *he* shall read the Holy Scriptures, and learn the Lord's Prayer, the Ten Commandments, the Apostles' Creed, the Catechism, and all other things which a Christian ought to know and believe to *his* soul's health, in order that *he* may be brought up to lead a virtuous and holy life, remembering always that baptism doth represent unto us that inward purity which disposeth us to follow the example of our Saviour Christ; that as he died and rose again for us, so should we, who are baptized, die unto sin and rise again unto righteousness, continually mortifying all corrupt affections, and daily proceeding in all virtue and godliness.

Do you therefore solemnly engage to fulfill these duties, so far as in you lies, the Lord being your helper?

Ans. We do.

Then shall the people stand up, and the Minister shall say:

Hear the words of the Gospel, written by St. Mark; [Ch. x, ver. 13-16.]

They brought young children to Christ, that he should touch them. And his disciples rebuked those that brought them; but when Jesus saw it, he was much displeased, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of God. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein. And he took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them.

Then the Minister shall take the Child into his hands, and say to the friends of the Child,

Name this child.

And then, naming it after them, he shall sprinkle or pour Water upon it, or, if desired, immerse it in Water, saying,

N., I baptize thee in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

Then shall the Minister offer the following prayer, the people kneeling:

O God of infinite mercy, the Father of all the faithful seed, be pleased to grant unto this child an understanding mind and a sanctified heart. May thy providence lead *him* through the dangers, temptations, and ignorance of *his* youth, that *he* may never run into folly nor into the evils of an unbridled appetite. We pray thee so to order the course of *his* life, that by good education, by holy examples, and by thy restraining and renewing grace, *he* may be led to serve thee faithfully all *his* days, so that, when *he* has glorified thee in *his* generation, and has served the Church on earth, *he* may be received into thine eternal kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Almighty and most merciful Father, let thy loving mercy and compassion descend upon these, thy servant and handmaid, the

parents [or guardians] of this child. Grant unto them, we beseech thee, thy Holy Spirit, that they may, like Abraham, command their household to keep the way of the Lord. Direct their actions and sanctify their hearts, words, and purposes, that their whole family may be united to our Lord Jesus Christ in the bands of faith, obedience, and charity; and that they all, being in this life thy holy children by adoption and grace, may be admitted into the Church of the first-born in heaven, through the merits of thy dear Son, our Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

Then may the Minister offer extemporany prayer.

Then shall be said, all kneeling,

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. *Amen.*

Respectfully submitted,

D. W. CLARK, *Chairman.*

X, IV.—Journal, pages 172, 246.

**REPORT NO. IV OF THE COMMITTEE ON REVISION
OF THE RITUAL.**

Your committee submit the following form for
**THE MINISTRATION OF BAPTISM TO SUCH AS ARE OF RIPER
YEARS.**

DEARLY BELOVED, Forasmuch as all men are conceived and born in sin; and that which is born of the flesh is flesh, and they that are in the flesh cannot please God, but live in sin, committing many actual transgressions; and our Saviour Christ saith, Except a man be born of water, and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God:—I beseech you to call upon God the Father, through our Lord Jesus Christ, that of His bounteous goodness He will grant to *these persons* that which by nature *they* cannot have; that *they*, being baptized with water, may also be baptized with the Holy Ghost, and being received into Christ's holy Church, may continue lively *members* of the same.

Then shall the Minister say,

Let us pray.

Almighty and immortal God, the aid of all that need, the helper of all that flee to thee for succor, the life of them that believe, and the resurrection of the dead: we call upon thee for *these persons*; that *they*, coming to thy holy baptism, may also be filled with thy Holy Spirit. Receive *them*, O Lord, as thou hast promised by thy

well-beloved Son, saying, Ask, and ye shall receive; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: so give now unto us that ask: let us that seek, find: open the gate unto us that knock; that *these persons* may enjoy the everlasting benediction of thy heavenly washing, and may come to the eternal kingdom which thou hast promised by Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Then shall the people stand up; and the Minister shall say,

Hear the words of the Gospel, written by St. John, [Ch. iii, ver. 1-8.]

There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews: the same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God; for no man can do these miracles that thou doest except God be with him. Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof; but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth; so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

Then the Minister shall speak to the persons to be baptized on this wise:

Well beloved, who *have* come hither, desiring to receive holy baptism, you have heard how the congregation hath prayed, that our Lord Jesus Christ would vouchsafe to receive you, to bless you, and to give you the kingdom of heaven, and everlasting life. And our Lord Jesus Christ hath promised in His holy word to grant all those things that we have prayed for: which promise He for His part will most surely keep and perform.

Wherefore after this promise made by Christ, *you* must also faithfully, for *your* part, promise, in the presence of this whole congregation, that you will renounce the devil and all his works, and constantly believe God's holy word, and obediently keep His commandments.

Then shall the Minister demand of each of the persons to be baptized,

Quest. Dost thou renounce the devil and all his works, the vain pomp and glory of the world, with all covetous desires of the same, and the carnal desires of the flesh, so that thou wilt not follow or be led by them?

Ans. I renounce them all.

Quest. Dost thou believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker

of heaven and earth? and in Jesus Christ His only-begotten Son our Lord? and that He was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary? that He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried: that He rose again the third day; that He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, and from thence shall come again at the end of the world, to judge the quick and the dead?

And dost thou believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy Catholic Church,* the communion of saints; the remission of sins; the resurrection of the body, and everlasting life after death?

Ans. All this I steadfastly believe.

Quest. Wilt thou be baptized in this faith?

Ans. This is my desire.

Quest. Wilt thou then obediently keep God's holy will and commandments, and walk in the same all the days of thy life?

Ans. I will endeavor so to do, God being my helper.

Then shall the Minister say,

O merciful God, grant that all carnal affections may die in these persons, and that all things belonging to the Spirit may live and grow in *them*. *Amen.*

Grant that *they* may have power and strength to have victory, and triumph against the devil, the world, and the flesh. *Amen.*

Grant that *they*, being here dedicated to thee by our office and ministry, may also be endued with heavenly virtues, and everlastingly rewarded, through thy mercy, O blessed Lord God, who dost live and govern all things, world without end. *Amen.*

Almighty, ever-living God, whose most dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ, for the forgiveness of our sins, did shed out of his most precious side both water and blood; and gave commandment to his disciples, that they should go teach all nations, and baptize them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: regard, we beseech thee, our supplications; and grant that the *persons* now to be baptized may receive the fullness of thy grace, and ever remain in the number of thy faithful and elect children, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Then shall the Minister ask the name of each person to be baptized, and shall sprinkle or pour water upon him, (or, if he shall desire it, shall immerse him in water,) saying,

N., I baptize thee in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

Then shall be said the Lord's Prayer, all kneeling.

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us; and lead us not into

* The one universal Church of Christ.

temptation; but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. *Amen.*

Then may the Minister conclude with extemporary prayer.

Respectfully submitted, D. W. CLARK, *Chairman.*

X, V.—Journal, pages 209, 246.

REPORT NO. V OF THE COMMITTEE ON REVISION
OF THE RITUAL.

YOUR Committee on Revision of Ritual beg leave to report the following forms, namely:

I.

THE ORDER FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE LORD'S
SUPPER.

The Elder shall say one or more of these sentences, during the reading of which, the persons appointed for that purpose shall receive the alms for the poor:

LET your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. [Matt. v, 16.]

Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal. [Matt. vi, 19, 20.]

Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets. [Matt. vii, 12.]

Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. [Matt. vii, 21.]

Zaccheus stood, and said unto the Lord, Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken anything from any man, by false accusation, I restore him fourfold. [Luke xix, 8.]

He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. [2 Cor. ix, 6, 7.]

As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith. [Gal. vi, 10.]

Godliness with contentment is great gain; for we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. [1 Tim. vi, 6, 7.]

Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not high-minded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who

giveth us richly all things to enjoy; that they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate; laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life. [1 Tim. vi, 17-19.]

God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labor of love, which ye have showed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister. [Heb. vi, 10.]

To do good, and to communicate, forget not; for with such sacrifices God is well pleased. [Heb. xiii, 16.]

Whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? [1 John iii, 17.]

He that hath pity upon the poor, lendeth unto the Lord; and that which he hath given will he pay him again. [Prov. xix, 17.]

Blessed is he that considereth the poor; the Lord will deliver him in time of trouble. [Psalm xli, 1.]

After which the elder shall give the following INVITATION, the people standing:

If any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: and he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

Wherefore, ye that do truly and earnestly repent of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in His holy ways; draw near with faith, and take this holy sacrament to your comfort: and, devoutly kneeling, make your humble confession to Almighty God.

Then shall this general confession be made by the Minister in the name of all those who are minded to receive the holy communion, both he and all the people devoutly kneeling, and saying:

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men: we acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed by thought, word, and deed, against thy Divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Then shall the Elder say,

O Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, who of thy great mercy hast promised forgiveness of sins to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto thee: have mercy upon us; par-

don and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Collect.

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Then shall the Elder say,

We do not presume to come to this thy table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy table. But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy: Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink His blood, that we may live and grow thereby; and that, being washed through his most precious blood, we may evermore dwell in Him, and He in us. *Amen.*

Then the Elder shall say the prayer of consecration, as followeth:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of thy tender mercy didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by His oblation of Himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in His holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of His precious death until His coming again: hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech thee, and grant that we, receiving these memorials of the sufferings and death of our Saviour Jesus Christ, may be partakers of His most blessed body and blood; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread; ⁽¹⁾ and when He had given thanks, He broke it, and gave it to His disciples, saying, Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

⁽¹⁾ Here the elder may take the plate of bread into his hand.

Likewise after supper He took ⁽²⁾ the cup; and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of this; for this is my blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins; do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me. *Amen.*

⁽²⁾ Here he may take the cup in his hand.

Then shall the Minister receive the communion in both kinds, and proceed to deliver the same to the other ministers, (if any be present:) after which, he shall say:

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious name, evermore praising thee, and saying, Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts, heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord most high. *Amen.*

The Minister shall then proceed to administer the communion to the people in order into their uncovered hands. And when he delivereth the bread, he shall say :

The body of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was given for *thee*, preserve *thy soul* and *body* unto everlasting life. Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for *thee*, and feed on Him in *thy heart* by faith with thanksgiving.

And the Minister that delivereth the cup shall say,

The blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was shed for *thee*, preserve *thy soul* and *body* unto everlasting life. Drink this in remembrance that Christ's blood was shed for *thee*, and be thankful.

[If the consecrated bread or wine be all spent before all have communed, the elder may consecrate more, by repeating the prayer of consecration.]

[When all have communed, the minister shall return to the Lord's table, and place upon it what remaineth of the consecrated elements, covering the same with a fair linen cloth.]

Then shall the Elder say the Lord's Prayer; the people kneeling and repeating after him every petition.

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

After which shall be said as followeth :

O Lord our heavenly Father, we thy humble servants desire thy Fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in His blood, we and thy whole Church may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of His death. And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and lively sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that all we who are partakers of this holy communion may be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction. And although we be unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service; not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord: by whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. *Amen.*

Then shall be said,

Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good-will toward men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we adore thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. And receive us at last, through the riches of thy grace, into the joy of thine eternal kingdom, where we may reign with thee, world without end. *Amen.*

Then the Elder, if he see it expedient, may put up an extemporary prayer; and afterward shall let the people depart with this blessing:

May the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of His Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

N. B. If the elder be straitened for time, he may omit any part of the service, except the Invitation, the Confession, and the prayer of Consecration.

II.

THE FORM OF CONSECRATING BISHOPS.

The Collect.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who by thy Son Jesus Christ didst give to thy holy apostles, elders, and evangelists, many excellent gifts, and didst charge them to feed thy flock; give grace, we beseech thee, to all the ministers and pastors of thy Church, that they may diligently preach thy word and duly administer the godly discipline thereof; and grant to the people that they may obediently follow the same; that all may receive the crown of everlasting glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Then shall be read by one of the Elders

The Epistle. Acts xx, 17-35.

From Miletus Paul sent to Ephesus, and called the elders of the Church. And when they were come to him, he said unto them, Ye know from the first day that I came into Asia, after what manner I have been with you at all seasons, serving the Lord with all humility of mind, and with many tears and temptations which

befell me by the lying in wait of the Jews; and how I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have showed you, and have taught you publicly, and from house to house, testifying both to the Jews and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. And now behold I go bound in the spirit unto Jerusalem, not knowing the things that shall befall me there; save that the Holy Ghost witnesseth in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions abide me. But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry which I have received of the Lord Jesus to testify the Gospel of the grace of God. And now, behold, I know that ye all, among whom I have gone preaching the kingdom of God, shall see my face no more. Wherefore I take you to record this day, that I am pure from the blood of all men. For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God. Take heed, therefore, unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the Church of God which he hath purchased with his own blood. For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. Therefore watch, and remember that by the space of three years, I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears. And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified. I have coveted no man's silver, or gold, or apparel: yea, ye yourselves know that these hands have ministered unto my necessities, and to them that were with me. I have showed you all things, how that so laboring ye ought to support the weak; and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.

Then another shall read

The Gospel. St. John xxi, 15-17.

Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs. He saith to him again the second time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my sheep. He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep.

Or this: St. Matt. xxviii, 18-20.

Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore and teach all nations,

baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world.

After the Gospel and the sermon are ended, the elected person shall be presented by two Elders unto the Bishop, saying,

We present unto you this holy man to be consecrated a bishop.

Then the Bishop shall move the congregation present to pray, saying thus to them:

Brethren, it is written in the Gospel of St. Luke, that our Saviour Christ continued the whole night in prayer before he did choose and send forth his twelve apostles. It is written also in the Acts of the Apostles, that the disciples who were at Antioch did fast and pray before they laid hands on Paul and Barnabas, and sent them forth on their first mission to the Gentiles. Let us, therefore, following the example of our Saviour Christ, and his apostles, first fall to prayer before we admit, and send forth this person presented to us, to the work whereunto we trust the Holy Ghost hath called him.

Then shall be said this prayer following:

Almighty God, Giver of all good things, who by thy Holy Spirit hast appointed divers offices in thy Church: mercifully behold this thy servant now called to the work and ministry of a bishop, and replenish him so with the truth of thy doctrine, and adorn him with innocency of life, that both by word and deed he may faithfully serve thee in this office, to the glory of thy name, and the edifying and well governing of thy Church, through the merits of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee, and the Holy Ghost, world without end. *Amen.*

Then the Bishop shall say to him that is to be consecrated:

Brother, forasmuch as the Holy Scripture commands that we should not be hasty in laying on hands, and admitting any person to government in the Church of Christ, which he hath purchased with no less price than the shedding of his own blood; before you are admitted to this administration, you will, in the fear of God, give answer to the questions which I now propound:

Are you persuaded that you are truly called to this ministration, according to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ?

Ans. I am so persuaded.

The bishop. Are you persuaded that the Holy Scriptures contain sufficiently all doctrine required of necessity for eternal salvation, through faith in Jesus Christ? And are you determined, out of the same Holy Scriptures, to instruct the people committed to your charge, and to teach or maintain nothing as required of necessity to eternal salvation but that which you shall be persuaded may be concluded and proved by the same?

Ans. I am so persuaded and determined, by God's grace.

The bishop. Will you then faithfully exercise yourself in the same Holy Scriptures, and call upon God by prayer for the true understanding of the same, so that you may be able by them to teach and exhort with wholesome doctrine, and to withstand and convince the gainsayers?

Answ. I will so do, by the help of God.

The bishop. Are you ready with faithful diligence to banish and drive away all erroneous and strange doctrines contrary to God's word, and both privately and openly to call upon and encourage others to the same?

Answ. I am ready, the Lord being my helper.

The bishop. Will you deny all ungodliness and worldly lust, and live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world, that you may show yourself in all things an example of good works unto others, that the adversary may be ashamed, having nothing to say against you?

Answ. I will so do, the Lord being my helper.

The bishop. Will you maintain and set forward, as much as shall lie in you, quietness, love, and peace, among all men: and such as shall be unquiet, disobedient, and criminal, correct and punish according to such authority as you have by God's word, and as shall be committed unto you?

Answ. I will so do, by the help of God.

The bishop. Will you be faithful in ordaining, or laying hands upon and sending others, and in all the other duties of your office?

Answ. I will so be, by the help of God.

The bishop. Will you show yourself gentle, and be merciful for Christ's sake, to poor and needy people, and to all strangers destitute of help?

Answ. I will so show myself, by God's help.

Then the Bishop shall say,

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who hath given you a good will to do all these things, grant also unto you strength and power to perform the same; that he accomplishing in you the good work which he hath begun, you may be found blameless at the last day, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Then shall Veni, Creator Spiritus, be said.

Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire,

And lighten with celestial fire.

Thou the anointing Spirit art,

Who dost thy sevenfold gifts impart.

Thy blessed unction from above

Is comfort, life, and fire of love.

Enable with perpetual light

The dullness of our blinded sight;

Anoint and cheer our soiled face

With the abundance of thy grace;

Keep far our foes, give peace at home ;
Where thou art Guide, no ill can come.
Teach us to know the Father, Son,
And thee of both to be but one ;
That through the ages all along,
This may be our endless song :
Praise to thy eternal merit,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

That ended, the Bishop shall say,

Lord, hear our prayer.

Answ. And let our cry come unto thee.

Bishop.

Let us pray.

Almighty God and most merciful Father, who of thine infinite goodness hast given thine only and dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ to be our Redeemer, and the author of everlasting life ; who after that he had made perfect our redemption by his death, and was ascended into heaven, poured down his gifts abundantly upon men, making some apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to the edifying and making perfect of his Church : grant, we beseech thee, to this thy servant, such grace that he may evermore be ready to spread abroad thy Gospel, the glad tidings of reconciliation with thee, and use the authority given him, not to destruction, but to salvation ; not to hurt, but to help ; so that as a wise and faithful servant, giving to the family their portion in due season, he may at last be received into everlasting joy, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who, with thee and the Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

Then the Bishop and Elders present shall lay their hands upon the head of the elected person, kneeling before them, the Bishop saying,

The Lord pour upon thee the Holy Ghost for the office and work of a bishop in the Church of God now committed unto thee by the authority of the Church through the imposition of our hands, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.* And remember that thou stir up the grace of God which is in thee ; for God hath not given us the spirit of fear, but of power, and love, and of a sound mind.

Then the Bishop shall deliver him the Bible, saying,

Give heed unto reading, exhortation, and doctrine. Think upon the things contained in this book. Be diligent in them, that the increase coming thereby may be manifest unto all men. Take heed unto thyself, and to thy doctrine ; for by so doing thou shalt both save thyself and them that hear thee. Be to the flock of Christ a shepherd, not a wolf : feed them, devour them not. Hold

up the weak, heal the sick, bind up the broken, bring again the outcast, seek the lost, be so merciful that you may not be too remiss; so minister discipline that you forget not mercy; that when the chief Shepherd shall appear, you may receive the never-fading crown of glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

[Then the bishop shall administer the Lord's Supper to the newly consecrated bishop and other persons present.]

Then shall be said the following prayers:

Most merciful Father, we beseech thee to send down upon this thy servant thy heavenly blessing, and so endue him with thy Holy Spirit, that he, preaching thy word, and exercising authority in thy Church, may not only be earnest to reprove, beseech, and rebuke with all patience and doctrine, but also may be to such as believe a wholesome example in word, in conversation, in love, in faith, and in purity: that faithfully fulfilling his course, at the last day he may receive the crown of righteousness laid up by the Lord the righteous Judge, who liveth and reigneth, one God with the Father and the Holy Ghost, world without end. *Amen.*

Prevent us, O Lord, in all our doings with thy most gracious favor, and further us with thy continual help, that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in thee, we may glorify thy holy name; and finally, by thy mercy, obtain everlasting life through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

III.

THE FORM OF ORDAINING ELDERS.

[When the day appointed by the bishop is come, there shall be a sermon or exhortation, declaring the duty and office of such as come to be admitted elders; how necessary that order is in the Church of Christ, and also how the people ought to esteem them in their office.]

After which, one of the Elders shall present unto the Bishop all them that are to be ordained, and say,

I PRESENT unto you these persons to be ordained elders.

Then their names being read aloud, the Bishop shall say unto the people,

Brethren, these are they whom we purpose, God willing, this day to ordain elders. For after due examination, we find not to the contrary, but that they are lawfully called to this function and ministry, and that they are persons meet for the same. But if

there be any of you who knoweth any crime or impediment in any of them, for the which he ought not to be received into this holy ministry, let him come forth in the name of God, and show what the crime or impediment is.

[If any crime or impediment be objected, the bishop shall surcease from ordaining that person until such time as the party accused shall be found clear of the same.]

Then shall be said the collect, epistle, and gospel, as followeth.

The Collect.

Almighty God, Giver of all good things, who by thy Holy Spirit hast appointed divers orders of ministers in thy Church; mercifully behold these thy servants now called to the office of elders, and replenish them so with the truth of thy doctrine, and adorn them with innocency of life, that both by word and good example they may faithfully serve thee in this office, to the glory of thy name, and the edification of thy Church, through the merits of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, world without end. *Amen.*

The Epistle. Eph. iv, 7-13.

Unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. Wherefore he saith, when he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.) And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

After this shall be read for the Gospel, part of the tenth chapter of St. John.

St. John x, 1-16.

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the porter openeth, and the sheep hear his voice, and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out. And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him, for they know not the voice of strangers. This parable spake Jesus unto them, but they understood not what things they were which he spake unto them. Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily,

verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep. All that ever came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them. I am the door; by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out and find pasture. The thief cometh not but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy; I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly. I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep. But he that is a hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth, and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep. The hireling fleeth because he is a hireling, and careth not for the sheep. I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine. As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep. And other sheep I have which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice, and there shall be one fold and one shepherd.

And that done, the Bishop shall say unto them as hereafter followeth:

You have heard, brethren, in your private examination, and in the holy lessons taken out of the Gospel, and the writings of the apostles, of what dignity and of how great importance this office is whereunto ye are called. And now again we exhort you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you have in remembrance, into how high a dignity and to how weighty an office ye are called: that is to say, to be messengers, watchmen, and stewards, of the Lord, to teach and to premonish, to feed, and provide for the Lord's family, to gather the outcasts, to seek the lost, and to be ever ready to spread abroad the Gospel, the glad tidings of reconciliation with God.

Have always therefore printed in your remembrance how great a treasure is committed to your charge. For they are the sheep of Christ, which he bought with his death, and for whom he shed his blood. The Church whom you must serve, is his spouse and his body. And if it shall happen, the same Church, or any member thereof, do take any hurt or hinderance by reason of your negligence, ye know the greatness of the fault, and also the horrible punishment that will ensue. Wherefore consider with yourselves the end of the ministry toward the children of God, toward the spouse and body of Christ; and see that you never cease your labor, your care and diligence, until you have done all that lieth in you, according to your bounden duty, to bring all such as are or shall be committed to your charge, unto that agreement in the faith and knowledge of God, and to that ripeness and perfectness of age in Christ, that there be no place left among you, either for error in religion, or for viciousness in life.

Forasmuch then as your office is both of so great excellency, and of so great difficulty, ye see with how great care and study ye ought to apply yourselves, as well that ye may show yourselves dutiful and thankful unto that Lord who hath placed you in so high a dignity; as also to beware that neither you yourselves offend, nor

be occasion that others offend. Howbeit ye cannot have a mind and will thereto of yourselves; for that will and ability is given of God alone; therefore ye ought, and have need to pray earnestly for his Holy Spirit. And seeing that ye cannot by any other means compass the doing of so weighty a work, pertaining to the salvation of man, but with doctrine and exhortation taken out of the Holy Scriptures, and with a life agreable to the same; consider how studious ye ought to be in reading and learning the Scriptures, and in framing the manners, both of yourselves and of them that specially pertain unto you, according to the rule of the same Scriptures; and for this self-same cause, how ye ought to forsake and set aside (as much as you may) all worldly cares and studies.

We have good hope that you have all weighed and pondered these things with yourselves long before this time: and that you have clearly determined, by God's grace, to give yourselves wholly to this office, whereunto it hath pleased God to call you: so that, as much as lieth in you, you will apply yourselves wholly to this one thing, and draw all your cares and studies this way, and that you will continually pray to God the Father, by the mediation of our only Saviour Jesus Christ, for the heavenly assistance of the Holy Ghost; that by daily reading and weighing of the Scriptures, ye may wax riper and stronger in your ministry; and that ye may so endeavor to sanctify the lives of you and yours, and to fashion them after the rule and doctrine of Christ, that ye may be wholesome and godly examples and patterns for the people to follow.

And now that this present congregation of Christ, here assembled, may also understand your minds and wills in these things, and that this your promise may the more move you to do your duties: ye shall answer plainly to these things which we, in the name of God and his Church, shall demand of you touching the same.

Do you think in your heart that you are truly called, according to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, to the order of elders?

Ans. I think so.

The bishop. Are you persuaded that the Holy Scriptures contain sufficiently all doctrine required of necessity for eternal salvation through faith in Jesus Christ? And are you determined out of the said Scriptures to instruct the people committed to your charge, and to teach nothing as required of necessity to eternal salvation, but that which you shall be persuaded may be concluded and proved by the Scripture?

Ans. I am so persuaded, and have so determined, by God's grace.

The bishop. Will you then give your faithful diligence always so to minister the doctrine and sacraments, and discipline of Christ, as the Lord hath commanded?

Ans. I will so do, by the help of the Lord.

The bishop. Will you be ready with all faithful diligence to banish and drive away all erroneous and strange doctrines contrary to God's word; and to use both public and private monitions and

exhortations, as well to the sick as to the whole within your charge, as need shall require and occasion shall be given?

Ans. I will, the Lord being my helper.

The bishop. Will you be diligent in prayers, and in reading of the Holy Scriptures, and in such studies as help to the knowledge of the same, laying aside the study of the world and the flesh?

Ans. I will endeavor so to do, the Lord being my helper.

The bishop. Will you be diligent to frame and fashion yourselves, and your families, according to the doctrine of Christ: and to make both yourselves and them, as much as in you lieth, wholesome examples and patterns to the flock of Christ?

Ans. I will apply myself thereto, the Lord being my helper.

The bishop. Will you maintain and set forward, as much as lieth in you, quietness, peace, and love, among all Christian people, and especially among them that are or shall be committed to your charge?

Ans. I will so do, the Lord being my helper.

The bishop. Will you reverently obey your chief ministers, unto whom is committed the charge and government over you; following with a glad mind and will their godly admonitions, submitting yourselves to their godly judgments?

Ans. I will so do, the Lord being my helper.

Then shall the Bishop, standing up, say:

Almighty God, who hath given you this will to do all these things, grant also unto you strength and power to perform the same; that he may accomplish his work which he hath begun in you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

[After this the congregation shall be desired secretly in their prayers to make their humble supplications to God for all these things: for the which prayers there shall be silence kept for a space.]

After which shall be said by the Bishop, (the persons to be ordained Elders all kneeling,)
Veni, Creator Spiritus, the Bishop beginning, and the Elders and others that are present answering by verse, as followeth:

Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire,
And lighten with celestial fire.
Thou the anointing Spirit art,
Who dost thy sevenfold gifts impart.
Thy blessed unction from above
Is comfort, life, and fire of love.
Enable with perpetual light
The dullness of our blinded sight;
Anoint and cheer our soiled face
With the abundance of thy grace;
Keep far our foes, give peace at home;
Where thou art Guide, no ill can come.
Teach us to know the Father, Son,
And thee of both to be but one;

That through the ages all along,
This may be our endless song:
Praise to thy eternal merit,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

That done, the Bishop shall pray in this wise, and say,

Let us pray.

Almighty God and heavenly Father, who of thine infinite love and goodness toward us, hast given to us thy only and most dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ to be our Redeemer, and the author of everlasting life; who, after he had made perfect our redemption by his death, and was ascended into heaven, sent abroad into the world his apostles, prophets, evangelists, teachers, and pastors, by whose labor and ministry he gathered together a great flock in all parts of the world, to set forth the eternal praise of thy holy name: for these so great benefits of thy eternal goodness, and for that thou hast vouchsafed to call these thy servants here present to the same office and ministry appointed for the salvation of mankind, we render unto thee most hearty thanks: we praise and worship thee; and we humbly beseech thee by the same, thy blessed Son, to grant unto all who either here or elsewhere call upon thy name, that we may continue to show ourselves thankful unto thee for these, and all other thy benefits, and that we may daily increase and go forward in the knowledge and faith of thee and thy Son, by the Holy Spirit. So that as well by these thy ministers, as by them over whom they shall be appointed thy ministers, thy holy name may be forever glorified, and thy blessed kingdom enlarged, through the same, thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord: who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the same Holy Spirit, world without end. *Amen.*

When this prayer is done, the Bishop, with the Elders present, shall lay their hands severally upon the head of every one that receiveth the order of Elders; the receivers humbly kneeling upon their knees, and the Bishop saying,

The Lord pour upon thee the Holy Ghost for the office and work of an elder in the Church of God, now committed unto thee by the authority of the Church through the imposition of our hands. And be thou a faithful dispenser of the word of God, and of his holy sacraments; in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

Then the Bishop shall deliver to every one of them, kneeling, the Bible into his hands, saying,

Take thou authority as an elder in the Church, to preach the word of God, and to administer the holy sacraments in the congregation.

Then the Bishop shall say,

Most merciful Father, we beseech thee to send upon these thy servants thy heavenly blessings, that they may be clothed with

righteousness, and that thy word spoken by their mouths may have such success, that it may never be spoken in vain. Grant also that we may have grace to hear and receive what they shall deliver out of thy most holy word, or agreeably to the same, as the means of our salvation; and that in all our words and deeds we may seek thy glory, and the increase of thy kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Prevent us, O Lord, in all our doings, with thy most gracious favor, and further us with thy continual help, that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in thee, we may glorify thy holy name, and finally, by thy mércy, obtain everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The peace of God which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

. [If on the same day the order of deacons be given to some, and that of elders to others, the deacons shall be first presented, and then the elders. The collects shall both be used: first that for deacons, then that for elders. The epistle shall be Ephes. iv, 7 to 13, as before in this office: immediately after which, they that are to be ordained deacons shall be examined and ordained as is above prescribed. Then one of them having read the Gospel, which shall be St. John x, 1, as before in this office; they that are to be ordained elders shall likewise be examined and ordained, as in this office before appointed.]

IV.

THE FORM OF ORDAINING DEACONS.

[When the day appointed by the bishop is come, there shall be a sermon or exhortation, declaring the duty and office of such as come to be admitted deacons.]

After which, one of the Elders shall present unto the Bishop the persons to be ordained Deacons, and their names being read aloud, the Bishop shall say unto the people:

BRETHREN, if there be any of you who knoweth any crime or impediment in any of these persons presented to be ordained deacons, for the which he ought not to be admitted to that office, let him come forth in the name of God, and show what the crime or impediment is.

[If any crime or impediment be objected, the bishop shall surcease from ordaining that person, until such time as the party accused shall be found clear of the same.]

Then shall be read the following Collect and Epistle:

The Collect.

Almighty God, who by thy divine Providence hast appointed divers orders of ministers in thy Church, and didst inspire thy apostles to choose into the order of deacons thy first martyr, St. Stephen, with others: mercifully behold these thy servants, now called to the like office and administration; replenish them so with the truth of thy doctrine, and adorn them with innocency of life, that both by word and good example they may faithfully serve thee in this office to the glory of thy name, and the edification of thy Church, through the merits of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost now and forever. *Amen.*

The Epistle. 1 Tim. iii, 8-13.

Likewise must the deacons be grave, not double tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre; holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience. And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless. Even so must their wives be grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things. Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well. For they that have used the office of a deacon well, purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.

Then shall the Bishop examine every one of those who are to be ordained, in the presence of the people, after this manner following:

Do you trust that you are inwardly moved by the Holy Ghost to take upon you the office of the ministry in the Church of Christ, to serve God for the promoting of his glory and the edifying of his people?

Ans. I trust so.

The bishop. Do you unfeignedly believe all the canonical Scriptures of the Old and New Testament?

Ans. I do believe them.

The bishop. Will you diligently read or expound the same unto the people whom you shall be appointed to serve?

Ans. I will.

The bishop. It appertaineth to the office of a deacon to assist the elder in divine service. And especially when he ministereth the holy communion, to help him in the distribution thereof, and to read and expound the Holy Scriptures; to instruct the youth, and to baptize. And furthermore, it is his office to search for the sick, poor, and impotent, that they may be visited and relieved. Will you do this gladly and willingly?

Ans. I will do so by the help of God.

The bishop. Will you apply all your diligence to frame and fash-

ion your own lives (and the lives of your families) according to the doctrine of Christ; and to make (both) yourselves, (and them,) as much as in you lieth, wholesome examples of the flock of Christ?

Ans. I will do so, the Lord being my helper.

The bishop. Will you reverently obey them to whom the charge and government over you is committed, following with a glad mind and will their godly admonitions?

Ans. I will endeavor so to do, the Lord being my helper.

Then the Bishop, laying his hands severally upon the head of every one of them, shall say,

Take thou authority to execute the office of a Deacon in the Church of God; in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

Then shall the Bishop deliver to every one of them the Holy Bible, saying,

Take thou authority to read the Holy Scriptures in the Church of God, and to preach the same.

Then one appointed by the Bishop shall read the Gospel.

Luke xii, 35-38.

Let your loins be girded about, and your lights burning, and ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their Lord, when he will return from the wedding, that when he cometh and knocketh, they may open unto him immediately. Blessed are those servants whom the Lord when he cometh shall find watching. Verily I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them. And if he shall come in the second watch, or come in the third watch, and find them so, blessed are those servants.

Immediately before the benediction shall be said these collects following:

Almighty God, Giver of all good things, who of thy great goodness hast vouchsafed to accept and take these thy servants into the office of deacons in thy Church; make them, we beseech thee, O Lord, to be modest, humble, and constant in their ministration, and to have a ready will to observe all spiritual discipline; that they having always the testimony of a good conscience, and continuing ever stable and strong in thy Son Christ, may so well behave themselves in this inferior office, that they may be found worthy to be called into the higher ministries in thy Church, through the same, thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; to whom be glory and honor, world without end. *Amen.*

Prevent us, O Lord, in all our doings, with thy most gracious favor, and further us with thy continual help; that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in thee, we may glorify thy

holy name, and finally, by thy mercy, obtain everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

Respectfully submitted,

F. G. HIBBARD, *Chairman.*

STATE OF THE WORK AMONG THE PEOPLE OF COLOR.

V, I.—*Journal*, pages 184, 252.

REPORT NO. I OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE STATE OF THE WORK AMONG THE PEOPLE OF COLOR.

WE, a majority of the Committee on the State of the Work among the People of Color, after as careful an examination of the subject as we could well give it from the data at our command, have reached and beg leave to report the following facts and conclusions:

1. Though, owing to the unsettled state of the country, we have no means of ascertaining the exact number of our colored members and attendants on the ministrations of our Church, yet from former statistics we are impressed that they are not inconsiderable. The bishops in their address to the General Conference of 1856, stated that in the Border Slave States alone there was a colored membership, including probationers, of about 27,000, with the attendants upon our ministry, making a probable population of upward of 100,000. This statement they substantially reaffirmed in their address to the General Conference of 1860. When, with the close of the present rebellion, these scattered sheep shall have been gathered again, we think it probable that an advance upon the above exhibit of numbers will result.

2. The war, in breaking the fetters of oppression everywhere, is appealing another and a larger class to the prompt and efficient missionary enterprise of the Church. That portion of them who have been until recently under the care of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, will, in the nature of the case, seek a home with some other branch of the Methodist family; all will need religious instruction and ecclesiastical oversight.

3. As a Church we have never sought, do not now seek to ignore our duty to the colored population. A persistent testimony against oppression on our part has been accompanied by earnest effort for the moral and religious improvement of the oppressed. Nor has our labor been in vain in the Lord. Public sentiment owes

much of its present high moral tone on the subject of slavery to the testimony we have borne against it, and among no people in proportion to population have we had more seals to our ministry than among the slaves.

Deprivation, by circumstances beyond our control, of our appropriate jurisdiction over the extreme Southern slave, has not destroyed our sympathy for him, nor lessened our disposition to welcome him back to our protection.

4. If it be a principle patent to Christian enterprise that the missionary field itself must produce the most efficient missionaries, our colored local preachers are peculiarly important to us at this time. With these properly marshaled, what hindereth that we go down and possess the land?

5. But how can they be *properly* marshaled? Shall they be advised to seek a union with some one of the several independent African Methodist Churches of this country under the assurance that the patronage of our Church shall, for the more perfect command of this interesting field, be extended to the *union* when effected? Or shall they remain as *local preachers*, to be employed by the presiding elders where their services may be needed? Or shall the doors of the existing Annual Conferences be thrown open to them? Or shall they be organized into Mission Conferences, with a view to test and develop their adaptation to this peculiar work?

6. In reply to these questions we are somewhat prepared to speak advisedly, having direct information from delegates to the General Conference familiar with this work; from intelligent and trustworthy local preachers who have been deputed by the colored charges in Delaware, Maryland, and the District of Columbia to represent them before the committee; and from various memorials setting forth the wishes of our colored members.

From these sources we gather the following facts:

(1) Our colored members, ministers, and laymen feel that the *times* are auspicious to the development of their mental and moral power, and request from us the facilities necessary to this end.

(2) A *colored pastorate* they recognize as among the most important of these facilities, securing to them a ministry adapted to their wants, encouraging their young men to enter the ministerial field, and offering motive and opportunity for general ministerial advancement.

(3) They do not, however, propose to secure this by—indeed they are utterly opposed to—separation from our Church, either with a view to a union with another, or to independent organization. With such a feeling on their part the General Conference cannot consistently with its own responsibility, with their constitutional rights, or with any decent recognition of their loyalty to our Church in all the troubles through which, on their account, she has passed, adopt any measure which shall, even indirectly, look to such a result.

(4) Conference organization is asked for from two quarters; other memorials urge that the requests should be granted. The local ministers who have been before us have shown deep solicitude in this direction.

7. From this exhibit of facts two convictions are natural, namely: we must retain the oversight of this people—we must give them efficient colored pastors.

To retain these pastors as mere local preachers, subject to appointment by white presiding elders, will impair rather than increase their efficiency—will promote congregationalism among them, rather than itinerant missionary enterprise.

To propose their incorporation with the existing Annual Conferences will be attended with difficulties too formidable every way to be readily disposed of, and the delay incident to such a proposition is incompatible with the urgent requirements of the times.

In view of these considerations we recommend to the General Conference for adoption the following

PREAMBLE AND RESOLUTIONS:

Whereas, In the present circumstances of our country, the colored people occupy a position of peculiar interest, appealing to our Christian sympathy, and inviting our missionary enterprise; and

Whereas, This enterprise cannot now be made efficient by the policy of our Church hitherto pursued toward them, and *special* measures have therefore become necessary; and

Whereas, The exigencies of the case require to efficiency prompt action; therefore be it

1. *Resolved*, By the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Conference assembled, that it is the duty of our Church to encourage *colored pastorates* for *colored people* wherever practicable, and to contribute to their efficiency by every means in our power.

2. *Resolved*, That the efficiency of said pastorates can be best promoted by distinct conference organizations, and that therefore the bishops be and they are hereby authorized to organize among our colored ministers, for the benefit of our colored members and population, Mission Conferences—one or more—where in their godly judgment the exigencies of the work may demand it; and should more than one be organized, to determine their boundaries until the meeting of the next General Conference, said conference or conferences to possess all the powers usual to Mission Annual Conferences. *Provided*, that nothing in this resolution be so construed as to impair the existing constitutional rights of our colored members on the one hand, or to forbid, on the other, the transfer of white ministers to said conference or conferences where it may be practicable and deemed necessary.

3. *Resolved*, That our General Missionary Committee be requested to take into careful consideration the condition of our colored people, and should conferences be organized among them,

make to them—consistently with other demands upon its funds—such appropriations as may be essential to success.

Signed for and in behalf of the Committee,

J. M'KENDREE REILEY, *Chairman.*

ADAM WALLACE, *Secretary.*

Y, II.—Journal, pages 226, 253.

REPORT NO. II OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE STATE OF THE WORK AMONG THE PEOPLE OF COLOR.

The following resolution, referred first to the Committee on Revisals, was, upon the recommendation of said committee, referred by the General Conference to the Committee on the State of the Work among the People of Color, namely:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisals be instructed to inquire whether there exists in the laws of our Church any obstacle to the reception into the various Annual Conferences of as many colored preachers as will supply the colored Churches established or to be established among us.

We, the Committee to whom this subject was finally referred, beg leave to report that we are not aware of any *legal* obstacle to the reception of colored preachers into our Annual Conferences.

J. M'KENDREE REILEY, *Chairman.*

ADAM WALLACE, *Secretary.*

LOCAL PREACHERS' ASSOCIATION.

Z, I.—Journal, page 184.

MEMORIAL OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL PREACHERS.

PHILADELPHIA, *May 19, 1864.*

TO THE BISHOPS AND MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

RESPECTED FATHERS AND BRETHERN,—The sixth annual meeting of the "National Association of Local Preachers of the Methodist Episcopal Church" assembled in Philadelphia in October last.

Among other proceedings the undersigned were appointed to visit your body, and express to you "our fraternal feelings, and constant devotion to the Methodist Episcopal Church."

It affords the undersigned great pleasure to be the medium of communication, and especially on account of the pleasant relations which exist between the itinerant and local ministers of our Church.

Our annual assemblies have been occasions of great spiritual interest, and marked with the presence and favor of God.

The objects of our Association are few and simple in their character. We desire to form acquaintance with our local brethren throughout our country, to counsel with each other as to the best methods of improving our piety and usefulness, and mingle in religious devotions with each other.

We are ardently attached to the doctrines and discipline of our Church, and also to the unity of the Government of the United States of America.

Our Association requested our respected bishops to suggest to the several Annual Conferences the propriety of inserting in their printed Minutes the names and post-office address of the local preachers connected with each Annual Conference.

Our thanks are tendered to the bishops, and also to those Conferences who promptly complied with our request.

We would now respectfully ask of the General Conference the insertion of a rule in our Discipline providing for the regular publication in the Minutes of the name and post-office address of each local preacher, designating whether licensed, deacon or elder.

We believe such publication would promote the efficiency of local preachers, their circumspection of conduct, and devotion to God.

It would also be desirable if brief memoirs of deceased local preachers could be preserved in the records of the Church.

The future historian of American Methodism would be provided with valuable material for the history of the dealings of God with Methodism on this continent.

Praying most devoutly that the God of Wesley and Asbury may direct your important deliberations, we are your fellow-laborers in Christ Jesus,

GEORGE C. M. ROBERTS, of Baltimore.
ISAAC P. COOK, "
THOMAS T. TASKER, Sr., of Philadelphia.
T. F. STUART, of Burlington, Vt.
WM. H. KINCAID, of Pittsburgh.

Z, II.—Journal, page 256.

REPLY TO THE LOCAL PREACHERS' ASSOCIATION.

The Committee to whom was referred the letter from the National Association of Local Preachers, beg leave to submit the following response to their communication, namely:

DEAR BRETHREN,—The letter of your representatives—Revs. George C. M. Roberts, Isaac P. Cook, Thomas T. Tasker, Jr., T. F. Stewart, and William H. Kincaid—has been received by us.

It gives us great satisfaction to know that our local brethren as a body are not only sound in doctrine, but in their feelings strongly attached to the economy and institutions of our beloved Church. You are our brethren beloved, our helpers and fellow-laborers in the vineyard of our Lord.

Though the sphere in which you exercise your ministry differs in some of its circumstances from that in which we are called to labor, the ministry is the same. While, in obedience to the laws of the Church, we are subject to frequent changes, and sow the precious seed in new and often widely distant fields, you, in your local sphere, tell the story of the cross, and whisper the name of Jesus in the ears of your sick and dying neighbors.

In your letter to us you say that "one of the objects of" your "Association is to counsel with each other as to the best methods of improving your piety and usefulness." With this object kept constantly in view, and practically developed, your Association cannot fail of contributing in a high degree to the power and success of your ministry. Deep and earnest piety is the foundation element in ministerial character. Without this, all merely human qualifications must fall far short of securing the high and holy ends of the Gospel ministry. We exhort you, therefore, dear brethren, to seek earnestly the highest attainments in the spiritual life. May you be able to say, with St. Paul and the early Christians, "None of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself. For, whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord; whether we live, therefore, or die, we are the Lord's."

Next to personal consecration to God of both heart and life, we recommend to you, as a means of increasing usefulness, the constant reading and study of the Holy Scriptures, and such other books as will enable you clearly and forcibly to expound the word of God to your congregations, and make you skillful in winning souls to Christ.

In your letter you assure us of your loyalty, not only to the Church, but to the "unity and government of the United States of America." It is gratifying to us to receive this assurance from you; not that it was needed by us as a ground of confidence in your loyalty, but it is fitting that you, as a large and influential class of ministers, should put yourselves on the record with us, at this time of the nation's peril, as of unquestioned loyalty. Many brave hearts and strong arms have gone forth from your ranks to fight the nation's battles. No Church can give stronger evidence of loyalty than is given by this which we represent.

The blood of our brethren crimsoned every battle-field of the nation.

In conclusion, dear brethren, we assure you we can never be indifferent to anything which concerns your individual happiness, or contributes in any degree to your success in the ministry you have received of the Lord Jesus.

GARDNER BAKER, *Chairman.*

Your committee further report the following resolution for adoption by the General Conference, namely :

Resolved, That we recommend to the Annual Conferences that they publish in their Conference Minutes annually the names and post-office address of all the local preachers within their bounds, designating whether the preacher is an elder, deacon, or only licensed.

And also that, when practicable, they publish in the Minutes brief obituary notices of our local brethren who have died during the year.

GARDNER BAKER, *Chairman.*

CHURCH EXTENSION.

A A.—Journal, pages 226, 266.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON A CHURCH EXTENSION SOCIETY.

The committee appointed to devise and report some method by which societies in the newer and feebler portions of our vast field may be assisted in securing suitable houses of religious worship, having carefully considered the subject to them committed, respectfully submit the following report :

Your committee are deeply impressed with the great importance of the end proposed. The country we occupy is one of vast extent and inexhaustible resources, and, by the advance of immigration and the hand of industry, "the wilderness and the solitary place" are soon made to "bud and blossom as the rose." It is in every respect of the utmost importance that the Church, with all her agencies of Christian power, should keep pace with the general progress.

Methodism, with her itinerant ministry and missionary spirit and work, has always held the advance. The first to preach the Gospel in the cabin and the school-house, we should also have been first in procuring church property and erecting suitable houses of public worship, that we might thereby permanently establish ourselves in every growing village, town, and city. But hitherto we have had no method by which the whole Church could be united in this important work. Though our Church is pre-eminent for its denominational unity and comprehensive Christian sympathy, yet to this hour the weaker portions have been left, for the care of this important interest, to their own weakness. They have struggled nobly to build up and establish our common cause, until, in many instances, overwhelmed with debt, they have been compelled to beg assistance from the stronger or lose all they had already done. Meantime other Churches have, with the aid of a general fund upon which they have been enabled to draw for the erection of suitable houses of worship, in many cases come in and supplanted us in communities to which we had borne the Gospel before them.

Your committee are clearly of the opinion that this General Conference should provide some method of relief. The interests involved are those of the *whole Church*. It is, therefore, eminently proper that the *representatives* of the whole Church should take such action as the circumstances require.

We are not wholly insensible to the difficulties which beset an enterprise of such magnitude; but happily the end proposed is so essentially missionary in every feature, that we may avail ourselves of the experience and plans of the Church in her missionary labors.

Your committee, therefore, respectfully recommend for adoption the following resolutions :

Resolved, 1. That this General Conference proceed at once to organize a Church Extension Society, and in order thereto adopt the following

CONSTITUTION OF THE CHURCH EXTENSION SOCIETY OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

ARTICLE I.

This association, denominated "THE CHURCH EXTENSION SOCIETY OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH," is organized for the purpose of enabling the several Annual Conferences to extend and establish our Christian influence and power throughout the United States and Territories by aiding, wherever necessary, to secure suitable houses of public worship and such other church property as may promote the general design.

ARTICLE II.

The payment of twenty dollars at one time shall constitute a member for life. Any person paying one hundred and fifty dollars at one time into the treasury shall be an honorary manager for life; and the contribution of five hundred dollars shall constitute the donor an honorary patron for life; both of whom shall be entitled to a seat and the right of speaking, but not of voting, in the Board of Managers.

ARTICLE III.

The officers of this Society shall be a President, three Vice-Presidents, a Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, and Recording Secretary.

ARTICLE IV.

The management and disposition of the affairs and property of this Society shall be vested in a Board of Managers, consisting of twenty-five laymen, all being members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and so many clerical members, not exceeding that number, as shall be determined at each annual meeting called for that purpose, each of whom shall be a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and all of whom, both the lay and clerical members, shall be elected at the said annual meeting.

ARTICLE V.

The Corresponding Secretary shall be appointed by the General Conference. He shall reside in the city of Philadelphia, and conduct the correspondence of the Society under the direction of the Board. He shall be subject to the direction and control of the Board of Managers, by whom his salary is to be fixed and paid. He shall be exclusively employed in conducting the correspondence of the Society, and, under the direction of the Board, in promoting its general interests by traveling or otherwise. Should his office become vacant by death, resignation, or otherwise, the Board shall have power to provide for the duties of the office until the bishops, or a majority of them, shall fill the vacancy.

ARTICLE VI.

The Board shall have authority to appoint all the officers required by the charter, and to make by-laws for regulating its own proceedings; to appropriate money to defray incidental expenses; fill vacancies that may occur in their own body during the year; and shall present a statement of its transactions and funds to the Society at its annual meeting, and also shall lay before the General Conference a report of its transactions for the four preceding years, and the state of its funds.

ARTICLE VII.

The annual meeting for the election of officers and managers shall be held on the _____ in November, in the city of Philadelphia, and the term of the service of the officers and managers so elected shall commence January 1st following.

ARTICLE VIII.

At all meetings of the Society and of the Board, the President, or in his absence the Vice-President first on the list then present, and in the absence of all the Vice-Presidents a member appointed by the meeting for that purpose, shall preside.

ARTICLE IX.

Twenty-one members at each meeting of the Society, and nine at each meeting of the Board of Managers, shall be a quorum.

ARTICLE X.

The minutes of each meeting shall be signed by the Chairman of the meeting at which the minutes are read and approved.

ARTICLE XI.

It is recommended that within the bounds of each Annual Conference there be established a Conference Church Extension Society, auxiliary to this association, under such regulations as the Conferences respectively may prescribe.

ARTICLE XII.

Any auxiliary society or donor may designate the society or societies to which they desire any part or the whole of the donation by them made to be appropriated, which special designation shall be publicly acknowledged by the Board. But in the event that more funds should be raised for any particular society or object than is necessary, or than have been appropriated by the General Committee, the surplus shall be at the disposal of this Society for its general purposes.

ARTICLE XIII.

The Annual Conferences shall be divided into as many districts as there are effective superintendents, and there shall be a committee consisting of one from each district, to be appointed by the bishops, and to be called the *General Committee*. It shall be the duty of this committee to meet annually, in the city of Philadelphia, between the 1st and 20th of November, as shall be determined by the Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer, to act jointly with the Board of Managers, the Corresponding Secretary, and the Treasurer, in fixing the amounts which may be donated and loaned during the ensuing year, and the division of said amounts among the several Annual Conferences and societies applying for aid. Said committee, with the concurrence of the Board, shall determine the amounts for which each bishop may draw, to be donated and loaned respectively within the limits of those Conferences over which he shall preside, and he shall not draw on the Treasurer for more than said amount; and in no case shall money be donated or loaned to any society if after such donation or loan there shall remain any legal encumbrance or claim against the property to be secured, except only such as may be held by this Society.

Should any of the members of said General Committee, in the interval of General Conference, go out of office by death, resignation, or otherwise, the bishop presiding in the Conferences where the vacancy shall occur shall appoint another to fill the vacancy.

Said committee shall be amenable to the General Conference, to which it shall make full report of its doings.

Expenses incurred in the discharge of its duties shall be paid by the Treasurer of the Society.

ARTICLE XIV.

This Constitution shall not be altered or amended but by the General Conference, upon the recommendation of the Board of Managers, or by the Board on the recommendation of the General Conference.

Resolved, 2. That answers 21 and 22 of ques. 1, Part II, chap. ii, § 12, page 87 of the Discipline, be stricken out, and the following be inserted as answer 21: "To take collections annually in each of his appointments in behalf of the Church Extension Society."

All of which is respectfully submitted,

A. J. KYNETT, *Secretary*.

E. E. GRISWOLD, *Chairman*.

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A D D E N D U M .

LETTERS from the General Conference of 1860 to Methodist Churches abroad.

For the authority to insert them here, see Journal of 1864, page 74.

I.—See Journal of 1860, pages 298, 299.

ADDRESS TO THE BRITISH WESLEYAN CONFERENCE.

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES TO THE WESLEYAN METHODIST CONFERENCE OF GREAT BRITAIN.

REV. AND DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN,—Your fraternal address from Liverpool, dated August 5, 1857, has been received and read, and was listened to with unfeigned pleasure. We rejoice to learn, as well as from the address itself as from our representatives to your body, of the increasing prosperity and success which attend your efforts in the great work of evangelizing the world. Whatever relates to your success in this work cannot be a matter of indifference to us, but is on the contrary cause of sincere joy and thankfulness to the great Head of the Church. We have long watched with the liveliest interest the success of your wise and systematic plans for promoting the great interests of the Church; and although we are constrained to confess that we are still far behind you in some of the most important of them, yet is our rejoicing none the less sincere, nor will we cease to emulate your virtues, nor fail, we trust, to profit by the worthy example you have set before us. While we make this acknowledgment, as due to you our elder brethren, we rejoice to say there are cheering indications throughout our vast connection which warrant us to hope and believe that the time is not far distant when we will not be behind our British brethren in any of the great enterprises of the Church with which we are connected.

The very kind and cordial reception which our brethren Bishop Simpson and Dr. McClintock met from your Conference, as well as everywhere in their travels in your bounds, is gratefully remembered by us, and we earnestly hope that these fraternal interchanges may not only continue, but tend to strengthen still more

and more the bond which unites those two bodies of the great Wesleyan Methodist family. With gratitude to God we mention the fact, that the health of Bishop Simpson, which was most seriously impaired in his tour through the East, after his visit to your Conference, has been permanently restored. For a considerable time his life was almost despaired of, but the prayers of many thousands ascended daily in his behalf, and it pleased God, in answer to prayer, as we believe, to raise him up and grant him a longer stay with the Church of which he is so distinguished an ornament.

Since our last General Conference our venerable senior bishop, Rev. Beverly Waugh, D. D., has passed to his reward. He died at his residence in the city of Baltimore on the 9th day of February, 1858, in the full possession of the peace which passes understanding, and the joyful hope of a glorious resurrection and a blissful immortality in heaven. Twelve of our brethren who were members of that General Conference have also passed on to the reward of the faithful. These were all able and faithful men, some of them distinguished for their learning and talents; such men as it seemed to us the Church could not well spare. But we rejoice to know that although in the providence of God the workmen die, yet the work still goes on.

The past four years have been attended with signal success. Our net increase in that time amounts to 174,914 members and probationers, and 1,469 itinerant preachers. The number of our Sunday-schools too has greatly increased, and they are extending their healthful influence in every direction throughout our bounds.

In the minutes of last year (1859) there are reported 11,755 schools, 139,299 officers and teachers, and 732,592 scholars. We know of nothing which furnishes a more cheering indication of the progress of the cause of God, and of the near approach of that millennial period when "all shall know the Lord, from the least even to the greatest." The missionary cause is exciting more and more interest among our people, who, by their constantly increasing liberality in contributing to promote its ends, are furnishing the most pleasing evidence of more glorious results in the future. The cause of education, we are happy to say, is still steadily advancing among us. We have over 100 colleges and seminaries, which are attended by over 16,000 pupils, and embrace a property estimated at over \$3,000,000. In short, in every department of our Church God is giving us success far beyond our deserts; and while we record this success and greatly rejoice in it, we would put far from us the spirit of boasting, and humbly and devoutly say, "Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto thy name give glory, for thy mercy and for thy truth's sake."

In conclusion, dear fathers and brethren, permit us to renew the assurances of our fraternal and Christian regards, our best wishes for your temporal and spiritual welfare personally, and your continued success in every good work.

Finally, brethren, farewell. May the peace of God which pass-

eth understanding dwell richly in your hearts, and the God of our fathers, who alone is able, keep you by his power, and "present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy."

II.—See Journal of 1860, page 299.

ADDRESS TO THE IRISH WESLEYAN CONFERENCE.

TO THE IRISH WESLEYAN CONFERENCE:

REVEREND FATHERS AND BRETHERN: We were refreshed by the loving spirit and cheering intelligence of your fraternal letter, as well as by the presence and communications of our brother, your delegate, Rev. Robinson Scott. In return we greet you as brethren beloved, Methodists, and fellow-laborers in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ.

We rejoice in the same views which you express of the oneness in doctrine, discipline, and experience of Methodism everywhere, and would emulate the unabated energy with which, through its agencies, you are resolved to publish "the redemption which is in Christ Jesus." We trust that your hearts have been made glad and your hands strong by the marvelous work of God with which your island has been visited; and we pray that the divine leaven may continue its work of gracious assimilation among you until the whole is leavened. May your general missionaries, sent into the dark and waste places of Ireland, be endued with the same spirit of love and power which shone resplendent in your own Ouseley, and may their labors be as successful as his in the redemption of the people.

Our contributions to the cause for which you toil fell far below the obligations of American Methodism to Ireland, below the desire of our hearts, and were much less than they would have been but for the fearful financial revulsion which in the midst of our effort swept over our country. But we are glad to learn that the efficiency of your labors has been promoted by what we were enabled to contribute, and we hope that this will yet be materially increased. Brother Scott shall have our co-operation in the attainment of this result.

By the mercy of God we are permitted to say to you, with humility and gratitude, that the quadrennial now closing has been one of great prosperity to our Church. Your warm attachment to us may give interest to the following statements and statistics:

Our educational interests, Seminaries, Colleges, and Biblical Institutes, have had a healthy enlargement. We have about one hundred colleges and seminaries, sustained by a patronage of over 16,000 pupils, and an estimated property of over \$3,000,000. We

have also two Biblical Institutes, valued in real estate and endowment at \$270,000. The Church is sensibly feeling the salutary effects of our growing literary institutions. Our Book Concerns, located at New York and Cincinnati, have largely increased the sales of our books and the circulation of our periodicals. The increase in our church property, such as church edifices and parsonages, is unprecedented in our history.

The number of missionaries and helpers in our foreign work has gone up from fifty-four to one hundred and twenty; and the number of converts from 2,126 to 3,565. In the Home Mission work the number of ministers has increased from 222 to 305, and the number of members connected with these missions from 15,631 to 22,033. The contributions of our people to this cause have increased in a corresponding ratio. In our Minutes for 1859 we find that we have under our care 11,755 Sunday-schools, numbering 139,299 officers and teachers, and 732,592 scholars. This is an increase in four years of 1,286 schools, 26,140 officers and teachers, and 153,466 scholars.

The membership of the Methodist Episcopal Church within the same period has increased 174,914; and the itinerant ministry, numbering at our last session 5,408, now numbers 6,877.

These facts fill us with gratitude to the great Head of the Church, but we contemplate them with trembling, as we are reminded that proportionate and awful responsibility is upon those to whom is committed such a trust. Pray for us, that our fidelity may keep step with the increased facilities for doing good which are committed to us. The thousands of your children that are coming over to us from year to year have not been nor shall they be neglected by us: we will take them to our hearts; we will enfranchise them with citizenship in our great republic, and they shall find themselves invested with the agencies of Methodism. They may return no more to their Fatherland, yet here as in Ireland they shall be taught and trained for a heavenly home.

We thank you for the kind Irish welcome which you gave to our brethren and representatives, Bishop Simpson and Dr. M'Clintock; and it gives us joy if they knit us together more closely, and contributed to the advancement of your interests.

And now, dear brethren, farewell! May God bless you abundantly.

III.—See Journal of 1860, page 299.

ADDRESS TO THE FRENCH WESLEYAN CONFERENCE.

THE BISHOPS AND MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE UNITED STATES TO THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE PASTORS OF THE WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH OF FRANCE AND SWITZERLAND.

DEARLY BELOVED BRETHREN,—Your letter of fraternal greeting, conveying to us assurance of your continued Christian regards, and making known to us your state, has been received and read by us with deep and lively interest. Whatever concerns our brethren in other lands cannot be matter of indifference to us. We sorrow and rejoice with them. Our hearts and theirs beat from similar impulses. We are united to them by the strong bands of sympathy and Christian love; by the tender and inspiring recollections of a common history, and in labors and sacrifices to maintain and propagate the faith delivered to us from our fathers, and fulfill our mission to “spread scriptural holiness over all lands.” But while we thus heartily sympathize with members of the great Wesleyan family wherever found, we recognize in the peculiar circumstances of our brethren in France reasons for feeling unusual interest in their welfare.

We were deeply afflicted by the intelligence of the death of our much esteemed and highly respected brother in Christ, the Rev. Dr. Cook, the honored instrument in first planting the standard of Methodism on the soil of France. His character and labors were so truly apostolical and so eminently useful and important in their results that in his death not only Methodism but vital Christianity has suffered a severe bereavement. We feel tenderly and deeply for our brethren under their bereavement and the increased responsibilities and labors occasioned thereby. Truly, “ye have not many fathers.” French Methodism can have but one Cook, as American Methodism can have but one Asbury. But, blessed be God! there may be many *sons* inheriting the *spirit* of the fathers—their self-sacrificing devotion to the cause of Christ. We pray that the Head of the Church, even the God of all consolation and grace, may grant you, dear brethren, every needful blessing in your trying circumstances, enabling you to prosecute with increased success the important work now more fully committed to your hands. And this *will* he do. While the veteran fathers are falling from the walls of Zion, their sons, animated by their spirit and example, and enlightened by their wise counsels, will rise up and fill their places, to continue the glorious conflict and witness the triumphs of truth.

We rejoice to learn from your letter that the work of God still prospers among you. Our hearts were gladdened by the refresh-

ing representations which you gave us of the fruits of the Gospel among you, as seen in the spiritual and consistent piety of the members of your churches. Truly "the best of all is, God is with us." It is cause of mutual gratulation and thanksgiving to God that Methodism in all its branches, mighty as it has become in numbers and influence, and dispersed over the four quarters of the globe, still preserves its original character. Our people generally live and die *well*, witnesses to the glorious power of the Gospel to save from sin and the fear of death.

It gives us great joy, dear brethren, to learn that the Gospel thus preached and exemplified among you is extending an influence already revealed in most important results upon the two great Protestant national denominations of France. God is thus raising up not only helpers of your joy, but those who shall co-operate with you as efficient laborers in spreading a pure Gospel among the millions of their countrymen. It is a great and special honor which God has conferred on the Methodist Church in France to be instrumental in the revival of spiritual Christianity among the children of the Huguenots. The blood of the martyrs is thus becoming the seed of the Church. The descendants of those brave and devoted men, whose blood, shed by papal tyranny, is everywhere mingled with French soil, are yet to be marshaled with the embattled hosts by whom that soil is to be spiritually conquered and redeemed to God. What Wesleyanism has done for the Established Church of England, French Methodism is doing for the old Huguenot Churches of France.

We thank God, beloved brethren, on your behalf that you have been so wonderfully sustained and comforted under your many severe local adversities and embarrassments, and for the intimations you have given us of the dawning of a brighter period in your history. May the light of your growing prosperity shine more and more. The Lord Jehovah, who has been your strength and refuge, may he ever continue with you "a very present help in trouble." The hearts of princes are in his hands; let us pray that he may inspire them with that wisdom which is profitable to direct, and that charity that rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; that they may be led to adopt such counsels and measures as shall tend to promote the glory of God and the welfare of his people; to secure to all the sacred rights of conscience, and open up channels through which the water of life may flow free and unobstructed over every part of their dominions.

Be assured we fully appreciate the importance of your position and of the work in which you are engaged. And we heartily respond to your appeal for our sympathies and prayers; nor, when in our power, shall we less cordially extend to you a helping hand by other more direct means. After sustaining our own large and constantly growing missionary field, it would afford us great pleasure to aid your work by such an appropriation as the state of our missionary treasury would allow. But as all our missionary funds are placed under the control of a Board of Managers at New York,

we respectfully refer you to them as the legitimate body to whom your application for assistance should be made.

In regard to our own affairs you will expect us to say something. With much cause for humiliation and shamefacedness, we have also great reason for gratitude and thanksgiving to the Head of the Church. During the four years now closed since our last session our Church has been steadily, and it would be safe to say rapidly, advancing in all her great interests. The spirit of revival has pervaded our societies and congregations generally, and large additions have been made to our numbers. Nearly one hundred and eighty thousand, during that period redeemed and renewed by the blood and Spirit of Christ, have been added to our Israel: a mighty cloud of witnesses for the truth. The increase in our ministerial ranks, both local and traveling, has been fully proportionate to the increase of members.

The reports from our mission fields, domestic and foreign, afford cheering evidence that God is with the Church in these efforts to carry the Gospel to the destitute and perishing. The solitary places have been made glad by the presence of the messengers of salvation. Hundreds, and even thousands, who in the past four years have landed on our shores from foreign countries in search of more congenial homes in this new world, have found, in listening to the missionary of the cross, what is far more valuable than the object of their search. These straying ones, thus strangely sought and found by the great Shepherd and brought into the fold, now gladly hear and obey his voice. They are generally humble, devoted, and spiritual Christians. And they manifest great love for the souls of their countrymen, desiring above all things that they might be saved. They promise much to the Church in her future missionary operations, as they speak many languages and are connected with numerous populations of the old world. Already numbers of this class are employed in our foreign missions.

Of our domestic missions in foreign languages the mission to our German population is far the most important and promising. The head of this mission is our beloved Dr. Nast, whom we look upon as the apostle to his countrymen in America. This mission now comprehends more than twenty thousand members and probationers, three hundred and fifty preachers, traveling and local, with three hundred churches, valued at nearly half a million of our money.

The reports of our foreign missions have been such as not only to sustain the faith of the Church, but to justify and encourage increased liberality and zeal in this department of our work. Our forces abroad have recently in several fields been much strengthened by additional laborers sent out by the Board, and its expenditures thereby largely increased.

Our publishing and educational institutions are in a highly satisfactory state. In the history of these institutions, their growth and establishment amid reverses and embarrassments, their able

and prudent management, through the appointed agencies of the Church, and their signal success, we have much cause of thankfulness to our heavenly Father. In wielding these great instrumentalities of moral power, our denomination is at present behind no other in this free and happy land. Their influence is seen and felt in a marked degree on the character of our ministry. A large portion of the young men now entering our traveling body have enjoyed the advantages of full collegiate instruction, and many of them in addition have passed through our theological schools. The body of the ministry is thus fast rising in learning and intelligence, greatly extending the sphere of their influence and usefulness, and placing at the disposal of the Church men amply qualified for any position which the demands of the work may require.

In conclusion, dear brethren, we would repeat our assurances of fraternal regard and Christian love to you personally, and to all associated with you in the kingdom and patience of Jesus. We shall never cease to pray for your welfare and feel a lively interest in the success of your labors.

IV.—See Journal of 1860, page 299.

ADDRESS TO THE WESLEYAN CONFERENCE OF CANADA.

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES TO THE WESLEYAN METHODIST CONFERENCE IN CANADA.

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN,—We greet you as brethren in the Lord. Your Christian and fraternal letter was received by us with much joy and satisfaction, and we join in giving thanks to our common Lord and Master who made us one in him at the first, and has preserved us hitherto in the unity of the same faith and fellowship. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings, and has made manifest the savor of his grace through us.

It gives us unfeigned pleasure to remember that through the link supplied by our earlier history an indissoluble bond of union is formed between the Wesleyans of Canada and the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States, and it is our ardent wish that this ancestral bond may never be weakened. It appeared providential that we should be ecclesiastically separate, but this offers no bar or impediment to the spiritual union of those whom God hath so significantly joined together. There live among us still men who first brought Methodism from the States into Canada, and who, having received their appointment from Bishop Asbury, traveled from New York City to the Canada lines on horseback to reach their circuit. These few honored fathers still feel paternal

yearnings for that portion of the family resident within the imperial dominion, while the younger brethren early learn to sympathize in the same feelings.

We have learned with heartfelt gratitude to God of your prosperity, and your delegates, the Rev. Dr. Stinson and Rev. Asahel Hurlburt, who were welcomed by us, gave us interesting accounts of your state, and that the good hand of the Lord was with you for good. May the Lord still go before you, and the God of Jacob be your rereward, and may he make you a thousand times so numerous and mighty as ye are, and fulfill in you all the good pleasure of his goodness, and the work of faith with power. We shall always be glad to hear from you, and to receive your messengers, as we were glad to receive those honored brethren who have visited us during our present session.

Of our own state, our delegates whom we have appointed to bear this message will more fully inform you. The Lord hath done great things for us, whereof we are glad, yet our work seems but just begun. We have now a membership, including probationers, of 974,345, served by 6,877 itinerant ministers. We have 9,305 church edifices, estimated to be worth \$18,822,640. In our educational work we have 103 colleges and seminaries, containing above 21,616 students, and of an estimated property value of over \$4,000,000. Our Sunday-schools number 732,592 scholars, cared for by 139,299 laborers in that department. We have a copious and well-supervised Sunday-school literature in books, periodicals, and tracts and requisites; our Sunday-school book catalogue alone numbering over 1,100 different volumes, while our Sunday-School Advocate has a circulation of 200,000. Our Book Concern in New York and Cincinnati operates upon a capital of nearly \$800,000.

Our periodicals are quite numerous and widely circulated. We have missions in Africa, China, India, Bulgaria, and Northern Europe numbering 305 ministers and 22,033 members, besides the important work among foreign-immigrants within our own borders.

These are but general facts indicating the compass and magnitude and varied range of our great and glorious system of evangelism. We should also state that we have two Biblical Institutions in successful operation, one with an estimated property of \$250,000, and the other with over \$30,000.

We speak not these things with vainglory, but to suggest the instrumentalities, the enterprises, and we may add with solemn emphasis, the responsibilities of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States. In all this great trust it is our greatest desire, as stewards, to be found faithful. Our country has had a brief, but wonderful history, and Methodism suits the genius of our government and our people well, because it adapts itself to human nature and the real wants of society, and has a practical hand for all labor. We glory in it, and in the mighty achievements which have been wrought through it by the power of God. In all outward prosperity we are striving to hold to the old landmarks, as set up by the holy apostles and by our Methodistic ancestors.

And now, brethren, farewell. We commend you to God and to the word of his grace. We exhort you, brethren, "stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught" by the holy servants of God, and to preserve alive that system of doctrine and policy which bears our common name. And after having faithfully served our generation and fulfilled the will of God on earth, may we meet as fellow-laborers in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ to receive our common reward in the glorious kingdom of our one Lord and Saviour, to whom be glory and dominion world without end. Amen.

V.—See Journal of 1860, page 299.

ADDRESS TO THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN CANADA.

THE BISHOPS AND MEMBERS OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL
CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES TO THE BISHOPS AND MEM-
BERS OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN CANADA.

BELOVED BRETHREN,—We have received and read with much satisfaction your kind and fraternal letter, and have heard with deep interest the addresses of Bishop Richardson and Rev. Thomas Webster, your representatives. In return we send you our Christian and brotherly salutations. With all evangelical Christians, all who love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity, we desire to be on terms of friendly and brotherly intercourse. "We be all brethren." And we greatly rejoice in the growing disposition manifested by Christians of different orders for more intimate union. "Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." But, as a branch of our common Methodism, we feel a greatly increased interest in your welfare. We earnestly sympathize with you in all your counsels and labors. Similar in ecclesiastical organization, one in doctrine and spirit, purpose and aim, our interests are one; and geographical lines, national distinctions, and local circumstances should not, we believe, separate us in feeling. Our parish is the world; our mission, the elevation of fallen humanity. Wherever men are found needing the redeeming mercy and pardoning and renewing grace of the Gospel, there is the sphere of our duties, our common and appropriate work, in which our hearts and heads and hands should be found, as far as possible, in united co-operation. We shall always rejoice, dear brethren, in your success and prosperity, believing that in your triumphs we witness the triumph of those Christian doctrines and principles which we are laboring to propagate and establish.

As a branch of our common household of faith, we have great

reason for thankfulness and encouragement in the success that has attended us. At no period of our denominational existence have our means of usefulness been so great as at present, and never before has there been a stronger or more persistent purpose, in both the ministry and laity, to use these means for the glory of God and the good of souls.

Our colleges and seminaries of learning, while providing amply for the intellectual wants of our children and youth, have, through the divine blessing and the influence of pious teachers, proved also nurseries of piety. They have been the spiritual birthplace of thousands of precious souls, who have thus been brought into the Church in the morning of life.

Auxiliary to these agencies, and not less powerful for good, is our system of Sabbath-school instruction. This has received the earnest attention and labors of many of the best minds in our Church. And to these more than eleven thousand nursery-schools of Christ, with their hundred and fifty thousand teachers and million of pupils thus trained up in the way they should go, we look as the future hope of the Church, as the most promising source of her ever-increasing numbers and strength.

Our church literature is becoming such as to awaken our gratitude and honest pride. We have a literature properly our own, imbued with the spirit of Christ, and breathing the pure and genial sentiments of Wesleyan theology, embracing almost every department of useful knowledge, and addressed to every condition and relation in life. Our great denominational presses, multiplying this literature by tens of thousands of volumes annually, are exerting an influence for good which eternity only can reveal.

Though having recently divided the capital stock of our Book Concern with our Southern brethren, it already approaches to the large sum of a million of dollars, which, with God's blessing continued, it will soon exceed. In the remarkable prosperity attending this great interest of the Church we have cause of devout thankfulness to God.

In our missionary field we have also greatly prospered. Our foreign missions—in Africa, China, India, Bulgaria, and northern Europe, employing a hundred and twenty laborers of different classes—give promise of a glorious and not distant harvest. Similar prosperity has attended our domestic missions. And the missionary spirit, we think, is increasing among our people. Our beloved brother, the Rev. Dr. Durbin, as Corresponding Secretary of our Missionary Board, is head of this department of our work, and to his wise counsels and untiring and efficient labors it is greatly indebted for its constant and rapid growth and development.

Our membership, including probationers, has reached at this time more than 974,000, with 6,077 ministers. Considering that it is but a few years since our denomination was divided, leaving us with but slightly more than half our former numbers, and that, previous to this division, there had been two other secessions from the body, may we not well exclaim, "What hath God wrought!" We have

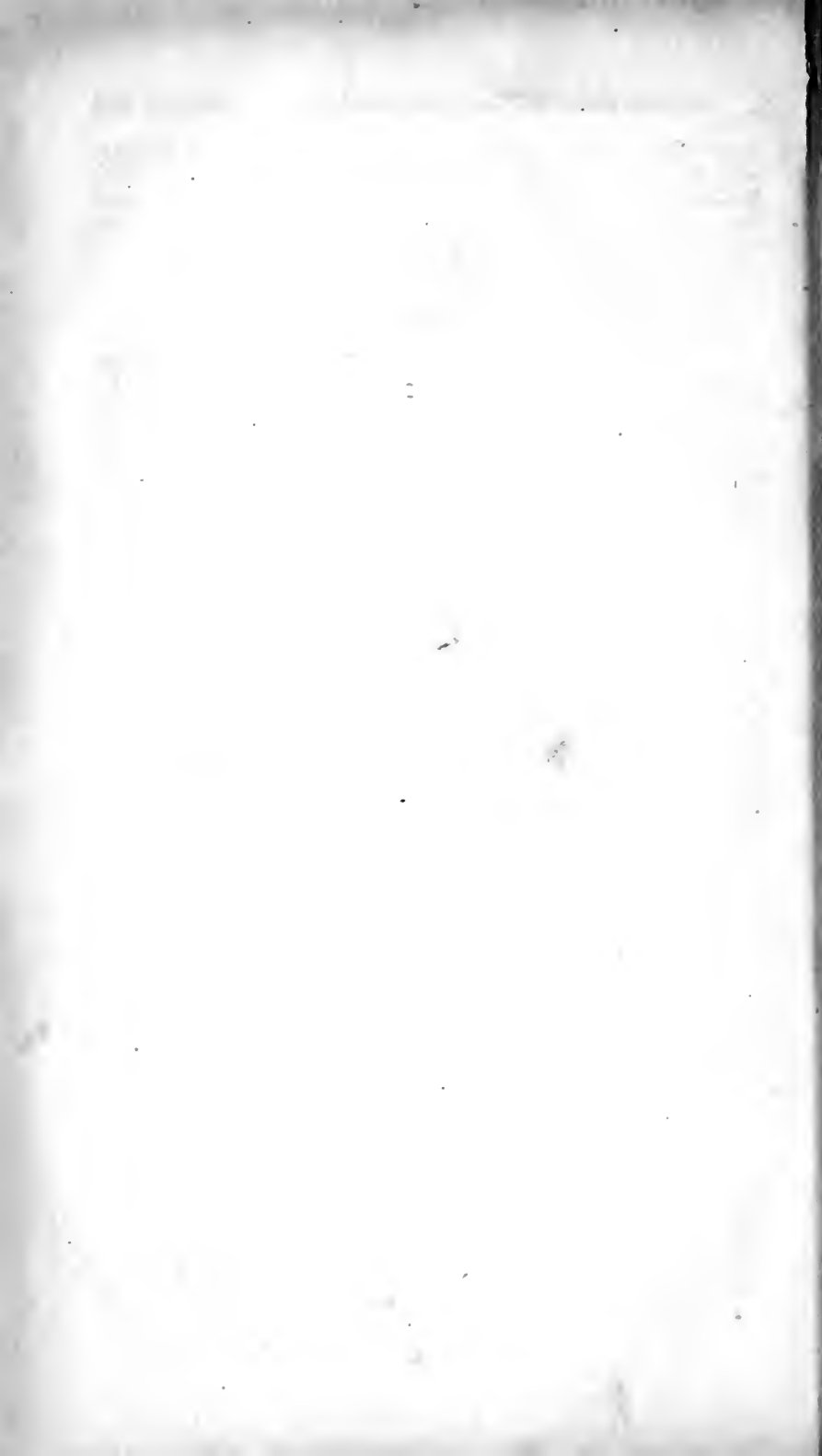
cheering evidence that there is still vitality in the parent stock. Our members and ministers, we have reason to believe, are as deeply imbued with the spirit of Christ as at any former period of our history. Though not exposed to the same temptations and trials as were our noble and venerated fathers, they are not without trials, perhaps equally dangerous to Christian virtue. And when we consider how few have disgraced the Church by flagrant departures from Christian character and life, we are encouraged to hope that the purity and spirituality which characterized Methodism in the beginning has not yet departed from among us.

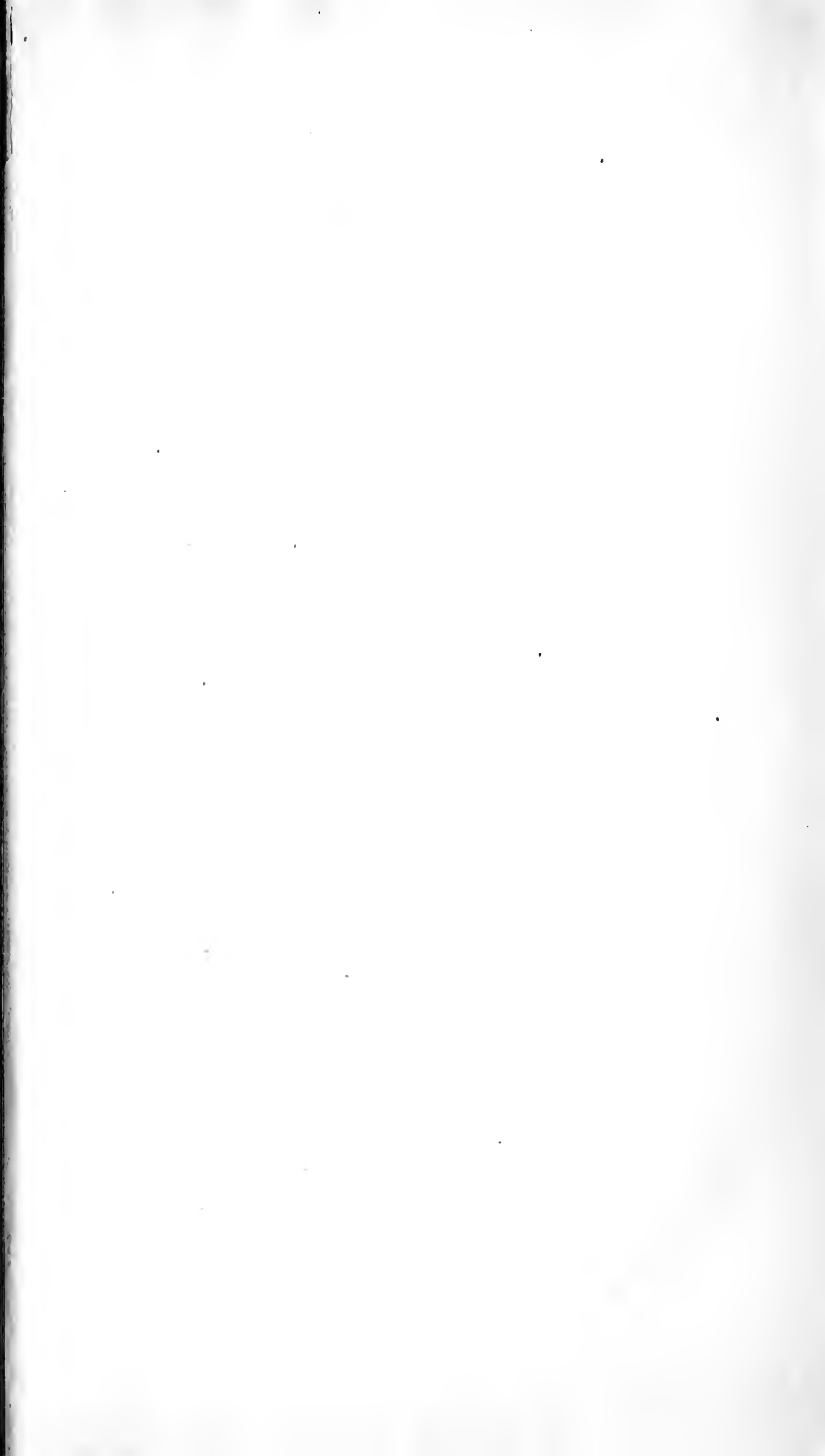
In conclusion, we repeat assurances of Christian and brotherly regards, which each one of us would be happy in bearing to you personally. May God's presence and blessing ever be with you; may He multiply abundantly to you and to yours the blessings of the new and everlasting covenant, according to your necessities and the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus. We remain, dear brethren, your fellow-laborers in the Gospel of our common Saviour.

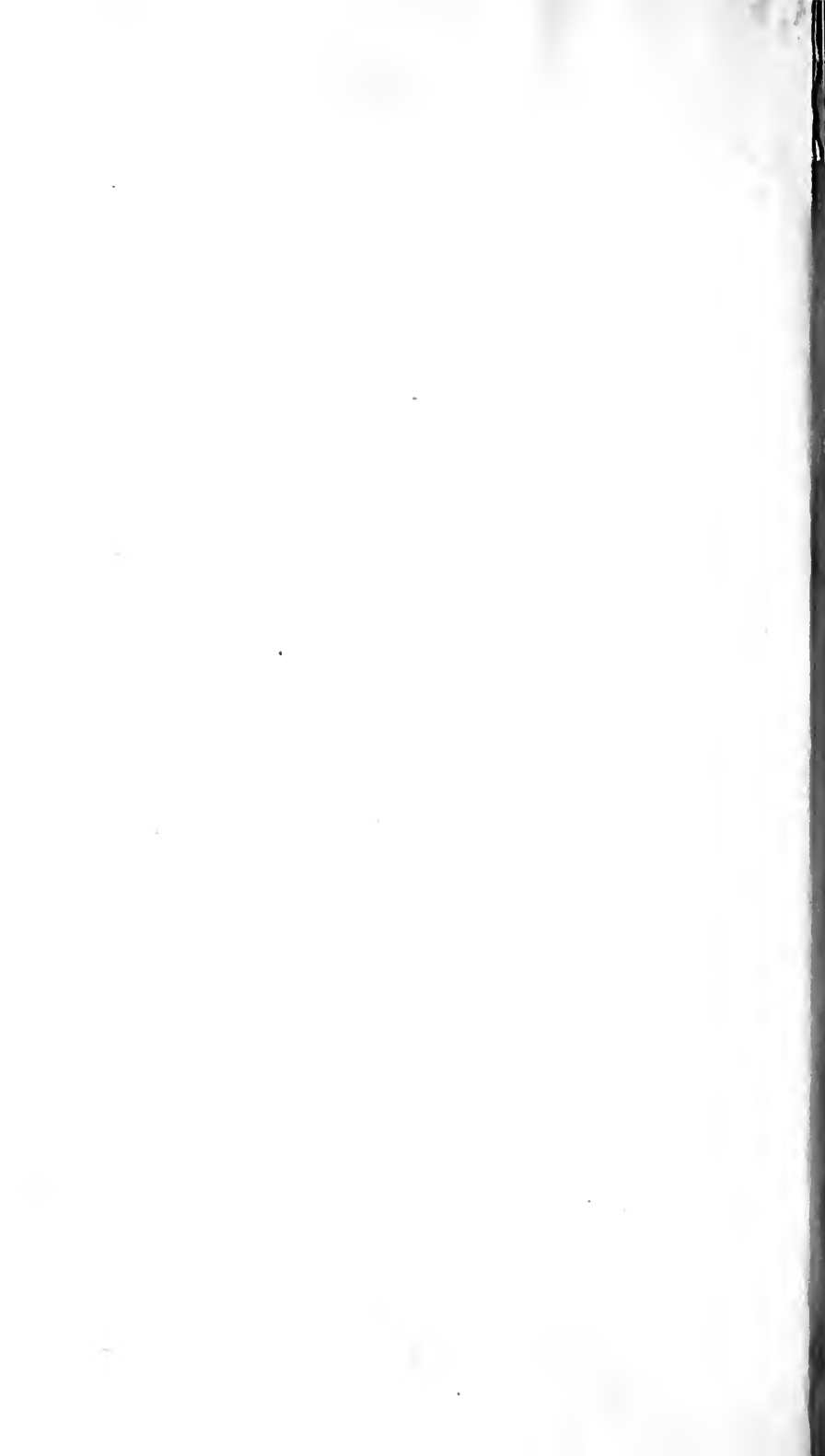
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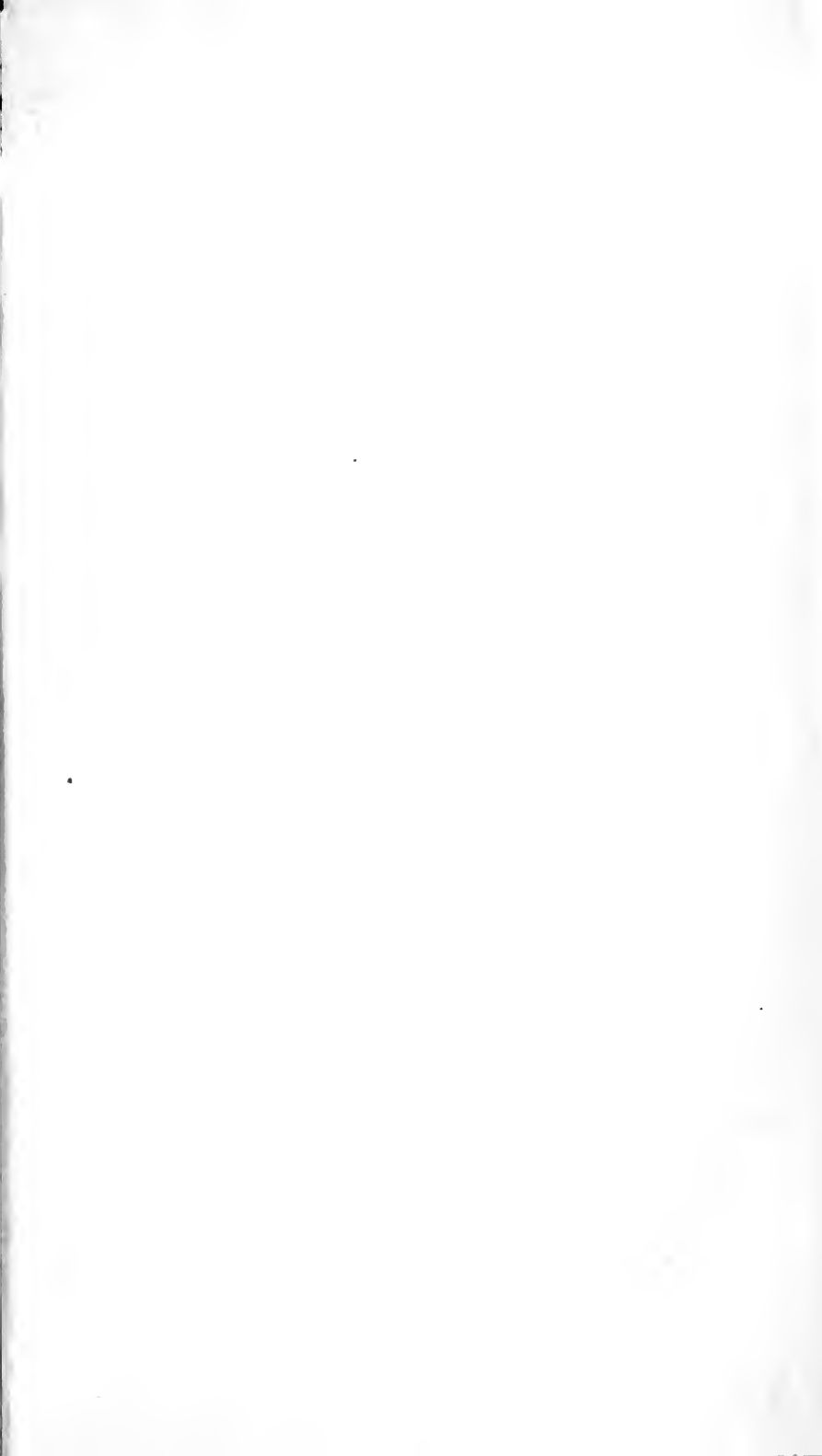
THE FOUNDING FATHERS

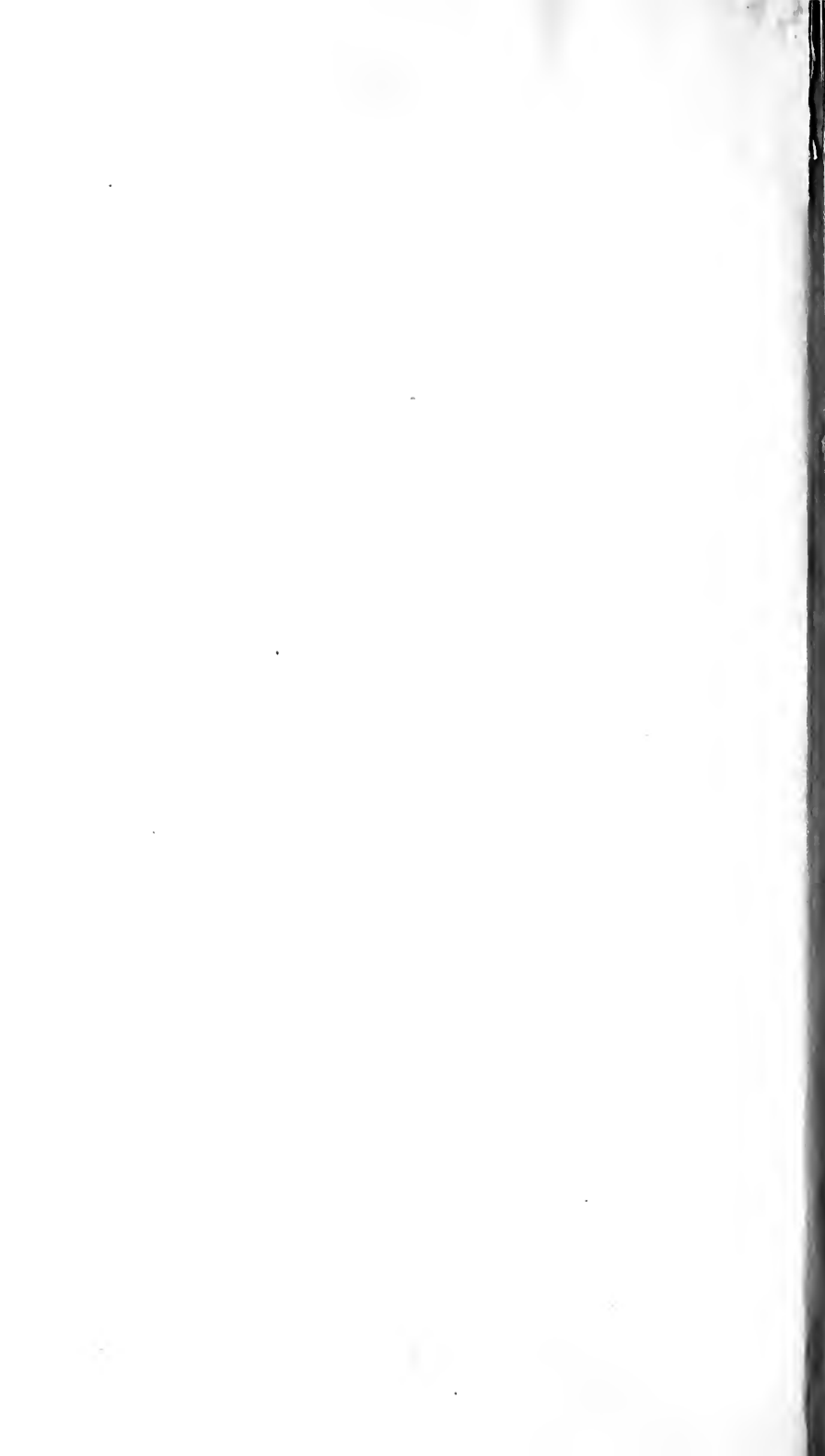
1776-1789

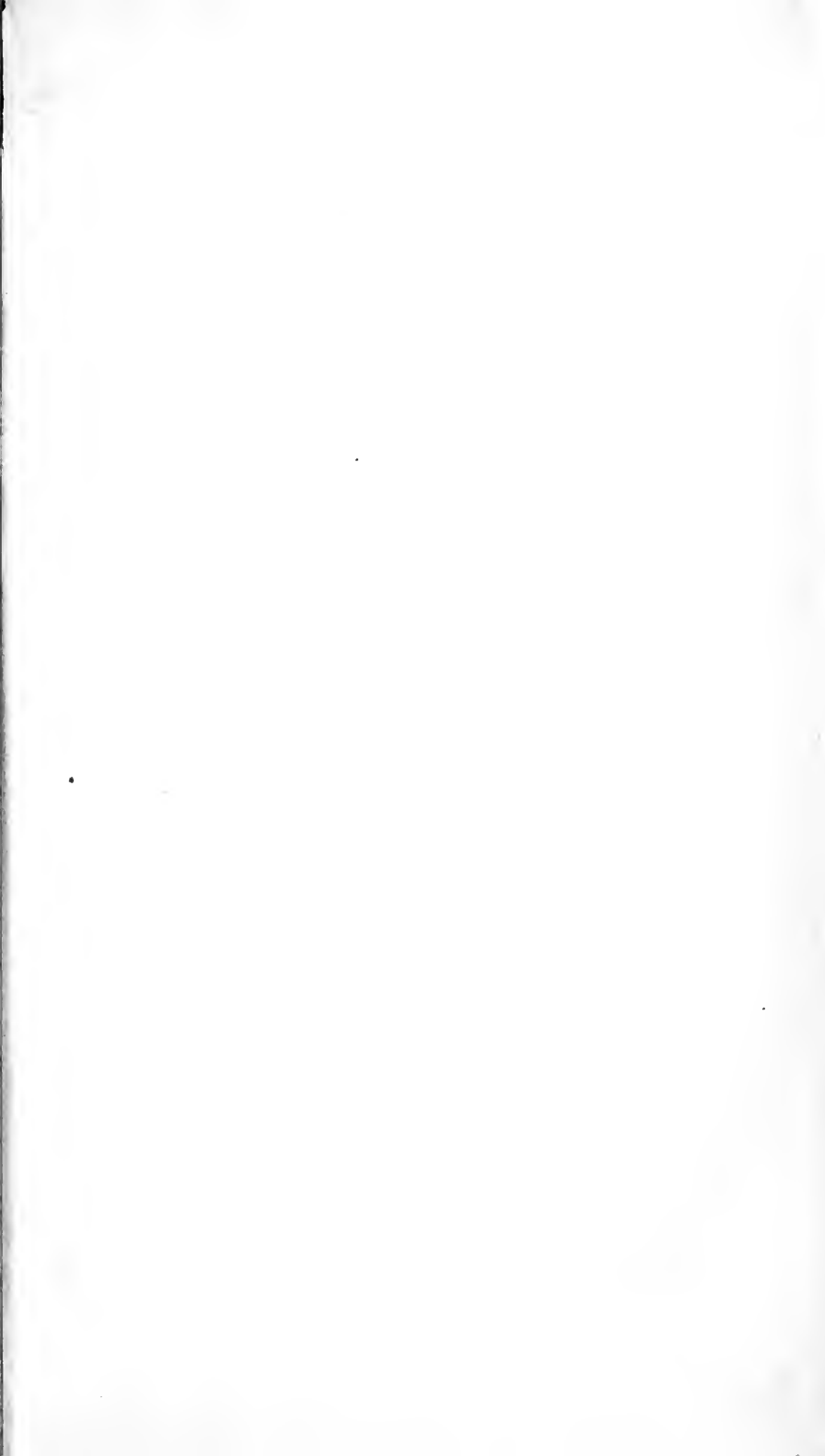


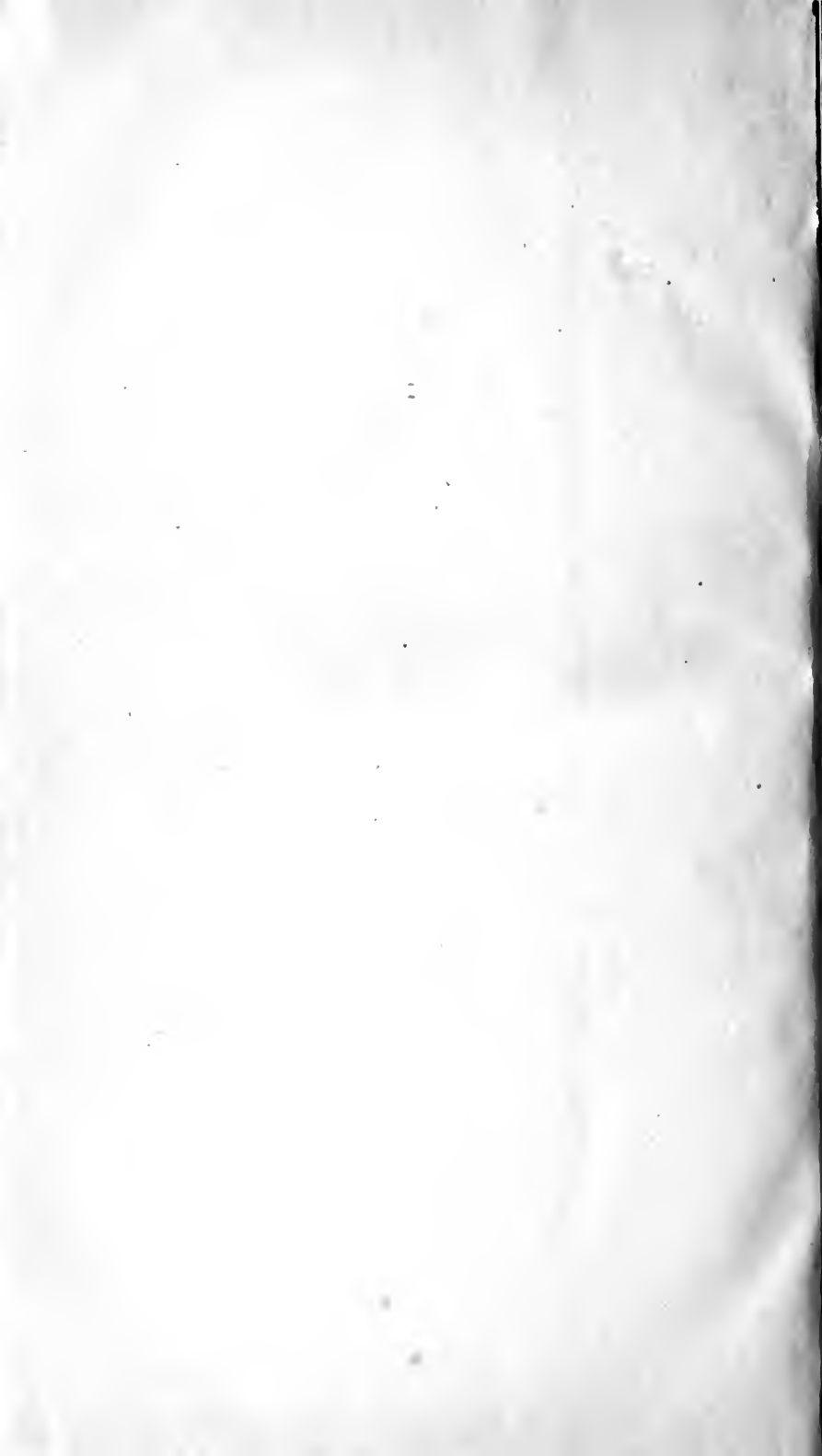














Date Due

Do Not
Circulate

