

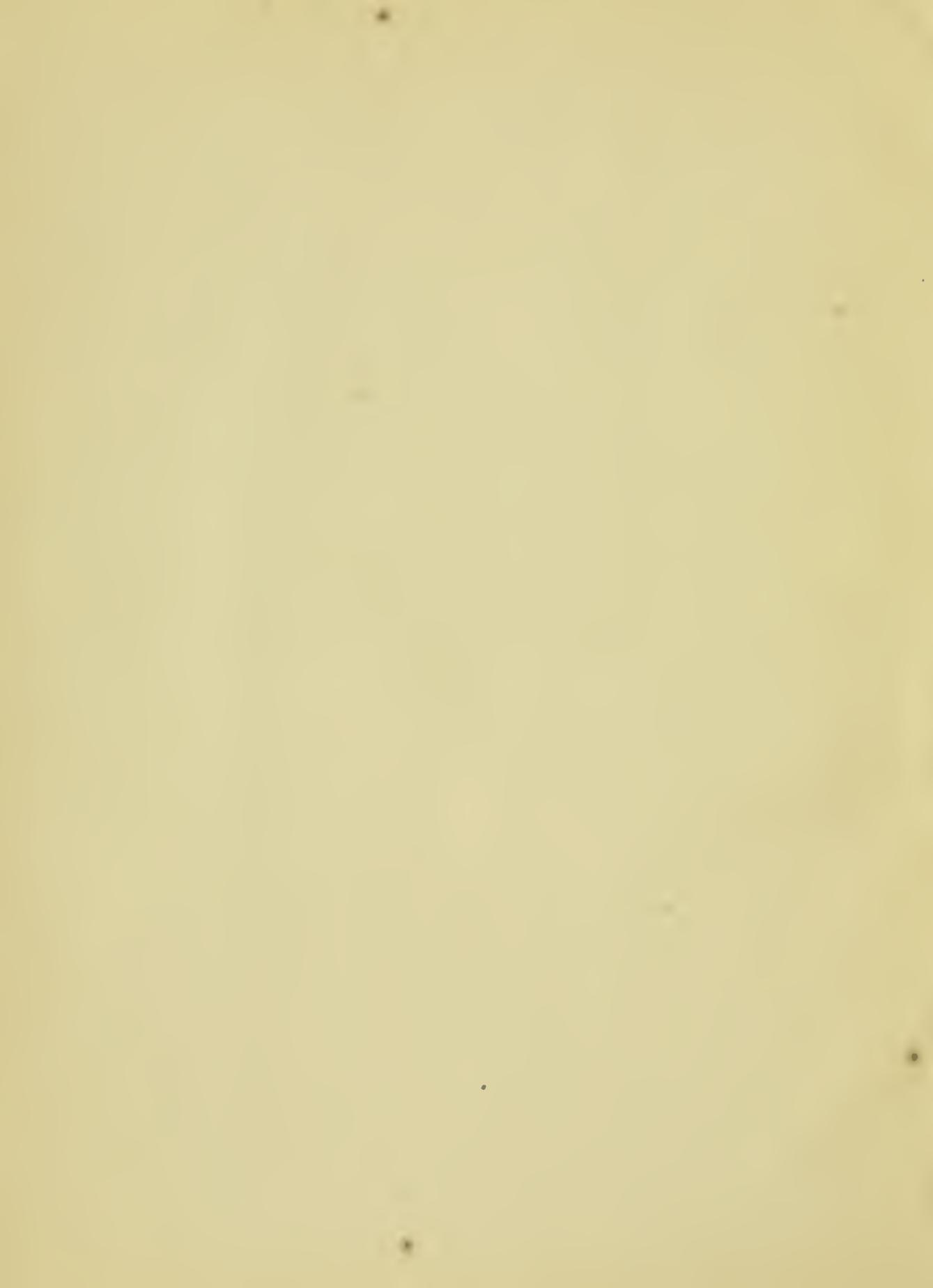




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Presbyterian Church in the  
U.S.A. Synod of New Jersey  
Minutes of the ... annual  
session of the Synod of New

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M I N U T E S

of the

S Y N O D O F N E W J E R S E Y

for the year ending

October, 1851.



M I N U T E S  
of the  
ANNUAL SESSION  
of the  
SYNOD OF NEW JERSEY  
for the year 1851  
- - - - -

Princeton, New Jersey October 21, 1851

The Synod of New Jersey met according to adjournment in the First Presbyterian Church in Princeton, New Jersey on the 21st day of October 1851 and was opened with a sermon by the Rev. W. W. Blauvelt, the Moderator from Galatians 6:9 "and be not weary in well doing for in due season ye shall reap if ye faint not."

After public worship the Synod was constituted by prayer.

Present

From the Presbytery of Elizabethtown

<u>Ministers</u>	<u>Elders</u>	<u>Churches</u>
Dr. Magie		2nd Ch. Eliz. T.
Mr. Williamson		Chester
Mr. Barton		Woodbridge
Mr. Halley	John S. Hageman	Lamington
Mr. Bond		Chatham Village
Mr. Chester		
	Isaac W. Pierson	Westfield
Mr. Blauvelt		
Mr. Street	Reuben Van Pelt	1st Ch. Eliz. T.
Mr. English		2nd Ch. Morristown
Mr. Locke	Jonathan Alward	Baskingridge
Mr. Imbric	Wm. F. Halliday	New Vernon
Mr. Brunsmade		Pertin Boy
Mr. Reinhart		Connect. Farms
Mr. Edgar	Wm. Annan	Liberty Corner
Mr. Kornblower	Jonathan Potter	New Providence
Mr. Burghardt		1st Ch. Morristown
Mr. McMurray		1st Ch. Rahway
Mr. Ogden		Elizabeth Port
Dr. Murray		1st Paterson
Mr. Harris		2nd Woodbridge
Mr. J. Cory		Springfield
Mr. E. Cory	Daniel H. Merchant	St. Freedom
Mr. Lee	Geo. F. Webb	2nd Rahway
	John H. Davison	3rd Newark



Presbytery of New Brunswick

<u>Ministers</u>	<u>Elders</u>	<u>Churches</u>
Dr. Janoway	Theo. Elus Hart	Swing
Mr. Comfort	Geo. Morris	1st Cranbury
Dr. Carnahan		
Mr. Brown	Corns. Vanderbeek	Allentown
Mr. Cogswell		Boundbrook
Mr. Cooley		Seedsville
Mr. Webster	John Forhune	1st New Brunswick
Mr. Henry		2nd Cranbury
Mr. Rodgers		
Mr. Perkins	J.H. Sutphen	Freehold
Mr. Dodge	Asariah Hunt	Pennington
Dr. McLean		Cold. Cr. Princeton
Mr. Derville		Dutch Neck
Dr. Davison		Pottingham
Mr. Flythe		Shrewsbury
Mr. L. W. Vandoren		1st Trenton
Mr. Hamill	Jonathan Freeman	Millstone
Mr. Hale	John A. Hageman	1st Princeton
Mr. Gly		Middletown St.
Mr. Taylor	John Welling	Titusville
Dr. Hall	John Watson	2nd Trenton
Mr. Correl		
Mr. Scherck		Squon Village
Mr. J.M. Rodgers	Joseph G. Brearly	3rd Trenton
Mr. Van Artsdalen	W. Morrey	Manchester
Mr. White		Goshen
Mr. Cuyler	Jacob Van Dyke	Kingston
	Wm. R. Murphy	2nd Princeton
	L.S.R. Phillips	Lawrence
	J.F.T. Forman	Village Freehold

Presbytery of Newton

<u>Ministers</u>	<u>Elders</u>	<u>Churches</u>
Mr. Conkling		1st Easton
Dr. Chafer		Newton
Dr. Cassau		2nd Easton
Dr. Skinner	Wm. Meritt	Harmony
Mr. Johnston	Geo. Creveling	Mansfield
Mr. Lewers		Middle Smithfield
Mr. Condict		Stroudsburg
Mr. Carroll	Spencer S. Smith	Greenwich
Mr. Gully		Belvidere
Mr. McGee		
Mr. McWilliam	Phillip Hutchler	Musconetong Valley
Mr. Townley		Allen Township
Mr. Scribner	Norris Morris	Upper St. Bethel
Mr. Reiley	John Crate	Lower St. Bethel
	Conrad Rarick	Hardwick
	Jos. Smith	Fox Hill
	Daniel Hulshirer	Oxford
		Stewartsville



Presbytery of Raritan

<u>Ministers</u>	<u>Elders</u>	<u>Churches</u>
Dr. Kirkpatrick	J. J. Billis	Amwell United 1st
Dr. Studdiford		Amwell 2nd
Dr. Watson		
Mr. Sherwood	John Smith	Lambertsville
Mr. Porter		Pleasant Grove
Mr. B. Carroll		Lower German Valley
Mr. Janeway		Clinton
Mr. McJimpsey	Jos. Hunt	Milford
Mr. Kirk		Kingwood
	John Case	Frenchtown
	Jos. Nevius	Amwell 1st
	E. Wynkoop	Colebury
	John Griggs	Flexington

Presbytery of Susquehanna

<u>Ministers</u>	<u>Elders</u>	<u>Churches</u>
Mr. Huntting		Rush
	John Fox	Towanda
	A. Wickham	Friendsville

Presbytery of Luzerne

<u>Ministers</u>	<u>Elders</u>	<u>Churches</u>
Mr. Hunt		Tunkhannock
Mr. Hand		Northmoreland
Mr. Harned		Newton
Mr. Parke		Serantonis
Mr. Osmond		Lackawanna
Mr. Harbison		Milkesbarre
	Robt. L. Ruthben	Lyoning

Presbytery of West Jersey

<u>Ministers</u>	<u>Elders</u>	<u>Churches</u>
Mr. Janvier		Fittsgrove
Dr. Kollock		Greenwich
Mr. Graham		Woodbury
Mr. Burt		Blackwoodtown
Mr. Williamson	W.D. Woodruff	1st Bridgeton
Dr. Jones		
Mr. Saunders		Salem
Mr. Ford		Hillville
Mr. Brown		Deerfield
Mr. Cattell		Williamstown

Presbytery of Burlington

<u>Ministers</u>	<u>Elders</u>	<u>Churches</u>
Mr. Scovil		Bordentown
Mr. Bush		Columbus
	Saml. Burtis	Mt. Holly



The statistical reports from the several Presbyteries composing the Synod were read.

Rev. Robt. Finley, John C. Kenkin of the Presbytery of Elizabethtown, John Van Sandt, an Elder from the Church of Bluckamin of the same Presbytery, Rev. Charles Wood of the Presbytery of Newton, Rev. Wm. Glen of the Presbytery of Luzerne, Rev. A. Gosman and Rev. Isaac H. Hamon of the Presbytery of New Brunswick too their seats as members of Synod. Jesse Sinclair an Elder from the Church of Holland of the Presbytery of Maritan.

Rev. A. B. Jones, D.D. was unanimously chosen Moderator and Rev. Davaud K. Rodgers and Jas. McWilliam were chosen Clerks.

Bradbury and Wood assigned, through Dr. Magie, reasons for absence.

Rev. Cyrus Brington of Synod of Memphis invited to sit as a corresponding member and Rev. Thos. H. Newton of Synod of Philadelphia.

Resolved that the hour of meeting in the morning be 9 o'clock - that the Synod will remain in session until  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 12 and then have a recess until  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 2 o'clock then to remain in session until 6 o'clock and have a recess until 7 in the evening.

Synod then had a recess until 7 o'clock.

At the close of the recess the Synod met when the Rev. John Hall, D.D. preached the Sermon on Foreign Missions from Phillipians "ye all are partakers of my grace." At the close of the sermon and address was made by the Rev. Cyrus Brington who had for 30 years been laboring among the Choctaws.

Rev. Robt. Morrison of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Ireland being present was invited to sit as corresponding member and was introduced to the Moderator by the Rev. Dr. Murray.

The Minutes of the last meeting of Synod were read, in progress of which Ministers absent from that meeting and now present assigned reasons for their absence which were sustained.



Rev. S. Miller, of Presbytery of Burlington, Rev. J. Foster and Rev. Webster of Presbytery of Luzerne appeared in Synod and assigned reasons for their not coming sooner which were sustained.

The Rev. James O. Stedman of Synod of North Carolina, Rev. Geo. Childon of Charleston Union Presbytery, Rev. Mr. John Verbit of Synod of Ohio and Rev. Daniel Longmore of Synod of Philadelphia being present were invited to sit as corresponding members.

Mr. Barber an Elder of church of Woodbury of Presbytery of West Jersey, Rev. Mr. Todd of Presbytery of Susquehanna, Rev. J. P. Davis of Presbytery of Burlington, Rev. Mr. Wells of Presbytery of West Jersey, Rev. Oliver W. John of Presbytery of Newton, and Samuel E. Woodbridge, Elder from church of Perth Amboy of Presbytery of Elizabethtown, Mr. John Connel, Elder from church of Blairtown of Presbytery of Newton appeared in Synod and assigned satisfactory reasons for not coming sooner.

Then Synod adjourned to meet tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock. Concluded with prayer.

October 22, 1851, 9 o'clock

The Synod met pursuant to adjournment and was opened with prayer. The Moderator announced to the Synod the departure from life of the Venerable Mr. Alexander, one of the Professors of the Theological Seminary in this place. Thereupon after a short address by the Rev. Mr. Legie with reference to this solemn and affecting dispensation of providence, a committee consisting of ( no names ) expressive of the views of the Synod in relation to this event.

A committee of three was also appointed to confer with the family with regard to the arrangements for the funeral of Mr. Alexander.

The Moderator announced the appointment of the following committee (No. 1).

Dr. Richards of Presbytery of Elizabethtown appeared in Synod and assigned satisfactory reasons for not coming sooner.



The Rev. Darius Mead of the Fairfield West Association of Connecticut, the Rev. Mr. Chas. Rockwell of Synod of Buffalo, the Rev. Mr. Talmage of Synod of Albany, being present were invited to sit as corresponding members.

The Presbytery of New Brunswick, reported that since presenting their Statistical Report they had received the Rev. Prof. H. W. Green from the Presbytery of Philadelphia and Prof. Green took his seat as a member of Synod.

The committee on Devotional Exercises presented the following report in regard to the Synodical Prayer Meeting which was adopted.

Narratives of the State of Religion from the Presbyteries were called for, presented and handed to the committee on the narrative.

The Moderator reported that there had been placed in his hands a paper from the Church of Perwick of Presbytery of America which was referred to the committee on Bills and overtures.

Stated Clerk announced that there had been placed in his hands a complaint from the Class of New Brunswick of the Reformed Dutch Church against the Presbytery of Elizabethtown- a complaint from W. J. Kennedy and Daniel Hulshiser against the Presbytery of Newton- complaints from J. McWilliam, J. M. Townley and other and from the Session of the Church of Stewartville against the same Presbytery which were referred to the Judicial Committee.

Resolved, that an opportunity be afforded to the Rev. Mr. Childon, Agent of the American Bible Society, to address the Synod.

Mr. Childon, then addressed the Synod on the present operations and claims of the American Bible Society.

Rev. Mr. Mead then addressed the Synod briefly on the subject of African Colonization.



Mr. Cooley presented the report of the Presbytery of New Brunswick on the overture of the Church of Shrewsbury in regard to the division of the Presbytery of New Brunswick, referred to the Presbytery by the last Synod. The report was accepted and adopted.

Resolved, that Synod open one half hour at the opening of each days session in Devotion Exercises under the direction of the Moderator with special reference to the solemn dispensation of divine providence in the decease of Rev. Dr. Alexander.

Dominicus Mershon, an Elder from the 2nd Church of Cranbury appeared in Synod and assigned satisfactory reasons for not coming sooner.

Resolved, that the next stated meeting of Synod be held in the 1st Church of New Brunswick and that the Rev. Dr. Davidson, the Rev. Mr. Shannon and Mr. Samuel Baker, be a committee to make arrangements for the Devotional Exercises of the Synod.

Rev. Dr. Murray having recently returned from a visit to the chief countries of Europe, it was on motion Resolved, that Dr. Murray be invited to address the Synod this afternoon at 3 o'clock on the State of Religion and other objects of interest which may have come under his observation in those countries.

Rev. I.H.N. Knox of the Particular Synod of New York of the Reformed Dutch Church and Rev. Dr. Thomas L. Janeway of the Synod of Philadelphia being present were invited to sit as corresponding members.

The Rev. L. Halsey, D.D. of Presbytery of Elizabethtown appeared in Synod and assigned, etc.

The Rev. Mr. Saunders made to Synod an interesting statement, of the circumstances, prospects and claims of the newly organized Church in Pottsville, Whereupon, it was Resolved, that the Synod recommend to the Churches under its care the claims of the Central Presbyterian Church at Pottsville as the same may be presented by the Rev. Mr. Saunders, Rev. Mr. Glen, the Rev. Mr. T.P. Hunt, or any other agent, the said Church may appoint.

Dr. Hope, assigned on behalf of Dr. Van Rensselaer reasons for his absence, etc.



The committee on assessment for the incidental expenses of Synod presented the following report which was accepted and adopted.

The Rev. Dr. Thomas L. Janeway then addressed the Synod on the present position of the Home Missionary cause as conducted by our Board of Missions and the peculiar claims of this cause at present on the liberality of our churches and a committee was appointed to prepare and report resolutions on the subject- Messrs. Ogden, Hope and Townley, Ministers and Messrs. Davison and Pierson, Elders were appointed the committee.

Mr. Miller presented resolutions on subject of Missions referred to the committee on that subject.

Recess until  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 2 o'clock.

At the close of the recess Synod met.

Rev. Jas. Petrie of the Synod of New York being present was invited to sit as a correspondent.

Committee of Bills and overtures reported overture (No. 1) being an application from the Presbytery of New Brunswick to transfer the Church of Allentown with their pastor the Rev. Henry Perkins their pastor to the Presbytery of Burlington. Whereupon it was Resolved, that the overture be adopted and that the Church of Allentown and its Pastor the Rev. Henry Perkins be transferred according to their request to the Presbytery of Burlington. The report was accepted and adopted.

Committee reported overture (No. 2) (see paper). Which was placed on the docket.

Committee on Treasurer's Accounts made report which was accepted and adopted.

Dr. Van Rensselaer was appointed to preach the sermon on Foreign Missions at the next meeting of Synod and Dr. Brunsmade was appointed the alternate.

Committee on leave of absence reported that they had given leave of absence to the Rev. J. Brown, Jr. Cogswell and Wm. Hart.



Resolved, that each parent or guardian in our congregations be recommended to present a copy of God's Word to each child and ward as soon as it is able to read.

Statistical Report to be forwarded to General Assembly

The Judicial Committee made a report on a complaint of the Classes of New Brunswick against the Presbytery of Elizabethtown for organizing a Church in the village of Pluckamin after some progress the consideration of the matter was postponed with a view to proceeding to the order of the day, viz., to hear a statement from Dr. Murray respecting the State of Religion and other objects of interest which may have come under his observation which was listened to with great interest.

The committee on the narrative of the State of Religion presented the following which was accepted and adopted to be read at the Synodical Prayer Meeting this evening.

The consideration of the report of the Judicial Committee was resumed and the report was adopted and is as follows (see report on file) and it was ordered that an attested copy of the foregoing minute be transmitted to the Classes of New Brunswick.

Synod then took a recess until 7 o'clock.

At the close of the recess Synod met and attended upon the exercises of the Synodical Prayer Meeting agreeably to the arrangements of the committee.

Committee on funeral reported that the funeral of Dr. Alexander is to be taken place on Friday at 3 o'clock at the 1st Church. Synod is invited by the family to attend, etc. at the Seminary Chapel at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 2 and to walk in a procession from the church.

Committee appointed to present a paper expressive of the views of the Synod made the following report which was accepted and adopted and is as follows.

Ordered that an attested copy be forwarded to his family, etc. as an expression of the sympathy of the Synod.



Resolved, that a copy of the report be forwarded to the New York Observer and Presbyterian for publication.

Resolved, that his Synod accept the invitation of the family to attend the funeral of Dr. Alexander on Friday at 3 p.m.

Order of the day tomorrow at the close of the Devotional Exercises to hear the report of the committee on Domestic Missions.

Synod then adjourned to meet tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock a.m. Concluded with prayer.

#### Thursday Morning 9 o'clock

Synod met pursuant to adjournment and was opened with prayer. Devotional Exercises half an hour.

The Minutes of the last session of Synod were read.

Committee on leave of absence reported that they had given leave of absence to the following persons, Blauvelt, Janvier, Kirk, Wynkoop, Woodruff, Watson, Burtis, Lewis, Mutchler, Condit, Crate, Brown, J. Cory, Halliday, B. Cory, Woodbridge, Hunting, Osmund, Wood, Vanderbeek, Correl, Ferileg, Richards, Burghardt. Adopted.

The Rev. Wm. Reiley of the Particular Synod of New York, being present was invited to sit as corresponding member.

The committee on Bills and overtures report overture (No. 3) a request from the Church of Berwick of the Presbytery of Luzerne praying the Synod to interfere in their behalf to obtain aid for them from the Board of Missions. The report was accepted and placed on docket.

The committee to whom was referred the subject of Domestic Missions presented a report which was accepted and while the motion to adopt was under discussion the report was postponed to take up as a substitute, the resolutions offered by Mr. Miller yesterday.

It was moved to recommitt the subject to the committee and that two additional members be added to the committee. The motion was put and lost.



The consideration of the substitute was then resumed when with leave of the Synod the substitute was withdrawn and then the debate recurred on the report of the committee, in progress of which the Rev. Theodore B. Rameyn of the Particular Synod of New York of the Reformed Dutch Church and the Rev. George F. Burroughs of the Synod of Philadelphia having appeared were invited to sit as corresponding members.

The Rev. Morse Rowell of the Presbytery of New Brunswick appeared in Synod and assigned satisfactory reasons for late attendance.

Then Synod had a recess until  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 2 o'clock.

At the close of the recess Synod met.

The unfinished business, viz., the report on Domestic Missions was taken up and after discussion was amended and adopted and is as follows.

The committee on the Minutes of the General Assembly presented a report calling attention of Synod to the following items:

1. On page 35 action of Assembly in altering boundary line of Synod.
2. On page 25 the action of the Assembly on the overture of this Synod for the appointment of a separate bureau, etc.
3. Page 17-26-29-22 Resolutions on the Boards of the churches.

The report was accepted and adopted.

The Rev. Dr. Janeway presented a verbal report from the committee on the subject of the observance of the Sabbath, which was accepted and the committee was continued.

The Rev. John Forsythe, D.D. of the Associate Reformed Synod of New York being present was invited to sit as a corresponding member.

The committees on the Records of the presbyteries of Luzerne, Raritan, West Jersey and New Brunswick, reported severally, recommending approval. Adopted. The committee on Records of Newton presented a report which was accepted and docketed. The committee on the Records of the Presbytery of Susquehanna reported that the Records had not been placed in their hands and the committee was discharged.



The Judicial Committee presented a verbal report on the complaints against the Presbytery of Newton and recommended the following which was accepted and adopted and is as follows (resolution).

The Rev. Abraham O. Halsey of the Particular Synod of New York and the Rev. P. H. Vanatta of Synod of Northern Indiana being present were invited to sit as corresponding members.

The Rev. Mr. Schenck presented the following resolutions on the Board of Publication which were adopted.

Overture (no. 2) on the subject of obtaining testimony by commission was taken up and the preamble and resolution recommended by the committee on Bills and overtures were adopted and are as follows.

Ordered that Stated Clerk forward copy, etc.

Overture (no. 3) the application of the church of Berwick and the report of the committee on Bills and overtures was laid on the table to take up the motion to appoint a committee of Synod to consider the claims of the church of Berwick and to collect the sum of \$150 for the church of Berwick.

It was on motion Resolved, that Synod spend one hour in Devotional Exercises at the close of the recess this evening under the direction of the Moderator and that the Rev. Robt. Morrison, Corresponding member of the General Assembly of Presbyterian Church of Ireland be invited to address the Synod.

Synod had a recess until 7 o'clock.

At the close of the recess Synod met and spent a season in religious Exercises in course of which they were addressed by the Rev. Robt. Morrison.

The unfinished business was taken up and the Rev. Mrs. McLean and Murray and W. J. Halsey were appointed a committee to make a collection for the church of Berwick.

The Moderator announced as the committee to review the papers and records connected with the complaints against the Presbytery of Newton, etc., Dr. Hall, Mr. Ogden, Dr. Studdiford, Ministers and John P. Hagerman and Stacy G. Potts, Elders.



Mr. Hagerman, presented a series of resolutions on Parochial Schools, made the first order of the day for tomorrow morning immediately after the Devotional Exercises.

Then Synod adjourned. Concluded with prayer.

Friday Morning 9 o'clock

Synod met pursuant to adjournment and was opened with prayer.

The Synod spent half an hour in Devotional Exercises agreeably to the resolution of the Synod on that subject.

The Minutes of the last session of Synod were read.

The Rev. John T. Duffield of the Presbytery of New Brunswick appeared in Synod, etc.

The Rev. D. Morris, the Rev. D.V. McLean, D.D., Rev. Saml. Paul of the Synod of Philadelphia and the Rev. H.N. Wilson of the Synod of New York being present, etc.

The committee on leave of absence reported that they had given leave of absence to Rev. Abraham Williamson, Mr. Geo. Creveling, Rev. J. Burt, S. Miller, J.H. Townley, Mr. J. Smith, Rev. Mr. Reiley, Mr. Bonnil, Rev. Mr. McGee, Mr. Hand, Mr. Spencer O. Smith, Rev. John Janeway, Porman, Billis, D. Mershon, J. H. Sherwood, J. Hunt, Isaac Pierson, S. F. Webb, J. Brown, M. Williamson, J. E. Sutphen, Rev. J. Moore, Mr. Griggs and Graham.

It was on motion Resolved, that a committee of Synod be appointed to inquire into the conditions and prospects of the missions in the entire Missionary field in their bounds with a view to their representing the case fairly to the Board of Missions and of necessary thought- the press, to make the facts known to the people of God- and to report to the next meeting- Messrs. R.K. Rodgers, Hornblower and Hale were appointed the committee.

The committee on the Records of the Presbytery of Burlington reported and the records were approved.

The report of committee on the Records of the Presbytery of Newton was taken up and the records approved.



The resolutions offered by Mr. Hagerman were taken up and after considerable discussion the consideration of these resolutions was postponed to take up the following substitute was adopted- the following appointed committee, Mr. Hagerman, Dr. Hope and Mr. Hale.

Ordered that the Treasurer be ordered to pay Janitor's bill \$5.00 and Stationary \$1.56.

The committee to secure funds for the Berwick church reported they had collected \$100.00.

The reports calling for the contributions of Presbyteries to the Boards, was laid on the table.

The Stated Clerk and Dr. Magie were appointed a committee, etc.

Resolved, that the thanks of Synod be tendered to members of this congregation and citizens of Princeton and to the Trustees of this church.

The calling of the roll was dispersed with.

Synod then was adjourned to meet, etc. and that the members of Synod agreeably to resolution attend the funeral services.

Concluded, etc. with singing, prayer and benediction.



A P P E N D I X

1. RESOLUTIONS AND IMPORTANT ACTIONS.
2. NARRATIVE OF THE STATE OF RELIGION.
3. PRESBYTERIAL STATISTICAL REPORTS.



1851

No. 1 The consideration of the report of the Judicial Committee, or the complaint of the classis of New Brunswick against the Presbytery of Elizabethtown was resumed, and the report was adopted and is as follows:

The complaint of the classis of New Brunswick to the Synod of New Jersey lies against the Presbytery of Elizabethtown for its formation of a Presbyterian church in the village of Plyckamin--whereas it appears from the records of the case that the objections of the classis were fully heard by the Presbytery of Elizabethtown, before its formation of said church and whereas the classis have sent no committee to Synod to urge its complaint and do not ask of the Synod to take any action on it--

Therefore, Resolved. That whilst the Synod of New Jersey desire it at all times to maintain the harmony which has ever existed between it and the Reformed Dutch church, and to cultivate the most fraternal intercourse with a body so nearly identical with it in doctrine and order, it sees no reason for taking any action in the premises.

No. 2 Since the Synod opened its sessions in this place, God, in his wise and holy Providence has seen fit to take the Rev. Archibald Alexander D. D. to himself in the 80th year of his age.

This event had been preceded by an illness of a few weeks, during which time the venerable man gradually declined until about 6 o'clock this morning (the 22nd of the month,) he sweetly fell asleep in Jesus and was gathered in as a shock of corn fully ripe. His departure was so gentle and attended by so entire an absence of distress of any sort, that the family were scarcely able to fix on the precise moment when the spirit was released and went up to hear the plaudit, well done, good and faithful servant--thou hast been faithful over a few things--I will make thee ruler over many things--Enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.



This is not the time for a sketch however brief of the life and character of one who occupied so elevated a position and had been so eminently useful in our beloved church. Nothing more can be done than simply to say that the circumstances connected with the death of Dr. Alexander--a death in all respects so befitting his previous life, ought to be regarded by the members of this Synod as highly instructive and impressive. It has occurred during the regular sittings of our Body and while a large number of his brethren and former pupils were assembled to hear the first tidings of its announcement, and make arrangements to attend the honored dust to its resting place in the grave. It was a meeting of which it is hoped may become memorable for the happy influence produced upon many hearts.

Dr. Alexander was the First Professor in the Theological Seminary located in this town, and in the bosom of our Synod. This office he was permitted by the favor of the Great Head of the church to fill with distinguished credit to himself and with equal benefit to others, for upwards of thirty nine years. Placed over the institution in its infancy, he had the satisfaction of seeing it increase in numbers and usefulness until it has become a blessing to the land and the world. A large proportion of all the clerical members of this Synod had the privilege of sitting at his feet, and drinking in instruction from those lips which are now sealed in death. Whatever of influence many of us have gained or power of doing good we have exerted, are due very much, under God to the labors and prayers of this distinguished professor.

A year ago, Dr. Alexander was with us in the meetings of our Synod to cheer us by his presence and aid us with his counsels. Never shall we forget the address which he delivered on the Evening of our Devotional Exercises, and which many at the time remarked was characterized by almost all the vigor and unction of his earlier days. We listened to him with mingled emotions of delight and sorrow--delight, that we could once more listen to the well known voice--and sorrow, that we should probably see his face no more. This was evidently his own anticipation, and so the event has proved.



The death of Dr. Alexander will reach the secret place of tears--in multitudes of different and distant parts of our land--missionaries in China, India, Africa and the Islands of the sea will receive the intelligence and cry, My father, my father, the chariot of Israel, and the horsemen thereof! Good men here and there will call to mind his venerable appearance and bless God for giving to the church such a minister.

When such a prince and great one falls in Israel it is proper for devout men to carry him to his grave and to make great lamentations over him--Grieve for him we cannot we dare not--but surely we may grieve for ourselves and for the rising ministry--when we reflect upon his long and useful life as an Ambassador for Christ, he was but 19 years of age and extended through a period of more than 60 years--all spent in successful efforts to build up the Kingdom of the Redeemer among men, and retaining its mild and genial lustre to the last, and add to this the sweet serenity of the closing scene, we feel constrained to unite in devout thanksgivings to the King of Zion. We bless God for such a death.

In this our departed father was preeminent. He followed his pupils when they went forth to their work, and kept himself acquainted with all their trials and successes. He could tell where they were and how they were.

Our beloved Seminary is bereaved, and though sadness fills our own hearts, we cannot do otherwise than tender our affectionate sympathies to the Professors that remain. Within two short years Dr. Miller and Dr. Alexander have gone down to the grave--United pleasantly together in a long and honorable life in death, they are not much divided. May the Spirit of Elijah rest on Elisha! But all is not lost. We have still brethren beloved to conduct the studies of our Samuels and Timothys, and above all, we have the mercy and the faithfulness of a



covenant keeping God to confide in. It is still permitted to us to say. The Lord liveth, and blessed be our Rock, and let the God of our Salvation be exalted.

Ordered. That a copy of the report be forwarded to the family of Dr. Alexander, as an expression of the sympathy of the Synod.

Ordered. That a copy of the report be forwarded to the New York Observer and Presbyterian for Publication.

No. 3 The Synod in looking at the subject of our Domestic Missionary operations cannot fail to recognize the wonder working providence of God in opening before the churches of this land such a wide and inviting field for Christian effort and enterprise in spreading the gospel of the grace of God.

While we have been seeking to send the gospel among the unevangelized portions of the earth, God in way's unlooked for and unthought of by ourselves has been sending in upon us from abroad and in vast and daily increasing numbers the representatives of all parts of the world, thus bringing them under our own eyes and affording us the opportunity of doing much of the work we had been seeking to do abroad within our own borders and preparing efficient laborers through whose agency the captain of Salvation may go forth to the speedy conquest of the world.

The field opened before us is already so vast, and increasing with such rapidity as almost to surpass calculation and to leave us far behind what the providence of God seems to demand at our hands, even in our utmost efforts to satisfy its pressing and urgent claims. Therefore,

Resolved. 1. That the Synod have heard with deep regret of the embarrassment to which the Board of Domestic Missions has been and is now subjected in consequence of the want of funds to meet the demand's made in reference to this cause even on the present scale of operations--to say nothing of the necessity of vastly increased and extended efforts.



Resolved. 2. That no small share of responsibility in respect to this cause rests upon the churches of this Synod so long and so highly favored of God with enjoyment of the richest gospel privileges--and the Synod most earnestly commend this cause to the greatly increased and prayerful efforts and co-operation of all the members of our churches.

Resolved. 3. That in carrying forward the cause of church extension within our own bounds, in the formation of New churches regard should in all cases be had to the extent to which such churches will be likely to be an expense to the Board of Missions and that every effort be made to divert as little as possible of the funds of the Board from the more destitute fields in our new and widely extended territories in the west and southwest.

No. 4 The Judicial Committee presented a verbal report on the complaints against the Presbytery of Newton, and recommended the following which was adopted.

Resolved. That a committee of five members of this Synod be appointed to review the papers and records in the case complained of, and to decide in the case as truth, justice, and the peace and harmony of the churches of Greenwich and Stewartville and of the Presbytery of Newton require, and to report to the next meeting of Synod.

No. 5. Resolved. 1. That the Synod is deeply impressed with the increasing usefulness of the Board of Publication, and does warmly recommend it to the ministers and churches for their prayers and their annual contributions.

Resolved. 2. That the Synod also warmly recommends to the pastors and sessions the S. S. Visitor now published by the Board and would earnestly advise that so far as practicable it be circulated among the children of their congregations.



Resolved. 3. That it be recommended to each parent within our bounds to put into the hands of each child under their care a copy of the General Assembly's psalms and Hymns.

No. 6. Whereas the obtaining of testimony by commission is rendered both difficult and expensive in consequence of our Book requiring (Book, 2. Chapter 6. Section 13) that the commissions shall be members of the judicatory before whom the trials is held.

Resolved. That this Synod overture the next general Assembly to take the proper steps to effect such a change in the book as shall remove this obstruction to the exercise of discipline.

No. 7. Resolved. That a committee be appointed to take into consideration the whole subject of Parochial Schools within the bounds of this Synod, and to do what they may deem expedient and wise to promote their interests.



NARRATIVE OF THE STATE OF RELIGION

1851

We naturally turn with the deepest interest to the religious state of our churches. It is this which lies nearest to our hearts. It is well for us at times to raise our eyes from the narrow circle which commonly occupies our thoughts, and take in the whole field in which we labor together in the Lord, for we are not isolated laborers. We are co-workers together with Christ. We turn therefore with the deepest interest to catch the sounds of gladness or sorrow as they come up to us from the wide field in which we labor, that our hearts may be encouraged by hearing what God hath wrought by the hands of our brethren, and that we may mourn together over our common deficiencies and faults.

The Synod record with gratitude to God that but two out of so large a number, have been called away by death during the year.--The Rev. Jonathan T. Ely of the Presbytery of Elizabethtown, and the Rev. Archibald Alexander D. D. of the Presbytery of New Brunswick.

The Synod view it as a clear and gracious providence that the beloved father, who went over the roll of this Synod name by name during the last hours of his life should have gone to rest from the midst of its sessions. He has been taken from us, but he has gone to join the general Synod and church of the first born written in heaven. And while we mourn that we shall hear his voice no more--that we have lost a wise counsellor and a personal friend--while we feel more sensibly the blow which has fallen so heavily upon the whole church, and bow with submission to the will of God, we cannot be rejoice that his end has been appointed as it was. We rejoiced that God has spared him so long to us as an Instructor, as an example



in word-in conversation-in spirit-in faith-in purity-that he was preserved in the midst of usefulness, and in the possession of all his faculties up to the last-and that God crowned his long life of eminent piety with a peaceful end and the sure hope of everlasting glory. It was better for him to go and be with Christ.

The Synod record as an encouraging fact that most of the Presbyteries-particularly those along the Atlantic shore, have been earnestly and successfully engaged in the work of Church extension.

The cause of education has also received the special attention of our churches. Many of the institutions of learning are prospering in an unusual degree. Three of the Presbyteries have institutions under their care, either about commencing, or already engaged in the work of instruction. They observe with great pleasure that the fruits of the revival in the College of New Jersey have been most gratifying. Those who at that time made a profession of their faith in Christ have maintained a consistent life, and with scarcely an exception have been among the most exemplary members of the College. And the Synod mention this fact with the more pleasure, because it shows the genuineness of that work of grace, and that it may strengthen our faith in the efficacy of prayer and excite us to larger expectations for the time to come.

Sabbath Schools form a prominent subject in the reports of all the churches and nearly all are in a flourishing condition. Large numbers of children have been gathered in, and in many schools there are cases of special religious interest which shew that this labor is not in vain in the Lord. Bible Classes and Catechetical instruction have been maintained generally with regularity and with good success.

The cause of temperance appears to remain much as at our last report--in some of the churches advancing and in others losing ground. This cause obviously calls for the increased attention and efforts of the churches, to whom it most properly belongs.



The attendance upon the stated means of grace is good and the word preached is received with more than usual attention and interest. It appears from most of the reports that while there has been no very marked or special interest on the subject of religion, there have been some cheering manifestations of the presence of God. Nearly all our churches mention some cases of conversion, and others inquiring the way to Christ, and some few have been visited with the reviving influences of the spirit of God.

Outwardly the church is prosperous. Vacant churches have been supplied with the regular ministry of the word, difficulties in our congregations have been unexpectedly removed—there is a growing attachment to our system of parochial instruction; few cases of discipline are recorded & a general spirit of unity and concord prevail throughout the churches—respectful attention is given to the preached word and some precious souls have been gathered in through the stated preaching of the truth.

But while we thus record with gratitude to God the giver of all spiritual blessings, these encouraging facts, we are called also to mourn together our common deficiencies and great discouragements. There is too prevalent a disposition to rest in outward prosperity. Our beautiful buildings—our crowded and attentive audiences—our freedom from outward embarrassment are drawing us away from the more important interests of practical religion—of the growth of piety in the church, and of the growth of the church in the world. The churches are not sufficiently aggressive. There is not enough of that spirit which would prompt us to carry the gospel to those who have it not. We wait for the worldly, the ignorant, the vicious, to come to our churches, and while we wait with the gospel in our hands, souls are perishing all around us. Wounded more of that living active piety, which like the leaven shall by its very nature not only spread itself in our hearts, but penetrate and quicken into life the unert mass of worldly men all around.



The Synod deplore with deep humility what they have often been called to lament before-the spirit of worldliness in our churches, which chills our piety and cripples our usefulness. We mingle so much in the world that its cold deadening influences settle upon us. The warmth of our first love ceases our souls are struck as with a benumbing palsy and our piety is of that feeble tremulous kind which shews that there is but little vital energy and but little power to work. The Holy self denial that mortification to earthly things-that steady fixing of the heart and affections upon God, which have characterized the church in her better days are in a good measure wanting. The Synod then would speak to themselves while they speak to the churches, brethren let us flee the world-let us turn our eyes heaven-ward, let us humble ourselves for our short comings-our worldly mindedness-our low degree of piety, and turn afresh to the cross of Christ, by which we are crucified unto the world and the world unto us.



PRESBYTERIAL  
STATISTICAL REPORTS  
1851

1. The Presbytery of Elizabethtown report to the Synod of New Jersey that they consist of 38 Ministers, and have under their care 28 Churches, 2 Licentiates and 9 Candidates.

The Presbytery further report to the Synod that on the 16th of October 1850, they dismissed Mr. David Stevenson, a licentiate under their care, to put himself under the care of the Presbytery of Indianapolis--that on the 14th of November, they received the Rev. Robert S. Finley from the Presbytery of St. Louis, and on the same day, installed him pastor of the 2nd church, Woodbridge--that on the 11th day of March, they organized a church, in the village of Pluckamin--that on the 15th of April, they dismissed the Rev. Abraham H. Dumont, to connect himself with the Presbytery of Connecticut, and on the same day dissolved the pastoral relation between the Rev. James Richards D. D. and the 1st church of Morristown--that on the 16th of April they dissolved the pastoral relation between the Rev. Oscar Harris and the church of Baskingridge that on the 28th of May, they installed the Rev. William E. Locke, pastor of the church of Springfield--that on the 14th of August they received the Rev. John C. Rankin from the Presbytery of Furrukhabad, and on the 4th of September installed him pastor of the church of Baskingridge--that on the 2nd of September, the Rev. Jonathan T. Ely departed this life--that on the 1st of October, Mr. James P. Cutler, a licentiate under the care of this Presbytery departed this life--that on the 8th of October, the Presbytery received under their care as Candidates for the gospel ministry Messrs. David M. Miller, Jacob W. Winans, and George W. Blauvelt--that on the same day they received under their care the German Presbyterian church of Paterson--that on the same day they received the Rev. Charles David Rosenthal under their care as a foreign minister--that on the same day they dissolved the pastoral relation between the Rev. Elbridge Bradbury



and the church of New Providence--that on the same day they ordained Mr. John K. Annin a licentiate under their care to the work of the gospel ministry, as an Evangelist--that on the 9th of October they dissolved the pastoral relation between the Rev. Orlando L. Kirtland and the 2nd church of Morristown.

The Presbytery further report that the churches generally have contributed during the year to the Boards of Foreign and Domestic Missions, and the Board of Education in compliance with the rule of Synod--and to some extent to the Board of Publication.

All which is respectfully submitted.

By order of Presbytery.

JAMES T. ENGLISH, Stated Clerk.

2. The Presbytery of New Brunswick report to the Synod of New Jersey that they consist of 48 Ministers, and have under their care 29 Churches, 16 Licentiates and 10 Candidates.

The Presbytery further report that on the 18th of October 1850, they received under their care Mr. Abraham Gosman a licentiate from the 2nd Presbytery of New York, and Mr. Thomas S. Dewing a licentiate from the 1st Presbytery of New York, and on the same day dissolved the pastoral relation of the Rev. Daniel V. McLean D.D. to the village church of Freehold--that on the 4th of November they licensed Daniel S. Baker to preach the gospel; that on the 4th of February 1851 they received the Rev. Samuel D. Alexander from the Presbytery of Philadelphia, and the Rev. James C. Watson D. D. from the Presbytery of Raritan--that on the same day they received the Rev. A. Alexander Hodge from the Presbytery of Allahabad, and dismissed him to join the Presbytery of New Castle--that on the same day they received Robert S. Bunting a candidate from the Presbytery of Washington and Henry Rinker a candidate from the Presbytery of Luzerne--that on the same day they received on trials Edwin Emerson, James G. Cubby, Philip W. Melick, William Cathcart, Eli C. Botsford and John H. Pratt--that on the 5th of the same month, they received James P. Hughes on trials for the ministry, and licensed Messrs. William C. Davis and Henry Rinker to preach the gospel--that



on the same day they ordained Mr. John T. Duffield, a licentiate under their care to the work of the gospel ministry as an Evangelist--that on the 19th of February they installed the Rev. James C. Watson D. D. pastor of the church of Kingston and on the same day installed the Rev. Samuel D. Alexander pastor of the village church of Freehold, that on the 22nd of February they received Michael Bittinger a candidate from the Presbytery of Baltimore, and dismissed Mr. R. G. Williams a licentiate under their care to put himself under the care of the Presbytery of California; that on the 23rd of April they received the church of Cedar Creek under their care--and licensed Messrs. John A. Mearns, A. P. Botsford and Robert P. Bunting to preach the gospel -that on the 22nd of May they ordained Mr. Abraham Gosman a licentiate under their care to the work of the gospel ministry, and installed him pastor of the church of Lawrence--that on the same day they received the Rev. Charles W. Nassau D. D. from the Presbytery of Newton--that on the 24th of June they dismissed Mr. Daniel S. Baker a licentiate under their care to put himself under the care of the Presbytery of Louisiana or Brazos--they also report that the certificate given to Mr. R. G. Williams to put himself under the care of the Presbytery of California, was not used, and that he is still under the care of this Presbytery--that on the 7th of October, they dismissed the Rev. Daniel V. McLean D. D. to join the 2nd Presbytery of Philadelphia--and received Mr. Isaac W. Shannon, a licentiate from the Presbytery of Fayetteville, and dismissed him to put himself under the care of the Presbytery of Raritan and licensed Mr. Edwin Emerson to preach the gospel--and that on the 15th of October, they ordained Mr. Isaac W. Shannon, a licentiate under their care to the work of the gospel ministry, and installed him pastor of the 2nd church in the city of New Brunswick.

All which is respectfully submitted.

BY ORDER OF PRESBYTERY.

ELI P. COOLEY, Stated Clerk.



3. The Presbytery of Newton report to the Synod of New Jersey that they consist of 22 Ministers, and have under their care 22 Churches, 4 Licentiates and 2 Candidates.

The Presbytery further report that on the 19th of November 1850, they ordained Mr. Henry Reeves, a licentiate under their care, to the work of the gospel ministry, and installed him pastor of the church of Belvidere--that on the 24th of December, they dissolved the pastoral relation existing between the Rev. Charles M. Oakley and the church of Fox Hill--that on the 22nd of April 1851, they received the Rev. Charles Wood from the Presbytery of Philadelphia--and on the same day dissolved the pastoral relation between the Rev. John Skinner D. D. and the 2nd church of Easton--that on the 23rd of April, they dissolved the pastoral relation between the Rev. Joseph Worrel and the church of Upper Mount Bethel--and on the same day dissolved the pastoral relation between the Rev. James Lillie M. D. and the church of Mansfield--that on the 24th of April they dissolved the 2nd church of Easton, and on the same day dissolved the pastoral relation between the Rev. David X. Junkin D. D. and the church of Greenwich, and dismissed Mr. Junkin to join the Presbytery of Baltimore--that on the 6th of May, they installed the Rev. Charles Wood pastor of the church of Fox Hill--that on the 14th of May, they received the Rev. George C. Bush from the Presbytery of Burlington, and installed him pastor of the church of Stewardsville--that on the same day they restored the Rev. Thomas Mack to the gospel ministry, and licensed Mr. Robert Wallace to preach the gospel--that on the 12th of August, they received the Rev. A. H. Wand from the Presbytery of Luzerne, and on the 2nd of September installed him pastor of the church of Greenwich--that on the 6th of October, they licensed Messrs. Joseph E. Nassau and Jesse L. Howell to preach the gospel--that on the same day they dissolved the pastoral relation between the Rev. James W. Mason Knox to connect himself with the classis of New Brunswick, of the Reformed Dutch Church--that on the same day they dissolved the pastoral relation between the Rev. John H. Townley and the church of Hackettstown, and dismissed Mr. Townley to join the Presbytery



of Elizabethtown--that on the same day, they dismissed the Rev. Charles M. Oakley to join the Presbytery of New York--the Rev. Joseph Worrel to join the Presbytery of Schuyler, and the Rev. John Vanderveer to join the classis of New Brunswick--that on the same day Mr. Edward F. Stewart returned his license to the Presbytery, and the name of the Rev. James Lillie M. D. was stricken from the roll of the Presbytery. The Presbytery further report that by the action of the last general assembly, (see Minutes for 1851 page 35,) the boundary line between the Synods of New Jersey and Philadelphia was so altered as that the Rev. John Gray D. D. and the Rev. Leslie Irwin, with the churches of Easton Allentownship, Catasaqua and Durham were transferred to the 2nd Presbytery of Philadelphia.

All which is respectfully submitted.

By order of Presbytery.

HENRY REEVES, Stated Clerk.

4. The Presbytery of Raritan report to the Synod of New Jersey that they consist of 9 Ministers, and have under their care 16 Churches, 2 Licentiates and 4 Candidates.

The Presbytery further report that on the 29th of October 1850, they installed the Rev. John L. Janeway pastor of the church of Flemington--that on the 14th of November, they organized the church of Holland, in the region above Milford--that on the 3rd of December they dissolved the pastoral relation between the Rev. James C. Watson D. D. and the church of Clinton, and dismissed him to join the Presbytery of New Brunswick--that on the 16th of April 1851, they dismissed the Rev. George W. Burroughs to join the 2nd Presbytery of Philadelphia--and on the same day dismissed Mr. Andrew Barr, a licentiate to put himself under the care of the Presbytery of Greenbrier--and that on the 8th of October, they licensed Mr. Joseph M. Rittenhouse to preach the gospel as a probationer for the Christian Ministry.

All which is respectfully submitted.

By order of Presbytery.

P. O. STUDDIFORD, Stated Clerk.



5. The Presbytery of Susquehanna report to the Synod of New Jersey that they consist of 18 Ministers, and have under their care 18 Churches, 1 Licentiate and 1 Candidate.

The Presbytery further report that on the 5th of November 1850, they received under their care Mr. Albertus Vandewater a licentiate from the Presbytery of New York--and on the 6th of the same month, ordained him to the work of the gospel ministry, as an Evangelist--that on the 5th of February 1851, they received the Rev. Darwin Cook, from the Presbytery of Luzerne, and on the 6th of the same month, installed him pastor of the church of Rome--that on the same day they licensed Mr. Hallock Armstrong to preach the gospel--that on the 12th day of May last, they dismissed Mr. Henry H. Welles a licentiate under their care, to put himself under the care of the Presbytery of Luzerne--that on the 28th of August they dissolved the pastoral relation between the Rev. Isaac Todd and the church of Troy--and on the same day dissolved the pastoral relation between the Rev. Francis D. Ladd and the church of Silver Lake and dismissed Mr. Ladd to join the Presbytery of Philadelphia.

All which is respectfully submitted.

By order of Presbytery.

JULIUS FOSTER, Stated Clerk.

6. The Presbytery of Luzerne report to the Synod of New Jersey that they consist of 15 Ministers, and have under their care 20 Churches, 3 Licentiates and 5 Candidates.

The Presbytery further report that on the 10th of December 1850, they ordained Mr. William R. Glen, a licentiate under their care, to the work of the gospel ministry as an Evangelist--and on the same day received under their care the church of White Haven, organized by their direction--that on the 7th of January they dismissed the Rev. Darwin Cook to join the



Presbytery of Susquehanna--that on the 22nd of May they licensed Mr. James Scott to preach the gospel--that on the 11th of June they received on trials, as a Candidate for the ministry Mr. John F. Baker--that on the same day they received under their care Mr. Henry H. Welles from the Presbytery of Susquehanna, and on the 12th of June ordained him pastor of the church of Kingston--that on the 22nd of July they dismissed the Rev. A. H. Hand to join the Presbytery of Newton--that on the 17th of September they received on trials as a candidate for the ministry--Mr. Reuben Lowrie--and that on the same day they licensed Mr. Lowrie to preach the gospel.

All which is respectfully submitted.

By order of Presbytery.

RICHARD WEBSTER, Stated Clerk.

7. The Presbytery of West Jersey report to the Synod of New Jersey that they consist of 15 Ministers, and have under their care 18 Churches, 2 Licentiates and 3 Candidates.

The Presbytery further report that on the 24th of April 1851, they dissolved the pastoral relation of the Rev. Robinson P. Dunn to the church in Camden--that on the 23rd of May, they organized a church at Tuckahoe, to be known as the Presbyterian church of Williamsburgh--that on the 25th of June, they organized a church in the city of Cape Island--that on the 2nd of September, they dissolved the pastoral relation of the Rev. Thomas W. Cattell to the church at Cedarville--that on the 30th of September they organized a church at Leed's Point, and that on the 7th of October, they received under their care Mr. Frederic Knighton, a licentiate from the Presbytery of Baltimore.

All which is respectfully submitted.

By order of Presbytery.

ALLEN H. BROWN, Stated Clerk.

8. The Presbytery of Burlington report to the Synod of New Jersey that they consist of 4 Ministers, and have under their care 2 Churches, and 1 Licentiate.



The Presbytery further report that on the 29th of April 1851, they dismissed the Rev. George C. Bush to join the Presbytery of Newton.

All which is respectfully submitted.  
By order of Presbytery.  
SAMUEL MILLER, Stated Clerk.

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