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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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MINUTES

of the

SYNOD OF NEW JERSEY

for the year ending

October, 1864.

MINUTES

BRIDGE-TOWN, N. J. Oct. 18th, 1864.

The Synod of New-Jersey met in the First Presbyterian Church and was opened with a sermon from John 1X:4, by the Rev. George Hale, D. D., the Moderator.

After public worship, the Synod was constituted by prayer.

PRESENT

FROM THE PRESBYTERY OF ELIZABETHTOWN

MINISTERS: J. T. English, J. C. Rankin, W. H. Reinhart, G. Sheldon, D. D., E. B. Edgar, E. Kempshall, G. S. Plumley, T. Carter.

ELDERS: Liberty Corner, Wm. Amin; First Rahway, Wm. B. Crowell; Baskingridge, W. B. Alward; First Woodbridge, T. H. Morris; Second Rahway, J. Woodruff; First Elizabeth, E. Van Pelt; Metuchen, W. M. Ross.

FROM THE PRESBYTERY OF PASSIC.

MINISTERS: J. M. Ogden, D. D., R. Street, W. H. Hornblower, D. D., J. F. Brewster, L. E. Craven, D. D.

ELDERS: Chatham Village, A. M. French; Connecticut Farms, J. W. Halsey; Third Newark, J. D. Vermilye; Lyons Farms, W. Mecker.

FROM THE PRESBYTERY OF NEW-BRUNSWICK.

MINISTERS: R. K. Rodgers, D. D., G. Hale, D. D.,
J. Hall, D. D., M. Merwin, A. Tully, J. R. Mann,
D. D., A. Gosman, D. D., S. H. Hamill, D. D.,
J. G. Symes, H. B. Chapin, W. M. Blackburn, T. S.
Manning, A. L. Armstrong, H. A. Harlow, S. T.
Beatty, S. S. Shriver, G. S. Bishop.

ELDERS: Bound Brook, T. F. Giles; First Princep-
ton, D. Comfort; Pennington, T. Atchley; Highs-
town E. Riggs; Lawrence, J. Brearley; First
Cranbury, N. L. Furman; Fourth Trenton, A.
Hutchinson; Dutch Neck, I. J. Snedeker; First
New-Brunswick, W. Aust; Titusville, W. Fleming.

FROM THE PRESBYTERY OF NEWJERSEY

MINISTERS: A. H. Hand, D. D., T. B. Condit, E.
D. Bryan, G. C. Bush, W. H. Kirk, G. S. Mott,
R. B. Foresman, R. H. Reeves, S. M. Studdiford,
D. K. Freeman, J. H. Clark.

ELDERS: First Mansfield, J. Weller; Hacketts-
town, I. S. Labar; Blairstown, C. E. Vail;
Belvidere, A. M. Easton; Newton, W. Emerson;
Lower Mount Bethel, M. Rosenberg; Second Mans-
field, E. Waters; Stewartsville, R. S. Kennedy.

FROM THE PRESBYTERY OF WEST-JERSEY

MINISTERS: G. W. Janvier, D. D., M. Williamson,
D. Stratton, C. E. Ford, S. J. Baird, D. D., A.
H. Brown, C. R. Gregory, C. Wood, J. A. Mannin,
J. W. Hubbard, E. P. Shields, J. P. Conkey,
M. McConaughy, R. P. Davis, R. R. Brase, J. S.
Stewart, B. S. Everitt, W. Cornell.

ELDERS: First Bridgeton, U. D. Woodruff; Salem, T. W. Cattell; Williamstown, T. McClure; Fislerville, B. Harding; Cedarsville, D. Harris; Second Bridgeton, A. Woodruff; Pittsgrove, R. Burt; Blackwoodtown, R. E. Morgan; Deerfield, A. Shinup; Greenwich, C. Shute; Cape Island, J. C. Williams.

FROM THE PRESBYTERY OF SUSSEXIANA

MINISTERS: J. Foster.

ELDERS: None.

FROM THE PRESBYTERY OF MICHIGAN

MINISTERS: M. J. Wickok, D. D., N. G. Parke, C. Lane, A. W. Lowrey, H. H. Belles, L. Thomsen, F. F. Kolb.

ELDERS: Pottsville, Henry Strauch; Pittston, J. B. Hoyt; Scranton, S. Sherrad; Port Carbon, J. Turner; Tamaqua, C. Wiggan.

FROM THE PRESBYTERY OF CONISCO

MINISTERS: None.

ELDERS: None.

FROM THE PRESBYTERY OF RARITAN

MINISTERS: J. Kirkpatrick, D. D., P. O. Studdiford, D. D., J. R. Wilcox, W. R. Glenn, H. E. Spayd, A. Yeomans, J. B. Rows, J. D. Randolph.

ELDERS: Amwell United First, J. W. Bellis; Fleming
ton, W. P. Emory; Solebury, D. Grey; Amwell, sec-
ond, J. G. Bowne;

FROM THE PRESBYTERY OF BURLINGTON

MINISTERS: S. Miller, D. D., V. D. Reed, D. D.,
L. C. Baker, K. P. Ketchum, C. H. Hazard, L.
R. Fox.

ELDERS: First Camden, J. D. Weinboth; Burlington,
J. Rodgers.

FROM THE PRESBYTERY OF MONTICOMERY

MINISTERS: D. V. McLean, D. D., C. F. Worrell,
D. D., A. P. Cobb, F. Chandler, W. W. Wells,
S. A. Freeman.

ELDERS: Manalapan, W. P. Forman;

ABSENT

OF THE PRESBYTERY OF ELIZABETHTOWN

MINISTERS: J. D. Hyndshaw, W. W. Hunt, J. A.
Baldwin, L. H. Van Doren, I. Bond, L. Fowner,
W. W. Blauvelt, D. D., B. Riggs, D. D., T. F.
Cornell, J. C. Edwards, C. S. Sheddan, B. Cory,
D. Vanderveer, W. Hunting, A. T. Graves, W.
Scribner, G. C. Lucas, J. B. Crane, V. L. Lock-
wood, W. L. Moore.

OF THE PRESBYTERY OF PASSAIC

MINISTERS: D. Magie, D. D., A. Williamson, A.
Chester, P. H. Stevenson, J. F. Pingry, Ed-
ward H. Weiss, W. Harris, O. L. Kirtland, J.
Alden, D. D. L. L. D., L. Irving, D. D., D. H.
James, D. H. Pierson, W. Head.

OF THE PRESBYTERY OF HENNINGTON

MINISTERS: C. Hodge, D. D., C. S. Stewart, D. D.,
C. Nassau, D. D., J. Maclean, D. D., T. L. Jane-
way, D. D., J. M. McDonald, D. D., A. T. McGill,
D. D., L. F. Atwater, D. D., W. Hamill, J. Mahan,
J. Mc Ilvaine, D. D., J. C. Moffat, L. D., E.
Taylor, L. D., T. D. Hoover, John Lyle, J. P.
Westerville, A. D. White, J. T. Buffield, D. D.,
W. H. Green, D. D., T. E. Cattell, J. Stebbins,
J. E. Alexander, J. H. Gallon, A. B. Morse, C.
W. Hodge, G. M. Giger, D. D., W. A. Jenks, W.
J. Wright, J. Wylie.

OF THE PRESBYTERY OF HUNTON

MINISTERS: J. T. Field, W. W. Hunt, W. C.
McGee, J. A. Welley, T. Minton, J. E. Miller,
M. Barret, F. Kington, J. K. Davis, J. Sanford
Smith, G. Lane, J. Petrie, P. W. Melick, H. Clark
Cline, I. B. Hopwood, H. Finker, G. Coble.

OF THE PRESBYTERY OF HUN-JUNCTION

MINISTERS: J. Burt, S. B. Jones, D. D., W.
Drysdale, R. P. Gunn.

OF THE PRESBYTERY OF HUN-MOUNTAIN

MINISTERS: C. C. Corss, T. Thomas, D. Cook,
T. S. Dewing, E. Bronson, H. Armstrong, J. Mc-
Williams, G. K. Harriner, J. G. Carnahan,
E. Kennedy, D. Craft, R. W. McCormick, J. A.
Rosseel, J. Caldwell.

OF THE PRESBYTERY OF LUFKNE

MINISTERS: E. H. Snowden, T. P. Hunt, J. White,
C. D. Rosenthal, G. Printz, J. D. Adams, W. E.
Holmes, J. S. Ferguson, S. F. Colt, J. Johnston,
J. A. Hodge, W. Thompson, J. Weidman, A. B. King,
B. Sickel, W. S. Parsons, J. H. Sargent, J. M.
Salmon, J. P. Hughes.

OF THE PRESBYTERY OF RARITAN

MINISTERS: J. McHair, D.D., J. Lewers, B. Carrell
J. L. Janeway, C. Town, G. P. Van Dyck, N. F.
Upham, J. A. Blauvelt, J. C. Van Dyke, J. B. H.
Janeway, A. F. Hutchinson.

OF THE PRESBYTERY OF BURLINGTON

MINISTERS: H. Parkings, D. D., W. Chester, D. D.,
A. Scovel, J. P. Robins, T. B. Wodge, M. L. Hofford
W. S. Plumer, D. D., R. Julien, B. H. Witherow.

OF THE PRESBYTERY OF MIDDLESEX

MINISTERS: Isaac Todd, J. M. Rodgers, T. Wilson,
J. L. Kehoo, D. McLaren, D. D. Sahler, J. W. Irazee
C. D. Nott.

The roll having been called, the Rev. L. R.
Craven, D. D. was chosen Moderator, and the Rev.
R. K. Rodgers, D. D., and Mr. John Rodgers, were
chosen Clerks.

The Committee appointed at the last meeting
of the Synod to make arrangements for the re-
ligious exercises at this meeting recommended,

First--That the first half hour in the morn-
ing and afternoon of each day of the Sessions of
Synod, be spent in devotional exercises.

Second--That the Synodical prayer meeting
be held in the First Presbyterian Church, under
the direction of the Moderator, at 1-2 past 7
o'clock, on Wednesday Evening, that the nar-
rative of the state of religion be read, and
that an address be delivered by the Rev. J. C.
Lowrie, D. D., one of the Secretaries of the
Board of Foreign Missions, on behalf of the
several Boards of the Church.

Third--That there be public worship in the First Presbyterian Church, on Thursday Evening, at 1-2 past 7 o'clock.

The recommendation was adopted.

The Rev. J. C. Lowrie, D. D. of the Synod of New-York, was introduced to the Synod and invited to sit as a corresponding member.

Synod then adjourned to meet to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday Morning, 9 o'clock, Oct. 19th

The Synod met pursuant to adjournment and was opened with prayer.

Synod spent half an hour in devotional exercises.

The minutes of the last session of the Synod were read.

Satisfactory reasons were assigned for the absence from this meeting of the Synod, of the Rev. David Magie, D. D., the Rev. Charles Nassau, D. D., and the Rev. John L. Kshoo.

The usual committees were then appointed:

Resolved: That so much of the standing rules of the Synod as relate to the omitting the reading of the minutes of the last preceding meeting of the Synod, be, and they are hereby rescinded.

The minutes of the last meeting of the Synod, were read.

Resolved: That the next Stated Meeting of the Synod be held in the First Presbyterian Church in the borough of Princeton, N. J., on the 3d Tuesday of October, 1865, at half past 7 o'clock, P. M., and that the Moderator of the Synod, the Rev. Dr. McDonald the pastor of the Church, and Mr. David Comfort, Elder, be a committee to make arrangements for the religious exercises of the Synod, at its next meeting.

The Rev. Messrs. Charles W. Whitecar, Richard Thorn, and J. W. Wickman, of the N. J. Conference of the M. M. Church, and the Rev. J. P. Brown, D. D., and the Rev. James S. Challis, of the West-Jersey Baptist Association having been introduced to the Synod, were invited to sit as corresponding members.

The Rev. Mr. Kirk, Chairman of the Committee, appointed to draft the narrative of the state of religion, made a report, which having been read was accepted and then recommitted.

The Rev. Robert Osborn of the Synod of Virginia was introduced to the Synod, and invited to sit as a corresponding member.

The statistical Reports from the Presbyteries composing the Synod were read and accepted, and are as follows:-

The Presbytery of Elizabethtown, report to the Synod of New-Jersey, that they consist of 28 ministers, and have under their care 18 Churches, 2 Licentiates and 6 candidates.

They further report that on the 30th of November, 1863, they received the Rev. George C. Lucas from the Third Presbytery of Woodbridge:-- That on the 21st of January, 1864, they installed the Rev. Benjamin Cory, Pastor of the First Church of Plainfield:--That on the 16th of February, they dismissed the Rev. D. V. McLean, D. D., to join the Presbytery of Monmouth:-- That on the 19th of April, they dissolved the pastoral relation between the Rev. C. C. Wallace, and the Church of Perth Amboy, and dismissed Mr. Wallace to join the Presbytery of Sierra Nevada:--On the same day they received Mr. C. D. Roberts under their care, as a Candidate for the gospel Ministry:--That on the 20th of April, they ordered the name of the Rev. J. H. McNeill to be erased from the roll of the Presbytery:--Revoked the license of Mr. William Brown, a licentiate under their care:--Dissolved the pastoral relation between the Rev. Mr. Lockwood, and the Second Church of Rahway:-- Received the Rev. W. L. Moore, from the Presbytery of New-Jersey, and took under their care as a Candidate for the Gospel Ministry, Mr. Elijah V. N. Ten Eyck, a man of color, whom after examination, they licensed to preach the Gospel:--That on the 17th of May, they installed the Rev. W. L. Moore, Pastor of the Church of New-Providence, and on the 5th of October, received under their care Mr. Edward P. Hankin, as a Candidate for the Gospel Ministry.

The Presbytery further report that the Churches under its care have contributed in almost every instance, to all the Boards of the Church--to the fund for Disabled Ministers, and to the American Bible Society.

By order of the Presbytery,
J. T. ENGLISH, Stated Clerk.

2d. The Presbytery of Passaic, report to the Synod of New-Jersey, that they consist of 18 Ministers, and have under their care 14 Churches, 3 licentiates and 1 Candidate.

They further report that on the 20th of January, 1864, they dissolved the pastoral relation between the Rev. G. W. B. Blauvelt, and the Church at Lyons Farms, and on the same day dismissed Mr. Blauvelt to the "Reformed Dutch Classis of Paramus."-That on the 19th of April, they dismissed the Rev. Samuel Hutchings to the Presbytery of Newark, and on the same day licensed Mr. W. E. James to preach the Gospel:- That on the 12th of July, they licensed Mr. E. G. Read to preach the gospel, and on the same day dismissed the Rev. H. N. Wilson, D. D., to the Presbytery of Long Island, and that on the 4th of October, they received the Rev. Hollis Read from the Presbytery of Brooklyn, and received B. S. Johnson under their care of the Presbytery as a Candidate for the Ministry.

Attest,

ROBERT MUMFET, Stated Clerk.

3d. The Presbytery of New-Brunswick, report to the Synod of New-Jersey, that they consist of 46 Ministers, and have under their care 21 Churches, 18 Licentiates and 15 Candidates.

They also report that on the 14th of October, 1863, they dismissed Mr. A. H. Edwards, a licentiate to put himself under the care of the Presbytery of Monmouth:-That on the 2d of February, 1864, they dissolved the pastoral relation between the Rev. A. D. White, and the 2d Church of Trenton, and received the Rev. W. W. Blackburn, from the Presbytery of Erie:-that on the same day they received Messrs. W. B. Marsh,

M. J. Conklin, A. L. Patton, W. Moore, W. R. Falston, D. Van Deveer, J. K. Demorest, W. F. Sawtell, J. G. Cameron, and R. S. Van Cleve, as Candidates under their care:- That on the 3d of February, they licensed Messrs. J. Wylie, A. Wylie, M. J. Conklin, C. Lddy, and T. S. Johnson to preach the Gospel:-That on the 10th of February, they installed the Rev. W. A. Blackburn as Pastor of the 4th Church, Trenton:-That on the 19th of April, they received C. Cother as a Candidate under their care, and on the 20th, licensed Messrs. P. S. Jennings, W. A. Holliday, J. W. Thompson, and W. R. Falston to preach the Gospel:- That on the 29th of the same month, they received Mr. James Wylie under their care as a Licentiate, from the Presbytery of New-York:-And ordained James, Richard and John Wylie, as Evangelists, and dismissed the Rev. Messrs. Richard and James Wylie to the Presbytery of Oregon:-That on the 12th of May, they dissolved the Pastoral relation between the Rev. Mr. De Veuve, and the Ewing Church, and then dismissed Mr. De Veuve to the 2d Presbytery of Philadelphia:-That on the 16th of May, they dismissed Mr. A. H. Brown, a Candidate to put himself under the care of the Presbytery of Catsburg:-That on the 14th of June, they received Mr. W. S. Bishop as a Licentiate from the Presbytery of Rochester, and Mr. C. Fuller as a Candidate under their care:-That on the day following they ordained Mr. W. S. Bishop to the work of the Ministry, and installed

him Pastor of the 2d Church of Trenton:-
That on the first day of August, the Rev.
Jonathon Cogswell, D. D., and on the 12th
of the same month, the Rev. Isaac Van Doren
departed this life, and that on the 13th
of the same month, Mr. C. Eddy a Licentiate,
was dismissed to put himself under the care
of the North River Presbytery.

By order of the Presbytery,
A. D. HITT, Stated Clerk.

4th. The Presbytery of Newton, report
to the Synod in New-Jersey, that they con-
sist of 25 Ministers, and have under their
care 27 Churches, 1 Licentiate and 7 Can-
didates.

And they further report that on the 16th
of October, 1863, they installed the Rev.
J. N. Clark, over the Church of Pleasant
Grove:-That on the 22d of October, they re-
ceived under their care Mr. W. Travis, a
Licentiate from the Presbytery of New
Brunswick:-That on the 14th of March, 1864,
they dissolved the pastoral relation between
the Rev. G. F. Cain, and the Church of
Streudsburg, and dismissed him to the Pres-
bytery of Erie, Pa.:-That on the 27th of
April, they dismissed the Rev. S. McNair,
to the Presbytery of Congal, and on the
same day received the Rev. I. B. Hopwood,
from the Presbytery of Chenango, and also
the Rev. G. Goble, from the Presbytery of
Montgomery; Licensed Mr. G. C. Pollock to
preach the Gospel; and received under their
care as a Candidate for the Ministry, Mr.
I. H. Brown:-That on the 4th of October, they
dismissed Mr. G. C. Pollock, a Licentiate,
to put himself under the care of the Pres-
bytery of Passaic.

By order of Presbytery,
R. B. FOREMAN, Stated Clerk.

5th. The Presbytery of West-Jersey, report to the Synod of New-Jersey, that they consist of 21 Ministers, and have under their care 22 Churches, 1 Licentiate and 3 Candidates.

And they also report that on the 17th of November, 1863, they dissolved the pastoral relation of the Rev. C. Bridgeman, to the Woodstown, and Swedesborough churches:-

That on the 20th of April, 1864, they dismissed Mr. Bridgeman to the Hamden East Association, and on the same day received the Rev. R. Gregory from the Presbytery of Mohawk; and on the 18th of May, installed Mr. Gregory, Pastor of the First Church of Bridgeton, and dissolved the pastoral relation of the Rev. B. S. Everitt, to the Church of Blackwoodtown, and dismissed him on the 5th of October, to the Presbytery of Newton:-That on the same day they received the Rev. W. Cornell, from the classis of Woonmouth; on the day following received C. F. McMullin, as a Licentiate from the Presbytery of Philadelphia.

Attest,

ALLEN W. BROWN, Stated Clerk

6th. The Presbytery of Susquehanna, report to the Synod of New-Jersey, that they consist of 15 Ministers, and have under their care 27 Churches, 3 Licentiates and 4 Candidates.

They further report that on the 23d of October, 1863, they dismissed the Rev. J. L. Swain, to the Presbytery of Pennsylvania:-That on the 27th of January, 1864, they received under their care the newly organized Church of Terrytown, and on the same day received the Rev. R. W. McCormick, from the Presbytery of Ogdensburg, and Mr. Andrew

Montgomery a Licentiate, from the Presbytery of Hudson:-That on the 31st of August, they received under their care the newly organized Church of Morris Run, and on the same day received the Rev. J. A. Bossel, from the Presbytery of Winnebago, and W. M. Harris, a Licentiate from the Presbytery of New-York, and that on the 3th of September, they ordained W. M. Harris as an Evangelist. Presbytery also reports that on the 11th of April last, it pleased God to remove by death, one of our most faithful and useful Ministers, the Rev. Andrew Barr.

By order of Presbytery,
JULIUS FOSBER, Stated Clerk.

7th. The Presbytery of Luzerne, report to the Synod of New-Jersey, that they consist of 20 Ministers, and have under their care 25 Churches, 1 Licentiate and 2 Candidates.

They also further report that on the 25th of October, 1863, they installed the Rev. A. B. King, Pastor of the Church of Wyoming:-That on the 21st of April, 1864, they received the Rev. J. W. Sargent, from the Presbytery of Erie:-That on the 1st of May, they organized the Church of Chickshinny:-That on the 28th of June, they dissolved the pastoral relation of the Rev. A. A. Hodge, D. D., to the Church of Wilkes-Barre, and dismissed Dr. Hodge, to the Presbytery of Alleghany:-That on the 23d of August, they dismissed the Rev. A. J. Winterich, to the Presbytery of Hudson:-That on the 16th of September, they received the Rev. J. M. Salmon, from the Presbytery of Northumberland, and at the

same session of Presbytery, dissolved the pastoral relation of the Rev. Charles D. Rosenthal, to the German Church of Scranton:- Dismissed the Rev. J. Armstrong to the Presbytery of Cedar, and ordained Mr. J. P. Hughes, a Licentiate under their care as an Evangelist.

By order of Presbytery,
N. GRINE PARK, Stated Clerk.

8th. The Presbytery of Heritan, report to the Synod of New-Jersey, that they consist of 19 Ministers, and have under their care 18 Churches, 2 Licentiates and 1 Candidate.

They further report that on the 2d of February, 1864, they dissolved the pastoral relation of the Rev. J. Macnair, D. D., to the Church of Clinton:-That on the 13th of April, they licensed Phineas B. Van Dyckel to preach the Gospel:-That on the 17th of May, they ordained A. F. Hutchinson, a Licentiate, under their care as an Evangelist:- That on the same day they received J. D. Randolph, a Licentiate from the Presbytery of Carlisle, ordained him to the work of the Gospel Ministry, and installed him as Pastor of the Church of Frenchtown, to serve them one half of the time, and on the day following installed him over the Church of Kingwood, to serve them the other half of his time:- That on the 14th of June, they received the Rev. I. A. Blauvelt from the Presbytery of Burlington, and installed him Pastor of the Church of Clinton, and that on the 6th of September, dissolved the pastoral relation of the Rev. J. B. W. Janeway, to the first Church of Amwell.

By order of Presbytery,
P. C. STUBBINS, Stated Clerk.

9th. The Presbytery of Burlington, report to the Synod of New-Jersey, that they consist of 15 Ministers, and have under their care 12 Churches and 1 Candidate.

They also report that on the 9th of February, 1834, they dissolved the pastoral relation of the Rev. J. Chester, M. D., to the Church of Burlington, and dismissed him to the Presbytery of Potomac:—That on the same day they received under their care Mr. L. L. Fox, a Licentiate, from the Second Presbytery of Philadelphia:—That on the 13th of April, they dissolved the pastoral relation of the Rev. W. Perkins, D. D., to the Church of Allentown:—That on the same day they dismissed the Rev. I. A. Blaauvelt, to join the Presbytery of Maritan; and received Mr. J. B. Hodge a Licentiate, from the Central Presbytery of Philadelphia:—That on the 20th of April, they ordained Mr. C. W. Hazard, a Licentiate under their care, as an Evangelist:—That on the 28th of April, they ordained Mr. L. L. Fox, a Licentiate under their care, as an Evangelist; and that on the same day they ordained Mr. J. B. Hodge, a Licentiate under their care, and installed him Pastor of the Church of Burlington:—That on the 28th of April, they organized a Church at Cream Ridge:—That on the 31st of August, they dissolved the pastoral relation of the Rev. K. P. Vetchum, to the Churches of Bass River and Luckerton, and on the same day installed him Pastor of the Church of Allentown:—That on the same day they received under their care Mr. J. W. Witherow, a Licentiate from the Presbytery of Carlisle, and ordained him to the work of the Ministry, and installed him Pastor of the Church of Cream Ridge.

By order of Presbytery,

L. C. BIRD Stated Clerk.

10th. The Presbytery of Monmouth, report to the Synod of New-Jersey, that they consist of 14 Ministers, and have under their care 13 Churches, 1 Licentiate and 2 Candidates.

They also report that on the 21st of October, 1863, they dismissed the Rev. A. Gulick, to the Presbytery of Hudson; and on the same day received Mr. W. M. Edwards, a Licentiate from the Presbytery of New-Brunswick;—that on the 9th of March, 1864, they received the Rev. L. V. Peleyn, D. D., from the Presbytery of Elizabethtown, and installed him Pastor of the Church at Red Bank;—that on the 12th of April, they dismissed the Rev. Charles Milne to the Presbytery of Rockaway;—that on the 11th of August, they received the Rev. C. D. Mott, from the classis of Montgomery, and installed him Pastor of the Church at Manchester; and that on the 4th of October, they dissolved the Church at Cedar Creek.

By order of Presbytery,
W. W. Mills, Stated Clerk.

The Committee on leave of absence, reported that satisfactory reasons had been assigned for the absence from this meeting of the Synod, of the Rev. Messrs. Alexander and Lyle, of the Presbytery of New-Brunswick; the Rev. Mr. Lucas of the Presbytery of Elizabethtown; and the Rev. Mr. Barrett of the Presbytery of Newton;—That the following persons have been excused for absence from the last meeting of the Synod.

MISSISSIPPI: Presbytery of Maritan, Dr. Kirkpatrick; Presbytery of Maritan, Dr. Studdiford; Presbytery of Passaic, Mr. James; Presbytery of Newton, Mr. Foreman.

And that the following members had assigned satisfactory reasons for late attendance at this meeting:

MINISTERS:

Presbytery of Baritan, J. S. Vandyke;
Presbytery of Luzerne, J. D. Adams; Pres-
bytery of Luzerne, S. F. Colt; J. Weidman;
Presbytery of Newton, J. A. Keiley; Pres-
bytery of Passaic, D. M. James; Pres-
bytery of Monmouth, T. Wilson; C. D. Nott.

ELDERS: Third Church Trenton, T. W. Scudder;
First Church Paterson, W. T. Westervelt;
Second Church Camden, R. Barber; Millstone
Church, L. L. Combs; Shrewsbury Church, M.
Bryan; Musconetcong Valley Church, I. K.
Mackey.

And that the Rev. Mr. Chapin has leave
of absence from the sessions of the Synod
after 3 o'clock to-day.

The report was adopted.

Rev. Dr. Wand made an appeal to the
Synod in behalf of Lafayette College, at
Easton Pa., and offered the following re-
solution which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved: That this Synod has heard
with pleasure and thankfulness to God, of
the precious revival of religion which oc-
curred in Lafayette College, in the months
of February and March last; also of the
measure of success of its President, Rev.
William C. Cattell, D. D., in his efforts
to complete its endowment, and that it re-
commends this institution to the confidence
and patronage of the congregations under
the care of Synod.

Synod then took a recess until 2 o'clock.
At the close of the recess Synod met and
spent half an hour in devotional exercises.

The Rev. Samuel F. Colt, of Ottsville, Secretary of the General Assembly's Eastern Committee for the Religious Instruction of Freedmen made a very interesting statement as to the state of religion and the need of greater efforts for religious instruction among the Freedmen, in the contraband camps at Washington, Alexandria, Port Royal, Hilton Head and others points, and closed by an eloquent appeal for help on behalf of these almost heathen people, who are thirsting for knowledge, and above all, that knowledge "which maketh rich and addeth no sorrow with it."

Rev. Dr. Hale offered the following resolution which was unanimously adopted.

Resolved: That the Synod has heard with deep interest the statement just made by Rev. Dr. Colt, and that it would earnestly recommend the cause which he represents to the liberal contributions and prayers of our Churches, and that in the judgment of the Synod the day of Annual Thanksgiving will be appropriate time for a collection for this object.

Rev. Dr. Vand offered the following additional resolution relative to this subject which was read and agreed to.

"The Synod of New-Jersey, in view of the peculiarly pressing nature of the claims for immediate funds for the religious instruction of the Freedmen open to the efforts of the General Assembly's Committee, recommended the employment of a soliciting agent, by that committee, and requests its churches to welcome him among them."

Resolved: That a collection be now taken up for this purpose. Messrs. Symmes and Cobb, were appointed to take up the collection.

The Rev. Mr. Kirk, from the Committee to whom had been recommitteed the narrative of the state of religion, again reported; and the narrative was adopted, and ordered to be read at the Synodical prayer meeting this evening.

The report is as follows:-

The Synod of New-Jersey, surveying the religious condition of its churches for the past year, by reports from all the Presbyteries, acknowledges the evidences of God's goodness and care, and brings to His altar the offering of gratitude and praise. Though the conflict of the nation continues, and touches, depressingly, our general religious as well as temporal interests, yet the condition of these interests in our churches is such as to impart to nearly all of the reports a tone hopeful and encouraging. In the excepted cases, the tone of depression concerns religious interests only. Our churches generally are well supplied with pastors, and through them, with the ordinances of the gospel and pastoral care. In the Presbytery of Burlington, however, several mission churches are in want of Pastors.

All of the Presbyteries but one have reported with reference to attendance upon these ordinances. None of them speak of a falling off in that attendance; "good," "ordinary," "as usual," are the words from five; while the remaining four speak of it

as "improving," "better than usual," "increasing in most of the churches," and in one Presbytery as much greater than for years.

Half of the Presbyteries have reported with reference to prayer meetings, and the weekly lecture. The reports show that in some of the churches there is an increase of attendance and interest. This, however, cannot be true in reference to the mass of our churches; for in the interchange of ecclesiastical information, our pastors speak of their regret and pain, because of the shameful neglect, especially by the members of the church, of these weekly services.

There has been no GENERAL REVIVAL OF RELIGION, such as the Synod has been permitted to record in some past years. This is the testimony from all the Presbyteries. Nearly all the churches have however, reported to them some addition from the world. To these there have been gradual accessions by that quiet work of the Holy Spirit which ever accompanies the faithful preaching and teaching of the word. And in some of the churches there have been special visitations. Within the bounds of two congregations in the Presbytery of New-Brunswick, there has been, and now is manifest, a most signal and powerful awakening in a neighborhood for years proverbial for all wickedness. Now the place of prayer and occasional preaching is crowded with worshippers; between fifty and sixty have been hopefully converted, and many are still awakened and enquiring. In another Presbytery, which

reports special gifts of conversions by the Holy Spirit to each of its churches, one church is particularly mentioned as having enjoyed a special visitation of the Spirit in a revival of religion, in which there has been a gathering of souls into the Kingdom of God. The College of New-Jersey, the Seminaries at Lawrenceville and Tightstown, the Blairstown Academy, and the Rowanda Collegiate Institute, are all reported by the respective Presbyteries within whose bounds or under whose supervision they are, as having enjoyed a very general and decided religious interest during the past year. In the latter two, special visitations of the Spirit have yielded precious fruits in many of our youth who have become the subjects of converting grace, and members of the Church of Christ.

The Theological Seminary of Princeton is reported to the Synod as enjoying its usual degree of prosperity in respect to the number and deportment of its students, and the faithful administration of its educational affairs. In the matters of its scholarships, its sustentation fund, and its general pecuniary prospects, in view of the wants of the new building, and greatly increased expense attending the accommodation of its increasing number of students, there is great need of a deeper interest in the Seminary on the part of the churches.

It has been intimated that the reports mention the evidence of great temporal prosperity in the churches. No doubt this is true in the majority of our congregations,

for happily we are not left without evidences of it. Some of the resbyteries speak of this as a marked and noticeable feature in their christian reports, and all of them show that the river of christian benevolence is growing in volume. And this growth, by the reports, appears to be, as we know that in the main it always must be, from an increase in the value, the number and the constancy of the gifts of God's people. The christian benevolence of the churches is becoming more full, developed and more systematic,, and the significant fact should be pondered that this is taking place where that benevolence is worked and burdened as never before. The Boards of our churches are not forgotten. In some of the churches there is a liberal increase in the amount of their contributions, though not such as the exigency of the times demand. The bible cause, too, according to some of the reports, has been regarded to with more than usual liberality. Our people are able and there is evidence that they are willing to maintain, in efficient existence, those agencies which the church uses in the prosecution of her work.

One half of the reports speak of a response on the part of many churches, and that readily and cheerfully, to the recommendation of the General Assembly, with reference to pastors' salaries. In many cases the pastor has received a permanent addition to his income, many have received valuable gifts, and although it is well known that many pastors find it impossible to live upon their scanty salaries, and are as yet unrelieved by a becoming action on

the part of their congregation, still it is encouraging for those who are anxiously waiting for relief, to know that some churches are setting a noble example of christian justice in this respect, which it may be reasonably hoped all the churches will follow.

Three of the Presbyteries report with reference to church buildings; the erection, care and improvement of edifices, the liquidation of debts, and the raising of money and establishment of sinking funds for these purposes. The information however is in general terms, from which nothing definite can be extracted, except in one report, which speaks of \$13,000 raised by one church, for a building which will probably cost twice that sum; and be paid for; of another church in course of erecting by a church recently organized, to cost 10,000; and of another church organization now on foot.

All the Presbyteries, with the exception of one, report joyfully and encouragingly concerning Sabbath Schools. It is as clear as day from these reports, that the children of our churches are awakening an increasing interest and zeal for their religious instruction and conversion. Some of the largest Presbyteries tell us that in almost every report from the particular churches within their bounds, mention is made of the prosperity of their Sabbath Schools, and one, that never before have their schools appeared to enlist so general an interest as last year. Public services for the children, stated preaching to them,

catechetical instruction, and greater care in the selection of books for their libraries, indicate that our youth are very properly and wisely commanding the attention and care of our churches. As fruits of this, doubtless we are permitted to hear that a large proportion of the additions to some of the churches has been from the Sabbath schools, and that the children are training to aid liberally in christian enterprises.

It is proper here to speak of the improved condition of the colored people within the bounds of the Presbytery of Elizabethtown. Speaking of the only considerable body of which it has oversight, in Elizabethtown and vicinity, the Presbytery says "they are beginning to feel that a responsibility rests upon them to sustain the ordinances of the gospel for themselves and families."

Intemperance and Sabbath breaking, though prevailing greatly and even alarmingly, do not from the reports appear to be on the increase in the rural districts. But they are on the increase in our cities and villages, and the reasons intimated are an increase of drinking saloons, which are actually drinking schools; an increase of the habit of introducing wines and liquors as part of the entertainment in social gatherings, and the influence of our County fairs which have been so much diverted from their original design as to make special provision for drawing together the cultivators and promulgators of the whole circle of vices.

Our beloved country has had the prayers, the sympathy, and the liberal and self-denying benefactions of our people, while struggling for national life against her enemies. This is especially manifest in what has been done through the Christian and Sanitary Commissions for the relief and comfort of our sick and wounded soldiers. One of the Presbyteries mentions the observance of the appointed days of fasting and Thanksgiving, and states that these services were accompanied with large benevolent offerings. One church, and that by no means very large, in the Presbytery of Moritan has contributed to the Christian Commission about \$1,500.

The Synod would affectionately remember the Presbytery of Corisco, in Africa, in that mission of our church lying under the Equator, and, apparently, by its experience, under the kind care of our Lord.

The beloved laborers there, and their works, claim, look for, and should receive, the hearty sympathy and prayers of this body of which we recognize it an honored member.

The light kindled by them on that little sea-girt island has radiated to the mainland; from it, an invasion of Africa by the gospel, has been contemplated, and commenced. At the close of the last Synodical year the missions reported inquirers, and the hopeful conversion of a young man--upon the mainland, at one

point, unusual interest and the meetings well attended; at another large attendance, much interest and some professing the Christian hope. Very soon two more young men were received to the church. The laborers felt weak and wrote to the Board of Missions, "We are looking, longing and praying for help." What came to answer these earnest desires and prayers? A Spanish Priest; not openly to combat the mission with truth, but, with jesuitical policy and money power, quietly to settle down beside it to the work of undermining. But the work at the out-stations progressed with growing interest-then they heard that brother Paul was appointed and coming; then he came in April, and the mission made steady progress. Two Elders were ordained; four more inquirers; and one applied for baptism.

We have recent intelligence of troubles with some young converts, led astray by temptation in "traffic"-as our pastors here would express it, with reference to their converts, by "the love of money." We solicit for these laborers the sympathy of our churches; and their prayers to God that this mission may be preserved in its danger; and that its central and radiating power for maintaining and spreading the gospel may be increased and perpetuated.

The doings of death are inseparable from our annual narrative. The Presbytery of New-Brunswick has, in its report, a most sad and impressive passage relating to those within its bounds during the past year. It states that, "in the community at large, so great morality has not been shown in nearly half

a century; that the two oldest members of the Presbytery, Rev. Isaac Van Doren and the Rev. Jonathon Cogswell, D. D., have passed away; that nearly all the churches speak of the loss of some or many of their most prayerful and earnest supporters; that three have buried each a ruling elder; and that one pastor gave as the reason for not forwarding his report, the multiplicity of funerals he had been called on to attend. Strikingly that report adds to the dead, an Elder who has fallen and been disciplined for immoral conduct. With sorrow it speaks of this as an affliction heavier than death. The Presbytery of Passaic mentions the death of standard bearers and useful members; and the Presbytery of Susquehanna, the death of Rev. Andrew Barr, Chaplain of the 41st Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, who died on the field, at his post on the 11th of April last.

Thus a survey of the field of the Synod calls for the offering of gratitude and praise, and furnishes, by every particular phase, dark or light, presented in its contemplation, a combination of mighty motives, to ministers, elders, and church members, to thank God, take courage, and work "while it is called today!"

The committees appointed to examine the records of the Presbyteries of Passaic, New-Brunswick, Burlington, Susquehanna, Normouth and Luzerne, reported recommending the approval of the records, and these reports were adopted.

The Rev. Mr. Ashbrook of the N. J. Conference, of the N. E. Church-the Rev. W. B. Gillet of the East Association, of the 7th day Baptist Church-the Rev. T. G. Wright of the Baptist Association of N. J., and the Rev. Joshua Woodland, having been introduced to the Synod, were invited to sit as corresponding members.

The Committee appointed to take up a collection in aid of the General Assembly's Eastern Committee, for the religious instruction of the freedmen, reported that \$160 had been collected.

The Committees appointed to examine the records of the Presbyteries of West-Jersey, Elizabethtown and Newton, severally reported and the records were approved.

It was ordered that the half hour of devotional exercises to-morrow morning be devoted to the interests of the freedmen.

Rev. Dr. Miller, from the committee to examine the minutes of the General Assembly, reported the following resolutions which were read and adopted.

Resolved: that it be earnestly recommended to our churches and our people generally to observe the week of prayer for the conversion of the world-the first week in January next-and the day of prayer for colleges-the last Thursday in February next-according to the resolutions of the General Assembly.

Resolved, That hereby urge all our Presbyteries to pay more particular and systematic attention to the effort to secure from

every church within our bounds, regular and more liberal contributions to the several objects of christian benevolence, recommended by our General Assembly.

Resolved, that this Synod cordially approves the action of the last General Assembly upon the subject of an increase of ministerial salaries, and as the need of such increase is at this time greater than when the Assembly acted, the attention of the ruling elders, deacons, and trustees, of the various churches connected with this Synod is called to the subject, and they are earnestly requested if they have not already complied with the recommendation of the Assembly, immediately attend to it.

Resolved, That the Clerk of the Synod be requested to publish the last preceding resolution in the different religious newspapers circulating among our churches.

The Synod then took a recess until 1-2 past 7 o'clock.

At the close of the recess, Synod convened and attended upon the exercises of the Synodical prayer meeting agreeable to the arrangement of the Committee.

A paper was presented to the Synod by the Rev. D. W. Maclean, D. D., with reference to the work of Foreign Missions, as conducted by the Board to the church having that important matter in charge, and was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning, at 11 o'clock.

Synod then adjourned to meet to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

THURSDAY MORNING-9 o'clock.

Synod met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer.

Synod spent half an hour in devotional exercises, with reference especially to the interests of the Freedmen.

The Committee continued at the last meeting of the Synod, to overture the General Assembly, on the subject of family religion and the training of children, reported that the overture of the Synod on the subject to the General Assembly, still remains upon the docket of that body, having been laid over by the press of business in the absence of any one whose special duty it was to urge it upon the Assembly.

In the mean time the movement of the Synod has developed results of great importance outside of the Assembly, having been taken up by the great Synods of Philadelphia and New-York, and by various presbyteries, from that of Lane in the North West, to that of Baltimore in the South East, by all of whom action has been taken, incited by and in harmony with that of this Synod.

The Committee would therefore respectfully recommend:

1. That the Commissioners from the Presbyteries belonging to this Synod, in the next General Assembly, be a Committee to press the subject upon the attention of that body, and endeavor to secure action in harmony with our overture.

2d. That the subject be earnestly recommended to the attention of our Ministry and Eldership, with advice that the whole subject of family religion, the training of the young, the Sabbath School, and its relations to the Church and its officers, be the subject of full and frequent discussion in the pulpit.

3rd. In view of the interest which has been aroused, the discussion which has been induced, and the happy results which we must believe have followed, the whole subject be referred to a new Committee who shall report fully thereupon at the next meeting of the Synod.

4th. That the present Committee be discharged.

The report was adopted, after having been amended so far as relates to the discharge of the Committee, and the Committee was continued.

The Committee to whom was referred the account of the Treasurer of Synod, report that they have examined the same, with the vouchers and find balance in hands of treasurer of \$7.54

The same Committee having appointed to make an assessment on the Presbyteries, to meet contingent expenses of the Synod, reported that thirty five dollars will be needed and recommended, that the Presbyteries be assessed as follows.-

Presbytery of Elizabethtown,	\$5.00
do of Pascaic,	25.00
do of New-Brunswick,	25.00
do of Newton,	25.00
do of Sussex,	22.00
do of Luzerne,	23.00
do of Warren,	27.00
do of West-Jersey,	27.00
do of Burlington,	22.00
do of Monmouth,	23.00
do of Crisco,	<u>No Charge.</u>
	135.00

The report and recommendation were adopted.

The Rev. Robert Patterson, D. D., of the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church was introduced to the Synod, and invited to sit as corresponding member.

Resolved, That the salary of the Stated Clerk and Treasurer of Synod, hereafter be fifty Dollars a year.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures, reported Overture No. 1, being a request that the General Assembly would add another column to the statistical tables, to show what amount is annually contributed by the churches to the Bible cause.

The report was adopted.

The following resolution on the state of the country, were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, our afflicted country is still in the midst of the calamities growing out of the rebellion of the Southern States, a war now in the fourth year of its unhappy progress, and

WHEREAS, afflictions and bereavements are in consequence, greatly increased among us; therefore

Resolved, That this Synod cordially concurs in the action of the last General Assembly on the subject, and feels called upon to put upon its records a solemn renewal of its abiding conviction of the wrong and sin of the rebellion that has threatened our national existence, of its devout gratitude to Almighty God for the increased measure of His gracious favor in the recent important successes, with which he has been pleased to crown our arms upon the land and sea, and of our humble confidence in Him, as the Lord God of our fathers, to bring us out of our distresses, and establish us in Union and Peace.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures, reported Overture No. 2, on the subject of unemployed Ministers and vacant Churches, which having been read was recommitted.

Also, Overture No. 3, on the subject of the Union of all orthodox branches of the Presbyterian Church, in our Country, which was put on the docket.

Also, Overture No. 4, on the subject of a division of the Synod which was put on the docket.

The Rev. Dr. Patterson then addressed the Synod on behalf of the United States Christian Commission.

The Rev. Drs. Hickok and Baird, and Mr. Forman, Elder, were appointed a committee to prepare a minute, expressive of the views of the Synod in this subject.

Synod then proceeded to the order of the day, to wit the consideration of the resolutions on the subject of Foreign Missions.

The following preamble and resolution on the subject of Foreign Missions was adopted.

WHEREAS, the work of missions conducted by the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church, has been eminently blessed and owned of God, and

WHEREAS, the support of the existing Missions demand, on account of the high rate of foreign exchange, a large expenditure, while new fields are opening and the existing missions need additional laborers, therefore

Resolved, That the Synod pledges itself to make the most rigorous and earnest efforts largely to increase the contributions of our churches to the Board, before the first of February next.

The Rev. William Maul of the S. J. Baptist Association, was introduced to the Synod and invited to sit as corresponding members.

The Committee appointed to examine the Minutes of the last General Assembly, and report whatever therein contained might seem to call for any special action on the part of this Synod; and also particularly instructed to bring in a proper minute in relation to the present exigencies, of several of the Boards and other benevolent agencies of our Church, would respectfully submit the following paper.

Under the guidance, as we humbly trust, of God's word, Providence and Holy Spirit, a system of Missionary operation and benevolent effort has been gradually formed with in our

body ecclesiastical, which seems to meet, in a good degree, all demands of the times, momentous as they are, in which we are permitted to live. Our plans are comprehensive, symmetrical and sufficient; their steady, earnest, zealous fulfillment its grand object which should now engage our hearts, minds and hands, in harmonious action. An ordinary danger to which we are exposed, is that of failing to make our endeavors as complete and symmetrical as the system to which they relate to be concerned—the danger of undervaluing certain parts of this system, making unwise distinctions between different parts, and of allowing an interest, not indeed too great, ever, in one benevolent agency, yet to weaken wrongfully our interest in another.

The teaching of gospel truth is the great gospel means for the world's salvation. The pulpit, with auxiliaries which it gathers immediately around it in the church, is the grand ordinance of God to accomplish this work of teaching. To the pulpit, therefore, our ecclesiastical schemes give pre-eminence. A Board of Education helps to train up a learned, pious and faithful ministry; a Board of Domestic Missions helps to send forth and sustain properly trained ministers throughout our home field; A Board of Church Extension helps to build houses of worship in which the ministers trained up and sent forth may preach the word; and the Fund for Disabled Ministers and the families of Deceased Ministers, encourage Christ's servants to give themselves wholly, as he requires, to their properly heart-expressing work; while a Board of Foreign Missions, to complete our obedience to the command—"Go ye into all the world"—goes, for foreign lands, all and more than all which the other agencies just mentioned are together doing chiefly for our own country. But the printing press, in God's providence, has come to play an important part in the teaching of gospel truth. Hence, with us, a Board of Publication helps to scatter that truth, on printed pages, far and wide; and

the American Bible Society is subsidized as a most efficient auxiliary by this department of Christian effort. Such is, at least, the general idea of our well-considered, noble plan of benevolent operation; and it admits of indefinite expansion, and of additions to meet every exigency. The distressed of our country are just now claiming from us special attention; and in a day are forced, after the analogy of the permanent schemes above mentioned, to temporary committees to afford the temporary relief so urgently needed by that most interesting class of persons.

The present crisis in our national affairs, by a very severe trial of this Church's system of benevolent effort, has proved it to be excellently adapted to its great objects, and of capacity all-sufficient; yet has proved it also to be in serious danger of coming far short of its proper results, through the supineness of the professed people of Christ, and their failure to appreciate, on the one hand, the excellence of the system itself, and on the other, the high demands of these wonderful times. Largely increased pecuniary means, and greatly augmented earnestness in prayer, self-sacrifice and every effort, are at present, obviously required in each department of our benevolent operations. But the blessed Master has not laid an unusual burden upon us, without freely offering strength equal to our duty. Never have the Christians of this land had more abundant pecuniary resources; never have they had such incentives to devote themselves unreservedly to Christ's cause, as have been found in the deep devotion and urgent necessities of the hundreds of thousands who have suffered for their country's sake. And when were mortals ever honored with a nobler mission than that now providentially proposed to ourselves as a Christian Church?

On every hand we are warned against indifference and neglect; on every hand urged to fidelity and earnestness. The existing war, with its fearful disturbances in every sphere of action, and its still more fearful sacrifices, is seriously and embarrassing the operations of all our boards and general church agencies. The Board of Education mourns over the small number of its candidates for the ministry, and over inadequate contributions for their support. The Boards of Domestic Missions and Church Extension, look upon wide-spread desolations caused by the war, and plead urgently for means to set about the great pressing work of restoring the wasteplaces. Our country's sufferings cannot but largely increase the number and need of disabled ministers, and of the destitute families of ministers. The Board of Foreign Missions, its resources exhausted by wasting rates of exchange, is keeping back, of necessity, missionaries of the cross, for whom dying souls cry out from many of earth's dark heathen habitations, and is forced to contemplate the possible shame, before earth and heaven, of being obliged to recall their messengers of salvation from distant shores. The Board of Publications has to-day, no funds to put even its smaller printed issues of divine truth into the hands of our devoted, suffering soldiers and sailors, who so deeply need the supporting and saving race of the gospel; no funds to supply the books ordered by the last General Assembly, for our destitute freedmen, thousands of whom are appalling mortality is every month sweeping away, while our church is scarcely yet aroused by their piteous appeals for help.

The Synod would very earnestly press upon all its churches, church sessions and ministers a renewed, solemn and prayerful consideration of the duties which this most interesting and important crisis lays upon them. Let them study more carefully than ever, and assure themselves that they thoroughly understand our whole church system of benevolence, and keep up an intimate

acquaintance with its practical working. Let them pay particular attention to the signs of these times, and vigilantly inquire what their gracious Master would have them do, lest coming suddenly he should find them sleeping. Let them arouse themselves to a new walk of faith, and take up the cross daily, spending and being spent that they may fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ for his body's sake, which is the church. Let them promptly, systematickly, and liberally increase their pecuniary contributions to all our boards and other benevolent agencies, carefully apportioning these contributions to the exigencies of each. Finally, the urgent need of the Board of Foreign Missions has already engaged the particular attention and action of Synod, and the Assembly's Eastern Committee for the Religious Instruction of Freedmen having been already recommended to Christian liberality, and advised to employ a soliciting agent to visit our churches; we would add now only, that as this Committee is in immediate and pressing need of funds for its appropriate work, and even a month's delay must be fraught with evil, we would urge all our church sessions and pastors to raise what they can for the Freedmen, at once, by direct application to such persons within their reach, as may have ability and willingness to contribute immediately to this object.

The report was adopted.

Resolved, That in order to defray the expenses of printing the minutes, the assessment made upon the several Presbyteries be doubled.

Synod then took a recess until 2 o'clock.

At the close of the recess Synod met and spent the first half hour of the afternoon in devotional exercises.

Overture No. 2 which had been put upon the docket, was taken up and adopted, and is as follows:-

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to inquire into the subject of unemployed ministers, and vacant churches, with the view of securing more efficient supervision over them by Presbyteries, and the adequate support and full employment of all our ministers in their appropriate work.

Resolved, That our Ministers, Sessions and Churches, are requested to extend every facility to the Committee in the prosecution of its inquiries.

Rev. Drs. McGill and Baird, and Mr. Sperson, Elder, were appointed the Committee.

Overture No. 3, was taken up and adopted, and is as follows:-

WHEREAS, The Presbytery of Vermont has overtured this Synod to take action upon the union of all orthodox branches of the Presbyterian Church in our Country,

Resolved, That we earnestly desire the unity of all christians, as it is one of the petitions of our saviour's prayer, and one of the most frequent subjects of his intercessions and one of the standing evidences of discipleship. We rejoice most heartily in the signs of the times, that God is awakening a spirit of union and is drawing all his professed followers into "closer and more practical fellowship and affection."

We also rejoice that the General Assembly has so happily inaugurated and continued correspondence with other Presbyterian bodies in our land, and will welcome the day when these bodies could form one organic union for greater efficiency in the great work of missions at home and abroad.

The Overture No. 4, was taken up and the farther consideration of it was postponed, until the next meeting of the Synod.

The Committee on leave of absence, reported that they had given leave of absence to the following members from the remaining sessions of Synod:—Rev. Messrs. Baker, Bailey, Freeman, Cornell, Crossman, Kirkpatrick, C. R. Lane, Randolph, Hall, Beatty, Harlow and Spriver, ministers, and Messrs. Hall, Crowell, Rodgers, Rosenbur, Scudder, Agerson, Waters, Vermilye, I. Purman, Annis, elders; and that the Rev. Messrs. Childs, Davis, Grayd and McConaugly, had assigned satisfactory reasons for absence from the last meeting of Synod.

The report was adopted.

The Committee to whom was referred the matter of a Minute, expressing our sympathy with the work of the U. S. Christian Commission, beg leave to submit the following resolutions:

1. Resolved, That we have listened with great pleasure to the statements of the Rev. Dr. Patterson, Agent of the Commission, and heartily sympathize with the work in which he is engaged.

2. Resolved, that in view of the great and pressing spiritual wants of our army during the approaching winter, we do earnestly recommend to our Presbyteries, that each of them keep at least one ministerial laborer in the employment of the Commission, either by mutual changes or by providing for his entire support.

3. Resolved, that we recommend to all our Members, for their own spiritual good and that of the cause, that they engage personally, for short periods in this blessed work, whenever in the Providence of God they are enabled to do so.

4. Resolved, that we will redouble our diligence to put in the hands of the Commission, the means of alleviating the physical sufferings and promoting the spiritual welfare of the soldiers, and will offer our continued supplications that these ministrations may be blessed to the salvation of their souls.

The Committee appointed at the last meeting of Synod, of which Judge Collins was Chairman, to procure funds for the support of a missionary in the Army was discharged.

Resolved, That the cordial thanks of the Synod are due and are hereby tendered to the citizens of Bridgeton, for their abundant hospitality to the members of this body;—also to the Committee who have made arrangements for this meeting;—also to the Pastors, Sessions and Trustees, for the use of their churches, and also to the Rail Road Companies, who have afforded facilities to many of those who have been in attendance on these sessions.

The Clerks of Synod were appointed a Committee to make arrangements with the Rail Road Companies for a reduction of fare, with reference to the next Meeting of Synod.

Ordered, That the Stated Clerk forward the Statistical report of Synod, to the next General Assembly.

The Synod was informed that the Janitor's bill would be paid by the church of Princeton.

Synod then adjourned to meet in the First Presbyterian Church in Princeton, N. J., on the Third Tuesday of October, 1868, at 1-2 past 7 P. M.

Concluded with singing, prayer and benediction.

HARVEY K. FODORIS, Stated Clerk.

Princeton Theological Seminary-Speer Library



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