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9

JOURNALS

OF THE

GENERAL CONFERENCE

OF THE

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

VOLUME I.

1796—1836.

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE CONFERENCE.

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## P R E F A C E .

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THE General Conference of 1852, at its session of May 20, passed the following resolution, (Journal of General Conference, 1852, page 62,) :—

“*Resolved*, That the Book-agents at New-York be, and they hereby are directed to publish the Journals of the General Conferences of the Methodist Episcopal Church, from 1800 to 1836 inclusive.”

And on a subsequent day (May 25, Journal page 81) the conference passed the following :—

“*Resolved*, That the conference order the Book-agents to prefix to the volume of Minutes of the General Conference all the extant minutes from the organization of the Church up to 1800.”

The first resolution is fully obeyed in the present volume, which contains the Minutes of all the General Conferences from 1796 to 1836 inclusive.

The second resolution is understood to apply to Minutes of the *General* Conferences only. Up to the year 1792 the Church business had been conducted in the annual conferences, the minutes of which are printed in the bound minutes, (so called) always kept on sale at 200 Mulberry-street. The Christmas Conference of 1784, at which the

Church was fully organized, may indeed be considered as a General Conference, but I can find no minutes of its session except those printed in the set above mentioned (Vol. 1, page 21) as part of the "Minutes of the Annual Conference for 1785." A full account of the doings of the conference, with the Discipline ordained by it, may be found in Bangs' "History of the Methodist Episcopal Church," (vol 1, pp. 151 218.)

The Minutes of the General Conference for 1792 were never printed to my knowledge, nor can I find the original copy. Those of 1796 were published in a compendium form which is now reprinted.

J. M'CLINTOCK.

# C O N T E N T S .

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# MINUTES

OF THE

## GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

BEGUN AT BALTIMORE ON THE 20TH OF OCTOBER, 1796, AT  
WHICH THOMAS COKE AND FRANCIS ASBURY PRESIDED.

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### TO THE MEMBERS OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES.

**MOST BELOVED BRETHREN,**—We present to you in a separate tract from our form of discipline the result of our deliberations, as an appendix to the form, which may be either bound or kept with it. We can truly say, that we have been fearful of making alterations. We have made none which we do not believe to be highly necessary, or evidently useful. We have also added, as briefly as may be, our principal reasons for every minute. Our grand object is to raise and preserve a *holy and united* people. *Holiness* is our aim; and we pay no regard to numbers, but in proportion as they possess the genuine principles of vital religion.

A. D.  
1796.

We think we have been as cautious as the nature of our case will admit, to prevent hasty innovations. We have, therefore, on a former occasion, confined solely to the General Conference the work of revising our form of discipline, reserving for the yearly conferences the common business of the connexion, as directed by the form. Our General Conference is held once only in four years, and it is open to every preacher in full connexion. Every such preacher has, therefore, ample time to weigh every subject of importance, to consult upon it with all his friends, and to be

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present at the General Conference, to give his vote, as well as declare his sentiments at large. Or he may deliver his thoughts, in confidence, to one or more of his brethren, who intend to be present. For in our General Conference we have, in some degree, a representation of our ministry in every state.

We have no view, brethren, in anything we do, but your spiritual and eternal happiness, and the enlargement of the kingdom of God. But we are very fallible creatures, liable continually to err; and therefore we want, and earnestly entreat you to grant us, your frequent and fervent prayers, that the Lord, by his divine grace, may keep us from error; or when we do err, may, by his providence and almighty power, prevent those evils which our mistakes might otherwise produce.

We are your affectionate brethren,  
THE GENERAL CONFERENCE.

Signed in behalf, and by order of the Conference,

T. COKE,  
F. ASBURY.

THE ADDRESS OF THE BRITISH CONFERENCE TO THE  
GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE PEOPLE CALLED METH-  
ODISTS, IN AMERICA.

LONDON, August 1, 1796.

DEARLY BELOVED BRETHREN,—With real pleasure we embrace the present opportunity, by means of our highly respected brother, the Rev. Dr. Coke, of greeting you, in the name of our common Lord, and of convincing you that we still remember you in love, and have your peace and prosperity greatly at heart.

A. D.  
1796.  
Address of the  
British Confer-  
ence.

When we consider the Church of Christ as one body, composed of true believers over the whole earth, animated by one spirit, and hastening to one glorious kingdom, to spend eternity together, we cannot but lament the discord and divisions which have been made by means of the god of this world among the professors of Christianity.

To say nothing of the dreadful effects of persecution, the principles of which we sincerely detest, we grieve to observe the mischievous consequences of bigotry and party rage.

We hope there is a more liberal spirit gone forth, and that the period is swiftly approaching, when universal love will unite all the members of Christ's mystical body, and put an end to strife and confusion.

We are influenced thus to hope, from the conduct of infinite wisdom, in choosing instruments to carry on his work, so much resembling those our blessed Saviour chose to propagate primitive Christianity.

In the mean time we see it our indispensable duty to guard against the spirit of lukewarmness and infidelity, which, under the appearance of candour and liberality, is doing irreparable mischief to pure religion, by aggrandizing human reason, feeding the vanity of the carnal mind, and increasing a criminal conformity to the world.

We see an absolute necessity of strictly adhering to our first principles, by firmly maintaining our original doctrines, and that plan and discipline which we have so long proved to be the very sinews of our body. Herein, we doubt not, you are like minded with us. We consider you a branch of the same root from which we sprung, and of which we can never think but with inexpressible gratitude.

You will rejoice to hear of our unanimity and increase. The more so, as on the death of our venerable father, Mr. Wesley, the contrary was feared by our friends, and wished for by our enemies. Glory be to God, we were never more united to each other, nor were our labours in general ever more owned by the Head of the Church.



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1796.

We trust, dear brethren, that you will join us in frequently calling to mind our original design, and "walk by the same rule, and mind the same thing," namely, to save our own souls and those who hear us.

We congratulate you on the honour which our blessed Lord has put upon you, in crowning your endeavours with such amazing success, and blessing you with the enjoyment of civil and religious liberty, for which we also have great cause to be thankful.

May we still remember that, whatever differences may mark other denominations, we are eminently one body, actuated by one spirit, having one faith, one Lord, one baptism.

That the ever-blessed Jehovah, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, may preside in all your assemblies, and continue to distinguish you by particular manifestations of his love, till we meet together in the peaceful mansions of unmixed and never-ending happiness, is the sincere and fervent prayer of,  
Dearly beloved brethren,

Your truly affectionate brethren in Christ Jesus,

THE ENGLISH CONFERENCE.

Signed by order, and in behalf of the Conference,

THOS. TAYLOR, Pres.

SAMUEL BRADBURN, Sec.

## MINUTES.

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**Question 1.** Are there any directions to be given concerning the yearly conferences?

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**Answer.** There shall be six conferences in the year, as follows, viz.:—

1. The New-England Conference—under the direction of which shall be the affairs of our Church in New-England, and in that part of the State of New-York which lies on the east side of Hudson's River: *Provided*, That if the bishops see it necessary, a conference may be held in the Province of Maine.

Boundaries of  
Conferences.

2. The Philadelphia Conference, for the direction of our concerns in the remainder of the State of New-York, in New-Jersey, in all that part of Pennsylvania which lies on the east side of the Susquehanna River, the State of Delaware, and all the rest of the peninsula.

3. The Baltimore Conference, for the remainder of Pennsylvania, the remainder of Maryland, and the Northern Neck of Virginia.

4. The Virginia Conference, for all that part of Virginia which lies on the south side of the Rappahannock River, and for all that part of North Carolina which lies on the north side of Cape Fear River, including also the circuits which are situated on the branches of the Yadkin.

5. The South Carolina Conference, for South Carolina, Georgia, and the remainder of North Carolina.

6. The Western Conference, for the States of Kentucky and Tennessee: *Provided*, That the bishops shall have authority to appoint other yearly conferences in the interval of the General Conference, if a sufficiency of new circuits be anywhere formed for that purpose.

N. B. For several years the annual conferences were very small, consisting only of the preachers of a single district, or of two or three very small ones. This was attended with many inconveniences:—1. There were but few of the senior preachers whose years and experience had matured their judgments, who could be present at any one conference. 2. The conferences wanted that dignity which every religious synod should possess, and which always accompanies a *large* assembly of gospel ministers. 3. The itinerant plan was exceedingly cramped, from the difficulty

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of removing preachers from one district to another. All these inconveniences will, we trust, be removed on the present plan; and at the same time the conferences are so arranged that all the members respectively may attend with little difficulty.

To all which may be added, that the active, zealous, unmarried preachers may move on a larger scale, and preach the ever-blessed gospel far more extensively through the sixteen states, and other parts of the continent; while the married preachers, whose circumstances require them, in many instances, to be more located than the single men, will have a considerable field of action opened to them; and also the bishops will be able to attend the conferences with greater ease, and without injury to their health.

*Quest. 2.* Who shall attend the yearly conferences?

Who constitute  
the Annual  
Conferences.

*Ans.* Those who are in full connexion, and who are to be received into full connexion.

N. B. This regulation is made that our societies and congregations may be supplied with preaching during the conferences. We would therefore wish to have a few of the travelling preachers among our dear flocks at those times. But as we desire to make the conferences as respectable and weighty as possible, we can spare none at those important seasons, except the preachers upon trial. They also will be absent from the yearly conferences only for one year, as they must be present on the second to be admitted into full connexion.

*Quest. 3.* What shall be done for the security of our preaching-houses, and the premises belonging thereto?

How churches  
are to be se-  
cured.

*Ans.* Let the following plan of a deed of settlement be brought into effect in all possible cases, and as far as the laws of the states respectively will admit of it, viz.:—

THIS INDENTURE, made this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_  
in the year of our Lord one thousand \_\_\_\_\_  
hundred and \_\_\_\_\_ between \_\_\_\_\_  
(if the grantor be married, insert the name of his wife)  
of the \_\_\_\_\_ in the State of \_\_\_\_\_ of the  
one part, and \_\_\_\_\_ trustees, in trust for the uses  
and purposes hereinafter mentioned, all of the  
in the State of \_\_\_\_\_ aforesaid, of the other part,  
WITNESSETH, that the said \_\_\_\_\_ (if married,  
insert the name of his wife) for and in consideration of the  
sum of \_\_\_\_\_ pounds, specie, to \_\_\_\_\_ in  
hand paid, at and upon the sealing and delivery of these  
presents, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, hath  
(or have) given, granted, bargained, sold, released, con-  
firmed, and conveyed, and by these presents doth (or do)  
give, grant, bargain, sell, release, confirm, and convey unto  
them, the said \_\_\_\_\_ and their successors (trustees,

in trust for the uses and purposes hereinafter mentioned and declared) all the estate, right, title, interest, property, claim, and demand whatsoever, either in law or equity, which he the said (if married, here insert the name of his wife) hath (or have) in, to, or upon all and singular a certain lot or piece of ground, situate, lying, and being in the and state aforesaid, bounded and butted as follows, to wit, (here insert the several courses and distances of the ground to the place of beginning,) containing and laid out for acres of ground, together with all and singular the houses, woods, waters, ways, privileges and appurtenances thereto belonging, or in anywise appertaining: To HAVE AND TO HOLD all and singular the above-mentioned and described lot or piece of ground, situate, lying, and being as aforesaid, together with all and singular the houses, woods, waters, ways, and privileges thereto belonging, or in anywise appertaining, unto them the said and their successors in office, forever, in trust, that they shall erect and build, or cause to be erected and built thereon, a house or place of worship, for the use of the members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States of America, according to the rules and discipline which from time to time may be agreed upon and adopted by the ministers and preachers of the said Church, at their General Conferences in the United States of America; and in further trust and confidence that they shall at all times, forever hereafter, permit such ministers and preachers, belonging to the said Church, as shall from time to time be duly authorized by the General Conferences of the ministers and preachers of the said Methodist Episcopal Church, or by the yearly conferences authorized by the said General Conference, and none others, to preach and expound God's holy word therein; and in further trust and confidence, that as often as any one or more of the trustees hereinbefore mentioned shall die, or cease to be a member or members of the said Church, according to the rules and discipline as aforesaid, then and in such case it shall be the duty of the stationed minister or preacher (authorized as aforesaid) who shall have the pastoral charge of the members of the said Church, to call a meeting of the remaining trustees, as soon as conveniently may be; and when so met, the said minister or preacher shall proceed to nominate one or more persons to fill the place or places of him or them whose office or offices has (or have) been vacated as aforesaid. *Provided*, The person or persons so nominated shall have been one year a member or members of the said Church immediately preceding such nomination, and of at least twenty-one years of age; and the said trustees so assembled shall proceed to elect, and, by a majority of votes, appoint the person or persons

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1796.

Deed of Settlement  
for Church Edi-  
fices.

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Deed of Settlement  
for Church Edi-  
fices.

so nominated to fill such vacancy or vacancies, in order to keep up the number of nine trustees forever; and in case of an equal number of votes for and against the said nominations, the stationed minister or preacher shall have the casting vote.

*Provided nevertheless,* That if the said trustees, or any of them, or their successors, have advanced, or shall advance, any sum or sums of money, or are or shall be responsible for any sum or sums of money, on account of the said premises, and they, the said trustees, or their successors, be obliged to pay the said sum or sums of money, they, or a majority of them, shall be authorized to raise the said sum or sums of money, by a mortgage on the said premises, or by selling the said premises, after notice given to the pastor or preacher who has the oversight of the congregation attending divine service on the said premises, if the money due be not paid to the said trustees, or their successors, within one year after such notice given: and if such sale take place, the said trustees, or their successors, after paying the debt and all other expenses which are due, from the money arising from such sale, shall deposit the remainder of the money produced by the said sale in the hands of the steward or stewards of the society belonging to, or attending divine service on the said premises; which surplus of the produce of such sale, so deposited in the hands of the said steward or stewards, shall be at the disposal of the next yearly conference, authorized as aforesaid; which said yearly conference shall dispose of the said money, according to the best of their judgment, for the use of the said society. And the said

doth by these presents warrant and forever defend, all and singular the before-mentioned and described lot or piece of ground, with the appurtenances thereto belonging, unto them the said and their successors, chosen and appointed as aforesaid, from the claim or claims of him the said his heirs and assigns, and from the claim or claims of all persons whatever.

In testimony whereof, the said (if married, insert the name of his wife) have hereto set their hands and seals, the day and year aforesaid.

Sealed and delivered in the } two witnesses.  
presence of us, }

Grantor's (L. S.)  
his wife's (L. S.)

Received, the day of the date of the above-  
written indenture, the consideration there-  
in mentioned, in full, }

Grantor's (L. S.)

Witnesses. }



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of justice would either reject the deed, or be at a loss to determine concerning the little peculiarities of our form of discipline. But we do hereby publicly declare, that we have no design of limiting in the least degree the privileges of any of the public officers of our society, but by this deed solely intend to preserve the property of our Church by such a clear, simple specification as shall be fully and easily cognizable by the laws.

*Ques. 4.* What shall be the time of probation of a travelling deacon for the office of an elder?

Qualification for  
Elder's orders.

*Ans.* Every travelling deacon shall exercise *that office* for two years, before he be eligible to the office of an elder; except in the case of missions, when the yearly conferences shall have authority to elect for the elder's office sooner, if they judge it expedient.

N. B. We would wish to show the utmost attention to the order of elders, and to have the fullest proof of the abilities, grace, and usefulness of those who shall be from time to time proposed for so important an office as that of a presbyter in the Church of God. And we judge that the man who has proved himself a worthy member of our society, and a useful class-leader, exhorter, and local preacher, who has been approved of for two years as a travelling preacher on trial, and has faithfully served in the office of a travelling deacon for at least two years more, has offered such proofs of fidelity and piety as must satisfy every reasonable mind. But as this continent is exceedingly large, and will continually open to our conferences new missions for the spread of the gospel, (perhaps for ages to come,) we have in the case of missions given a discretionary power to the yearly conferences.

*Ques. 5.* In what manner shall the account of the general book-steward be examined?

Auditing com-  
mittee of gen-  
eral book-stew-  
ard's accounts.

*Ans.* The Philadelphia Conference shall, from year to year, appoint a committee, who shall examine quarterly his receipts and disbursements, and other accounts.

*Ques. 6.* What mode shall be struck out for the recovery of bad or suspected book-debts?

*Ans. 1.* Let every yearly conference appoint a committee or committees for the examination of the accounts of the travelling book-stewards in their respective districts.

2. Let every presiding elder, and every preacher who has the oversight of a circuit, do everything in their power to recover all the debts in their circuit or district, and also all books which may remain in the hands of persons who shall have resigned, or been withdrawn from the office of a travelling book-steward.

*Ques. 7.* Shall any drafts be made on the book-fund before all its debts are discharged?

*Ans.* There shall be none till the debts are discharged, except in the cases of distressed travelling preachers.

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*Ques.* 8. What directions shall be given concerning the regulation of our press?

Regulation  
the press.

*Ans.* The general book-steward shall print no books or tracts of any kind without the consent of a bishop and two-thirds of the Philadelphia Conference.

*Ques.* 9. Will the Conference recommend, and engage to promote the publication of a magazine entitled *The Methodist Magazine*, which shall consist of compilations from the British magazines, and of original accounts of the experiences of pious persons, and shall be published in monthly numbers?

*Ans.* The Conference will recommend such a magazine, and desire that it may be printed.

The Methodist  
Magazine rec-  
ommended.

N. B. The propagation of religious knowledge by the means of the press is next in importance to the preaching of the gospel. To supply the people therefore with the most pious and useful books, in order that they may fill up their leisure hours in the most profitable ways, is an object worthy the deepest attention of their pastors. On this account we are determined to move in the most cautious manner in respect to our publications. We have a great esteem for our general book-steward, and are much obliged to him for his fidelity and usefulness in his important office; but we shall in future submit our publications to the judgment of no single person. The books of infidelity and profaneness with which the States at present abound demand our strongest exertions to counteract their pernicious influence: and every step shall be taken, which is consistent with our finances, to furnish our friends from time to time with the most useful treatises on every branch of religious knowledge. And the consideration, that all the profits shall be lodged in our chartered fund for the benefit of the distressed preachers, both travelling and superannuated, will, we trust, prove a considerable additional inducement to our brethren to purchase our books.

*Ques.* 10. What directions shall we give concerning the education of youth?

*Ans.* Let the following address and regulations be printed in our Minutes, viz:—

THE PLAN OF EDUCATION RECOMMENDED TO ALL OUR SEMINARIES OF LEARNING.

*To the Public, and to the Members of our Society in particular.*

The first object we recommend is to form the minds of the youth, through divine aid, to wisdom and holiness; instilling into their tender minds the principles of true re-

Plan of educa-  
tion for semi-  
naries of learn-  
ing.



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ligion, speculative, experimental, and practical, and training them in the ancient way, that they may be rational, Scriptural Christians. For this purpose we recommend that not only the masters, but also our elders, deacons, and preachers, embrace every opportunity of instructing the students in the great branches of the Christian religion.

It is also our particular desire, that all who shall be educated in Methodist seminaries, be kept at the utmost distance as from vice in general, so in particular from softness and effeminacy of manners.

The masters, therefore, should inflexibly insist on their rising early in the morning; and we are convinced by constant observation and experience, that this is of vast importance both to body and mind. It is of admirable use, either for preserving a good or improving a bad constitution. It is of peculiar service in all nervous complaints, both in preventing and removing them. And by thus strengthening the various organs of the body, it enables the mind to put forth its utmost exertions.

On the same principle the masters should prohibit *play* in the strongest terms; and in this we have the two greatest writers on the subject that perhaps any age has produced—Mr. Locke and M. Rousseau—of our sentiments; for though the latter was essentially mistaken in his religious system, yet his wisdom in other respects, and extensive genius, are indisputably acknowledged. The employments which we would recommend for the recreation of the students, are such as are of the greatest public utility, *agriculture* and *architecture*—studies more especially necessary for a new-settled country; and, of consequence, the instructing of youth in all the practical branches of those important arts will be an effectual method of rendering them more useful to their country. Agreeably to this idea, the greatest statesman that perhaps ever shone in the annals of history, *Peter*, the Russian emperor, who was deservedly styled *the Great*, disdained not to stoop to the employment of a *ship-carpenter*. Nor was it rare, during the purest times of the Roman republic, to see the conquerors of nations and deliverers of their country return with all simplicity and cheerfulness to the exercise of the plough. In conformity to this sentiment, one of the completest poetic pieces of antiquity (the *Georgics* of *Virgil*) is written on the subject of husbandry; by the perusal of which, and submission to the above regulations, the students may delightfully unite the theory and the practice together. We say *delightfully*, for we are far from wishing that these employments should be turned into drudgery or slavery, but into pleasing recreations for the mind and body.

In teaching the languages, care should be taken to read those authors, and those only, who join together the purity,

the strength, and the elegance of their several tongues. And the utmost caution should be used that nothing immodest should be found in any of their books.

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1796.

But this is not all. We should take care that the books be not only inoffensive, but useful; that they contain as much strong *sense*, and as much *genuine morality* as possible. As far, therefore, as is consistent with the foregoing observations, a choice and universal library should be provided for the use of the students, according to their finances: and on this plan we trust that our seminaries of learning will, in time, send forth men who will be blessings to their country in every laudable office and employment of life, thereby uniting the two greatest ornaments of intelligent beings, which are too often separated—*deep learning* and *genuine religion*.

The rules and regulations with which you are here presented have been weighed and digested in our conferences, but we also submit them to your judgment:—

GENERAL RULES PROPOSED FOR THE METHODIST SEMINARIES OF LEARNING.

1. The students shall rise at five o'clock in the morning, summer and winter, at the ringing of a bell.
2. All the students shall assemble together at six o'clock, for public prayer, except in cases of sickness; and on any omission shall be responsible to the master.
3. From morning prayer till seven, they shall be allowed to recreate themselves as is hereafter directed.
4. At seven they shall breakfast.
5. From eight till twelve, they are to be closely kept to their respective studies.
6. From twelve to three, they are to employ themselves in recreation and dining—dinner to be ready at one o'clock.
7. From three till six, they are again to be kept closely to their studies.
8. At six they shall sup.
9. At seven there shall be public prayer.
10. From evening prayer till bedtime, they shall be allowed recreation.
11. They shall all be in bed at nine o'clock, without fail.
12. Their recreations shall be gardening, walking, riding, and bathing, without doors; and the carpenter's, joiner's, cabinet-maker's, or turner's business, within doors.
13. A large plot of land shall be appropriated for a garden, and a person skilled in gardening be appointed to overlook the students when employed in that recreation.
14. A convenient bath shall be made for bathing.
15. A master, or some proper person by him appointed, shall be always present at the time of bathing. Only one

General Rules  
for seminaries  
of learning.

A. D.  
1796

shall bathe at a time; and no one shall remain in the water above a minute.

16. No student shall be allowed to bathe in the river.

17. A *taberna lignaria* (place for working in wood) shall be provided on the premises, with all proper instruments and materials, and a skilful person be employed to overlook the students at this recreation.

18. The students shall be indulged with nothing which the world calls PLAY. Let this rule be observed with the strictest nicety; for those who play when they are young, will play when they are old.

19. Each student shall have a bed to himself, wherever he boards.

20. The students shall lie on mattresses, not on featherbeds, because we believe the mattresses to be more healthy.

21. The masters shall strictly examine, from time to time, whether those who board the students (if they board out of the seminary) comply with these rules as far as they concern them.

22. A skilful physician shall be engaged to attend the students on every emergency, that the parents may be fully assured that proper care shall be taken of the health of their children.

23. The bishops shall examine, by themselves or their delegates, into the progress of all the students in learning, every half year, or oftener if possible.

24. The elders, deacons, and preachers, as often as they visit the seminaries respectively, shall examine the students concerning their knowledge of God and religion.

25. The students shall be divided into proper classes for that purpose.

26. A pupil who has a total incapacity to attain learning, shall, after sufficient trial, be returned to his parents.

27. If a student be convicted of any open sin, he shall, for the first offence, be reprov'd in private; for the second offence, he shall be reprov'd in public; and for the third offence, he shall be punished at the discretion of the master.

28. Idleness, or any other fault, may be punished with confinement, according to the discretion of the master.

29. A convenient room shall be set apart as a place of confinement.

*Ques.* 11. What further provision shall be made for the distressed travelling preachers, for the families of travelling preachers, and for superannuated and worn-out preachers, and the widows and orphans of preachers?

*Ans.* There shall be a chartered fund, to be supported by the voluntary contributions of our friends; the principal stock of which shall be funded under the direction of trus-

Origin of the  
Chartered  
Fund.

tees, and the interest applied, under the direction of the General Conference, according to the following regulations, viz. :—

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1796.  
Regulations of  
the Chartered  
Fund.

1. THAT no sum, exceeding sixty-four dollars, shall in any one year be applied to the use of an itinerant, superannuated, or worn-out *single* preacher.

2. That no sum exceeding one hundred and twenty-eight dollars, in any one year, shall be applied to the use of any itinerant, superannuated, or worn-out *married* preacher.

3. That no sum exceeding sixty-four dollars, in any one year, shall be applied for the use of each widow of itinerant, superannuated, or worn-out preachers.

4. That no sum exceeding sixteen dollars shall be applied, in any one year, for the use of each child or orphan of itinerant, superannuated, or worn-out preachers.

5. That the elders, and those who have the oversight of circuits, shall be the collectors and receivers of subscriptions, &c., for this fund.

6. The money shall, if possible, be conveyed by bills of exchange, through the means of the post, to John Dickins, our general book-steward, in Philadelphia, who shall pay it to the trustees of the fund; otherwise it shall be brought to the ensuing yearly conference.

7. There shall be no money drawn out of the fund till the first day of August, 1798.

8. The interest shall then be divided into six parts, and each of the yearly conferences shall have authority to draw that sixth part out of the fund, according to the regulations before prescribed. And if in one or more conferences a part less than one-sixth be drawn out of the fund in any given year, then, in such case or cases, the other yearly conferences held in the same year shall have authority, if they judge it necessary, to draw out of the fund, according to the above regulations, such surplus of the interest, which has not been applied by the former conferences. And the bishops shall bring the necessary information of the state of the interest of the fund, respecting the year in question, from conference to conference.

9. The present stock of the preachers' fund shall be thrown into the chartered fund.

10. The produce of the sale of our books, after the book-debts are paid, and a sufficient capital is provided for carrying on the business, shall be regularly paid into the chartered fund.

11. But the annual subscriptions of the travelling preachers, to the preachers' fund, shall be reserved for extraordinary cases, which the chartered fund may not reach. And no travelling preacher shall have a vote in the disposal of the travelling preachers' annual subscription, unless he be himself an annual subscriber.

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12. The money subscribed for the chartered fund may be lodged, on proper securities, in the states respectively in which it has been subscribed, under the direction of deputies living in such states respectively: *Provided*, such securities and such deputies be proposed, as shall be approved of by the trustees in Philadelphia; and the stock in which it is proposed to lodge the money be sufficiently productive to give satisfaction to the trustees.

N. B. We need not be urgent on our benevolent friends to promote this great charity. Their own feelings, we well know, will sufficiently prevail when proper light is given them on the subject. Our brethren who have laboured on the mountains, on the western waters, and in the poorer circuits in general, have suffered unspeakable hardships, merely for the want of some established fund, in which the competent members of our society might safely lodge what their benevolent hearts would rejoice to give for the spread of the gospel. On the same account, many of our worn-out preachers, some of whom quickly consumed their strength by their great exertions for the salvation of souls, have been brought into deep distress; and the widows and orphans of our preachers have been sometimes reduced to extreme necessity, who might have lived in comfort, if not in affluence, enjoying the sweets of domestic life, if the preachers, who were the husbands on one hand, and the fathers on the other, had not loved their Redeemer better than wife or children, or life itself. And it is to be lamented, if possible, with tears of blood, that we have lost scores of our most able married ministers—men who, like good householders, could, upon all occasions, bring things new and old out of their treasury, but were obliged to retire from the general work, because they saw nothing before them for their wives and children, if they continued itinerants, but misery and ruin. But the present institution will, we trust, under the blessing of God, greatly relieve us in, if not entirely deliver us from, these mighty evils. For we have full confidence that the hearts of our friends will be engaged, and their hands stretched forth on this important occasion; and a provision will be made sufficient to preserve the objects of the charity from want, which is all that is aimed at or desired.

Rules respecting  
slavery.

*Ques.* 12. What regulations shall be made for the extirpation of the crying evil of African slavery?

*Ans.* 1. We declare, that we are more than ever convinced of the great evil of the African slavery which still exists in these United States; and do most earnestly recommend to the yearly conferences, quarterly meetings, and to those who have the oversight of districts and circuits, to be exceedingly cautious what persons they admit to official stations in our Church; and, in the case of future

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admission to official stations, to require such security of those who hold slaves, for the emancipation of them, immediately or gradually, as the laws of the states respectively, and the circumstances of the case will admit. And we do fully authorize all the yearly conferences to make whatever regulations they judge proper, in the present case, respecting the admission of persons to official stations in our Church.

2. No slave-holder shall be received into society, till the preacher who has the oversight of the circuit has spoken to him freely and faithfully on the subject of slavery.

3. Every member of the society who sells a slave shall immediately, after full proof, be excluded the society. And if any member of our society purchase a slave, the ensuing quarterly meeting shall determine on the number of years in which the slave so purchased would work out the price of his purchase. And the person so purchasing shall, immediately after such determination, execute a legal instrument for the manumission of such slave, at the expiration of the term determined by the quarterly meeting. And in default of his executing such instrument of manumission, or on his refusal to submit his case to the judgment of the quarterly meeting, such member shall be excluded the society. *Provided also,* That in the case of a female slave, it shall be inserted in the aforesaid instrument of manumission, that all her children which shall be born during the years of her servitude, shall be free at the following times, namely, every female child at the age of twenty-one, and every male child at the age of twenty-five. *Nevertheless,* if the member of our society, executing the said instrument of manumission, judge it proper, he may fix the times of manumission of the children of the female slaves before mentioned, at an earlier age than that which is prescribed above.

4. The preachers and other members of our society are requested to consider the subject of negro slavery with deep attention, till the ensuing General Conference; and that they impart to the General Conference, through the medium of the yearly conferences or otherwise, any important thoughts upon the subject, that the conference may have full light, in order to take further steps toward the eradicating this enormous evil from that part of the Church of God to which they are united.

*Ques.* 13. As our beloved and respected British brethren have favoured us with an address, what return shall we make?

*Ans.* Let a copy of the following address be sent to the next British Conference by the hands of Dr. Coke, signed by the bishops, viz.:

A. D.  
1796.TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE PEOPLE CALLED  
METHODISTS, IN GREAT BRITAIN.

BALTIMORE, Nov. 1, 1796.

Address to the  
British Confer-  
ence.

FATHERS AND BRETHREN,—Dearly beloved in the Lord, we feel ourselves highly gratified by your kind remembrance of us, and with great satisfaction embrace the present opportunity, by Dr. Coke, of returning you our sincere thanks for your welcome address, and of assuring you of our unfeigned esteem and affection for you. Though a vast ocean divides us, we are intimately one with you in spirit, and frequently with much delight remember you in our prayers. We doubt not but we are remembered in yours, and we entreat also, through you, the fervent petitions of your dear flocks to the throne of grace in our behalf.

With you, beloved brethren, we deeply lament the increase of infidelity in the world. But it is no more than we have reason to expect from the sure word of prophecy. And we have full confidence, that through the exercise of one great prerogative of the Head of the Church, abundance of good will be brought out of this greatest of evils. The faithful will be made manifest, the reign of antichrist be put down by the infidels, who are the fittest instruments for the work, and the Church of God will eminently become the city set upon a hill—the salt of the earth, the light of the world.

There certainly is, as you observe, brethren, a liberal spirit gone forth into the Christian world, and bigotry and party rage daily lose ground. But the carelessness, and the contempt of the sacred writings, which more and more prevail, are perhaps as dangerous to individuals as the former. May we be able to steer between the rocks on both sides under the guidance of our heavenly Master!

We admire with you the method God is taking to beat down the pride of philosophy, even by choosing the foolish things of the world to confound the wise, and the weak things of the world to confound the things that are mighty; and this is agreeable to the method of God's proceedings in the purest times of Christianity. At the same time the Lord has not left us without men, who, when necessary, are able to contend against *that vain philosophy* with its own weapons of logical arguments, and with success; though we are sensible how far we are inferior to you, our elder brethren, in this respect.

We bless God that both we and our people highly esteem all the branches of the Methodist discipline; nor can we possibly be too thankful to our adorable Lord for that highly honoured instrument of his grace, your and our

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1706.

late father in the gospel, the Rev. John Wesley. We do trust, brethren, we shall with you persevere to walk by the same rules, and mind the same things.

We candidly confess to you, that we were very fearful when the Lord took that eminent man to his reward, that divisions would take place among you from the delicate circumstances in which you were placed. To *us* in general he was personally unknown, and acted only by his delegates. But *you* were honoured with his constant residence and useful labours. Among *you* he superintended for half a century, to the admiration, we had almost said, of the whole civilized world. But our God is infinitely kind to us all. He has preserved both you and us in a wonderful manner. We rejoice in *your* union; and can bless God that we were never more united than at present. A few indeed, who were as great enemies to the civil government under which they lived as to our discipline, have left us; and we have now not a jarring string among us. God has abundantly owned our feeble labours during this present conference to the people of Baltimore; and we trust it is an earnest of a glorious gospel-harvest through this continent in the ensuing and future years. At present you have the largest field of action in respect to the number of souls, but we are humbly endeavouring to sow those seeds of grace, which may grow up and spread in this immense country, which in ages to come will probably be the habitation of hundreds of millions.

We trust we shall never forget your kind advice, but shall always remember that the Methodist societies through the world are eminently called to be one body, and to be actuated by one spirit; and that we have but one faith, one Lord, and one baptism.

To you and our God we humbly recommend you, fathers and brethren. May his everlasting arms be ever beneath and around you; may his blessed Spirit overshadow you in all your conferences and in all your labours; and may that love which we mutually feel toward each other increase a hundred-fold, till we all meet in those realms of bliss where we shall see each other eye to eye, and, with the children God hath given us, live together in the completest union forever.

We subscribe ourselves, with great respect and esteem,

Your affectionate and younger brethren

In the gospel,

THE AMERICAN GENERAL CONFERENCE.

*Quest. 14.* What directions shall be given concerning our brethren the local preachers, in respect to their being received as preachers, or admitted into the order of deacons?



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Rules for li-  
censing local  
preachers.

*Ans.* 1. No local preacher shall receive a license to preach till he has been examined and approved at the quarterly meeting of his circuit, which license shall be drawn up in the following words, viz. :—

“N. M. has applied to us for liberty to preach as a local preacher in our circuit; and after due inquiry concerning his gifts, grace, and usefulness, we judge he is a proper person to be licensed for this purpose; and we accordingly authorize him to preach.

“Signed in behalf of the quarterly meeting

“N. M.,” (viz., the  
President, Elder, or the Preacher who has  
the oversight of the circuit.)

2. Before any person shall be licensed as a local preacher by a quarterly meeting, he shall bring a recommendation from the society of which he is a member.

When local  
preachers may  
be eligible to  
deacon's or-  
ders.

3. A local preacher shall be eligible to the office of a deacon after he has preached for four years from the time he received a regular license, and has obtained the testimonial, which is directed in the fourth section of the first chapter of the form of discipline.

*Ques.* 15. Shall any regulations be made in respect to allowing a recompense to local preachers for their work in given cases?

Regulations re-  
specting a re-  
compense to lo-  
cal preachers.

*Ans.* 1. Whenever a local preacher fills the place of a travelling preacher, he shall be paid for his trouble a sum proportionable to the salary of a travelling preacher; which sum shall be paid by the circuit at the next quarterly meeting, if the travelling preacher whose place he filled up was either sick or necessarily absent; or, in other cases, out of the salary of the travelling preacher himself.

2. If a local preacher be distressed in his temporal circumstances on account of his service in the circuit, he may apply to the quarterly meeting, who may give him what relief they judge proper, after the salaries of the travelling preachers, and of their wives, and all other regular allowances to the travelling preachers, be discharged.

Directions con-  
cerning the  
trial of local  
preachers, dea-  
cons, or elders.

*Ques.* 17. What directions shall be given concerning the trial of local preachers, local deacons, or local elders?

*Ans.* If a charge be brought against a local preacher, or local deacon or elder, the preacher who has the oversight of the circuit shall summon three or more local preachers of the neighbourhood, or, for want of local preachers, so many leaders or exhorters. And if they, or a majority of them, on due examination, judge that the local preacher, deacon, or elder aforesaid, has been guilty of such a crime, or has preached such false doctrines as require his suspension from all public offices in our Church till the ensuing quarterly meeting, the preacher who has the oversight of

the circuit, shall accordingly suspend him from all public offices till the ensuing quarterly meeting.

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And in such case, and in every case where a meeting, assembled as above described, shall deem the said local preacher, deacon, or elder, culpable, the next quarterly meeting shall proceed upon his trial, and shall have authority to clear, censure, suspend, or expel him, according to their judgment. And the president elder, or the preacher who has the oversight of the circuit, shall, at the commencement of the trial, appoint a secretary, who shall take down regular minutes of the evidence and proceedings of the trial, which minutes, when read and approved, shall be signed by the said president elder, or preacher, and also by the members of the said quarterly meeting, or by the majority of them.

Trial of Local  
Preachers.

And in case of condemnation, the local preacher, deacon, or elder; condemned, shall be allowed an appeal to the next yearly conference, provided that he signify to the said quarterly meeting his determination to appeal; in which case the said president elder, or preacher who has the oversight of the circuit, shall lay the minutes of the trial above mentioned before the said yearly conference, at which the local preacher, deacon, or elder, so appealing, may appear; and the said yearly conference shall judge and finally determine from the minutes of the said trial, so laid before them.

Appeal to the  
Annual Confer-  
ence.

N. B. By this mode of trial we are desirous of showing the most tender regard toward our local brethren. We are all but men. The best of us may fall into sin, or be drawn into dangerous and pernicious errors; and it is sometimes necessary to stop the plague by an immediate stroke of discipline. But we would not have so important a character as that of one of our local brethren even touched to its disadvantage, by only one preacher, who possibly might be younger than the accused. We have therefore provided that a small meeting of respectable persons shall be held before a single step be taken in the business. The trial will then come before the most weighty assembly in the circuit.

We have directed the yearly conference, upon an appeal, to determine upon the merits of the cause from the memorial of the quarterly meeting, on account of the difficulty, if not impossibility, of bringing the necessary witnesses perhaps thirty, fifty, or a hundred miles from their home. Nor have we any right or authority to lay such a burden on any of our people. In short, we have done the best we can, according to the nature of the circumstances in which we are placed.

Ques. 18. Many of our people complain that our rules for the settling of differences, and for the preventing or pun-

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Rule for the set-  
tlement of dis-  
ferences.

ishing dishonest insolvencies and other frauds, are not sufficient: can any addition be made to them?

*Ans.* If, after the judgment of an arbitration be given, according to the regulation made in the 10th article of the 10th section of the first chapter of the form of discipline, and one of the parties be dissatisfied with the judgment given, such party may apply to the ensuing quarterly meeting of the circuit for allowance to have a *second* arbitration appointed; and if the quarterly meeting see sufficient reason, they shall grant a *second* arbitration; in which case each party shall choose two arbiters, and the four arbiters shall choose a fifth, the judgment of the majorities of whom shall be final; and any party refusing to abide by such judgment shall be excluded the society.

Fraud to be  
punished by  
expulsion.

2. The preachers who have the oversight of circuits are required to execute all our rules fully and strenuously against all frauds, and particularly against dishonest insolvencies; suffering none to remain in our society on any account who are found guilty of any fraud.

*Ques.* 19. An explication is desired by many in respect to our rule against the members of our society marrying un-awakened persons. What further explication shall we give?

Members not to  
marry irrelig-  
ious persons.

*Ans.* We do not prohibit our people from marrying persons who are not of our society, provided such persons have the form, and are seeking the power of godliness; but if they marry persons who do not come up to this description, we shall be obliged to purge our society of them. And even in a doubtful case, the member of our society shall be put back upon trial.

N. B. We are well assured, that few things have been more pernicious to the work of God than the marriage of the children of God with the children of this world. We therefore think ourselves obliged to bear our testimony, both in doctrine and discipline, against so great an evil. But as our former minute on this subject was not clear, we have added this explication, hoping that thereby the preachers who have the oversight of circuits will be easily enabled to determine on every point which may come before them, to the satisfaction of the truly pious, and to the prevention of a practice so exceedingly injurious to vital religion.

*Ques.* 20. What directions shall be given concerning the sale and use of spirituous liquors?

Sale and use of  
spirituous li-  
quors.

*Ans.* If any member of our society retail or give spirituous liquors, and anything disorderly be transacted under his roof on this account, the preacher who has the oversight of the circuit shall proceed against him as in the case of other immoralities; and the person accused shall be cleared, censured, suspended or excluded, according to his conduct, as on other charges of immorality.

N. B. Far be it from us to wish or endeavour to intrude upon the proper religious or civil liberty of any of our people; but the retailing of spirituous liquors, and giving drams to customers, when they call at the stores, are such prevalent customs at present, and are productive of so many evils, that we judge it our indispensable duty to form a regulation against them. The cause of God, which we prefer to every other consideration under heaven, absolutely requires us to step forth with humble boldness in their respect.

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*Ques.* 21. What directions shall be given concerning the salaries of the wives of travelling preachers?

*Ans.* The wife of every travelling preacher shall have the same claim to a yearly salary of sixty-four dollars as a travelling preacher.

Salaries of  
preachers'  
wives.

*Ques.* 22. When and where shall our next General Conference be held?

*Ans.* In Baltimore, on the 20th of October, in the year 1800.

Time of next  
General Con-  
ference.



# JOURNAL

OF THE

## GENERAL CONFERENCE, 1800.

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TUESDAY, MAY 6.

AFTER the opening of the Conference, Dr. Coke read the address from the British Conference, and explained the parts that related to himself respecting his return to Europe. He said that the address was not his own, and that he was not consulted concerning it: he would now place the decision of the case entirely with the General Conference, as he viewed himself as our servant.

May 6.

Address of British Conference.

The following rules were agreed upon for the order of the Conference:—

1. Any person speaking shall not be interrupted, except by the presidents, when they judge that he deviates too much from the point; nevertheless, an appeal may be made to the Conference by any two members from the presidents; but neither the Conference nor the presidents shall speak to the point, but simply take the vote.

Rules of Conference.

2. No person shall have liberty to speak above a quarter of an hour at a time, except with the permission of the Conference; but still the Conference shall grant or prohibit without debate.

3. If any person thinks himself misrepresented by a speaker he shall have a right to explain, in as few words as possible after the speaker has done.

4. No person shall speak oftener than three times on any question.

5. The sittings of Conference shall be from nine to twelve in the morning, and from three to six in the afternoon.

6. No question shall be proposed on a different subject from that under debate, until the question debated be decided or postponed.

7. A secretary shall be chosen by the Conference, who

May 6.

shall keep a regular journal of all the proceedings of the Conference; which journal shall be signed by the presidents, and countersigned by the secretary at the close of the Conference.

8. Nicholas Snethen is elected Secretary.

9. No motion shall be put, except by the presidents, unless it be first delivered at the table in writing, after being read by the mover and seconded.

10. No old rule shall be abolished, except by a majority of two-thirds.

11. No member of the Conference shall leave the city of Baltimore until the Conference adjourn, without first obtaining leave of absence.

12. No member shall leave the room to go into the city without leave.

13. The bishops are requested to arrange, and, from time, to lay before the Conference such business as they may judge expedient; provided the above regulation does not affect the ninth rule.

14. Any member shall have liberty to copy, at pleasure, any motion laid upon the table.

### WEDNESDAY MORNING, MAY 7.

May 7.

Motion to approve the change in time of holding General Conference.

Brother Snethen moved—That whereas, the General Conference, held in the city of Baltimore A. D. 1796, did resolve that the following General Conference should meet in the said city of Baltimore upon the twentieth day of October, A. D. 1800; and whereas, the prevalence of a very malignant epidemic disorder, called the yellow fever, in Baltimore and other seaport towns, made it doubtful whether it would be possible for the said General Conference to meet at that season of the year; and whereas, Mr. Asbury did, by the advice of certain judicious friends, lay the case before the yearly conferences, and they likewise judged an alteration highly necessary, and did appoint the time of meeting (for the above reason only) to be Tuesday, the 6th day of May, A. D. 1800,

*Resolved*, That this General Conference, now met according to the above alteration and appointment, do unanimously approve of the said alteration, and ratify it accordingly.

Carried.

President Elders.

Brother Ormond moved, that the yearly conferences be authorised by this General Conference to nominate and elect their own president elders. Made the order of the day for Tuesday morning.

Dr. Coke's return to Europe.

Brother M'Claskey moved, that in compliance with the address of the British Conference, and request to us to let Dr. Coke return to Europe, this General Conference consent and agree to his return, upon condition that he come

back to America as soon as his business will allow, but certainly by the next General Conference. Made the order of the day for this afternoon.

May 7.

A request being made that Mr. Asbury should let the Conference know what he had determined to do in future, he intimated that he did not know whether this General Conference were satisfied with his former services. A member proposed that a vote should be taken. The vote was objected to until a reason should be assigned for such suspicion. Mr. Asbury then rose, he said, to speak in his own behalf. His affliction, since the last General Conference, had been such that he had been under the necessity of having a colleague to travel with him; that his great debility had obliged him to locate several times, and that he could only travel in a carriage; and he did not know whether this General Conference, as a body, were satisfied with such parts of his conduct. Whereupon a motion was made by brother Ezek. Cooper, That this General Conference do resolve that they consider themselves under many and great obligations to Mr. Asbury, for the many and great services he has rendered to this connexion.

Communication of Mr. Asbury.

Secondly, That this General Conference do earnestly entreat a continuation of Mr. Asbury's services as one of the general superintendents of the Methodist Episcopal Church, as far as his strength will permit.

Agreed to, *nem. con.*

A letter from the Rev. Mr. Law to the General Conference, respecting church music, was referred to the Philadelphia Conference.

Church music.

Brother Burke moved, that this General Conference shall elect and ordain two bishops in addition to Mr. Asbury.

New bishops.

A motion in addition to the above was made by brother Tolleson, That whereas it appears that Mr. Asbury's strength will not admit of his travelling as extensively through the work as the situation of the connexion requires, that the General Conference do inquire whether any help ought to be afforded Mr. Asbury, and if any, what that help shall be.

Brother Bruce presented a package from the trustees of the Chartered Fund, containing a letter to the bishops and preachers in General Conference at Baltimore, extracts from the minutes of the proceedings of the trustees of the Chartered Fund, held by adjournment in Philadelphia, April 18, 1800—and general statements and accounts of the said fund.

Communication from trustees of Chartered Fund.

Lemuel Green and Henry Foxal were elected to serve in the said board of trustees, in the room of Jno. Dickins, deceased, and Cornelius Comeyges, resigned.

L. Green and H. Foxal elected trustees.



May 7.

## WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

Debate on British Address.

The order of the day was called for, upon the subject of the British address relative to Dr. Coke. The subject was warmly debated, and postponed until Thursday morning.

Eighth section of Discipline.

Brother Mansfield moved, that this General Conference take into consideration the eighth section of the second chapter of the form of Discipline, and say what is the meaning thereof. Agreed to.

Provision for married preachers.

Brother Mansfield moved, that the local preachers be made eligible to the eldership. Withdrawn.

Dr. Coke moved, that on Friday morning the Conference take into consideration the provision for the married preachers. Agreed to.

Rule for presents to preachers to be struck out of the Discipline.

Brother Bostwick moved, that as there have been complaints concerning the inequality of the rule respecting presents to the preachers, it be amended as follows: "No preacher shall receive any quarterage from any steward, until he first give an accurate account of all the presents he has received the quarter preceding. Superseded by brother Harris's motion.

Brother Harris moved, that the rule respecting presents be struck out of the form of Discipline. A majority of two-thirds were in favour of the motion, consequently the rule is to be left out of the Discipline.

May 8.

## THURSDAY MORNING, MAY 8.

Motion for a Delegated Conference.

Brother Foleson moved, that whereas much time has been lost, and will always be lost in the event of a General Conference being continued; and whereas the circuits are left without preachers for one, two, or three months, and other great inconveniences attend so many of the preachers leaving their work, and no real advantage arises therefrom,

*Resolved*, That instead of a General Conference we substitute a delegated one.

Negatived.

Address.

The business of the address was called up and debated all the forenoon.

## THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

Dr. Coke to return to Europe.

The vote being called for on brother M'Claskey's motion, a large majority arose in favour of it. Dr. Coke is to return to Europe accordingly.

Book Agent's salary.

Brother M'Combs moved, that the agent of the book business be allowed no more than a travelling preacher. Voted out.

Assistance to Mr. Asbury.

The motion for assistance to be granted to Mr. Asbury was called up, and divided into two parts.

1st. Shall any assistance be given? Yes.

2d. What shall that assistance be? In answer to this question, a very great majority appeared in favour of "one bishop, to be elected and ordained."

Brother Cooper moved, that the election of a bishop shall be by ballot, written, and put into a box or drawer: the highest upon the list shall be elected, provided there be a majority of all the votes of the Conference for him; but in case there be not a majority of the whole Conference for any one, then the Conference shall vote again, and choose by ballot from the four highest upon the list. If no one then have a majority of the whole Conference, they shall vote for the three highest of the four; and if neither of the three have a majority of the whole, the Conference shall vote for the two highest of the three. Agreed to.

Brother Morrell moved, that Mr. Asbury be authorized by this General Conference to take with him an elder through any part or all his travels. Agreed to.

Monday morning, May 12, is appointed for the election of the bishop.

May 8.

One bishop.

Elected by ballot.

Travelling companion for Mr. Asbury.

FRIDAY MORNING, MAY 9.

May 9.

Dr. Coke moved, that the new bishop, whenever he presides at an annual conference in the absence of Bishop Asbury, shall bring the stations of the preachers into the conference and read them, that he may hear what the conference has to say upon each station. Withdrawn next day.

Brother Wells moved, that the new bishop, in stationing the preachers, be aided by a committee of not less than three, or more than four preachers, chosen by the conference. Voted out next day.

Brother M'Claskey moved, that whereas by a vote of the conference it is determined that another bishop shall be elected,

*Resolved*, That the Conference determine, before the votes be canvassed, the powers of the new bishop, whether he shall be equal to Bishop Asbury, or subordinate to him.

Withdrawn by consent.

Brother Follerson moved, that the annual salary of our preachers being very justly considered as too small—as almost every article of our consumption comes now at nearly fifty per cent. higher than when the salaries were fixed—

*Resolved*, 1st. That the salary be raised.

Carried, by a majority of five.

*Resolved*, 2d. That it be raised to eighty dollars.

Carried.

Bishop to read stations to the Conference.

Bishop to have an advisory committee.

Powers of the new bishop.

Salary of preachers to be raised to \$30.

May 10.

## SATURDAY MORNING, MAY 10.

Dr. Coke obtained leave to withdraw his motion respecting the new bishop's reading the stations in the conference.

Brother Wells's motion respecting the committee to assist the new bishop was voted out.

Conferences to appoint a committee of four to assist the bishops.

Brother Buxton moved, that the yearly conferences have the liberty to appoint a committee of four to aid the bishops in stationing the preachers, a majority determining.

A dispute arising, whether the motion would go to abolish an old rule, the Conference were of the opinion that it would. Upon a division of the house the motion was negatived.

## SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met at the old Town Chapel.

Probation for office of bishop.

Brother Roberts moved, that no man shall be eligible to the office of a bishop who has not travelled fifteen years. Withdrawn by request.

Fifth section of Discipline.

Brother Wise moved, that the fifth section of the form of Discipline, as far as it respects the appointment of presiding elders, be taken up and considered. Withdrawn.

Committee to advise the bishops.

Brother Mansfield moved, that the yearly conferences have liberty to appoint a committee of four to aid and advise the bishops in stationing the preachers—the bishops still having the ultimate decision. Negatived.

Brother Roberts obtained leave to withdraw his motion respecting the probation for the bishop's office.

Bishops to have equal jurisdiction.

Brother Mansfield moved, that the bishops shall have full and equal jurisdiction in all and every respect whatsoever.

Attend all Conferences.

That each and every bishop shall attend each and every conference, and then and there mutually preside, and station the preachers: *provided*, that in case they should unavoidably be prevented from all attending, the bishop or bishops then present shall be competent to discharge the duties of the office as fully and effectually, in every respect, as if they were all present.

Agree on routes of travel.

That at each and every conference the bishops present shall mutually determine and agree upon their several different routes to the ensuing conference. Negatived.

Adjourned to Light-street.

May 12.

## MONDAY MORNING, MAY 12.

Election of Bp. Whatcoat.

The Conference proceeded to the election of a bishop: the first poll being a tie, and supposed defective. Upon the second there were fifty-nine votes for brother Richard Whatcoat, fifty-five for brother Jesse Lee, and one blank;

the whole number of voters being one hundred and fifteen : whereupon brother Richard Whatcoat was declared duly elected.

May 12.

Brother Ormond moved, that whereas the laws now in force in two or more of the United States pointedly prohibit the emancipation of slaves, and the third clause of the ninth section of the Discipline forbids the selling of slaves, it is evident that the members of the Methodist societies who own slaves, and remove themselves and families to another state, or to distant parts of the same state, and leave a husband or a wife behind, held in bondage by another person, part man and wife, which is a violation of the righteous laws of God, and contrary to the peace and happiness of families.

Motion to take up the slavery question.

And whereas, it is further observed that the rule now existing among us prevents our members increasing the number of their slaves by purchase, and tolerates an increase of number by birth, which children are often given to the enemies of the Methodists.

My mind being seriously impressed with these and several other considerations, I move,

That this General Conference take the momentous subject of slavery into consideration, and make such alterations in the old rule as may be thought proper.

Brother Folleson moved, that that part of the ninth section of the Discipline which requires the preachers to give an account of the moneys received as marriage fees be left out of the form of Discipline. *Negatived.*

Of marriage fees.

Brother Snethen moved, that the General Conference determine what shall be allowed for marriage fees. *Voted out.*

Brother Bostwick moved, that the words, "marriage fees" be struck out, and the words "for performing the service of matrimony" be inserted. *Agreed to.*

Form of Discipline to be changed.

Brother Ward moved, that this conference determine what standing children are in in our Church by baptism; and if it is determined that they are received into the Church, that they shall have all the privileges of the Church, (the sacrament of the Lord's supper excepted,) until their conduct is such as is sufficient to exclude them from society according to the rules, &c. *Voted out.*

Relation of children to the Church.

TUESDAY MORNING, MAY 13.

May 13.

Brother Ormond's motion, with reference to the appointment of presiding elders, was called up, and *negatived.*

Appointment of Presiding Elders.

Brother Totten moved, that every child of a travelling preacher shall receive sixteen dollars until the age of seven years, and from seven to fourteen years twenty-four dollars. *Agreed to.*

Allowance to preachers' children.

May 13.

Amendment to brother Totten's motion:—Nevertheless, this rule shall not apply to the children of those preachers whose families are provided for by other means in their circuits respectively. Carried.

Rents of preachers' houses.

Dr. Coke moved, that when married preachers are obliged to have dwelling-houses in the country circuits, and such circuits cannot pay such rents out of the surplus money belonging to such circuits, after the salaries of the preachers' wives and children are discharged, the married preachers aforesaid shall be allowed a moderate sum by the annual conferences for the payment of their rents. Negatived.

Circuits advised to buy lots and build houses.

Brother M'Claskey moved, that it be recommended to the travelling preachers to advise the circuits in general to purchase a lot of ground in each circuit, and to build a preacher's house thereon, and to furnish it at least with heavy furniture, and to lodge the same in the hands of trustees, appointed by the official members of the quarterly meeting conference, according to the deed of settlement published in our form of Discipline. Agreed to.

When the above cannot be done, to rent.

In addition to the above motion, it was agreed, that this General Conference do recommend to the country circuits, in cases where they are not able to comply with the above request, to rent a house for the married preacher and his family, when such are stationed upon their circuits respectively; and that the annual conferences do make up such rents, as far as they can, when the circuits cannot do it.

Salary of superannuated, &amp;c., and their wives, widows, and orphans.

Dr. Coke moved, that the superannuated, worn-out, and supernumerary preachers have the same salary as the travelling preachers. Agreed to.

Dr. Coke moved, that the wives of the superannuated, worn-out, and supernumerary preachers be allowed the same salaries as the wives of travelling preachers. Agreed to.

Dr. Coke moved, that the widows of itinerant superannuated, worn-out, and supernumerary travelling preachers have the same allowance as the wives of superannuated, worn-out, and supernumerary travelling preachers. Agreed to.

Dr. Coke moved, that the orphans of superannuated, worn-out, and supernumerary travelling preachers shall be allowed, by the annual conferences, if possible, by such means as they can devise, that sum which is allowed them by the chartered fund—supposing that the proceeds of said fund be not sufficient for the above purpose. Agreed to.

How moneys shall be drawn from the Chartered Fund.

Brother Bruce moved, that all drafts upon the chartered fund be made by the order of the annual conference on the president of the said fund, signed by the president of the annual conference, and countersigned by the secretary. Agreed to.

May 14.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, MAY 14.

Mr. Asbury and brother Lee's motion:—We move, that letters be written in and on the behalf of the General Conference, in which the societies of New-York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Alexandria, Dover, and Duck-Creek, shall be informed of the rise of the quarterage of the preachers that hath taken place upon the pretext of their petition.

Secondly. To request the Baltimore society to raise, by a mode the most agreeable to themselves, the annual interest of ten thousand dollars, and send it to their yearly conference; New-York to raise, by their own mode, the interest of eight thousand dollars for their yearly conference; Philadelphia the interest of one thousand dollars; the societies of Dover and Duck-Creek the interest of three thousand dollars, and Alexandria the interest of two thousand dollars, for the same purpose. Nevertheless, that they may raise any other sums they choose. Rejected.

A committee of three members was appointed to draw a plan for deficiencies.

Brother Mansfield's motion respecting trials was called up. Trial of Members.

Brother Cooper moved to introduce the following words after the word "guilty:" "by the decision of the members before whom he is brought to trial, who are to act as a jury in the case." Agreed to.

Brother Totten moved, that the word "accused" be substituted in the first question, instead of the word "suspected." Agreed to.

Amendment to brother Cooper's motion, by brother Wm. M'Kendree:—Nevertheless, if the minister or preacher differ in judgment from the society, or the select number, or a majority of them, concerning the innocence or guilt of the accused person, the trial of the accused person shall be referred, by the minister or preacher, to the next quarterly meeting. Agreed to.

THURSDAY MORNING, MAY 15.

Brother Tolleson's motion for a delegated General Conference was called up, and lost by a great majority.

Brother Lee moved, that no preacher shall be eligible to a seat in the General Conference until he has travelled four years. Agreed to.

Brother Lee moved, that there shall be seven yearly conferences, and that the bounds of the New-England Conference be fixed and divided into two conferences; and that the one be called the New-York Conference, and the other the New-England Conference. Agreed to.

May 18.  
Slaveholders

Brother Timmons moved, that if any of our travelling preachers marry persons holding slaves, and thereby become slaveholders, they shall be excluded our societies, unless they execute a legal emancipation of their slaves, agreeably to the laws of the state wherein they live. Suspended.

Brother Mansfield's motion, to make local preachers eligible to the eldership, was carried in the affirmative. Voted to be reconsidered, and obtained leave to be withdrawn.

The second section of the form of Discipline respecting "the printing of books, and the application of the profits arising therefrom," is to be left out of the form. Agreed to.

Brother Whatcoat's motion, that this conference determine where the bishops shall receive their quarterage, agreed to.

Mr. Asbury moved, that there be a record made upon the journal of the General Conference of the mode of recommending and ordaining black and coloured people. Agreed to.

Brother Mitchell moved, that some new plan be fixed upon to put a stop to the printing and spreading of books without the consent of the conference. Agreed to.

Brother Jenkins moved that the General Conference take into consideration the sixth section of the second chapter of the form of Discipline respecting unlawful marriage. To lie upon the table.

#### FRIDAY MORNING, MAY 16.

Slaveholders  
and Slavery.

Brother Snethen moved, that this General Conference do resolve, that from this time forth no slaveholder shall be admitted into the Methodist Episcopal Church. Negatived.

Brother Bloodgood moved, that all negro children belonging to the members of the Methodist Society, who shall be born in slavery after the fourth day of July, 1800, shall be emancipated—males at — years, and females at — years. Negatived.

Local  
Preachers.

Brother Ormond moved, that the bishops have liberty, by the suffrage of this General Conference, to ordain local deacons to the office of elders—those who have been travelling after a probation of four years, and other local deacons after a probation of eight years: *provided*, such deacons be approved and recommended by a majority of the quarterly conference of the circuit in which they live, and be elected by a majority of the annual conference. Negatived.

Brother J. Stoneman moved, that the explanatory notes be left out of the next edition of the form of Discipline, except the notes upon the articles of religion.

Brother Dewey moved, that every local preacher shall

have his name enrolled upon a class-paper, or forfeit his license. Agreed to.

May 18.

Brother Lathomus moved, that every member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, holding slaves, shall, within the term of one year from the date hereof, give an instrument of emancipation for all his slaves; and the quarterly meeting conference shall determine on the time the slave shall serve, if the laws of the state do not expressly prohibit their emancipation. Negatived.

Slavery.

Brother Cooper moved, that a committee be appointed to prepare an affectionate address to the Methodist societies in the United States, stating the evils of the spirit and practice of slavery, the necessity of doing away the evil as far as the laws of the respective states will allow; and that the said address be laid before the conference for their consideration, and, if agreed to, be signed by the bishops in behalf of the conference. Agreed to.

Brother M'Kendree moved, that this General Conference direct the yearly conferences to appoint a committee to draw up proper addresses to the state legislatures, from year to year, for a gradual abolition of slavery. Agreed to.

SATURDAY MORNING, MAY 17.

The committee, to whom was referred the subject of ways and means to raise annual supplies for the support of the ministry, beg leave to report, and recommend to the conference for their adoption, the following plan, viz.: To incorporate the 26th and 27th sections in the form of Discipline into one section, under the title and arrangement following—"Of raising Annual Supplies for the Propagation of the Gospel, for the making up the Preachers' Allowance, and to assist in the Support of the Widows and Orphans of Preachers."

Annual supplies. sup-

1. Let every preacher, when first admitted into full connexion, pay two dollars and sixty-seven cents at the yearly conference.

2. Let every other preacher in full connexion contribute two dollars every year at the yearly conference.

3. Let the moneys that are brought to the conferences for marriages be also given in.

4. Let every preacher, who has the charge of a circuit, earnestly recommend to every class or society to raise a quarterly or annual collection by voluntary contribution, or in such other way and manner as they may judge most expedient, from time to time, and the moneys so collected be lodged with the steward or stewards of the circuit, to be brought or sent to the annual conference, with a regular account of the sums raised for this purpose in the classes or societies respectively.



May 17.  
Annual sup-  
plies.

5. Wheresoever there remains in the hands of the stewards a surplus, after paying the allowance of the preachers on the circuit, of those moneys raised for the use of the circuit preachers, let such surplus be brought or sent to the annual conference.

6. Let every preacher, who has the charge of a circuit, make a yearly collection, and, if expedient, a quarterly one, in every congregation where there is a probability the people would be willing to contribute, and the moneys so collected be lodged in the hands of the steward or stewards, and be brought or sent, as aforesaid, to the annual conferences.

7. Let there be a public collection at every conference, both annual and general.

8. Out of the moneys so collected and brought into the conference, let the various allowances contemplated be paid; and if at any conference there remain a surplus after paying such allowances, let such surplus be brought forward to the next conference.

Dr. Coke moved, that the annual produce of the Chartered Fund, as divided among the conferences according to the existing rules, be applied, together with the above-mentioned contributions, and for the same purpose, so as not to militate against the rules of the charter itself. Agreed to, with the report of the committee.

Brother Lee moved, that the rules proposed for our seminaries of learning shall not be printed any more in our form of Discipline. Carried by two-thirds.

Brother Ormond's motion to make local deacons eligible to the elder's office was negatived. Ayes 36, noes 47.

May 19.

### MONDAY MORNING, MAY 19.

Address to  
Methodist so-  
cieties.

The committee, appointed by brother Cooper's motion, brought in the Address to the Members and Friends of the Methodist Societies, which was agreed to.

Answer to ad-  
dress of New-  
York society.

The committee to answer the Address of the Society of New-York reported the answer, and it was agreed to.

Book-steward.

A motion was made by brother Lyell, to allow the book-steward two hundred and eighty dollars. Negatived.

To have \$250.

A motion was made to allow the general book-steward two hundred and fifty dollars, clear of all expenses. Agreed to.

Moved, that the eighth article, in answer to the third question of the twelfth section of the first chapter of the form of Discipline, be taken out, and a new rule be inserted under the new section respecting the regulation of the book business, as follows:—

No travelling preacher shall print or circulate any books or pamphlets, without the consent of the annual conference to which he belongs, except as an agent of the general book-steward.

Brothers Lee, Cooper, and Bruce, were appointed as a committee to prepare a section for the books, &c.

May 19.

Moved, that the African brethren in New-York be desired to apply for a charter similar to that of our African society in Philadelphia; but if that cannot be obtained, that they apply for such a charter as is granted to the white brethren in New-York, under the title of the "African Methodist Episcopal Church;" but if the above-mentioned title be not admissible, it shall be left to the New-York Conference to determine the title, and all other particulars respecting the business.

A motion was made that the words "shall be expelled" be left out, and the words "be suspended for six months, and deprived of the privilege of the sacrament," be inserted in the rule respecting unlawful marriages. Lost—ayes 20, noes 44.

Brother Cooper moved, that the words "under the necessity of marrying" be left out of the said rule, and the words "believe it her duty to marry" be inserted. Agreed to.

TUESDAY MORNING, MAY 20.

May 20.

Mr. Asbury moved, that a general book of records be kept of the proceedings of the annual conferences by a secretary, and a copy of the said record be sent to the General Conference. Agreed to.

Records.

Brother Cooper moved to strike out, in the rule on the trial of members, the words "and to make him a subject of wrath and hell." Agreed to.

Brother Snethen moved, that the preachers take a regular account of all the deaths in the societies, and make a return of them to the annual conference, and that the numbers so returned be printed in the yearly Minutes. Agreed to.

On a motion of brother Lee, to determine when and where the next General Conference shall be held, it was determined, by vote, that the next General Conference shall be held in the city of Baltimore, on the sixth day of May, 1804.

On motion, it was resolved, that the New-York Conference shall include all the state of Connecticut, and all that part of the states of Massachusetts, Vermont, and New-Hampshire which is now included in the districts of New-York and New-London, together with all that part of the state of New-York east of the Hudson River.

Boundaries of N. York Conference.

The New-England Conference to include all the circuits from the bounds of the New-York Conference eastward and northward, and the whole of the district of Maine.

Boundaries of New-England Conference.

*Resolved*, That the form of Discipline shall be printed by itself, and the notes likewise printed distinctly out, with such references that they may be bound with the form, and

Discipline to be printed without notes.

- May 26. that the preachers shall have liberty to order as many as they please, with the notes or without them. Agreed to.
- Authority to fill vacancies in the Trustees of Chartered Fund. Brother Cooper moved, that in case of the death, resignation, or expulsion from society, of one or more of the trustees of the Chartered Fund in the recess of the General Conference, that the Philadelphia Conference be authorized to elect one or more trustees to fill the place or places of the person or persons until the next conference. Agreed to.
- Answer to O'Kelly. *Resolved*, That brothers Roberts and Snetten be requested to draw up an answer to James O'Kelly's book, and that brother Morrell assist them with his judgment in the process of the work.
- Answer to second question. In answer to the second question, "Where shall the bishops receive their quarterage?" it was *Resolved*, That each annual conference shall examine into the accounts of the expenses and quarterage of the bishops, and shall pay a proportionable part of said expenses and quarterage, according to the money brought into the conference for the support of the gospel.
- Amendment to fourth section of Discipline. Brother Mansfield moved, that the words after the word "by," in the N. B. in the fourth section, be left out, and the following be inserted: "one travelling preacher, one travelling elder, and one travelling deacon." *Negatived*.
- Preachers who own slaves, to emancipate. Brother Cooper moved, that the N. B. in the fourth section be amended thus: "by nine travelling preachers, three of whom shall be elders, three others deacons or elders, and the other three preachers, deacons, or elders." Agreed to.
- Ordination of coloured people. Moved,\* that when any of our travelling preachers become owners of a slave or slaves by any means, they shall forfeit their ministerial character in the Methodist Episcopal Church, unless they execute, if it be practicable, a legal emancipation of such slave or slaves, agreeably to the laws of the state wherein they live. Agreed to.
- Book business. A regulation respecting the ordination of coloured people to the office of deacons:—  
The bishops have obtained leave, by the suffrages of this General Conference, to ordain local deacons of our African brethren, in places where they have built a house or houses for the worship of God: *Provided*, they have a person among them qualified for that office, and he can obtain an election of two-thirds of the male members of the society to which he belongs, and a recommendation from the minister who has the charge, and his fellow-labourers in the city or circuit.
- Of the printing and circulating of books, and the profits arising therefrom:—

\* This motion was originally offered by brother Timmons, and was conceived, by the secretary, to have been superseded by the process of the business upon slavery. But the conference voted that they would act upon it, with the amendments, the same as a new motion.

1. Ezekiel Cooper is appointed by the General Conference the superintendent of the book business. The superintendent shall have power to regulate the publications, and all other concerns of the business, according to the state of the finances from time to time: it shall be his duty to complain to the annual conferences if any of the preachers or members neglect to make due payment: he may publish any books or tracts which at any time may be approved of or recommended by the majority of an annual conference, *provided* the same be approved of by the book committee, which shall be appointed by the Philadelphia Conference: he may republish any books heretofore approved and published by us, when in his judgment the same ought to be reprinted.

May 30.  
Ezekiel Cooper  
Superintendent.

His duty.

The superintendent shall be allowed for his services two hundred and fifty dollars annually, clear of all expenses, or deductions for board, house-rent, &c., and eighty dollars for a boy, &c.

His allowance.

2. It shall be the duty of every presiding elder, where no book-steward is appointed, to see that his district be duly supplied with books: he is to request the superintendent to send such books as are wanted, and give direction to whose care the same are to be sent; and he is to take the oversight of all the books sent to his district, and to account with the superintendent for the same: he is to have the books distributed among the several circuits in his district, in such quantities and in such a manner as he may judge proper from his own information, and keep an account with each preacher, who receives and sells the books: he is to receive the money and forward it to the superintendent.

Presiding Elders to act as Book-stewards.

When a presiding elder is removed, he is to make a full settlement with the superintendent for all the books sold on his district, and make a transfer to his successor of all the books and accounts left with the preachers in the district, the amount of which shall go to his credit, and pass the debit of his successor. Let a certificate of the amount of such transfer be sent to the superintendent.

How to close Presiding Elders' accounts.

3. It shall be the duty of every preacher, who has the charge of a circuit, to see that his circuit be duly supplied with books, and to take charge of all the books sent to, or that may be in his circuit, and account with the presiding elder for the same. When a preacher leaves his circuit, he must settle with the presiding elder for all the books he has disposed of, and make out an inventory of all that are remaining unsold, which must be collected at one place, the amount of which shall go to his credit and be transferred to his successor, who is to take charge of the same. In case the preacher who has the charge of a circuit be negligent in disposing of books, let the presiding elder commit the charge of the books to another.

Preachers to act in distributing books.

May 20.  
Preachers to be allowed from eighteen to twenty-five per cent.

One-third to Presiding Elders, two-thirds to preachers.

Preachers in and near Philadelphia to have certain privileges.

Small advances in price to meet freight.

Annual Conference to examine accounts of Presiding Elders and Preachers.

No Draft on Book Concern till debts all paid.

Bishop's travelling companion to act as Agent.

Philadelphia Conference to supply any vacancy.

4. The preachers shall be allowed for their trouble not less than fifteen, nor more than twenty-five per cent., upon the wholesale price for all the books they sell; but the per cent. shall be regulated as in the judgment of the superintendent the different impressions will afford, one-third of which the presiding elder shall have for his trouble, and the other two-thirds shall be allowed to the preachers who sell them in their different circuits.

5. The superintendent may, from time to time, supply the preachers with books in those circuits adjacent to Philadelphia, and keep his accounts and settle with them for the same: in such cases the regulation respecting presiding elders does not apply.

6. In all cases where books are sent to distant places, the presiding elders or preachers shall be allowed to put a small additional price on such books as will best bear it, in order to pay the expense of freight or carriage; but the addition must not be more than will pay such expense.

7. Let every annual conference appoint a committee, or committees, to examine the accounts of the presiding elders, preachers, or book-stewards, in their respective districts or circuits. Let every presiding elder and every preacher do all in their power to recover all debts due to the concern, which may remain in the hands of any person within their districts or circuits. Let every preacher or member indebted to the Book Concern, who refuses to make payment, or to come to a just settlement, be dealt with for a breach of trust, and some effectual measures be adopted to recover such debts agreeably to the direction of the annual conference.

8. There shall be no draft made upon the Book Concern, until its debts are discharged and a sufficient capital provided for carrying on the business, after which the profits arising from the books shall be regularly paid to the Chartered Fund, and the said profits applied, with the annual income of the funded stock, to the support of the distressed travelling preachers and their families, the widows and orphans of preachers, &c.

9. It shall be the duty of the preacher who travels with either of the bishops, if he be authorized by the superintendent, to act as his agent in the settlement of accounts, or in transacting any business belonging to the Concern.

10. In case of the death, dismissal, or resignation of the superintendent, in the recess of the General Conference, the Philadelphia Conference shall have power to appoint another superintendent, until the next General Conference. Agreed to.

Tuesday evening, May 20, 1800, the General Conference adjourned to the sixth day of May, A. D. 1804.

(Signed,)

T. COKE, *President.*

NICHOLAS SNETHEN, *Sec.*

## LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE,

Held at Baltimore May 7th, 1804.

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**BOSTON CONFERENCE**—George Pickering, Joshua Taylor, Thomas Syell, Reuben —4.

**WESTERN CONFERENCE**—William Burk, Thomas Milligan, John Watson, Louther Taylor\*—4.

**SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE**—Josiah Randall, George Daugherty, Hanover Dunning, Moses Mathews, James Jenkins—5.

**VIRGINIA CONFERENCE**—Jesse Lee, Samuel Risher, Daniel Hall, John Cocks, John Buxton, Humphrey Wood, Joseph Moore, Jesse Coe, Jonathan Jackson, Christ. Mooring, Daniel Ross, Samuel Gerrard, John Gainewell, William Allgood, Alex. M'Caine, Joseph Pennell, Philip Bruce—17.

**BALTIMORE CONFERENCE**—John Potts, Solomon Harris, Henry Willis, Enoch George, Hamilton Jefferson, Thomas Lucas, John Simmons, Jesse Stoneman, William Knox, Law. M'Combes, Joshua Wells, John Pitts, Henry Smith, Seely Bunn, Peter B. Davis, David Stevens, James Ward, Samuel Coat, James Quinn, Daniel Hitt, Daniel Fiddler, John West, Nicholas Snethen, William Waters, James Hunter, Lastley Mathews, Thornton Fleming, Nathan B. Wells, James Painter—29.

**PHILADELPHIA CONFERENCE**—John M'Claskey, Thos. Sargent, Thos. Ware, Thomas Smith, Joseph Everett, William M'Lenahan, David Bartine, Richard Swain, Joseph Totten, Anning Owen, Elijah Woolsey, William Onedenburgh, Robert Dillon, Gamaliel Bailey, Robert Sparks, Joseph Stone, Ezekiel Cooper, Walter Fountain, Benjamin Bidlack, William Colbert, William Mills, Joseph Jewell, Richard Sneath, Johnson Dunham, Edward Larkins, John Crawford, James Smith, Daniel Ryan,\* Jas. Herron, Richard Lyon,\* Jacob Gruber,\* Solomon Sharpe, Gideon Knowlton,\* William Bishop, Eleer Cowles, James Moore, Caleb Rindle, Morris Howe, George Roberts, William P. Chandler, David James—41.

\* On inquiry, decided not entitled to a seat in this conference.

**NEW-YORK CONFERENCE**—Freeborn Garrettsen, Michael Coats, Ralph Williston, John Wilson, Daniel Ostrander, Augustus Joselyn, Joseph Crawford, Nathan Emory, James Campbell, Aaron Hunt, Abner Wood, Joseph Sawyer—12.

Boston Conference, . . . . .	4
Western do. . . . .	4
South Carolina do. . . . .	5
Virginia do. . . . .	17
Baltimore do. . . . .	29
Philadelphia do. . . . .	41
New-York do. . . . .	12
	<hr/>
	112

Total, 112.

Excepted \* 5.

Shadrach Bostwick came on the 21st.

° On inquiry it was found that Lowther Taylor, Daniel Ryan, Gideon Knowlton, Jacob Gruber, and Richard Lyon were not entitled to a seat in this conference.

# JOURNAL

OF THE

## GENERAL CONFERENCE, 1804.

MONDAY, MAY 7.

May 7.

Dr. Coke moved, to read the By-Laws of last conference, one by one, and ratify, amend, or annul them. By-Laws  
Carried.

### RULES FOR THE ORDER OF CONFERENCE

1. Any person speaking shall not be interrupted, except Rule 1.  
by the presidents, when they judge that he deviates too much from the point; nevertheless, an appeal may be made to the conference, by any two of the members, from the president, but neither the conference nor the president shall speak to the point, but barely take the vote.
2. No person shall have liberty to speak above a quarter Rule 2.  
of an hour at a time, except with the permission of the conference; but still the conference shall grant or prohibit without debate.
3. If any person think himself misrepresented by a Rule 3.  
speaker, he shall have a right to explain, in as few words as possible, after the speaker has done.
4. No person shall speak oftener than three times on any Rule 4.  
question.
5. The sitting of conference shall be from 9 to 12 in the Rule 5.  
morning, and from 3 to 6 in the afternoon.
6. No question shall be proposed on a different subject Rule 6.  
from that under debate, until the question debated be decided or postponed.
7. A secretary shall be chosen by the conference, who Rule 7.  
shall keep a regular journal of all the proceedings of the conference, which journal shall be signed by the president and countersigned by the secretary at the close of the conference. The proceedings of the conference each day shall be read on the succeeding day in conference, before the



- May 7.** business of the day shall be entered upon, and the complete journals of the conference shall also be read in conference before the final close thereof.
- Rule 8.** 8. John Wilson is elected secretary.  
**J. Wilson, Secretary.**  
**Rule 9.** 9. No motion shall be put, except by the president, unless it be first delivered at the table in writing, after being read by the mover and seconded.
- Rule 10.** 10. No old rule shall be abolished, except by a majority of two-thirds.
- Rule 11.** 11. No member of the conference shall leave the city of Baltimore until the conference shall adjourn, without first obtaining leave of absence.
- Rule 12.** 12. No member shall leave the room, to go into the city, without leave.
- Rule 13.** 13. Any member shall have liberty to copy, at pleasure, any motion that is laid on the table.
- Rule 14.** 14. No spectators shall be admitted but members of society, and such as have introduction by, or a ticket from, a member of conference.
- Coke's Resolutions lost.** Dr. Coke moved, that no regulation, or law, should finally pass this conference until it has been read at three distinct sittings, and has received the approbation of the conference each time. Lost, 47 ayes to 56 nays.
- Dr. Coke moved, that no new regulation, or law, shall finally pass this conference until it has been read at three distinct sittings. Lost.
- Rescission on Rules.** Brother Lyell moved, that the rule which provides that no law be abolished but by the voice of two-thirds of the conference, be reconsidered. Carried.
- Brother Lyell moved, that the above rule be rescinded. Lost by a majority of 1.
- Brother Jesse Lee moved, that no name of members be used in debate. Lost.

**May 8.****TUESDAY, MAY 8.**

- Mr. Black of Nova Scotia.** Bishop Asbury moved, that brother Black, from Nova Scotia, have the privilege of speaking, but not of voting, in conference. Carried, unanimously.
- Brother Black was, by vote, appointed as time-keeper for the speakers; but afterward the matter was, on motion, reconsidered, and brother Totten nominated and appointed time-keeper for the day.
- Brother Totten Time-keeper.** A motion was made by brother Joselyn, that every motion lie on the table one sitting before debate. Lost.
- Terms of Communion.** A motion, by brother Bruce, that no new rules affecting the terms of communion shall be made unless passed by a majority of two-thirds, was lost.

A motion for the reconsideration of brother Bruce's motion—lost.

May 6.

Brother Alex. M'Caine moved, that a committee be appointed to inquire into the right of Gideon Knowlton, Lowther Taylor, Daniel Ryan, Jacob Gruber, and Richard Lyon, to a seat in this conference. Carried.

Right to Seat.

Thomas Milligan, Josiah Randall, Jesse Lee, Daniel Hilt, William Colbert, Freeborn Garrettson, and George Pickering, were nominated and appointed a committee for the above purpose.

Committee.

Brother G. Roberts moved, that this conference revise the Discipline of our Church, and that in revising it, it shall be read chapter by chapter, section by section, and paragraph by paragraph. Carried.

Roberts' motion to revise the Discipline carried.

Dr. Coker moved,

1. The assent of the conference to every paragraph of the Discipline which is not debated, shall be taken by the mode of sitting down. Carried.

Coker's Resolution as to mode of voting.

2. The assent to every paragraph which is debated shall be taken by the members rising up. Carried.

3. The assent of the conference to every section, excepting such parts of it as shall have been expunged or abolished, shall be taken by rising up. Carried.

Brother Cooper moved an alteration in the twenty-third Article of Religion, viz., "Constitution of the United States" for "General Act of Confederation," and "are a sovereign and independent nation, and" to be inserted between the word "states" and "ought not to be subject to any foreign jurisdiction." Carried.

Twenty-third Article of Religion.

Jesse Lee, for the committee, reported, that the committee were unanimous in their opinion that Lowther Taylor, Daniel Ryan, Gideon Knowlton, Jacob Gruber, and Richard Lyon, are *not* entitled to a seat in this conference.

Report of Committee.

*Resolved*, by vote, that the report of the committee be considered by conference separately and distinctly with respect to the several persons objected against.

Determined, by vote, that the time of any preacher's travelling, under the direction of a presiding elder, shall not be reckoned as part of his probation, which shall commence from the time of his reception by conference.

Commencement of probation.

A motion, that the consideration of the cases of the five brethren be referred to the same committee for a final discussion and determination. Carried.

A motion, by brother Snethen, that the third section of the Discipline be divided into two parts, the one to define the business of the General Conference, and the other that of the yearly conferences. Lost.

Change of Discipline.

A motion, by brother M'Claskey, that the General Conference be composed of such members as shall have travelled under conference six years or more. Lost.

Membership in General Conference.

- May 8.**  
 Eligibility to General Conference. Brother John Pitts moved, that all the preachers who shall have travelled four years from the time they were received on trial by an annual conference, and are in full connexion, shall compose the General Conference. Carried.
- Appointment of the time of holding yearly Conferences. Brother Snethen moved, to add to the answer of the question, "Who shall appoint the times of holding the yearly conferences?" *Answer.* The bishops; "but they shall allow the annual conferences to sit a week at least." Carried.

### WEDNESDAY MORNING, MAY 9.

- May 9.**  
 Final Report of Committee on Seats. Jesse Lee reported, from the committee, that they are of opinion the five brethren have not a right to sit in this conference.  
 Ezekiel Cooper moved the insertion of this question and answer, "Who shall appoint the place of holding the annual conferences? *Answer.* Each annual conference shall appoint the place of its own sitting." Carried.
- Lee's resolution carried. Jesse Lee moved the question concerning location be in these terms, "Who are located this year?" &c. Carried.  
 Ezekiel Cooper moved, that the question be, "Who are the supernumerary, superannuated, and worn-out preachers?" Carried.
- Vermont District added to New-England Conference. Jesse Lee moved, that the Vermont District be added to the New-England Conference. Carried.  
 New-London District. Jos. Taylor moved, that the New-London District be added to the New-England Conference. Carried.  
 The above two motions were made jointly by brother Taylor, but the vote was taken separately on the motion of brother Lee.
- Albany District. Freeborn Garretson moved, that the Albany District be added to the New-York Conference. Carried.
- Susquehannah District. On a motion, whether the Susquehannah District belongs to the Baltimore or Philadelphia Conference—the conference decided it belongs to Baltimore, 54 to 45.
- Greenbrier District. J. Ward moved, that the Greenbrier District be connected with the Baltimore Conference. Carried.
- Swaimino, Morganton, and Wilmington Circuits. Jas. Jenkins moved, that the Swaimino, Morganton, and Wilmington Circuits be added to the South Carolina Conference. Carried.
- New-England Conference. 1. The New-England Conference shall include the District of Maine, and the Boston, New-London, and Vermont Districts.  
 2. The New-York Conference comprehends the New-York, Pittsfield, Albany, and Upper Canada Districts.  
 3. The Philadelphia Conference shall include the remainder of the state of New-York, all New-Jersey, that part of Pennsylvania which lies on the east side of the Susquehannah River—except what belongs to the Susquehan-
- New-York Conference.  
 Philadelphia Conference.

nah District—the state of Delaware, the Eastern Shore of Maryland, and all the rest of the peninsula.

May 9.

4. The Baltimore Conference shall include the remainder of Pennsylvania, the Western Shore of Maryland, the Northern Neck of Virginia, and the Greenbrier District.

Baltimore Conference.

5. The Virginia Conference shall include all that part of Virginia which lies on the south side of the Rappahannock River and east of the Blue Ridge, and all that part of North Carolina which lies on the north side of Cape Fear River, except Wilmington, also the circuits which are situated on the branches of the Yadkin.

Virginia Conference.

6. The South Carolina Conference shall include the remainder of North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia.

South Carolina Conference.

7. The Western Conference shall include the states of Tennessee, Kentucky, and Ohio, and that part of Virginia which lies west of the great river Kanawha, with the Illinois and the Natchez. *Provided*, that the bishops shall have authority to appoint other yearly conferences, &c.

Western Conference.

Thomas Syell moved, that the note immediately subsequent to the answer of the 8th question be postponed until we take into consideration the 5th section. Carried.

Syell's resolution carried.

Brother M'Caine moved, that the words "and shall be signed by the president and secretary," be inserted in the Minutes concerning records of conferences between the words "purpose" and "and let." Carried.

M'Caine's resolution carried.

Brother Cooper moved, that the words "in future" be left out in the 1st question, the question to be, "How is a bishop constituted?" Carried.

Cooper's resolution carried.

Brother Cooper moved, that the words "and as the Discipline directs," shall be added to the third answer of the question, "What are the duties of a bishop?" Carried.

Brother Wells moved the alteration of the word "the" into "a" bishop. Carried.

Wells's resolution carried.

Brother Cooper moved, that the word "guilty" be changed into the word "accused" at the beginning of the answer to fifth question—"If a bishop be accused," &c. Carried.

THURSDAY, MAY 10.

May 10.

Bishop Whatcoat rose to recommend the suppression of passion or ill-will in debate, and that reason should rule in every loving contest.

Suppression of passion.

Bishop Asbury moved, that the doors be closed. Carried. Closed against all but members of conference, by a further vote taken and carried.

Closed doors.

Thomas Syell moved, that the further consideration of the answer given to the fifth question be postponed until we take into consideration the fifth section. Carried.

Syell's resolution carried.

Nicholas Snetten moved, that the word "episcopal" be

Snetten's resolution carried.

May 10.

connected with the word "office" in the sixth question. Carried.

N. Snethen moved, that in the answer of the sixth question, the words the "episcopal office" be substituted for "any ministerial function whatever." Carried.

A motion, by brother Wells, to add to the former amendment the words "or any ministerial function whatever," was lost.

R. Williston moved, that the paragraph concerning ordaining local deacons be postponed, and resumed with the twenty-first section. Carried.

Thomas Syell moved the abolition of the whole fifth section, concerning presiding elders. This was afterward altered by the mover, that there be no presiding elders.

Adjournment.

A motion to adjourn till this afternoon, for further consideration, on a division, was carried.

## THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

Leave of absence obtained.

Jos. Jewell and Joseph Sawyer asked and obtained leave of absence to attend a funeral.

A motion, made by brother Totten, that the answer to the first question be changed to "The preachers in full connexion, who are to travel within the bounds of the district over which he is to preside the ensuing year," was lost.

After a long debate, the motion, "That there be no presiding elders," was lost.

A motion, made by brother Snethen, that to the second answer, second question, the words, "travelling elders excepted," be added, was lost.

Brother Snethen's motion, that in the third answer the words "local preachers" be inserted after "receive," on a motion to adjourn, was voted to be decided this evening, and was lost.

May 11.

## FRIDAY, MAY 11.

Leave of absence.

Brother Everitt and brother Gainewell obtained leave of absence from conference, as they shall judge proper, for the sake of their health.

Brother Joselyn obtained leave of absence for this afternoon.

Coke's motion carried.

A motion was made by Dr. Coke, to divide the spiritual and temporal concerns in the Discipline. The present consideration of this was carried by vote.

On the motion that the spiritual and temporal be divided—carried.

Discipline.

Voted, by general voice, that the Discipline be included in one volume—in parts.

Ezekiel Cooper moved, that the words, "as the Discipline directs," be added to the third answer of the second question. Carried.

A motion, by brother M'Claskey, that no presiding elder shall have power to remove the preacher who has the charge of the circuit or station, without his consent, was lost.

May 11.  
M'Claskey's motion lost.

N. Snethen moved the substitution of "and" for "or" in the third answer, second question. Carried.

Ezekiel Cooper moved a corresponding alteration of "or" into "and," third answer, third question, section 4. Carried. "Receive and suspend" in both places.

Cooper's motion carried.

Ezekiel Cooper moved, that to the fourth answer to second question, fifth section, be added, "But in case there are two or more presiding elders belonging to one conference, the bishop or bishops may, by letter or otherwise, appoint the president; but if no appointment be made, or the presiding elder appointed do not attend, the conference shall, in either of these cases, elect the president by ballot, without debate, from among the presiding elders. Carried.

Brother M'Combs moved, as an amendment to a motion of brother Roberts, that the words, "and none else," be inserted in the fifth answer to the second question, between the words "circuit" and "to hear." Carried.

Joshua Wells moved, that in the same answer the words "and try" be inserted between "receive" and "appeal." Carried.

Brother Jenkins moved, that this assembly be called the Quarterly Meeting Conference. Carried.

Brother M'Caine moved, that the Quarterly Meeting Conference shall appoint a secretary to take down the proceedings of the Quarterly Meeting Conference in a book, kept by one of the stewards of the circuit for that purpose. Carried.

Appointment of Secretary.

The words "one of" by a subsequent motion.

Brother Moore moved, that the following question be inserted previous to the fifth question, fifth section: "Shall the presiding elder have power to employ a preacher who has been rejected at the previous annual conference?" Carried.

Moore's motion carried.

Brother Moore moved, that the answer be: "He shall not, unless the conference should give him liberty, under certain conditions." Carried.

Brother Snethen obtained leave of absence.

SATURDAY, MAY 12.

May 12.

John Cocks obtained leave of absence this day.

Thomas Lucas obtained leave of absence for next week, to attend court.

Leave of absence granted.

Geo. Roberts moved, that a committee of seven members, one from each annual conference, be appointed to inquire into the necessities of the preachers, and the probable expenses of the most necessitous in coming to and returning from the General Conference. Carried.

May 12.

Committee on necessities of the preachers, and probable expense of travelling to and from General Conference.

Wells's motion carried.

Willis's motion carried.

Brothers Colbert, Bruce, Daugherty, Garrettson, Hitt, Burk, and Pickering, were nominated and appointed the committee.

A motion to collect in all the churches, for the supply of necessities, was carried.

Joshua Wells moved, that the fifth question, fourth section, be in these terms: "What provision shall be made for the trial of a bishop, if he should be accused of immorality in the interval of the General Conference?" Carried.

H. Willis moved, that the following amendment be incorporated in the answer to the fifth question, fourth section: "But no accusation shall be received against a bishop unless it be delivered in writing, signed by the witnesses who are to prove the crime." Carried.

E. Cooper moved the following addition to the amendment: "And a copy of the accusation shall be given to the accused bishop."

Brother James moved, that to the answer of fifth question, fifth section, be added, "But he shall be accountable to the annual conference for what he receives as his salary." Carried.

M'Claskey's motion carried.

John M'Claskey moved the following amendment to be inserted in the note of the second answer to second question, between the words "conference" and "shall," viz.: "except in case of sickness, debility, or other unavoidable circumstances." Carried.

Joshua Wells moved, that the words, "or ever be allowed to preach among us," be added to the note of second answer of second question, immediately after the word "office." Carried.

Leave of absence.

Enoch George obtained leave of absence.

A motion was made that the following words be added to the amended answer to the note of the second answer to second question, viz.: "Nevertheless, the final determination in all such cases is in the yearly conference." Carried.

Daugherty's motion carried.

George Daugherty moved, that the following addition be made to the second answer of the third question, fourth section, viz.: "Provided he shall not allow any to remain in the same station more than two years successively, excepting the presiding elders, supernumeraries, superannuated and worn-out preachers." Carried.

A motion to add, "except in cases of sickness of families," was lost.

May 14.

MONDAY, MAY 14.

Leave of absence.

Brothers Ward, Knox, and Quinn, obtained leave of absence.

Samuel Coate moved, that the rule for considering the Discipline chapter by chapter, section by section, paragraph by paragraph, be reconsidered and rejected. Lost.

Brother Bruce moved for an explanation of the amendment made to the second answer of the third question, fourth section, on brother Daugherty's motion, viz., whether the rule then passed have a retrospective reference to former stations, or only relates to stations that shall be made in future.

May 14  
Explanation of  
amendment.

Brother Taylor moved, that the amendment last mentioned be reconsidered. Lost.

Brother Lee moved, that the rule go into operation from this conference. Lost.

Brother Waters moved, that the amendment do not operate in respect to the three next northern conferences. Carried.

Brother E. Cooper moved for the reading of the letters from the European conferences. Carried.

Reading of letters  
from European Con-  
ferences.

E. Cooper moved, that Dr. Coke shall have leave from this General Conference to return to Europe, agreeably to the request of the European conferences, *provided* he shall hold himself subject to the call of three of our annual conferences, to return to us when he shall be requested; but at furthest, that he shall return, if he lives, to the next General Conference. To lie on the table till called up.

Mem.—Dr. Coke had, previous to this motion, read the letters from England and Ireland.

A motion to appoint a committee on the letters was withdrawn.

Brother J. M'Claskey moved, that brother Roberts's motion to read the Discipline chapter by chapter, &c., be reconsidered so far as to give liberty to any two members who may choose to bring forward the consideration of the Book Concern, the case of the local preachers, the Chartered Fund, slavery, or marriage. Carried.

Brother Ware moved, that a committee of seven be appointed to take up and mature the Book Concern—one from each conference. Carried.

Joshua Taylor, Thomas Ware, George Daugherty, Joseph Moore, Daniel Ostrander, Daniel Hitt, and William Burk, were nominated and appointed severally a committee.

Committee on  
Book Concern.

Brother M'Caine moved, that the subject of slavery be the order of the day for next Wednesday. Carried.

Subject of Slav-  
ery.

Dr. Coke moved, that the words "two or three" be substituted for the word "the" in the amendment of the answer of the fifth question, fourth section, before the word "witnesses"—"two or three witnesses." Carried, 49 to 46.

Alexander M'Caine moved, that the same alterations be made in the note to the answer of the third question, seventh section, as were made respecting elders in note to second answer, second question, sixth section. Carried.

A motion was made to add the epithet "general" to "bonds"—"general bonds"—in the second answer to second question. Carried.



May 14

Brother M'Caine moved, to substitute "we recommend morning preaching at five o'clock," &c., for "we are fully," &c., in the fourth answer, second question. Carried.

Brother Cooper moved to substitute, "and conduct yourselves prudently" for "and cautiously," third answer, third question. Carried.

Brother Cooper moved to substitute the word "because" for the word "else," sixth answer, third question. Carried.

Brother Cooper moved to insert the words "lovingly and" between the words "that" and "plainly," in the seventh answer, third question. Carried.

Dr. Coke moved the insertion of the word "you" after "want" in the eleventh answer, third question. Carried.

M'Claskey's motion carried.

John M'Claskey moved, that no member interrupt the proceedings of this conference by moving to alter words where the sense is not changed. Carried.

Ezekiel Cooper moved that the words "on trial" be annexed to the word "received," in the answer to fourth question, third paragraph—"no one shall be received on trial." Carried.

Alexander M'Caine moved, that in the fourth paragraph of the answer to the fourth question, after the word "probation," be inserted, "which is to commence from his being received at the yearly conference." Carried.

Charter Fund the order of the day.

Thomas Lyell moved, that the business of the Charter Fund be the order of the day for to-morrow. Carried.

Hall's motion carried.

Brother Hall moved, that any preacher that is received on trial shall have a form of Discipline gratis. Carried.

Rule concerning Marriage.

Brother Jenkins moved, that the rule concerning marriage be considered on Thursday morning. Carried.

A motion, by brother Cooper, respecting appointing and dismissing stewards and leaders was, by vote, postponed till Thursday.

May 15.

## TUESDAY, MAY 15.

Charter Fund.

A motion, by brother Bruce, that the order of the day on the Charter Fund be postponed, and the consideration of local preachers taken up, was lost.

Local preachers.

A motion, by brother Waters, that the business of the local preachers be considered immediately after the business of the Charter Fund is decided, all other motions notwithstanding, was lost.

Letter on Charter Fund read.

George Roberts moved, that the letter, with the nomination and statement from the trustees of the Charter Fund, be read before we proceed to a discussion of the business. Carried.

The secretary accordingly read the papers mentioned, and the articles of association.

Vacancies in Board of Trustees.

George Roberts moved, that the General Conference act upon the nominations to fill up the vacancies in the Board

of Trustees, without going into investigation of the difficulties of Philadelphia. Carried.

May 13.

On taking the votes, by ballot, for electing a trustee for the Charter Fund, in the stead of Henry Manley, the votes were found, for Charles Cavender sixty-six, for Samuel Wilmer eleven; but an objection was made against the election on the ground of the nomination having been made four years ago.

Ballot for Trustees.

A motion, by Ezekiel Cooper, that brother Roberts's motion be reconsidered, was lost.

Trustee of the Charter Fund.

On reading the nomination of two others, William Budd and John Wood, of whom to elect one trustee of the Charter Fund, in the stead of Burton Wallace, brother Cooper opposed the nomination, and, on motion and vote of conference, read their resignation, in the year 1801, from the Methodist Church in Philadelphia.

Ezekiel Cooper moved, that whereas the third article of the charter of association of the Charter Fund expressly declares that no person shall be eligible as a trustee of the said corporation who has not been a member of said Church according to the rules and Discipline thereof, as aforesaid, at least five years next preceding his election; and whereas certain persons, now nominated to be trustees, did withdraw from the Methodist Church in Philadelphia in the summer of 1801, and were not readmitted on trial, or as members, till the spring of 1802, and of course have been only two years, since they were readmitted, either on trial or as members, therefore,

*Resolved*, That in the opinion of this conference they are not eligible to the office of trustees agreeably to the act of incorporation and rules of our Discipline.

Carried.

Daniel Hitt desired to retire from the book committee on account of health, which was granted, and Thornton Fleming was appointed in his stead.

Hitt retired from Book Committee—Fleming appointed in his stead.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16.

May 16.

John Potts applied for leave of absence, to go to his station. Not granted.

Leave of absence.

P. Bruce brought forward a motion respecting local eldership, and a petition from the Virginia Annual Conference concerning slavery, which, by vote, were ordered to lie on the table till called for in regular course of procedure.

Bruce's motion laid on the table.

G. Hall moved, that no person be admitted as a spectator during the sitting of the General Conference. Carried.

Spectators.

George Roberts proposed to read a motion to investigate the difficulties of Philadelphia, implicating a charge against

- May 16.** a member of this conference. This was opposed as disorderly.  
 Dr. Coke proposed a compromise between the parties.  
 On the question, Shall brother Roberts read his paper? carried, 46 to 40.
- Paper read.** Brother Roberts accordingly read his paper, which he afterward withdrew.
- Coke's motion carried.** Dr. Coke moved, that the seven trustees proceed in the business of the Chartered Fund till the next General Conference. Carried.
- Nominations.** Dr. Coke moved, that the nomination of Samuel Harvey and William Lowber be laid over, and that the seven trustees make new nominations to the next General Conference. Carried.
- Letter concerning Chartered Fund.** Dr. Coke moved, that a letter be written by the bishops, with the approbation of the conference, countersigned by the secretary, explaining the whole business of the conference concerning the Chartered Fund, a copy of which letter shall be sent to each trustee.
- Extract from John Hancock's will.** Joseph Totten moved for liberty to read an extract from Mr. John Hancock's will, in which a legacy of four thousand dollars is left to the Methodist preachers. Carried.
- Bishop Asbury moved, that the above legacy be put into the Chartered Fund. Carried.
- Official members admitted as spectators.** On motion, all the official members of our Church were admitted as spectators.
- Leave of absence.** Richard Smith and James Moore requested and obtained leave of absence after this sitting.
- Petition of Virginia Conference.** Alexander M'Caine moved, that the petition of the Virginia Conference concerning slavery be read. Carried.  
 The petition was accordingly read.
- Alexander M'Caine moved, that the first question concerning slavery run thus: "What shall be done for the extirpation of the evil of slavery?" Carried.
- Slavery.** A variety of motions were proposed on the subject of slavery, and, after a long conversation, Freeborn Garretson moved, that the subject of slavery be left to the three bishops, to form a section to suit the southern and northern states, as they in their wisdom may think best, to be submitted to this conference. Carried.
- Bishop Asbury having refused to act on the last vote, the question was left open.

**May 17.****THURSDAY, MAY 17.**

- Leave of absence.** Richard Swain, William Mills, Aaron Hunt, and Robert Sparks, asked and obtained leave of absence.
- Daniel Ostrander moved, that the business of the Book Concern be made the order of the day for Saturday. Carried.

A great variety of motions were proposed, after which, Ezekiel Cooper moved, that a committee be formed, one from each conference, to take the different motions and report concerning slavery. Carried.

May 17.

George Daugherty, Philip Bruce, William Burk, Henry Willis, Ezekiel Cooper, Freeborn Garrettson, and Thomas Lyell, were nominated and appointed a committee.

Committee on Slavery.

Ezekiel Cooper, on motion, read a general statement of the Book Concern to 2d April, 1804, by which the worth (deducting debts, bad debts, expenses of selling and collecting) appeared to be, net, twenty-seven thousand dollars.

General statement of Book Concern.

Ezekiel Cooper moved, that the title be, "Of Marriage." Carried.

Marriage.

Ezekiel Cooper moved, that in the second question, "discouragement" be substituted for "put a stop to." Carried.

Elijah Woolsey, David James, Caleb Kendall, and William Waters obtained leave of absence.

Leave of absence.

Ezekiel Cooper moved, that the second and third answers to the third question be abolished. Lost, 45 to 40.

Ezekiel Cooper moved, that the second and third answers to the second question be as follows, viz.: "2d. Let him declare, whoever does this will be put back on trial six months. 3d. When any such are put back on trial, let a suitable exhortation be subjoined."

Cooper's motion carried.

Carried.

On motion, the above resolution passed without debate.

Jesse Lee moved, that brother Cooper's amendment be reconsidered. Lost.

## FRIDAY, MAY 18.

May 18.

John Pitts obtained leave of absence.

Leave of absence.

A motion for the reconsideration of brother Cooper's amendment of the second and third answer to the second question concerning marriage, was lost.

Alexander M'Caine moved, that no motion shall be made for the reconsideration of any subject more than once. Carried.

Ezekiel Cooper moved, that the last paragraph be amended to read thus: "We do not prohibit our people from marrying persons who are not of our society, *provided* such persons have the form and are seeking the power of godliness; but we are determined to discourage their marrying persons who do not come up to this description; and even in a doubtful case, the person shall be put back on trial." Carried.

By vote, the doors were closed against all but local elders.

Closed doors.

On the question that brother Bruce's motion concerning local elders be proceeded on immediately. Carried.

Local Elders.

- May 18. Solomon Harris moved, as a favour, that brother Caleb Bowyer have permission to make one speech on the subject now before the house. Carried.
- Leave of absence. Thornton Fleming, John Watson, Hamilton Jefferson, James Hunter, Joseph Stone, James Painter, Wm. Bishop, Thomas Smith, and George Pickering, obtained leave of absence.
- On brother Bruce's motion concerning the local eldership, the same having been long investigated, and the vote on the general principle taken by ballot, "Shall there be an ordination of local elders?" the votes were 44 to 44—a tie.
- Dr. Coke moved, that it lie over, as unfinished business, till the next General Conference. Carried.

May 19.

## SATURDAY, MAY 19.

- Leave of absence. Gamaliel Bailey, Henry Willis, and Jesse Stoneman, obtained leave of absence.
- Report of Book Committee. On motion, the report of the book committee was read.
- Book Business. Moved, that the book business be removed from Philadelphia. Carried—36 to 26.
- On the question, "Where shall the book business be conducted?" the votes were, for New-York 38, Baltimore 36. Carried for New-York.
- Leave of absence. John Crawford, Benjamin Bidlack, Johnson Dunham, Eber Cowles, William Vreedenburgh, Michael Coate, and Wm. P. Chandler, obtained leave of absence.
- Cooper's statement and letter of resignation read. Read, brother Ezekiel Cooper's statement of the book business and letter of resignation; the statement being the same in effect as the one delivered on Thursday.
- E. Cooper moved, that the European letters be the order of the day immediately after the slave business. Carried.
- On motion, "Who shall have the general superintendence of the Book Concern?" the votes being taken by ballot were found to be, for Ezekiel Cooper 36, for John Wilson 34. Ezekiel Cooper was elected.

May 21.

## MONDAY, MAY 21.

- On motion, whether the business of slavery be taken up. Carried.
- Report of the Committee on Slavery. Read, the report of the committee on slavery—which, with amendments, was adopted by conference, and forms section nine, "Of Slavery."
- Report. 1. We declare, that we are as much as ever convinced of the great evil of slavery, and do most earnestly recommend to the yearly conferences, quarterly-meeting conferences, and to those who have the oversight of districts, circuits, and stations, to be exceedingly cautious what persons they admit to official stations in our Church; and in the

case of future admission to official stations, to require such security of those who hold slaves, for the emancipation of them, immediately or gradually, as the laws of the states respectively and the circumstances of the case will admit; and we do fully authorize all the yearly conferences to make whatever regulations they judge proper in the present case respecting the admission of persons to official stations in our Church.

May 21.  
Report on Slavery.

2. When any travelling preacher becomes the owner of a slave, or slaves, by any means, he shall forfeit his ministerial character in our Church, unless he execute, if it be practicable, a legal emancipation of such slaves, conformably to the laws of the state in which he lives.

3. No slaveholder shall be received into full membership in our society, till the preacher who has the oversight of the circuit or station has spoken to him fully and faithfully on the subject of slavery.

4. Every member of our society who sells a slave, except at the request of the slave, in cases of mercy or humanity, agreeably to the judgment of a committee of three male members of the society, appointed by the preacher who has the charge of the circuit or station, shall, immediately after full proof, be excluded the society; and if any members of our society purchase a slave, the ensuing quarterly-meeting conference shall determine on the number of years which the slave so purchased should serve to work out the price of his purchase; and the person so purchasing shall, immediately after such determination, execute a legal instrument for the manumission of such slave at the expiration of the term determined by the quarterly-meeting conference; and in default of his executing such instrument of manumission, or on his refusal to submit his case to the judgment of the quarterly-meeting conference, such member shall be excluded the society: *Provided*, that in the case of a female slave, it shall be inserted in the aforesaid instrument of manumission that all her children who shall be born during the years of her servitude shall be free at the following times, viz.: Every female child at the age of twenty-one, and every male child at the age of twenty-five: *provided*, also, that if a member of our society shall buy a slave with a certificate of future emancipation, the terms of emancipation shall, notwithstanding, be subject to the decision of the quarterly-meeting conference. Nevertheless, the members of our societies in the states of North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia shall be exempted from the operation of the above rules.

5. Let our preachers from time to time, as occasion serves, admonish and exhort all slaves to render due respect and obedience to the commands and interests of their respective masters.

- May 21.  
Committee on Discipline. Philip Bruce moved, that a committee be formed to determine what parts of our form of Discipline shall belong to the temporal concerns thereof; and that a number of the first or spiritual part of our Discipline be printed as a separate part, for the benefit of the Christian slaves belonging to our society in the south. Carried.
- Number of Committee. Moved, that the number of the committee be three. Carried.
- Place for conducting Book Business. George Roberts, George Dougherty, and Daniel Hitt, were nominated and appointed a committee.  
A motion, that the place for conducting the book business be reconsidered, was lost—40 to 27.  
A motion, that no rule passed before last Saturday evening be reconsidered, was lost.
- Leave of absence. William Burk, Edward Larkins, and Thomas Ware, obtained leave of absence.  
James Jenkins moved, that the conference begin to-morrow at 8 o'clock. Carried.
- European letters. Read, the European letters, and brother Cooper's motion made on Monday, the 14th, respecting them.
- Dr. Coke. Ezekiel Cooper's motion, made on Monday last, that Dr. Coke shall have leave from this General Conference to return to Europe, agreeably to the request of the European conferences: *provided*, he shall hold himself subject to the call of three of our annual conferences, to return to us when he shall be requested; but at furthest, that he shall return, if he lives, to the next General Conference—by a vote very general, if not unanimous, was carried.
- Committee to draw up an Address to the English and Irish Conferences. George Roberts moved, that a committee be appointed to draw up an address to the English and Irish Conferences, in answer to theirs to this General Conference. Carried.  
Ezekiel Cooper, Alexander M'Caine, and Thomas Lyell, were nominated and appointed a committee.  
A motion to elect another bishop was lost.
- General Book-Steward. Jesse Lee moved, that the general book-steward be allowed to employ a man to assist him, until the New-York Conference for 1805, and then the New-York Conference shall give him what assistance they think proper. Carried.  
Jesse Lee moved that the book business be recommitted. Carried.

May 22.

TUESDAY, MAY 22.

Discipline.

Dr. Coke moved, that the first division of the Discipline shall be entitled only, "The Doctrines and Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church;" and the second division be entitled only, "The Temporal Economy of the Methodist Episcopal Church." Carried.

Read, the report of the committee for dividing the Discipline, which, with amendments, was adopted by several legal votes, as follows, viz. :—

1st Section. Of the Boundaries of the seven Annual Conferences, &c.

2d. Of the building of Churches, and the Order to be observed therein.

3d. Of the Qualification and Duty of Stewards.

4th. Of the Salaries of Ministers and Preachers, and Allowances to their Wives, Widows, and Children.

5th. Of raising Annual Supplies for the Propagation of the Gospel, &c.

6th. Of the Charter Fund.

7th. Of the Printing and Circulating of Books, &c.

8th. Local Preachers allowed a Salary in certain Cases.

9th. Of Slavery.

The committee recommend the rescinding of the third paragraph, twenty-sixth section, first chapter,—“Of Marriage Money;” and seventh page, twenty-seventh section, first chapter—“Of the Philadelphia Conference electing trustees to Charter Fund.” Carried.

Daniel Hitt moved, that the first and second paragraphs, twenty-sixth section, first chapter, be rescinded. Carried.

Jesse Lee moved, that the last part of the ninth paragraph, ninth section, first chapter, be left out of the Discipline, together with the letter S. Carried.

George Dougherty moved, that two thousand copies of the first or spiritual part of our Discipline be printed off and bound, for the use of the south. Carried.

Ezekiel Cooper's two motions, that the preacher appoint and change all the leaders, as necessity may require, by and with the consent of the classes respectively; and appoint and change the stewards, as necessity may require; but no steward shall be appointed or changed without the approbation of the quarterly-meeting conference, were, on a motion of Thomas Lyell, postponed till next General Conference.

Alexander M'Caine moved, that the general book-steward be excepted, with the presiding elders, supernumerary, superannuated, and worn-out preachers, in the additions to the second answer, third question, fourth section, first chapter. Carried.

Dr. Coke moved, that the Bishops' Explanatory Notes be postponed, for consideration, to the next General Conference. Carried.

The book committee's report, with alterations and additions, was adopted, as follows:—

1st. The book business shall be removed to, and carried on in, the city of New-York.

May 22.

Report of Committee for dividing Discipline.

Amendments.

Printing of Discipline.

Cooper's motions two postponed.

Bishops' Explanatory Notes postponed.

Book Committee's Report.



May 22.  
Report on Book  
Concern.

2d. Ezekiel Cooper is reappointed editor and general book-steward, who shall have authority to regulate the publications and all other parts of the business, as the state of the finances and the demands of the connexion shall, from time to time, require. He shall publish such books and tracts as are recommended by the General Conference, and such as may be approved of and recommended by an annual conference, and none other. But he may reprint any book or tract which has once been approved of and published by us, when in his judgment and in the judgment of the book committee the same ought to be reprinted. It shall be his duty to inform the annual conference if any of the preachers or private members of the society neglect to make due payment.

3d. The book committee, consisting of five, shall be annually appointed by the New-York Conference, who shall, previous to each annual sitting, examine into the accounts of the general book-steward, and report to conference the state of the Concern.

4th. We adopt the second paragraph wholly, except substituting "general book-steward" for "superintendent."

5th. We approve the third paragraph as it stands.

6th. We adopt the fourth paragraph, changing "superintendent" and "Philadelphia" for "general book-steward" and "New-York."

7th. We adopt the fifth paragraph entire.

8th. We adopt the sixth paragraph without alteration.

9th. Instead of the seventh paragraph, insert: "The profits arising from the Book Concern, after a sufficient capital to carry on the business is retained, shall be regularly applied to the support of the distressed travelling preachers and their families, and the widows and orphans of preachers," &c. The general book-steward shall, every year, send forward to each annual conference an account of the dividend which the several annual conferences may draw that year; and each conference may draw for its proportionate part on any person who has book-money in hand; and the drafts, with the receipt of the conference thereon, shall be sent to the general book-steward, and be placed to the credit of the person who paid the same. But each annual conference is authorized, at all events, to draw on the general book-steward for one hundred dollars.

10th. In the ninth paragraph substitute the words "general book-steward" for "superintendent," and "New-York" for "Philadelphia."

11th. We adopt the tenth paragraph entire.

The eighth and eleventh paragraphs to be dropped.

On motion, that during the recess of General Conference the New-York Conference shall have power, if they deem it expedient, to remove the Book Concern, was carried.

On recommendation of the committee, the conference ordered the printing of the following books :—

May 22.  
Books ordered to be printed.

1st. That a Methodist Repository be published, and that Dr. Coke be requested to prepare one volume : *provided*, however, that the general book-steward, with the New-York book committee, shall have liberty to leave out such pieces as they see necessary in order to insert American biography, experiences, and revivals of religion.

2d. The Portrait of St. Paul.

3d. The Memoirs of the Life of the Rev. P. Dickinson.

4th. The General Irish Hymn-Book.

5th. The fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, and ninth volumes of Mr. Wesley's Sermons.

6th. The Ecclesiastical History—by solicitation of conference, Dr. Coke is to prepare it for the committee.

7th. Mr. Wesley's Appeal—by desire, Dr. Coke is to adapt it to the circumstances and situation of the United States.

8th. Mr. Wesley's Notes on the New Testament—to be reprinted.

9th. Benson's Life of Fletcher.

10th. The Mourner.

11th. Cowper's translation of Guion.

12th. Nineteen Conversations on the Death of Ignatius, from Writings of the Old Fathers.

18th. The second volume of Mr. Wesley's Journal.

Read, the letter of the European conferences, which was ordered to be transcribed.

Letter from the European Conferences.

George Roberts moved, that the salary of the book-steward be six hundred dollars per annum. Carried.

Salary of the Book-Steward.

Dr. Coke moved, that the book committee and the general book-steward take such legal steps for security to the General Conference of the stock and cash in hand, and of what may be in future in the possession of the general book-steward, as may appear necessary to some person or persons well versed in the law of the land, but without any incorporation whatsoever ; and if no other security but an incorporation be devised, the matter of security shall lie over to the next General Conference. Carried.

Security of book property.

Alexander M'Caine moved, that in the eighth paragraph, twenty-sixth section, first chapter, after the words "made up," the following words be added : "But in no case shall an allowance be made to any travelling preacher who has travelled in any circuit where he might, in the judgment of the annual conference, have obtained his full quarterage if he had applied for it." Carried, 28 to 27.

Alterations of Discipline.

Ezekiel Cooper moved, that immediately after the words "Chartered Fund," in the eighth paragraph, twenty-sixth section, first chapter, be added, "and also the annual dividend arising from the profits of the Book Concern." Carried.

May 22.  
Alteration of  
Discipline.

Jas. Smith moved that in addition to the third paragraph of the tenth section, page 20, it be added, after the word "years," and before the word "nevertheless," "and those preachers whose wives are dead shall be allowed for each child annually a sum sufficient to pay the board of such child or children during the above term of years." Carried.

Henry Smith obtained leave of absence.

A motion to prevent preachers using spirituous liquors, etc., was lost.

May 23.

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 23.

Assistant Book-  
Steward.

Bishop Asbury moved that there be an assistant to the General Book-Steward appointed by this General Conference, for the better carrying on of the business. Carried.

A motion that a press be established in Baltimore for printing books, was lost.

George Roberts moved that in case of the death or resignation of the Editor and general Book-Steward, the assistant shall carry on the Concern till the sitting of the next New-York Annual Conference. Carried.

Wilson, Assis-  
tant Book-Stew-  
ard.

On the question, "Who is the assistant?" the votes were, Wilson 38, M'Caine 16, J. Lee 1. John Wilson was elected.

Assistant's Sala-  
ry.

Geo. Roberts moved that the assistant's salary be six hundred dollars per annum. Carried.

Dr. Coke moved that the Secretary be desired to incorporate the decisions of the conference concerning the assistant to the Editor and general Book-Steward in the section concerning books. Carried.

Coke's motion  
carried.

Dr. Coke moved that the assistant be an exception to the removal of preachers from circuit to circuit. Carried.

John Wilson is appointed assistant to the Editor, and general Book-Steward, with the salary of six hundred dollars per annum; and in case of the death or resignation of the Editor and general Book-Steward, the assistant shall carry on the Concern till the sitting of the next New-York Annual Conference.

Time and place  
of meeting of  
the next Gen.  
Conference.

On several motions, the next General Conference was appointed to meet in four years, viz., on May 1st, 1808, at Baltimore.

Letter of  
Thanks.

Bishop Asbury moved that a respectful letter be written to the friends in Alexandria, in answer to their petition, and a letter of thanks to the official members in Baltimore, to be communicated to the society. Carried.

Committee to  
write Letters.

Ezekiel Cooper and Thomas Lyell were appointed to write the above letters.

Burke's motion  
carried.

William Burke moved that no business be done after this sitting but reading the journal and letters. Carried.

Bishop Asbury moved that the eighth answer to the third

question, twelfth section, first chapter, be rescinded. Carried.

May 22.

There is a parallel passage in page 73 of Discipline, rescinded. Carried.

A motion by brother Dougherty to resume the former phraseology of the hymn book, was lost.

Brother Wood moved that the general Book-Steward and his assistant, together with the Book Committee in New-York, be authorized to preserve, alter, or change the phraseology and measure of our present pocket hymn book as they, in their wisdom, may judge best; and that Dr. Coke be requested to examine the present hymn book and give his thoughts, etc. Carried.

Pocket Hymn-Book.

Bishop Asbury moved that, instead of the eighth paragraph, third question, twelfth section, first chapter, let it be recommended to the yearly conferences to caution and restrict our preachers from improper publications. Carried.

Change of Discipline.

Moved and voted the thanks of the conference to the bishops.

Thanks to Bishops.

Moved and voted thanks to Secretary.

Read, the letters and journals of conference.

Thanks to Secretary. Letters and Journal read.

FRANCIS ASBURY,  
RICHARD WHATCOAT,  
T. COKE.

JOHN WILSON, Sec'y.



# JOURNAL

OF THE

## GENERAL CONFERENCE, 1808.

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FRIDAY, MAY 6.

May 6.

Conference met at half-past 8 o'clock. Francis Asbury, President. Members present as follows:—

Conference met.  
President.

*New-York Conference*—Freeborn Garretson, Ezekiel Cooper, Billy Hibbard, Reuben Harris, Freeman Bishop, Joseph Crawford, John Wilson, Francis Ward, Samuel Coate, William Thacher, Laban Clark, William Anson, John Robertson, Samuel Draper, Phinehas Cook, Nehemiah U. Tompkins, Nathan Bangs, Robert Dillon, Daniel Ostrander—19.

New-York.

*New-England Conference*—Thos. Branch, George Pickering, Joshua Soule, Elijah R. Sabin, Elijah Hedding, Oliver Beale, Martin Ruter—7.

New-England.

*Western Conference*—William M'Kendree, William Burke, Thomas Milligan, Benjamin Lakin, John Sale, Learner Blackman, Nathan Barnes, Elisha Bowman, John M'Clure, James Ward, George Askin—11.

Western Conference.

*South Carolina Conference*—Josias Randle, Britton Capel, Joseph Tarpley, James H. Mellard, William Phœbus, John Gamewell, Wiley Warwick, Lewis Myers, Epps Tucker, Daniel Asbury, Samuel Mills—11.

South Carolina Conference.

*Virginia Conference*—Philip Bruce, Jesse Lee, Daniel Hall, John Buxton, Christ. S. Moring, Stith Mead, Josiah Philips, William Hubbard, James Boyd, John Ballew, Thos. Mann, Richard Lattimore, Thomas Shands, Samuel Garrard, Humphrey Wood, Daniel Kelly, Joseph Pinnell, Archibald Alexander—18.

Virginia Conference.

*Baltimore Conference*—Nelson Reed, Daniel Hitt, Hamilton Jefferson, John Bloodgood, John Pitts, Michael Coate, Thomas Budd, Thomas F. Sargeant, Joseph Toy, Leonard Cassell, James Smith, John Watson, Stephen G. Roszel, Henry Smith, James Painter, Christopher Frye, James

Baltimore Conference.

May 6.

Hunter, Enoch George, Joshua Wells, William Ryland, Gideon Draper, Jacob Gruber, Andrew Hemphill, Asa Shinn, Frederick Stier, Lasley Matthews, Maurice Howe, David Stephens, Anning Owen, James Reed, Robert R. Roberts—31.

Philadelphia Conference.

*Philadelphia Conference*—Thomas Ware, Joseph Totten, William P. Chandler, William M'Lenahan, Joseph Everett, Seely Bunn, John Walker, John M'Claskey, William Smith, William Hunter, Henry Boehm, Jas. Herron, James Aikins, James Moore, James Smith, Nathan Swain, William Mills, Robert Sparks, William Colbert, Thomas Walker, Joseph Aydelott, William Bishop, Thomas Stratton, Samuel Budd, James Ridgway, George Woolley, Thomas Smith, John Smith, John Wiltbank, David Bartine, Asa Smith, John Bethel—32.

Total, 129.

The conference proceeded to the election of William P. Chandler as secretary, and Francis Ward assistant secretary.

The judgment of conference was called for respecting the membership. It was voted that no preacher has a right to a seat in this conference who has not travelled, under the direction of the yearly conference, four full years.

Upon a selection of the conference, Sylvester Hill and Robert Burch (present in conference) were accepted.

The conference, for the better regulation of their body, adopted the following by-laws, viz.:—

1. Any person speaking shall not be interrupted, except by the president, when he judges that he deviates too much from the point; nevertheless, an appeal may be made to the conference, by any two of the members, from the president, but neither the conference nor the president shall speak to the point, but barely take the vote.

2. No person shall have liberty to speak above a quarter of an hour at a time, except by the permission of the conference; but still the conference shall grant or prohibit without debate.

3. If any person think himself misrepresented by a speaker, he shall have a right to explain, in as few words as possible, after the speaker has done.

4. No person shall speak oftener than three times on any question.

5. The sittings of conference shall be from 9 to 12 o'clock in the morning, and from 3 to 6 in the afternoon.

6. No question shall be proposed on a different subject from that under debate, until the question debated be decided or postponed.

7. The secretary shall keep a regular journal of all the proceedings of the conference, which journal shall be signed by the president, and countersigned by the secretary, at the close of the conference.

Wm. P. Chandler, Secretary, and Francis Ward, Assistant.

Judgment of Conference concerning Membership.

Sylvester Hill and Robert Burch accepted.

Adoption of By-laws.

By-Laws.

8. The proceedings of the conference each day shall be read on the succeeding day in the conference, before the business of the day be entered upon; and the complete journal of the conference shall also be read in the conference before the final close thereof.

May 6.  
By-Laws.

9. No motion shall be put, except by the president, unless it be first delivered at the table in writing, after being read by the mover and seconded.

10. No old rule shall be abolished, except by a majority of two-thirds of the members present.

11. No member of conference shall leave the city of Baltimore until the conference adjourns, without first obtaining leave of absence.

12. No person shall leave the business without first obtaining permission.

13. Any member shall have liberty to copy at pleasure every motion that is laid upon the table.

Moved by E. Cooper, and seconded by T. Ware, that a committee of correspondence consisting of three members be appointed.

The motion was carried, and Ezekiel Cooper, Joshua Wells, and Daniel Hitt were elected.

Committee of  
Correspondence.

Moved by Francis Asbury, and voted, a committee of review and inspection of seven members, one to be taken from each annual conference by the members present, from each conference respectively. Samuel Coate of New-York, Martin Ruter of New-England, William M'Kendree of Western, James H. Mellard of South Carolina, Jesse Lee of Virginia, Nelson Reed of Baltimore, and Thomas Ware of Philadelphia Conferences, were elected.

Committee of  
Review and  
Inspection.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON.

Ezekiel Cooper presented before the conference the European communications, upon which Bishop Asbury withdrew from the conference from motives of delicacy, arising from some encomiums bestowed on him in the British address. Freeborn Garrettson being called to the chair, Ezekiel Cooper proceeded to read a printed address from the British Conference, and two letters from Dr. Coke, the first dated Nov. 26, 1807, the second, Jan. 29, 1808, all addressed to the General Conference; also a letter from Dr. Coke addressed to Bishop Asbury, dated —.

European communications.

Brother Ezekiel Cooper moved, and was seconded by brother Daniel Hitt, that the letters from the British Conference, and from Dr. Coke, be referred to a committee of three members to report thereon, relative to the case of Dr. Coke. Carried.

Letters from the  
British Conference.

Moved by Thos. Ware, and seconded by Thos. Branch, that the letters from the British Conference and from Dr. Coke be referred to committee of correspondence. Carried.

Referred to  
Committee of  
Correspondence.



May 6.

Communication from the Trustees of the Charter Fund.

A stated communication from the trustees of the Charter Fund was read before the conference, in which, among other particulars, was the following nomination, made by the said trustees, for their election, viz.: Joseph L. Inglis and John Gouge, in the place of Burton Wallace; Samuel Harvey and Lambert Wilmer, in the place of Josiah Lusby; William Lowber and John Hood, in the place of Charles Cavender; whose seats had become vacant by their removal from membership in the Church. Upon counting the votes it was found that Joseph L. Inglis, Samuel Harvey, and William Lowber were unanimously elected, to fill the vacancy of Burton Wallace, Josiah Lusby, and Charles Cavender.

Petition from new Methodist meeting-house in Boston.

A petition was laid before the conference from the new Methodist meeting-house in Boston, stating their great embarrassment, and praying relief, in any way the General Conference may devise.

May 7.

## SATURDAY, MAY 7.

Committee on the Boston church.

Brother George Pickering prayed the conference to appoint a committee to devise ways and means for the relief of the trustees of the Boston Meeting-House, and report to the conference. Carried.

Thomas F. Sargeant, Jesse Lee, Joshua Soule, Ezekiel Cooper, and Freeborn Garrettson were nominated and appointed to form said committee.

Report of Committee of Review on Hymn-Book.

Report of the Committee of Review, presented by Thomas Ware:—A manuscript hymn book having been laid before us by brother Daniel Hitt for our inspection, the committee wish to know, first, whether it is the judgment of the conference that another hymn book be necessary or not; and if it is, what powers they give us in the examination of the work—viz., whether we should only read the hymns and report that we approve or disapprove of them, or whether we should proceed to make alterations according to our judgment.

Voted, on motion of Bishop Asbury, that the Committee of Review proceed in their examination of brother Hitt's manuscript hymn book.

Proposal for Standard Music-Book.

Brother Ezekiel Cooper read to the conference a proposal from brother James Evans, of New-York, for publishing a music book as a standard for the use of the Methodist Churches throughout the United States.

Referred to Committee of Review.

On motion of brother E. Cooper, referred to the Committee of Review.

Case of Dr. Coke.

The committee to whom was referred the case of Doctor Coke, taking into consideration the case, as it respects the request of the British Conference, the relative situation of the doctor, and the most prudent measures for us to adopt

in order to promote and perpetuate a good understanding and Christian unity between us and our European brethren, are of opinion that we should comply with the request made in the British Conference for the doctor's continuance with them; and also, that we should respectfully retain the doctor's name in our Minutes, agreeably to his request in his second proposition on that head. Therefore, your committee report the following resolutions:—

May 7.  
Case of Dr. Coke.

1st. *Resolved*, That the General Conference do agree and consent that Dr. Coke may continue in Europe till he be called to the United States by the General Conference, or by the annual conferences.

Resolutions of  
Conference.

2d. *Resolved*, That we retain a grateful remembrance of the services and labours of Dr. Coke among us, and the thanks of this conference are hereby acknowledged to him, and to God, for all his labours of love toward us, from the time he first left his native country to serve us.

3d. *Resolved*, That the doctor's name, agreeably to his request, be retained in our Minutes; but as he continues in Europe, his name shall stand last in the list of bishops, with a N. B.,—"Doctor Coke resides in Europe, at the request of the British Conference, till he be called to the United States by the General Conference, or by the Annual Conferences." During his residence there he shall exercise no episcopal authority whatever in the United States among us.

4th. *Resolved*, That the Committee of Correspondence be and are hereby directed to draft two letters, one to the British Conference, the other to Dr. Coke, in answer to their respective letters to us, and therein communicating to them respectively the contents of the above resolutions.

Moved by William Phœbus, and seconded by Daniel Hall, to strike out of the first resolution the words "annual conferences."

Motion to strike  
out the words  
"Annual Con-  
ferences."

SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

Brother Phœbus's amendment being put to vote, there were sixty-seven against, and fifty-four for it. Lost.

Amendment  
lost.

Brother Ezekiel Cooper proposed an amendment to the first resolution to insert the word "all" between the words "by," and "the," and to add the word "respectively" after the word "conferences." Carried.

Amendment of  
Resolutions.

Brother Jesse Lee moved, and was seconded by brother Robert Sparks, that the words "General Conference" be struck off the first resolution; ten for the motion. Lost.

The first resolution was put, with brother Cooper's amendment, and carried.

The second resolution proposed by the committee was put to vote, and carried.

May 9.

MONDAY, MAY 9.

- Explanation of Law-suit.** The conference called for a brief explanation of a certain law-suit commenced against the managers of a camp meeting held in Accomac County, in Virginia.
- Report on case of Dr. Coke re-committed.** Brother Ezekiel Cooper moved, and was seconded by brother William M'Kendree, to recommit the report on the case of Doctor Coke, to modify the third resolution, and further to report on the subject. Carried.
- Business again taken up.** Voted, that the committee to whom was referred the case of Doctor Coke, again take up this business.
- Connexion of some Districts with others.** Voted, that the Carlisle District be connected with the Baltimore Conference.  
Voted, that the Susquehanna District be connected with the Philadelphia Conference.  
Voted, that the Cayuga District be connected with the New-York Conference.

## MONDAY AFTERNOON.

- Accomac persecution.** Agreeably to the call of the conference this morning, brother William P. Chandler gave a relation of the Accomac persecution.
- Difficulties in Charleston, S.C.** The conference called for a relation of the difficulties in Charleston, S. C., which was given by brother Lewis Myers.
- Motion for regulating and perpetuating General Conferences.** Brother William Phœbus moved, and was seconded by brother Daniel Hall, that the conference now go into the business relative to regulating and perpetuating General Conferences in future. The subject to be taken up to-morrow morning.
- Report of Committee on case of Dr. Coke.** The committee on the case of Doctor Coke reported the following resolution in the place of the former third resolution which was re-committed to them.
- Resolution to retain the name of Dr. Coke on Minutes.** *Resolved*, That Doctor Coke's name shall be retained on our Minutes after the name of the bishops, in a N. B.—“Doctor Coke, at the request of the British Conference, and by the consent of General Conference, resides in Europe;” he is not to exercise the office of superintendent or bishop among us in the United States until he be recalled by the General Conference, or by all the annual conferences respectively.
- Third and Fourth Resolutions voted and carried.** The third resolution, as altered by the committee, was put to vote and carried.
- Delegated General Conference.** The fourth resolution was put to vote and carried.  
Read the memorial of the New-York Conference to the General Conference, on the necessity of a delegated General Conference, in which the New-England, the Western, and the South Carolina Conferences concurred.  
The Memorial of the New-York Conference to the Gen-

eral Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States, to sit in Baltimore, the sixth of May, 1808:

May 9.

VERY DEAR BRETHREN,—We, as one of the seven eyes of the great and increasing body of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States, which is composed of about five hundred travelling preachers and about two thousand local preachers, together with upward of one hundred and forty thousand members; these, with our numerous congregations and families, spread over an extent of country more than two ——— miles from one end to the other, amounting in all probability to more than one million of souls, which are, directly or remotely, under our pastoral oversight and ministerial charge,—should engage our most sacred attention, and should call into exertion all the wisdom and talents we are possessed of to perpetuate the unity and prosperity of the whole connexion, and to establish such regulations, rules, and forms of government as may, by the blessing of God in Jesus Christ, promote the cause of that religion which is more precious to us than riches, honour, or life itself, and be conducive to the salvation of souls among the generations yet unborn. The fields are white unto harvest before us, and the opening prospect of the great day of glory brightens continually in our view; and we are looking forward with hopeful expectations for the universal spread of Scriptural truth and holiness over the inhabitable globe. Brethren, for what have we laboured? for what have we suffered? for what have we borne the reproach of Christ, with much long-suffering, with tears, and with sorrow, but to serve the great and eternal purpose of the grace of God, in the present and everlasting felicity of immortal souls? When we take a serious and impartial view of this important subject, and consider the extent of our connexion, the number of our preachers, the great inconvenience, expense, and loss of time that must necessarily result from our present regulations, relative to our General Conference, we are deeply impressed with a thorough conviction that a representative or delegated General Conference, composed of a specific number on principles of equal representation from the several annual conferences, would be much more conducive to the prosperity and general unity of the whole body, than the present indefinite and numerous body of ministers, collected together unequally from the various conferences, to the great inconvenience of the ministry, and injury of the work of God. We therefore present unto you this memorial, requesting that you will adopt the principle of an equal representation from the annual conferences, to form, in future, a delegated General Conference, and that you will establish such rules and regulations as are necessary to carry the same into effect.

Memorial of N. Y. Conference, for a Delegated General Conference.

May 9.  
Memorial in favour of a De-  
legated General  
Conference.

As we are persuaded that our brethren in general, from a view of the situation and circumstances of the connexion, must be convinced, upon mature and impartial reflection, of the propriety and necessity of the measure, we forbear to enumerate the various reasons and arguments which might be urged in support of it. But we do hereby instruct, advise, and request every member who shall go from our conference to the General Conference to urge, if necessary, every reason and argument in favour of the principle, and to use all their Christian influence to have the same adopted and carried into effect.

And we also shall, and do invite and request our brethren in the several annual conferences which are to sit between this and the General Conference, to join and unite with us in the subject-matter of this memorial.

We do hereby candidly and openly express our opinion and wish, with the firmest attachment to the union and prosperity of the connexion, hoping and praying that our Chief Shepherd and Bishop of our souls, the Lord Jesus Christ, may direct you in all wisdom, righteousness, brotherly love, and Christian unity.

We are, dear brethren, in the bonds of gospel ties, most affectionately yours, &c.

By order and in behalf of the New-York Conference, without a dissenting vote.

(Signed,) FRANCIS WARD, *Secretary*.

COEYMAN'S PATENT, *May 7, 1807.*

Concurrence of  
the Eastern,  
Western, and  
South Carolina  
Conferences, in  
the subject-  
matter of the  
above Memo-  
rial.

The Eastern Conference unanimously voted to concur with the New-York Conference in the subject-matter of the above memorial. THOMAS BRANCH, *Secretary*.

BOSTON CONFERENCE, *June 3, 1807.*

The Western Conference unanimously voted to concur with the New-York Conference in the subject-matter of the above memorial. WILLIAM BURKE, *Secretary*.

CHILICOTHE, O., *Sept. 16, 1807.*

The South Carolina Conference, with the exception of five members, concur with the New-York Conference in the above memorial. LEWIS MYERS, *Secretary*.

*Jan. 2, 1808.*

May 10.

TUESDAY, MAY 10.

Opinion of Con-  
ference called  
for by Bishop  
Asbury.

Bishop Asbury having called for the mind of the conference, whether any further regulation in the order of the General Conference be necessary, the question was put, and carried in the affirmative.

Address of cer-  
tain Members  
of the New-  
England Con-  
ference read.

Read the address of certain members of the General Conference, belonging to the New-England Conference, assigning the reasons of their absence, etc.

Moved by Stephen G. Roszel, and seconded by William Burke, that a committee be appointed to draw up such regulations as they may think best, to regulate the General Conferences, and report the same to this conference. Carried.

May 10.  
Motion to appoint Committee to draw up Regulations.

Moved by Bishop Asbury, that the committee be formed from an equal number from each of the annual conferences. Carried.

Motions concerning Committee.

Moved by John M'Claskey, and seconded by Joseph Aydelot, that the committee consist of three members from each Annual Conference, to be chosen by their own members present. Lost.

Moved by Stephen G. Roszel, and seconded by William Burke, that the committee be formed by two from each of the conferences, chosen by their respective conferences. Carried.

Committee.

Ezekiel Cooper and John Wilson, from the New-York; George Pickering and Joshua Soule, from the New-England; William M'Kendree and William Burke, from the Western; William Phœbus and Josias Randle, from the South Carolina; Philip Bruce and Jesse Lee, from the Virginia; Stephen G. Roszel and Nelson Reed, from the Baltimore; and John M'Claskey and Thomas Ware, from the Philadelphia Conference, were elected.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON.

On motion from the Chair, to know whether Doctor Coke's name be printed in the N. B. in the annual minutes of the present year, the question was put, and carried in the affirmative.

Motion from Chair, concerning the printing of the name of Dr. Coke in Minutes.

William M'Kendree moved, and was seconded by Ezekiel Cooper, that the minutes of conference be not printed till the question of the superintendency be decided. Carried.

Printing of the Minutes deferred.

Philip Bruce moved, and was seconded by William Burke, that the bishop have leave to ordain local deacons, under certain regulations, to the office of elders.

Motion concerning granting liberty to Bishop to ordain Deacons to the office of Elders.

Laban Clark moved, and was seconded by Elijah Hedding, that brother Bruce's motion lie on the table until the business of the superintendency be decided. Carried.

Elijah R. Sabin moved, and was seconded by Laban Clark, that this conference take into consideration whether the present general superintendency needs strengthening. The question being put, it was carried in the affirmative.

Motion to consider condition of General Superintendency.

Moved by Stephen G. Roszel, and seconded by John Pitts, that one person be elected and ordained as joint superintendent or bishop, with Bishop Asbury.

Motions concerning the election and ordination of persons as Joint Superintendent.

Moved by Daniel Ostrander, and seconded by Joshua Soule, that two persons be elected and ordained instead of one, as stated in brother Roszel's motion.

May 10.

Moved by Joseph Crawford, and seconded by William Thacher, that two men be added for the strengthening of the superintendency. Withdrawn.

Moved by John M'Claskey, and seconded by Ezekiel Cooper, that seven be added to the superintendency.

May 11.

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 11.

Statement of deficiencies read.

Read a statement of the general net deficiencies of the several annual conferences for the four years last past.

Motion to take into consideration the section in the form of Discipline for raising Supplies.

Moved by Samuel Coate, and seconded by E. Cooper, that a committee be appointed to take into consideration that section in the form of Discipline for raising annual supplies for the propagation of the gospel, and for making up the salaries of the preachers, in order that some plan be fallen upon more effectually for the raising of our annual supplies.

Motion to make a draft on the Book Fund.

Moved by Seely Bunn, and seconded by James Smith, that there be a draft made on the Book Fund for the sum of five hundred dollars, to assist in defraying the expenses of the most needy preachers back to their circuits.

Concerning salary.

Moved by Daniel Ostrander, and seconded by John M'Claskey, that no preacher shall receive anything as salary for a wife or family until he has travelled four years, and is in full connexion, unless by special stipulation, with the conference.

Alteration of Discipline.

Moved by Daniel Ostrander, and seconded by John M'Claskey, that the words "if it can be collected on his circuit, or can be made up by supplies at the Annual Conference," be inserted in the section of Discipline relative to the allowances, &c., after the words "eighty dollars."

The first clause of brother Bunn's motion was put—"There shall be a draft on the Book Fund for \_\_\_\_\_ dollars if necessary." Carried.

Continuation.

Continued the debates on the superintendency.

May 12.

## THURSDAY, MAY 12.

Continuation.

Continued the debates on the superintendency.

## THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

Motions concerning additional Bishops.

Brother M'Claskey and brother Cooper asked leave to withdraw the motion for seven additional bishops; which was refused.

Brother George Pickering moved, and was seconded by brother Joshua Soule, that the conference decide on the motion now before them, whether there shall be seven additional bishops or not. Carried.

Brother M'Claskey's motion for seven additional bishops, being put to vote, was lost.

Brother Ostrander's motion for two additional bishops, being put to vote, was lost.

May 12.

Brother Roszel's motion, for one additional bishop, to be elected or ordained at this conference, being put to vote, was carried.

Concerning additional bishop.

Moved by William P. Chandler, and seconded by George Pickering, that the conference proceed in the election of the person, by ballot, who is to be added to the superintendency. Carried.

Election of Bishop.

The conference, consisting of one hundred and twenty-eight members present, proceeded in the election, and upon counting the votes there were found ninety-five in favour of William M'Kendree, who stands the elect superintendent.

Wm. M'Kendree elected.

FRIDAY, MAY 13.

May 13.

Bishop Asbury moved that a committee of three be appointed, and nominated Daniel Hitt, Thomas F. Sargeant, and Joshua Wells, to receive and appropriate such moneys as may be collected for the relief of the necessitous preachers of the General Conference. Carried.

Committee to receive and appropriate money.

Went into the debate on brother Bruce's motion for ordaining local deacons to the eldership.

Debate on motion to ordain local deacons.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON.

Brothers Garretson, Bruce, Lee, and Everett were nominated and appointed by the conference to assist in the ordination of the bishop elect.

Appointed to assist in ordination.

Voted, that the ordination of the bishop elect take place next Wednesday.

Time for ordination.

Continued the debate on brother Bruce's motion.

Debate continued.

SATURDAY, MAY 14.

May 14.

Ezekiel Cooper, at the special request of Bishop Asbury, took the chair.

Ezekiel Cooper took the chair.

Continued the debate on brother Bruce's motion.

Debate continued.

John Pitts moved, and was seconded by Leonard Cassel, that the vote on brother Bruce's motion be taken without further debate. Carried.

Motion to ordain local Deacons lost.

Brother Bruce's motion for ordaining local deacons to the eldership was put to vote. Lost—ayes 60, nays 66.

On motion, the conference adjourned until Monday, nine o'clock, A. M.

Adjournment.

MONDAY, MAY 16.

May 16.

Read the report of the committee relative to regulating and perpetuating General Conferences.

Report of Committee read.



May 16.  
Report on the  
Constitution of  
the General  
Conference.

Whereas it is of the greatest importance that the doctrines, form of government, and general rules of the United States societies in America be preserved sacred and inviolable;

And whereas every prudent measure should be taken to preserve, strengthen, and perpetuate the union of the connexion;

Therefore, your committee, upon the maturest deliberation, have thought it advisable that the third section of the form of Discipline shall be as follows, viz. :—

*Section III.—Of the General Conference.*

Proposed  
change of Dis-  
cipline on Gen-  
Conferences.

1st. The General Conference shall be composed of delegates from the annual conferences.

2d. The delegates shall be chosen by ballot, without debate, in the annual conferences respectively, in the last meeting of conference previous to the meeting of the General Conference.

3d. Each annual conference respectively shall have a right to send seven elders, members of their conference, as delegates to the General Conference.

4th. Each annual conference shall have a right to send one delegate, in addition to the seven, for every ten members belonging to such conference over and above fifty: so that if there be sixty members, they shall send eight; if seventy, they shall send nine; and so on in proportion.

5th. The General Conference shall meet on the first day of May, in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and twelve; and thenceforward on the first day of May once in four years perpetually, at such place or places as shall be fixed on by the General Conference from time to time.

6th. At all times, when the General Conference is met, it shall take two-thirds of the whole number of delegates to form a quorum.

7th. One of the original superintendents shall preside in the General Conference; but in case no general superintendent be present, the General Conference shall choose a president *pro tem*.

8th. The General Conference shall have full powers to make rules, regulations, and canons for our Church, under the following limitations and restrictions, viz. :—

The General Conference shall not revoke, alter, or change our Articles of Religion, nor establish any new standards of doctrine.

They shall not lessen the number of seven delegates from each annual conference, nor allow of a greater number from any annual conference than is provided in the fourth paragraph of this section.

They shall not change or alter any part or rule of our

government, so as to do away episcopacy, or to destroy the plan of our itinerant general superintendency.

May 16.

They shall not revoke or change the general rules of the united societies.

They shall not do away the privileges of our ministers or preachers of trial by a committee, and of an appeal; neither shall they do away the privileges of our members, of trial before the society, or by a committee of an appeal.

They shall not appropriate the produce of the Book Concern or of the Charter Fund to any purpose other than for the benefit of the travelling, superannuated, supernumerary, and worn-out preachers, their wives, widows, and children.

*Provided*, nevertheless, that upon the joint recommendation of all the annual conferences, then a majority of two-thirds of the General Conference succeeding shall suffice to alter any of the above restrictions.

Voted, that the conference proceed immediately to the subject of the report of the committee.

Voted to proceed to the subject of Report.

MONDAY AFTERNOON.

Continued the debate on the report of the committee of fourteen.

Debate continued.

Moved by Ezekiel Cooper, and seconded by Joshua Wells, to postpone the present question to make room for the consideration of a new resolution, as preparatory to the minds of the brethren to determine on the present subject. Carried.

Postponement of question.

Moved by Ezekiel Cooper, and seconded by Joshua Wells, the following resolution, viz. :—

*Resolved*, That in the fifth section of Discipline, after the question, "By whom shall the presiding elders be chosen?" the answer shall be—"Ans. 1st. Each annual conference respectively, without debate, shall annually choose, by ballot, its own presiding elders."

Proposal to elect the Presiding Elders.

TUESDAY, MAY 17.

May 17.

Continued the debate on the motion for electing presiding elders.

Debate continued.

Moved by Joshua Soule, and seconded by Oliver Beale, that the vote be taken on the motion for electing presiding elders without further debate. Lost—nays 61, ayes 53.

Motion of Joshua Soule lost.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON.

Moved, by Samuel Draper, and seconded by Elijah Hedding, that the vote be taken on the motion for electing presiding elders without further debate. Lost.

Motion of Elijah Hedding lost.

May 17. Moved by Thomas F. Sargeant, and seconded by James Smith, that the motion for electing presiding elders be postponed. Lost—nays 59, ayes 56.

Motion to postpone election of election lost.  
 Motion to take vote lost. Moved by Joshua Soule, and seconded by George Pickering, that the vote be taken on the motion for electing presiding elders without further debate. Lost.

May 18.

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 18.

Motion to postpone election to 15th August next lost. Moved by Thomas F. Sargeant, and seconded by Francis Ward, that the motion for electing presiding elders be postponed until the fifteenth day of August next. Lost.

Motion to take the vote carried. Moved by Elijah R. Sabin, and seconded by Joshua Soule, that the vote be taken on the motion for electing presiding elders without further debate. Carried.

Motion to take the vote by ballot. Moved by Freeborn Garretson, and seconded by Robert Sparks, that this vote be taken by ballot. Carried.

The vote being taken on the motion for electing presiding elders, there were, ayes 52, nays 73. Lost.

Ordination of Bishop M'Kendree. Bishop M'Kendree was ordained—brother Ware assisting in the room of brother Everett, who was sick.

### WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

Leave of absence granted to T. F. Sargeant. Thomas F. Sargeant requested leave of absence. Granted, on condition of his returning, if convenient.

Leave of absence granted to D. Stephens. David Stephens requested leave of absence. Granted.  
 Wm. M'Kendree discharged from committees. Voted, that William M'Kendree be discharged from the committees to which he belongs, and William Burke be substituted in his room.

Motion to take vote by ballot. Moved by John M'Claskey, and seconded by Daniel Ostrander, that the vote on the first resolution of the report of the committee of fourteen be taken by ballot. Carried.

Resolution lost. The first resolution of the report of the committee of fourteen being put to vote, there were, yeas 57, nays 64. Lost.

May 19.

### THURSDAY, MAY 19.

T. Ware released from Committee of Review. Thomas Ware requested to be released from the committee of review. Granted, and Joshua Wells was appointed in his room.

Pitts appointed on Committee of Appropriation, &c. John Pitts was appointed in brother Wells's place on the committee of appropriation and of correspondence.

Vote to fill the blank in Bunn's motion. Voted, that the blank in brother Bunn's motion of Wednesday, the 11th inst., be filled with \$500.

Book Agents to report on the state of the Book Concern. Moved by Jesse Lee, and seconded by John M'Claskey, that the book agents be now requested to report the state of the Book Concern. Carried.

Read the balance sheet and statement of the Book Concern.

Moved by Daniel Ostrander, and seconded by Wm. P. Chandler, that the New-York Conference be exonerated from blame in the aid they have directed to be given to brother John Wilson, assistant editor and general book-steward. Carried.

May 18.  
Motion to exonerate N. York Conference.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

Andrew Hemphill, David Bartine, John Smith, John Bloodgood, Gideon Draper, and James Ridgeway asked leave of absence. Granted.

Leave of absence granted to A. Hemphill and others.

Moved, from the chair, that the seventh section in the second part of the Discipline, "Of printing and circulating of books, and of the profits arising therefrom," be considered paragraph by paragraph. Carried.

7th Section of Discipline.

FRIDAY, MAY 20.

Moved, from the chair, whether or not the Book Concern be continued in New-York.

May 20.  
Motion whether or not the Book Concern continue in New-York.

Voted, to continue the Book Concern in New-York.

Blanks to be left in the places of the book agents' names in the seventh section and second part of Discipline.

Blanks.

Robert Sparks asked leave of absence. Granted.

James Moore asked leave of absence. Granted.

Leave of absence granted to R. Sparks and to J. Moore.  
Book Concern to pay for conveyance of books.

Moved by Daniel Ostrander, and seconded by Francis Ward, that the Book Concern shall pay all the expense of the conveyance of books to presiding elders, until they are within their district. Carried.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON.

Moved by Ezekiel Cooper, and seconded by Elijah Hedding, that the [7th] section of the Discipline "of the Book Concern" be referred to a committee of three, to modify and report to the conference.

The 7th Section of Discipline referred to a Committee of three.

Joseph Crawford, Joshua Soule, and Philip Bruce were nominated and appointed.

The committee on the case of the Boston Meeting-House reported as follows, viz. :—"That the conference agree that brother Pickering, or some other person, be appointed to raise a subscription in any part of the connexion to assist in defraying the enormous debt on the new church: and that the conference give a certificate specifying that they have recommended the measure."

Report of Committee on Boston Meeting-House.

Moved, from the Chair, that a subscription be opened for the relief of our brethren in their difficulties concerning the Boston Meeting-House, to be placed in the hands of all the presiding elders. Carried.

Motion to open a subscription for the relief of Church at Boston.

William Hunter, James Hunter, William Colbert, and John Bethel asked leave of absence. Granted.

Leave of absence granted to W. Hunter and others.

May 20.  
\$1,000 appropriated to printing Tracts.

Moved, from the Chair, that one thousand dollars be appropriated from the Book Concern to the printing of religious tracts, to be given away. Carried.

May 21.

### SATURDAY, MAY 21.

Committee to receive Remittances, &c.

Voted, that George Pickering, Daniel Webb, and Martin Ruter be a committee to receive remittances for the relief of the trustees of the Boston Meeting-House, and to correspond about the business. The presiding elders to send remittances to, and correspond with, the book-agents, and they with the said committee.

Report of Committee read.

Read the report of the committee for modifying the section of the Discipline on the Book Concern.

Amendments of Discipline.

The first and second paragraphs to stand in the seventh section and second part of the Discipline.

The third paragraph to stand.

The fourth paragraph to be struck out. Carried.

The fifth paragraph to be struck out. Carried.

The motion of yesterday, which was carried, for the book-agents paying the expense of the conveyance of books to the presiding elders' districts to be inserted in the section of Discipline under revisal. Carried.

The seventh paragraph to be altered by leaving out the last sentence from the word "same." Carried.

### SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

Sixth and eighth paragraphs retained.

The sixth paragraph to be retained. Carried.

The eighth paragraph to be retained. Carried.

Allowance of Preachers and Elders for selling Books.

The circuit preachers shall have two-thirds, and the presiding elders one-third of the allowance granted them for selling books.

Respecting sale of Books. Lost.

Moved by Ezekiel Cooper, and seconded by Thomas Ware, that the rule respecting the profits on the sale of books by the presiding elders and the preachers, be printed in the section, "of the printing and circulating of books." Lost.

Rules inserted in Journals.

Moved by Elisha Bowman, and seconded by Learner Blackman, that the rule for regulating the commission be inserted in the journals of the annual conferences. Carried.

Expenses for conveyance of Books refunded.

Voted, that in those parts where the preachers have not been accustomed to lay on additional rates, they shall have the privilege of having their expenses on the conveyance of the books now on hand refunded. Carried.

Committee to receive Proposals for carrying on the Book Business.

Moved by Daniel Ostrander, and seconded by Joshua Soule, that a committee of — be appointed to receive proposals from any person or persons to carry on the book business, and report to the conference. Lost.

Moved, from the Chair, that if any person or persons have proposals to make for carrying on the book business, they shall bring them in on Monday morning. Carried.

May 21.  
Time for proposals.

MONDAY, MAY 23.

May 23.

Read the report of the Committee of Review, viz. :—

Report of Committee of Review on Hymn-Book.

“Your Committee of Review, having progressed in examining the manuscript hymns laid before us, so far as to satisfy our own minds, report to the conference—

“First. That notwithstanding there are some terms which might be altered for the better, and some hymns that are injured by not retaining more of the original, yet, upon the whole, the hymns, in the judgment of the committee, are good, and would be of considerable advantage to our people if published in a separate volume, that those of them who have the former may be supplied with the latter, and that in future both may be united in one.

“Second. Your committee report further, that they do not think it would be for the interest of the Book Concern to publish the book of letters in the mass, yet that a selection from the whole might be made that would be useful.

“Third. They report further, that they conceive it would be proper for us to improve and be uniform in our singing, but, at the same time, they think that it would not be proper to take Mr. Evans's, or any other man's music-book under our patronage; yet, if the compiler thinks proper to publish the proposed collection of tunes at his own risk, we would recommend it to our societies in general as a work of merit, so far as we judge from the specimen.

On Music-book.

“Fourth. Your committee further report, that they have taken a cursory view of a manuscript entitled ‘A History of the Methodists in the United States of America;’ but as the work appears, in their view, more like a simple and crude narrative of the proceedings of the Methodists than a history, they think it would be improper to publish it.

On History of the Methodists.

“Your committee recommend to your serious consideration the propriety of introducing some rule to prevent improper publications in future, and to avoid, if possible, that contempt which is poured upon us as a people on account of improper publications, which are viewed by the public as under our patronage. Therefore,

On Improper publications.

“Fifth. Resolved, That no travelling preacher shall publish any pamphlet, hymns, or spiritual songs, either of his own or others' composing, in their individual or joint capacity; but all our own publications shall come through the channel of our general Book Concern.”

Moved by Philip Bruce, and seconded by Thomas Branch, that the report of the Committee of Review lie on

Motion that the Report of Committee lie on the table.

- May 28.** the table until we determine when and where the next General Conference shall be held. Carried.
- Motion concerning the session of next General Conference.** Moved by Leonard Cassel, and seconded by Stephen G. Roszel, that the motion for considering when and where the next General Conference shall be, lie over until it be determined who shall compose the General Conference. Carried.
- Number of Members from each Annual Conference.** Moved by Enoch George, and seconded by Stephen G. Roszel, that the General Conference shall be composed of one member for every five members of each annual conference. Carried, by a very large majority.
- Power of Annual Conference.** Moved by Joshua Soule, and seconded by George Pickering, that each annual conference shall have the power of sending their proportionate number of members to the General Conference, either by seniority or choice, as they shall think best.
- Leave of absence granted to Cassel and Howa.** Brother Cassel asked leave of absence for the remainder of the day. Granted.  
Brother Maurice Howe asked leave of absence. Granted.

**MONDAY AFTERNOON.**

- Leave of absence granted to Billy Hibbard.** Brother Askin went away.  
Billy Hibbard asked leave of absence. Granted.
- Contribution to Joshua Soule.** Contributed in and by the conference, to the relief of brother Joshua Soule, in his necessities by removal, &c., eighty-three dollars and sixty-five cents.
- Motion of Joshua Soule carried.** Brother Joshua Soule's motion of this morning being put to vote, was carried.
- Leave of absence to N. U. Thompkins.** Nehemiah U. Thompkins asked leave of absence; which was granted.
- Next General Conference to be held first of May, 1812.** Moved by Stephen G. Roszel, and seconded by George Pickering, that the next General Conference be held on the first of May, 1812. Carried.
- Next General Conference to be held in N. York.** Moved by William Thacher, and seconded by Joseph Crawford, that the next General Conference be held in New-York. For New-York, fifty-six; for Baltimore, forty-eight—carried.
- Leave of absence to Geo. Woolley.** George Woolley asked leave of absence. Granted.
- Committee to revise part of Discipline.** Samuel Coate's motion for a committee to revise the section of Discipline relative to raising supplies, was put to vote and carried.
- Committee.** Samuel Coate, Elijah R. Sabin, and Joseph Crawford, were nominated and appointed to form the said committee.
- Quorum.** Moved by Stephen G. Roszel, and seconded by Jesse Lee, that it shall take two-thirds of the representatives of all the annual conferences to form a quorum for business in the General Conference. For it, 53; against it, 46—carried.

May 24

TUESDAY, MAY 24.

Moved, from the Chair, that the report of the Committee of Review lie on the table until the regulations concerning the General Conference be determined. Carried.

Report of the Committee of Review to lie on the table.

Moved by Jesse Lee, and seconded by William Burke, that the next General Conference shall not change or alter any part or rule of our government, so as to do away episcopacy, or to destroy the plan of our itinerant general superintendency. Carried.

Resolution on the General Conference.

Moved by Stephen G. Roszel, and seconded by George Pickering, that one of the superintendents preside in the General Conference; but in case of the absence of a superintendent, the Conference shall elect a president *pro tem*. Carried.

One of the Superintendents to preside in General Conference.

Moved by Stephen G. Roszel, and seconded by Nelson Reed, that the General Conference shall have full powers to make rules and regulations for our Church, under the following restrictions, viz. :—

Power of General Conference, with the following restrictions.

1. The General Conference shall not revoke, alter, or change our articles of religion, nor establish any new standards or rules of doctrine, contrary to our present existing and established standards of doctrine. Carried.

2. They shall not allow of more than one representative for every five members of the annual conference, nor allow of a less number than one for every seven. Carried.

Moved by Daniel Hitt, and seconded by Samuel Coate, that a committee of three be appointed to modify certain exceptionable expressions in the General Rules. Lost.

3. They shall not revoke or change the "General Rules of the United Societies." Carried.

4. They shall not do away the privileges of our ministers or preachers of trial by a committee, and of an appeal; neither shall they do away the privileges of our members of trial before the society, or by a committee, and of an appeal. Carried.

5. They shall not appropriate the produce of the Book Concern or of the Charter Fund to any purpose other than for the benefit of the travelling, supernumerary, superannuated, and worn-out preachers, their wives, widows, and children. Carried.

6. *Provided*, nevertheless, that upon the joint recommendation of all the annual conferences, then a majority of two-thirds of the General Conference succeeding shall suffice to alter any of the above restrictions. Carried.

James Herron, James Reed, Philip Bruce, John Buxton, Christopher S. Mooring, James Boyd, John Ballew, Wm. Hubbard, Humphrey Wood, and Richard Lattimore, asked leave of absence. Granted.

Leave of absence granted.



May 24. Voted, that the conference meet to-morrow morning at eight o'clock.  
 Voted to meet at 8 o'clock.

## TUESDAY AFTERNOON.

Power of Annual Conferences to call a General Conference. Moved by Daniel Ostrander, and seconded by Ezekiel Cooper, that the general superintendents, with or by the advice of all the annual conferences, or, if there be no general superintendent, all the annual conferences respectively, shall have power to call a General Conference, if they judge it necessary, at any time. Carried.

Respecting time for meeting. Moved, from the chair, that the General Conference shall meet on the first day of May once in four years, perpetually, at such place or places as shall be fixed on by the General Conference from time to time. Carried.

Motion to request the Book Agents to make Report to Conference. Moved by Thomas Ware, and seconded by Wm. Mills, that our present book agents be requested to inform the conference if they will continue to conduct the Concern, and on what terms. Carried.

Brother Ezekiel Cooper gave in his resignation as book agent, viz. :—

Resignation of Ezekiel Cooper as Book Agent. I, Ezekiel Cooper, Editor and General Book-Steward, with affectionate and grateful emotions of heart, do hereby respectfully acknowledge to my brethren composing the General Conference, that the trust and confidence which they have reposed in me, as their editor and general book-steward, in the superintendence of their Book Concern, have and do most seriously and deeply affect my sensibility, so as to excite thankfulness to my brethren and a great reverence and humiliation before God, that I have been accounted capable and qualified to fill the station, and have been considered as worthy of trust and confidence in so important and interesting a department. And it is a matter of inexpressible delight that I can ingenuously declare to you, that I have, with conscientious rectitude, served the interests of the connexion with persevering integrity and fidelity, to the best of my ability; and as our report to you will show, from a view of the stock account now rendered, I have served your interests successfully. And may I flatter myself that I have served you with acceptance, so far as to meet the testimony of your approbation? than which I do not know any temporary consideration that is capable of giving me a greater satisfaction and gratification.

When I engaged in this Concern in the spring of 1799, the whole amount of the clear capital stock, including debts and all manner of property, was not worth more than *four thousand dollars*, and I had not a single dollar of cash in hand, belonging to the connexion, to carry on the work, or to procure materials, or to pay a single demand against the Concern, which at that time was near *three thousand dollars*

in debt. Under these circumstances, and thus situated, I engaged in the business with reluctance, fear, and trembling. I maintained and established the credit of the Concern by my own personal responsibility for contracts made, and the credit that I had in the confidence of those for whom I did business. Thus, with cautious steps and prudent forethought and calculations in business, I had to struggle and go on, by night and day; and had, in certain cases, to advance my own cash to meet some of the demands against the Concern. In the course of the first year I got the business tolerably well under way, and by intense application, and great fatigue, got released from some embarrassments and perplexities; and the business appeared in a state of liberal prosperity.

May 24.  
Resignation of  
E. Cooper.

At the General Conference in 1804, the Concern had so far prospered that I could show a capital of about twenty-seven thousand dollars, which was clearing for the connexion about twenty-three thousand dollars in five years, from a capital of about four thousand, which was, when I received it, in a precarious and scattered situation. During which time of five years I had no help allowed me by the connexion, further than a small consideration of three hundred and thirty dollars and my board per year.

Four years ago, in 1804, the General Conference appointed brother John Wilson to assist in the business; since which time we have progressed upon the capital of about twenty-seven thousand dollars till this time, and now we show a capital of about forty-five thousand dollars, according to the report on your table. So that since the time I first engaged in the business, in 1799, till this time, being nine years, the capital stock has increased about elevenfold, which is more than a hundred per cent. per annum, or about eleven hundred per cent. in nine years, upon the original capital and stock of about four thousand dollars, besides the various appropriations to the conference and other purposes, as our ledger and day-book will show for.

And now, dear brethren, wishing all success to the connexion, and to the Book Concern, I hereby give you notice that it is my wish and purpose to be released from the agency in the Book Concern, and to retire from the responsibility and perplexities of the business. Therefore I decline being considered as a candidate for the editor or stewardship, wishing you may never have an agent to do you less service, nor to serve you with less acceptance, than I have done.

With great consideration, I am, dear brethren, in sentiments of good will, and ministerial affection, and Christian love,  
Yours, respectfully,

EZEKIEL COOPER.

To the General Conference now sitting.  
BALTIMORE, May 24, 1808.

- May 24. Moved by John Pitts, and seconded by Philip Bruce, that the conference return their thanks to brother Cooper for his faithful services in conducting the Book Concern. Carried.
- Thanks returned to E. Cooper.
- Requested to serve again. The conference requested brother Cooper to serve again.
- Moved by Martin Ruter, and seconded by William M'Lenahan, that this conference vote a sum of \$1000 to brother Cooper, by way of extra compensation for his services the first five years. Carried.
- Voted \$1000 to E. Cooper.
- Leave of absence. Asa Smith, John Walker, William Mills, Truman Bishop, Joseph Aydelott, Thomas Walker, James Aikins, and Thomas Shands, asked leave of absence. Granted.
- Proposition by John Wilson to superintend Book Concern. John Wilson, being requested by the conference, proposes to superintend the Book Concern for \$750 a year.
- Wilson employed as editor and book-steward. Voted to employ brother Wilson as editor and general book-steward at \$750 a year.

May 25.

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 25.

- D. Hitt elected to assist Wilson. Daniel Hitt was elected by ballot as the assistant editor and general book-steward.
- Voted to pay D. Hitt \$600. Voted to pay Daniel Hitt \$600 a year, as assistant editor and general book-steward.
- Any compensation as board, &c., considered a part of their salary. Moved by William Thacher, and seconded by Daniel Ostrander, that in case the book agents receive any compensation as board or quarterage as a preacher, it shall be considered as a part of their salary. Carried.
- Time of service limited. Moved by Ezekiel Cooper, and seconded by John Wilson, that no general book-steward or editor in the Book Concern shall serve in that department as agent or superintendent for more than eight years successively. Carried.
- Names of editor and general book-steward left out of Discipline. Moved from the chair, that the editor and general book-steward's names be left out of the Discipline, and printed in the annual Minutes. Carried.
- First resolution carried. The first resolution of the report of the committee of review was put to vote and carried.
- Second resolution carried. The second resolution was put to vote and carried.
- Third and fourth resolutions carried. The third resolution was put to vote and carried.
- The fourth resolution was put to vote and carried.
- Fifth resolution lost. The fifth resolution was put to vote and lost.
- No travelling preacher allowed to publish books without the approbation of Conference. Moved by Elijah R. Sabin, and seconded by Oliver Beale, that no travelling preacher be permitted to publish any book or pamphlet without the approbation of the annual conference to which he belongs, or a committee chosen by them. Carried.
- Com. of Correspondence. The committee of correspondence reported.
- Draft of letter to Dr. Coke read. The draft of a letter to Dr. Coke was read and approved.
- A postscript to be subjoined. The postscript drawn up by brother Cooper was voted to be subjoined to the letter to Dr. Coke.

The draft of a letter to the British Conference was read and approved.

May 25.  
Draft of a letter to British Conference read.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

William Anson, Daniel Asbury, Phineas Cook, Josiah Philips, Stith Mead, Josias Randle, Reuben Harris, Samuel Draper, and Nathan Bangs, asked leave of absence. Granted.

Leave of absence.

Moved by Stephen G. Roszel, and seconded by James Ward, that after the word "Conference," in the fourth paragraph of the section on slavery, the following words be inserted, viz.: "Except in those states where the laws are such as, in the judgment of the quarterly conference, render such record improper; and in such cases the decision of the quarterly conference shall be entered on the Journal," and then strike out the conclusion of the paragraph from the word "nevertheless." Lost.

Amendments on Slavery proposed and lost.

Moved by Thomas L. Budd, and seconded by John M'Claskey, that the whole section in our form of Discipline respecting slavery be struck out. Lost.

Moved by Daniel Ostrander, and seconded by Joshua Soule, that no more motions be laid on the table until those that are on be disposed of. Carried.

Motion for regulating business.

Voted that the secretary sign the letters to Dr. Coke and the British Conference, and that the members of the committee of correspondence countersign them.

Signing of letters to Dr. Coke and British Conference.

THURSDAY, MAY 26.

May 26.

Moved from the chair, that there be one thousand forms of Discipline prepared for the use of the South Carolina Conference, in which the section and rule on slavery be left out. Carried.

One thousand copies of Discipline for S. C. Conference.

Moved by Stephen G. Roszel, and seconded by Thomas Ware, that the first two paragraphs of the section on slavery be retained in our Discipline; and that the General Conference authorize each annual conference to form their own regulations relative to buying and selling slaves. Carried.

Amendment.

The committee appointed to take into consideration the fifth section of the form of Discipline on the temporal economy for raising supplies, &c., reported; but the conference did not see proper to adopt their report.

Committee on Temporal Economy.

Moved by Ezekiel Cooper, and seconded by Nelson Reed, that after the fifth section on raising supplies, &c., it be inserted before the question:—

Motion for amendment.

6th. Every annual conference has full liberty to adopt and recommend such plans and rules as to them may appear necessary the more effectually to raise for the respective allowances.

7th. If the respective allowances are not raised, as pro-

- May 26.**  
**Motion for amendment.**  
**Motions rescinded.**  
 vided for, the connexion shall not be accountable for the deficiency as in a case of debt. Carried.  
 The motions previously entered on the Journal, brought by brother Ostrander and brother Chandler on the foregoing subject of raising supplies, &c., are rescinded.
- Motion for amendment.**  
 Moved by Jesse Lee, and seconded by Thomas Ware, that the word "salary" be struck out of the Discipline, and the word "allowance" be inserted in its place. Carried.
- Probation.**  
 Moved by Daniel Hitt, and seconded by John Pitts, that every part of the Discipline that stands in contrast with any of the rules and regulations adopted at this sitting of the General Conference be repealed. Lost.
- Fletcher's Checks.**  
 Moved by Stephen G. Roszel, and seconded by Nelson Reed, that the probation of our graduates to the ministry be lengthened to four years. Lost.
- Moved by James Ward, and seconded by Stith Mead, that "Fletcher's Checks" be reprinted immediately, beginning with the first volume. Carried.

## THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

- Amendment of Discipline.**  
 Moved by William P. Chandler, and seconded by William M'Lenahan, that the following amendment be inserted in the fourth section of the ordination of local deacons, after the word "provided," in the last paragraph and third line: "Their characters pass in examination, and obtain the approbation of the yearly conference, with a testimonial from the quarterly meeting of their respective circuits after proper examination, signed by the president and countersigned by the secretary."
- Proposition for publishing a history of the Methodists in America.**  
 Moved by Nelson Reed, and seconded by John Pitts, that a history of the Methodists in America be published; that such preachers as have it in their power be requested to furnish materials for the same, and that some person or persons be appointed to prepare it for the press. Lost.
- Motions for amendment of Discipline.**  
 Moved by Daniel Hall, and seconded by Jesse Lee, that the answer to the second chapter and fifth section of our Discipline be expunged. Lost.
- Moved by Elijah R. Sabin, and seconded by Joshua Soule, that the part of Discipline which says, "How often shall we permit strangers to be present at the meeting of the society?" be amended and read thus: "How often shall we permit those who are not of our society to meet in class or society?" Carried.
- Moved by Ezekiel Cooper, and seconded by William Burke, that in page twenty-seven, after the words "shall be expelled," the words "excepting the case be of such a nature as to require or justify a process at law" shall be added. Carried.
- Moved by Joshua Wells, and seconded by Thomas L. Budd, that the following words be inserted in section seventh,

answer five, line third, after the words "quarterly meeting," "except such as absent themselves from trial after sufficient notice has been given them." Carried.

May 26.  
Motions for amendment of Discipline.

Moved by Stephen G. Roszel, and seconded by Joseph Toy, that the consultation of the preachers with the stewards and leaders be struck out of the first chapter, ninth section, and twenty-seventh page of Discipline, in cases of disputes about payment of money, &c. Carried.

Moved by Jesse Lee, and seconded by William Burke, that in the marriage rule, after the word "trial," be added, "and suspended" from love-feast and the "Lord's supper." Lost.

Motion relative to sending representatives to General Conference.

Moved by Joseph Totten, and seconded by Stephen G. Roszel, that no preacher shall be sent as a representative to the General Conference until he has travelled at least four full calendar years from the time that he was received on trial by an annual conference, and is in full connexion at the time of holding the conference. Carried.

Motion to request Mr. Asbury to send his likeness to the brethren in England.

Moved by Samuel Coate, and seconded by Wm. Burke, that Mr. Asbury be requested by this conference to comply with a request of our brethren in England, to send his likeness over to them, to be put in their magazines. Carried.

Motion that the assistant secretary write to Evans.

Moved by Ezekiel Cooper, and seconded by William P. Chandler, that the assistant secretary be directed to write to brother Evans on our decision concerning his proposal. Carried.

Addresses and Journal read.

Read the addresses and the Journal.

FRANCIS ASBURY.  
WM. M'KENDREE.

WM. PENN CHANDLER, Sec'y.



# JOURNAL

OF THE

## GENERAL CONFERENCE, 1812.

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FRIDAY, MAY 1.

May 1.

The delegated General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States of America assembled in the city of New-York, agreeably to a resolution of the General Conference of 1808. Bishop Asbury opened conference. Wm. M. Kennedy was appointed Secretary *pro tem*. The forenoon was occupied in calling for and reading the certificates of the delegates from the several annual conferences. Members present:—

Meeting of Conference.

Conference opened. Kennedy appointed Secretary *pro tem*.

*New-York Conference*—Freeborn Garretson, Daniel Ostrander, Aaron Hunt, William Phœbus, William Anson, Nathan Bangs, Laban Clark, Truman Bishop, Eben Smith, Henry Stead, Billy Hibbard, Seth Crowell, Samuel Merwin—13.

New-York Conference.

*New-England Conference*—George Pickering, Oliver Beale, Elijah Hedding, Joshua Soule, William Stevens, Asa Kent, Solomon Sias, Joel Winch, Daniel Webb—9.

New-England Conference.

*Genesee Conference*—William B. Lacy, Anning Owen, Timothy Lee, James Kelsey, Elijah Batchelor, William Snow—6.

Genesee Conference.

*Western Conference*—Learner Blackman, Benjamin Lakin, James Quinn, Frederick Stier, John Sale, William Pattison, Isaac Quinn, William Houston, John Collins, Samuel Parker, James Axley, David Young, Thomas Stilwell—13.

Western Conference.

*South Carolina Conference*—Lewis Myers, Lovick Pierce, Joseph Tarpley, Daniel Asbury, Wm. M. Kennedy, Samuel Dunwoody, James E. Glenn, Hilliard Judge, Joseph Travis—9.

South Carolina Conference.

*Virginia Conference*—Jesse Lee, Philip Bruce, John Burton, Thomas L. Douglass, John Ballew, James M. Boyd, Richard Lattimore, Charles Callaway, Cannellum H. Hines, William Jean, John Early—11.

Virginia Conference.



- May 1.**  
**Baltimore Conference.** *Baltimore Conference*—Nelson Reed, Joseph Toy, Joshua Wells, Nicholas Snethen, Enoch George, Asa Shinn, Hamilton Jefferson, Jacob Gruber, Robert R. Roberts, William Ryland, Christopher Frye, James Smith, Robert Burch, Henry Smith, Andrew Hemphill—15.
- Philadelphia Conference.** *Philadelphia Conference*—Ezekiel Cooper, John M'Claskey, Thomas F. Sargent, Stephen G. Roszel, Thomas Ware, Richard Sneath, Thomas Boring, David Bartine, John Walker, George Woolley, James Bateman, Thomas Burch, Michael Coate, Asa Smith—14.
- Ninety in Conference.** Ninety is the number that compose the Conference.
- Adjournment.** Conference then adjourned until three o'clock P. M.

## FRIDAY AFTERNOON.

- Examination of Certificates, &c.** Conference met, agreeably to adjournment, and resumed the further examination of certificates of the delegates, in order to organize themselves. A case was brought forward respecting some of the delegates from New-England. It seems they elected three extra members who were to succeed and take place in case of the failure of any of the first chosen delegates. The conference took into consideration the propriety of the principle, and, after some debate, voted that this business should be laid over till to-morrow.
- Voted that a committee be appointed to form rules, &c.** The conference voted that a committee of three should be appointed to form rules for the regulation of this conference, and that one of them should be chosen out of each annual conference; accordingly Ezekiel Cooper, N. Snethen, Philip Bruce, George Pickering, F. Garrettson, Lewis Myers, L. Blackman, and Wm. B. Lacy were elected.
- Committee.**
- Adjournment.** Adjourned at five o'clock.

May 2.

## SATURDAY, MAY 2.

- Committee to search for Journal.** Met, agreeably to adjournment, and, after prayer, proceeded to business. Jesse Lee and Wm. Phœbus were appointed a committee to search diligently for the Journal of the last General Conference, which was mislaid in consequence of the death of John Wilson.
- Committee sent for.** The committee appointed to form rules being absent, conference voted that they should be sent for; which was accordingly done.
- Resumed business of appointing Secretary.** The conference resumed the business of appointing a secretary. Voted that a secretary be appointed who is not a member of this conference. D. Hitt and Wm. S. Fisher were nominated, and the conference proceeded to vote by ballot, when it appeared, on counting the votes, that D. Hitt was elected by a large majority.
- D. Hitt elected.** The business concerning the delegates from the New-England Conference was resumed, and, after some conversation, a motion was made: "Are our brethren from the

New-England Conference, Joel Winch and Daniel Webb, entitled to their seats in this conference?" Votes in favour of the motion 56—against 22. They accordingly took their seats in the places of John Brodhead and Elijah R. Sabin. Adjourned at a quarter past twelve o'clock.

May 2

Adjournment.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met again at three o'clock P. M.

D. Ostrander reported to the conference that D. Hitt cannot take his place as secretary until Monday morning next. Also, that he wishes some one to be appointed to assist him in the business of secretary.

Report of D. Ostrander.

The committee to form rules for the regulation of this conference made their report, and the determination of the conference in that case was postponed until Monday.

Report of Committee appointed to form rules, &c.

Moved, that a person be appointed to assist D. Hitt in the business of secretary, and postponed until Monday next.

Postponement of motion to appoint an Assistant Sec'y.

A motion was made that our brethren who are in full connexion be admitted to sit in this house during the conference. Voted that it be postponed until Wednesday next.

Postponement of motion to admit brethren of full connexion in conference.

Bishop Asbury read Dr. Coke's letter to the conference. Adjournment was called for and carried at five o'clock, to meet at nine o'clock, Monday next.

Dr. Coke's letter read. Adjournment.

MONDAY, MAY 4.

May 4

Met at nine o'clock, agreeably to adjournment.

After calling the list, the Journal was read.

Journal read.

The committee appointed to search after the Journal reported that they had made inquiry at every place where they thought it probable it might be found, except at Mrs. Wilson's, who was not at home. The committee was then further requested to wait on Mrs. Wilson for further search.

Report of committee appointed to look for Journal.

Moved, that we resume the consideration of the rules. N. Sneathen was then requested to read the rules and orders.

Motion to resume the consideration of rules.

Adjourned at twelve o'clock.

Adjournment.

MONDAY AFTERNOON.

The conference met, agreeably to adjournment, and proceeded further to consider the rules and orders to regulate the conference.

Consideration of rules.

Adjourned at six o'clock.

Adjournment.

TUESDAY, MAY 5.

May 5

Met at nine o'clock, agreeably to adjournment yesterday. After calling the list the Journal was read. Then the

- May 5.**  
 Report of committee appointed to look for Journal. committee appointed to search for the Journal reported, that the weather was so disagreeable that they had not been able to make further search.
- Liberty to speak granted to N. Reed. N. Reed then rose and asked liberty to speak, with an allusion to something said yesterday, wherein he thought himself and others somewhat implicated. Leave was granted.
- Subject dismissed. After some desultory conversation on the subject, it was amicably dismissed.
- Journal found. William Phœbus, one of the committee to seek for the Journal, appeared with the Journal, it having been mislaid among some old books belonging to the estate of the late John Wilson.
- Motion to resume the consideration of rules, &c. Moved by D. Ostrander, that we resume the consideration of the rules and orders to govern the conference.
- Motion to form committee of whole. On motion, Shall the conference have power to resolve itself into a committee "of the whole?" Carried by a large majority, having 54 votes in favour.
- Rules and orders finished. Finished the consideration of the rules and orders to govern the conference.
- Adjournment. Adjourned at twelve o'clock.

## TUESDAY AFTERNOON.

- No old rule to be abolished. Met, agreeably to adjournment. After calling the list, Jesse Lee moved, that no old rule shall be abolished without a majority of two-thirds. Lost.
- Order to print one hundred copies of rules and orders. N. Snethen moved, that the rules and orders to govern the sitting and business of the conference should be printed. Carried, and ordered that one hundred copies be printed. N. Snethen was appointed to superintend the printing thereof.
- Memorial of Trustees of Chartered Fund. Bishop M'Kendree's address to the General Conference was read. A memorial of the trustees of the Chartered Fund, as also their statement of the affairs of the fund, were read to the conference.
- Motion to take into consideration the Book Concern. A motion was made by N. Bangs, that the conference take into consideration the Book Concern, and appoint a committee to examine and report. Voted that a committee be appointed.
- Committee chosen by ballot. It was determined that the committee shall be chosen by ballot. On counting the votes, it was found that E. Cooper, J. Lee, and N. Snethen, were duly elected.
- Adjournment. Adjourned at six o'clock.

May 6.

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 6.

- List called, and Journal read. Met at nine o'clock, agreeably to adjournment yesterday. After calling the list, the Journal was read.

J. Early moved, that Bishop M'Kendree's address to the General Conference be recorded on the Journal. Lost.

Jesse Lee then moved, that the bishop's address be filed with the conference papers. Carried.

T. Ware moved, that the book committee of yesterday be directed to take up the section on the printing and circulating of books, and revise and report thereon. Withdrawn.

N. Bangs moved, that the committee appointed to examine into the Book Concern be instructed to take into consideration whatever may relate to the Concern. Carried.

Jesse Lee called up his former motion as the order of the day. It was then moved, that this motion be indefinitely postponed. The indefinite postponement was lost. It was then carried by a large majority, "that the travelling preachers, who are in full connexion, have liberty to sit in this house as listeners during conference."

It was then moved, that the travelling preachers not in full connexion be admitted. Lost by a large majority.

It was further moved, that the local preachers be admitted as spectators in the gallery, and indefinitely postponed. The travelling preachers in full connexion, as admitted by the foregoing vote, are to be admitted in the gallery, subject to the orders of conference.

Adjourned at twelve o'clock.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met, agreeably to adjournment. After reading the list, S. G. Roszel moved, that Bishop M'Kendree's address be referred to a committee of the whole conference.

Bishop M'Kendree presented an address from several preachers of the Genesee Annual Conference.

Moved by D. Ostrander, that this address be referred to a committee of seven, one from each annual conference except the Genesee. Withdrawn, and the address voted to lie on the table, subject to be called up at any time.

It was then voted, that a person be appointed to keep an account of the persons that speak, and the time of their speaking.

S. G. Roszel called up his motion to refer Bishop M'Kendree's address to a committee of the whole conference. Carried.

Freeborn Garrettson was called to the chair.

The committee of the whole rose and reported as follows, viz. :—

T. F. Sargent moved, that so much of Bishop M'Kendree's address as related to the Genesee Conference be referred to a select committee, to report thereon by resolution or otherwise.

May 6  
Motion to record Bishop M'Kendree's address on the Journal.  
Motion to file Bishop M'Kendree's address.  
Motion to amend.

Motion respecting Book Concern.

Motion to admit travelling preachers in full connexion.

Motion to admit travelling preachers not in full connexion.

Motion to admit local preachers indefinitely postponed.  
Travelling preachers to occupy gallery.

Motion to refer Bishop M'Kendree's address to the whole conference.

Address from several preachers presented.

Motion to refer Bishop M'Kendree's address to committee of seven.

A person to keep an account of the speakers.

Motion to refer Bishop M'Kendree's address to a committee of the whole.

Report of committee of the whole.

May 6.  
Motion respecting  
the committee of the  
whole.

Motion of T. F.  
Sargent.

Bishop M'Kendree's  
address referred to select  
committee.

E. Cooper moved, that the committee of the whole should rise, report progress, and ask leave to sit again. Lost.

T. F. Sargent's motion was then resumed and carried.

T. F. Sargent then moved, that the select committee consist of eight members, one from each annual conference. Carried.

John Early moved, that so much of Bishop M'Kendree's address as relates to a division of the work in the Western country be referred to a select committee for them to consider and report thereon. Carried.

Moved, that the committee shall consist of nine members, two of which shall be chosen from the Western Conference, and one from each of the other annual conferences. Carried.

S. G. Roszel moved, that so much of Bishop M'Kendree's address as relates to the episcopacy be referred to a select committee. Carried.

Moved, that this committee shall consist of eight members, one from each annual conference. Carried.

Thomas F. Sargent moved, that so much of Bishop M'Kendree's address as relates to the local preachers be referred to a select committee, to report thereon by resolutions or otherwise. Carried.

Moved, that this committee consist of eight members, one from each annual conference. Carried.

S. G. Roszel moved, that so much of Bishop M'Kendree's address as relates to doctrine, discipline, and practice, be referred to a select committee. Carried.

Moved, that this committee shall consist of sixteen members, two from each annual conference. Carried.

T. L. Douglass moved, that so much of Bishop M'Kendree's address as relates to unfinished business at the last General Conference, if there be any, be referred to a select committee, and that they be instructed to examine the Journals of the last General Conference. Carried.

Moved, that this committee shall consist of three members. Carried.

Report of committee of the  
whole to lie on the table.  
Adjournment.

The consideration of the report of the committee of the whole was voted to lie over until to-morrow morning.

Adjourned at six o'clock.

May 7.

## THURSDAY, MAY 7.

The conference met at nine o'clock, agreeably to adjournment yesterday.

Papers of the  
annual conferences called for.

After reading the list, the bishop called for the papers, if any, from each annual conference. Several papers were presented and read.

Moved that these papers lie on the table. Carried.

The conference then resumed the further consideration of the report of the committee of the whole as made yesterday.

May 7.  
Consideration of report resumed.

N. Snethen moved, that the address of the bishop be re-committed to a committee of the whole conference to reconsider the report of yesterday. This motion was withdrawn by the mover.

Motion to re-commit the consideration of report.

E. Cooper moved, that a report of the committee of the whole lie on the table to make room for a motion, or motions, he had prepared to present to the conference. Carried.

Motion that the report lie on the table.

E. Cooper then presented several resolutions, which were voted to lie on the table.

Several resolutions presented.

Moved, that the report of the whole be considered paragraph by paragraph. Carried.

Motion to consider report.

Jesse Lee moved an amendment to the first paragraph of the report. The amendment was lost.

Amendment.

Resumed the consideration of the above paragraph.

Adjournment.

Adjourned at twelve o'clock.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

Met, agreeably to adjournment this morning, and resumed the further consideration of the first paragraph of the report of the committee of the whole. Lost.

Consideration of first paragraph.

Moved, that the remaining business lie on the table, to make room for the immediate consideration of the above paragraph.

Motion that the remaining business lie on the table.

E. Cooper moved, that this General Conference do consider that the Genesee Annual Conference is a legally constituted and organized conference. Carried.

Genesee Conference legally organized.

Proceeded to consider the second paragraph of the committee. Carried. Voted that it be referred to a committee of five.

Consideration of second paragraph.

The third paragraph of the report of the committee of the whole was carried, and referred to a committee of eight.

Third paragraph referred to a com. of eight.

The paragraph relating to the episcopacy was called up and carried, and referred to a committee of eight. Moved, that this committee be appointed by the conference. Carried.

Paragraph relating to the episcopacy referred to a committee of eight.

The paragraph respecting doctrines, discipline, and practice, was carried, and referred to a committee of eight.

The last paragraph was lost.

Proceeded to appoint, by ballot, the committee of eight respecting the episcopacy. On counting the votes, it was found that none had a majority; consequently none were elected. Then proceeded to ballot a second time, and on counting the votes, it was found that six were duly elected, viz.: S. G. Rossel, G. Pickering, L. Blackman, L. Myers, P. Bruce, N. Snethen.

Appointment of committee by ballot.

Adjourned at forty minutes after six o'clock.

Adjournment.

May 8.

FRIDAY, MAY 8.

Bishop Asbury's address to M'Kendree—  
an account of  
the work on the  
continent.

Met at nine o'clock, agreeably to adjournment yesterday. After calling the list, Bishop Asbury addressed himself to Bishop M'Kendree, or to the conference through him, in a kind of historical account of the work in past years, the present state, and what probably may be the future state of the work on the continent. Bishop M'Kendree rose and replied, expressive of his approbation. Then the Journal was read.

Balloted for  
Committee on  
Episcopacy.

On motion, proceeded to ballot for the remaining two of the Committee on Episcopacy; and on counting the votes, it was found that N. Bangs and E. Cooper were duly elected. It was then announced by the President of the conference, that S. G. Roszel, G. Pickering, L. Blackman, L. Myers, P. Bruce, N. Snethen, N. Bangs, and E. Cooper, were the Committee on Episcopacy.

Members of  
committee re-  
ported.

Bishop Asbury then reported the members of the committee to which was referred a division of the work in the Western country; which were, J. Quinn, W. Houston, S. Parker, J. Sale, and F. Stier.

Members of  
committee on  
local preachers.

Bishop Asbury likewise reported the members of the committee to which was referred the state of the local preachers; which were, P. Bruce, L. Pierce, E. George, T. Burch, J. Collins, D. Ostrander, Joshua Soule, and A. Owen.

Members of  
committee re-  
specting ad-  
ministration.

Bishop Asbury also reported the members of the committee to which was referred that part of the bishop's address respecting the administration of doctrine, discipline, and practice; which were, T. L. Douglass, R. R. Roberts, S. Dunwody, J. M'Claskey, F. Garretson, J. Winch, W. B. Lacy, and B. Lakin.

Resolutions re-  
specting Bishop  
Asbury's ad-  
dress.

E. Cooper brought forward a resolution, that so much of Bishop Asbury's verbal address as relates to his thoughts of going to Europe on a visit be referred to a select committee, and to report thereon. Carried, and voted that a committee of three be appointed.

Moved, that so much of Bishop Asbury's verbal address as relates to regulations, providing for the locating, or superannuated, or superannuated relation of a bishop, be referred to a select committee to report thereon. Carried.

Resolutions re-  
ferred to com-  
mittee.

It was voted that both the foregoing resolutions be, and they are hereby referred to the committee already appointed respecting the episcopacy.

Motion to ap-  
point a com-  
mittee on tem-  
poral concerns.

Moved, that a committee on the temporal concerns of the conference be appointed. Carried. Voted that a committee of three be appointed.

Motions that the  
delegates of the  
Genesee Con-  
ference be per-  
mitted to  
speak, &c.

W. B. Lacy called up the motion laid on the table yesterday, viz. :—

"I move that the delegates from the Genesee Confer-

once be permitted to speak to the memorial of certain preachers of said conference.

“ W. B. LACY.  
“ JAMES KELSEY.”

May 8.

Moved, that the delegates from the Genesee Conference have liberty to speak to the memorial prepared against the conduct of that conference in the choice of their delegates. Carried.

Adjourned at twelve o'clock.

Adjournment.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON.

Met, agreeably to adjournment at noon. After calling the list, W. B. Lacy rose and moved, that the delegates from the Genesee Conference have liberty to make their defence before a committee. The motion was lost.

Motion respecting the delegates from the Genesee Conference.

Then W. B. Lacy rose and spoke in behalf of himself and others. After several speeches on the subject, it was moved by Joseph Toy, that the delegates from the Genesee Annual Conference be furnished with a copy of the memorial respecting them, and that this conference dismiss the subject. On motion, the question was divided, and voted that the delegates shall have a copy of the address.

A copy of the Memorial furnished to the Genesee Conference.

Then there was a motion to amend the other part of the motion by adding, “ The conference shall grant the memorialists leave to withdraw their memorial and dismiss the subject.” Carried.

Motion for amendment.

Jesse Lee moved that the members of the next General Conference come by seniority, and that the supernumerary and superannuated preachers shall not be included among the senior preachers ; also, that one for every six members shall come to the next General Conference, and in case there are two or more preachers of equal standing, then the first named shall have the preference. And in case any one of the above preachers shall fail, by sickness or otherwise, to attend the General Conference, then the next senior preacher shall come in his place.

Motion that the members of the next General Conference come by seniority.

Postponed till Wednesday next.

P. Bruce moved, that the communication made by the trustees of the Chartered Fund be referred to the committee of the Book Concern. Carried.

Postponement till Wednesday following. Communication of Trustees of Chartered Fund referred to committee of Book Concern. Resolution to amend.

Resolved, That the fourth paragraph of the twentieth section of the form of Discipline, instead of reading, “ Every local preacher shall have his name enrolled on a class-paper,” shall read, “ Every local elder, deacon, or preacher, shall have his name enrolled on a class-paper.” Referred to the committee of local preachers.

S. Sias moved, that this conference take into consideration and adopt some form of licensing and trying exhorters. Voted to lie on the table.

Motion to consider and adopt some form of licensing exhorters. Committee.

Richard Sneath, R. R. Roberts, and W. M. Kennedy,



May 8. are appointed a committee to manage the temporal affairs of this conference.  
Adjournment. Adjourned at six o'clock.

May 9.

SATURDAY, MAY 9.

Address of Bishop Asbury to Bishop M'Kendree. Met, agreeably to adjournment yesterday. After calling the list, Bishop Asbury rose and addressed himself to Bishop M'Kendree, on the subject of defining the bounds of the annual conferences. Then the Journal was read.

Withdrawal of resolution. E. Cooper withdrew the resolutions he laid on the table on Thursday last.

Motions respecting book account. N. Snethen moved, that the rule respecting the previous question be adopted. Lost.  
An address from E. R. Sabin, respecting his book account, was read and referred to the Book Committee. Another of a similar kind from Joseph Randle, wishing to be exonerated from the balance due the Concern. Voted to be delivered to the delegates of the South Carolina Conference.

Proposal to print Hymn-Book. Another address from the firm of Patterson & Hopkins, of Pittsburgh, was read, offering to print an edition of the Hymn-Book on certain conditions. Referred to the Book Committee.

Committee of review and revision appointed. N. Bangs moved, that there be a committee of review and revision appointed. Carried, and voted that there be a committee of three appointed.

Motion for revision and amendment of deeds. W. Houston moved, that the form of deeds for securing our meeting-houses, and the premises belonging thereto, be revised and amended. Voted to lie on the table.

Amendment to chapter two, section seven. N. Bangs moved an amendment to chapter two, section seven, of the form of Discipline. Voted to lie on the table.

Motion with regard to the sale of spirituous or malt liquors by preachers. Moved by James Axley, that no stationed or local preacher shall retail spirituous or malt liquors without forfeiting his ministerial character among us. Voted to lie on the table.

Committee of review and revision. J. Wells, J. E. Glenn, and J. Collins, are appointed the committee of review and revision.

Adjournment. Adjourned at twelve o'clock.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

Motions for amendment. After calling the list, it was moved that the following addition be made to the seventh paragraph of the twentieth section of our Discipline, viz. :—" And if they, or a majority of them, judge that the said preacher, deacon, or elder, has been guilty of such a crime as requires his suspension from all the privileges of our Church, the preacher shall suspend him accordingly till the ensuing quarterly conference." This motion was withdrawn by the mover, to make room for the following :—That at the latter end of the

answer to the second question these words be added: "And privileges of the Church, if, in their judgment, the nature of the crime require it." Carried.

May 9.

A motion was made and carried to adjourn at half-past four o'clock.

Adjournment.

MONDAY, MAY 11.

May 11.

Met at nine o'clock, agreeably to adjournment. After calling the list, the Journal was read.

List called, and Journal read.

A. Hunt asked and obtained leave of absence for a day or two.

Leave of absence granted.

D. Asbury moved, that the address from S. Mathis, of Camden, South Carolina, be referred to the committee of review and revisal. Carried.

Motion to refer address to committee of review and revisal.

Moved, that W. Houston's motion of Saturday last be referred to the committee of review and revisal. Lost.

Motion to refer a previous motion to committee.

Then was moved, that it be referred to the committee on doctrine, discipline, &c. Lost. It then, of course, lies on the table.

The committee to which was referred the state of the local preachers reported in part as follows, viz. :—

Report of committee with regard to the state of local preachers.

Resolved, That a local deacon shall be eligible to the office of an elder after he has preached four years from the time he was ordained deacon, and shall have obtained a recommendation from the quarterly conference of which he is a member, and be approved by the annual conference; provided such ordination shall take place only when the quarterly and yearly conference judge the services of such local elder are necessary.

Adjourned at twelve o'clock.

Adjournment.

MONDAY AFTERNOON.

Met, agreeably to adjournment, at noon. After calling the list, resumed the consideration of the report of the committee which was before the conference in the forenoon.

List called, and consideration of the report resumed.

Adjourned at six o'clock.

Adjournment.

TUESDAY, MAY 12.

May 12.

Met at nine o'clock, agreeably to adjournment yesterday. After calling the list the Journal was read.

List called, and Journal read.

Bishop M'Kendree called for the papers respecting conference business. There was presented a petition from a number of the members of the quarterly conference in New-York, which was read and voted to lie on the table.

Papers respecting conference business called for. Petition presented.

The committee appointed to take into consideration the division of the work in the western country reported as follows, viz. :—

Report of committee respecting the division of the work in the Western country.

1. That the Salt River, Kentucky, Miami, and Musking-

- May 12.** um Districts form the first conference, denominated the Ohio Conference.
2. That Holston, Nashville, Cumberland, Wabash, and Illinois Districts form the second conference, denominated the Tennessee Conference.
3. That the Mississippi District form the third conference, denominated the Mississippi Conference.
- Called up the business which was under consideration when adjourned yesterday.
- Inquiry of president respecting his authority.** The president asked if the conference thought he had authority to give the secretary orders to change some phrases in journalizing, provided there are no changes of the sense. It was said that the rules of conference made it his duty to examine and correct the Journal. Voted that this may be done.
- Answer.**
- Leave of absence granted.** E. Smith asked and obtained leave of absence till tomorrow morning.
- Adjournment.** Adjourned at twelve o'clock.

## TUESDAY AFTERNOON.

- List called, and previous business called up.** Met, agreeably to adjournment this forenoon. After calling the list, the business under consideration in the forenoon was again called up. Voted to close the debate on the subject. It was then agreed to divide the question thus: "As many of you as approve of ordaining local preachers to the office of elders, rise up." On counting the votes, it was found that there were 49 in favour and 35 against it.
- Division of question.** Adjourned at six o'clock.

May 13.

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 13.

- List called, and Journal read.** Met at nine o'clock, agreeably to adjournment yesterday. After calling the list, the Journal was read.
- Report of committee with respect to address.** There was a report from the committee to whom was referred that part of Bishop M'Kendree's address which relates to the episcopacy and superintendency, and voted to lie on the table.
- Report from Book Agent.** A report from the Book Agent was read, and referred to the Book Committee.
- Recommittal of report respecting the state of local preachers.** The resolve of the committee appointed on the state of the local preachers was called up. E. Cooper moved, that the part of the resolve now under consideration, with the other documents relative thereto, be recommitted. Carried.
- Motion of J. Lee called up.** J. Lee then called up his motion, laid on the table on Friday, and made the order of this day. Laid over by the mover to make room for the consideration of the report of the committee appointed to consider a division of the work in the western country.

It was moved and carried, that the Western Conference be divided.

N. Snethen moved, that the division of the Western Conference, as recommended by the report of the committee laid on the table yesterday, except the Mississippi District, which is to remain attached to the Tennessee Conference, be concurred in. Carried.

Voted, that that part of the work within the oversight of the Baltimore Conference, lying northwest of the Rivers Ohio and Alleghany, be ceded to the Ohio Conference. Carried.

Daniel Webb asked and obtained leave of absence during the remaining sitting of the conference.

Adjourned at twelve minutes past twelve o'clock.

May 13.  
Division of the Western Con. Motion with regard to the division of the Western Conference.

Part of the Baltimore Conference ceded to Ohio Conference.

Leave of absence granted to D. Webb. Adjournment.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

Met, agreeably to adjournment. After calling the list, proceeded to business.

Jesse Lee moved, that the following alteration be made in the seventh paragraph of page 196 of our Discipline:—"Provided that the bishops shall have authority to appoint another annual conference, in the interval of the General Conference, down the Mississippi," and strike out the present proviso. Carried.

Motion for amendment.

Moved and carried, that this motion be reconsidered.

Jesse Lee then called up his former motion as the order of the day.

Reconsideration of motion. Former motion of Jesse Lee called up. Motion that the order of the day lie over. Postponement.

It was then moved and carried, that the order of the day lie over for the consideration of the other motion.

On motion of N. Bangs, the further consideration of this motion was postponed until to-morrow morning.

Jesse Lee then called up his motion as the order of the day, as laid over before.

Jesse Lee's motion called up.

S. G. Roszel moved for an indefinite postponement.

Motion for indefinite postponement. Adjournment.

Adjourned at six o'clock.

THURSDAY, MAY 14.

May 14.

Met at nine o'clock, agreeably to adjournment yesterday. Called the list, read the Journal, and proceeded to business.

List called, and Journal read.

Bishop M'Kendree called for the paper relating to the business of the conference. None was presented.

Paper relating to business of the conference called for. Report of F. Garrettsen with regard to administration of discipline, &c.

F. Garrettsen, from the committee appointed to consider so much of Bishop M'Kendree's address as relates to the administration of doctrine, discipline, and practice, presented a report, which was read, amended, and voted to be filed among the conference papers.

Joshua Soule, from the committee appointed to take into consideration so much of Bishop M'Kendree's address as

Report of Joshua Soule.

May 14

relates to the local preachers, presented a report, which was read.

Postponement of unfinished business.

On motion of N. Snethen the unfinished business of yesterday was postponed to make room for the consideration of the committee.

Motion to concur in the report of com.

N. Snethen then moved, that we concur in the report of the committee. Withdrawn by the mover.

Motion to consider paragraph by paragraph the report of committee.

E. Cooper moved, that the report of the committee be considered paragraph by paragraph. The blank in the first paragraph was filled up with "four" by fifty-nine votes.

Adjournment.

Adjourned at twelve o'clock.

#### THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

Met, agreeably to adjournment at noon.

Report on Local Deacons amended.

The amendment of the report of the committee was called up. The report, with amendments, was carried, paragraph by paragraph, and read as follows:—

A local deacon shall be eligible to the office of an elder under the following regulations and restrictions, viz.: He shall have preached four years from the time he was ordained a deacon, and shall obtain a recommendation of two-thirds from the quarterly conference of which he is a member, signed by the president and countersigned by the secretary, certifying his qualifications in doctrine, discipline, talents, and usefulness, and the necessity of the official services of such local elder in the circuit where he resides. He shall, if he cannot be present, send to the annual conference a note, certifying his belief in the doctrines and discipline of our Church. The whole being examined and approved by the annual conference, he shall be ordained: *Provided*, that no slaveholder shall be eligible to the office of a local elder, in any state or territory where the civil laws will admit emancipation, and suffer the liberated slave to enjoy his freedom. Voted collectively, and carried.

Motion concerning rules and regulations for the ordination of deacons.

S. G. Roszel moved, that the rules and regulations for the local deacons to be ordained in the house of God be not in effect until approved by a majority of the members of all the annual conferences. Lost.

J. Lee's motion called up.

Called up Jesse Lee's motion to alter the seventh paragraph of the 196th page of the Discipline.

Adjournment.

Adjourned at six o'clock.

May 15

#### FRIDAY, MAY 15.

Met at nine o'clock, agreeably to adjournment yesterday. After calling the list, Bishop Asbury rose and requested leave of the conference to address Bishop M'Kendree in the presence of the conference. Leave was granted. Bishop Asbury then proceeded to address himself to Bishop M'Kendree and the conference conjointly. Bishop

List called.

Addresses of Bishops Asbury and M'Kendree.

M'Kendree then rose and addressed himself to Bishop Asbury and the conference.

On reading the Journal, a vote approving the whole report of the committee on the local preachers was called for and carried.

J. Wells, from the committee of review and revisal, made a report. On motion of N. Snethen the report was recommended.

J. Wells moved, that the committee of review and revisal be increased to eight. Ordered to lie on the table.

Jesse Lee's motion, authorizing the bishops to form another annual conference down the Mississippi, was called up and carried, to read as follows: "Provided that the bishops shall have authority, in the interval of the General Conference, to appoint another annual conference down the Mississippi, if they find it to be necessary."

N. Snethen moved the following: "Provided, second, that no circuit or district shall be incorporated into such new conferences without the consent of the conference to which it belongs." Carried.

The indefinite postponement of Jesse Lee's motion for the members of the next General Conference was called up. The motion to postpone indefinitely was withdrawn by the mover.

Then the question was taken on the first paragraph: "I move that the members of the next General Conference come by seniority." Lost. The second paragraph: "That one for every six members shall come to the next General Conference." Lost.

Adjourned at twelve o'clock.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON.

Met at three o'clock, agreeably to adjournment at noon. After calling the list, proceeded to business.

D. Ostrander moved, that the committee on the administration of doctrine, discipline, and practice, be instructed to draft an address to the members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Carried.

The motion laid on the table on Saturday, by N. Bangs, requesting amendment of chapter two, section seven, of the form of Discipline was called up, and lost.

A memorial from a number of the members of the quarterly conference in the city of New-York was read, and taken up; on which J. Soule moved the following amendment: that immediately after the words "quarterly conference," it be inserted, "when the parties concerned shall be heard, and their evidence admitted." Lost.

Moved and carried; that the memorialists, members of the quarterly conference in New-York, have leave to withdraw their memorial.

May 15.

Approval of report of committee on the local preachers.

Report of committee of review, &c.

Motion to increase committee.

J. Lee's motion to form another annual conference down the Mississippi called for.

Motion of N. Snethen.

Motion to postpone J. Lee's motion.

Question taken on first paragraph.

Second paragraph.

Motion to draft an address to members of the Methodist E. Church.

Motion with regard to amendment called up.

Memorial from N. Y. Quarterly Conference.

Motion to withdraw memorial.

May 15.  
Motion concern-  
ing liquor call-  
ed up.

Voted that the  
motion lie on  
the table.

E. Cooper's mo-  
tion resumed.

Adjournment.

J. Axley's motion to prohibit the retailing and distilling of liquor among the travelling and local preachers, left on the table on Monday last, was called up.

On motion of E. Cooper, the motion was voted to lie on the table to make room for a motion to adjourn, after six o'clock, till to-morrow afternoon at three o'clock.

The conference resumed the consideration of E. Cooper's motion. Carried.

Adjourned at six o'clock until to-morrow afternoon at three o'clock.

May 16.

## SATURDAY, MAY 16.

Met at three o'clock, agreeably to adjournment yesterday. After calling the list the Journal was read.

A letter pre-  
sented from  
Wm. Burke.

Wm. Pattison then presented a letter from Wm. Burke, requesting a reimbursement of the price of the carriage of books sent to him prior to the last General Conference. Moved and carried to refer this address to the Book Committee.

Liberty granted  
J. Sale to sub-  
mit his account  
to the Book  
Committee.

On a verbal address of J. Sale, liberty was granted him to submit his account of a similar nature to the Book Committee.

Motion with re-  
gard to retail-  
ing liquor call-  
ed up.

Called up James Axley's motion against the retailing and distilling of spirituous liquor among the local and travelling preachers. Postponed until Wednesday next.

Baltimore to be  
the seat of the  
next General  
Conference.

Jesse Lee's motion to decide where the next General Conference shall be, was called up as the order of the day. Then proceeded to ballot for the place of the next General Conference, and on counting the votes, Baltimore had forty-seven, and is the place for General Conference in the year 1816.

Report of com-  
mittee on epis-  
copal affairs  
called up.

On motion of E. Cooper, the report of the committee on episcopal affairs was called up.

Adjourned at six o'clock.

May 18.

## MONDAY, MAY 18.

Met at nine o'clock, agreeably to adjournment on Saturday. After calling the list the Journal was read.

Address from  
the executors  
of the late Rev.  
J. Wilson pre-  
sented.

T. F. Sargent presented an address from the executors of the late Rev. John Wilson, praying that this General Conference authorize the Book Agent to collect the debts due to that estate from a number of the Methodist preachers.

Motion to grant  
the prayer of  
the executors.

T. F. Sargent moved, that the prayer of the executors be granted. Carried.

Report from  
Book Com-  
mittee.

E. Cooper, from the Book Committee, reported on the different subjects attached thereto. And on motion of Jesse Lee the report was ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee on episcopal affairs was called up, as the unfinished business of Saturday.

On motion of N. Snethen the further consideration of this report was postponed until to-morrow morning.

The report of the committee on episcopal affairs was called up, and, on motion, was ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Joshua Soule the motion of L. Clark, respecting the choice of the presiding elders, was taken up.

Adjourned at twelve o'clock.

May 18.  
Report of committee on episcopal affairs called up.  
Postponement of report.

Motion of J. Soule.

Adjournment.

MONDAY AFTERNOON.

Met, agreeably to adjournment at noon. After calling the list, resumed the further consideration of L. Clark's motion respecting the choice of presiding elders.

Adjourned at six o'clock.

List called.  
Consideration of L. Clark's motion on the choice of presiding elders.

TUESDAY, MAY 19.

Met at nine o'clock, agreeably to adjournment yesterday. After calling the list, called for any papers respecting the business of the conference.

N. Bangs presented an address from James Evans, respecting his music or tune-book, and offering it to the conference on certain conditions. Voted to lie on the table.

E. Cooper read and presented a memorial from Benjamin Tanner, of Philadelphia, wishing the concurrence and influence of the conference in a request that Bishop Asbury should sit for his likeness, to have a portrait engraving, accompanying his letter to E. Cooper and E. Cooper's resolutions, which were concurred in.

Resolved, by the General Conference, that Bishop Asbury be, and is hereby requested to sit to a good painter, employed by Benjamin Tanner, for his picture to be taken, for the purpose of engraving and publishing a portrait. Carried.

Resolved, 2. That the book-agents are authorized to negotiate with Mr. Tanner for such quantities of the portraits as may be expedient to take to supply the connexion. Carried.

Resolved, 3. That the secretary write a letter, as soon as may be, informing Mr. Tanner of the result, and let him know when and where Bishop Asbury can sit, that a painter may take the picture. Carried.

J. Wells, from the committee of review and revision, made the following report:—

Resolved, 1. That the present deed of settlement be retained in the Discipline, and at the end of the answer to the fourth question, page 197, be inserted, "But each annual conference is authorized to make such modification in the deeds as they may find the different usages and customs of

May 19:

List called.

Evans's tune-book.

Memorial from Benjamin Tanner for Asbury's portrait.

Resolution to request Bishop Asbury to have his picture taken.

Resolution 2.

Resolution 3.

Report of committee of review, &c.  
Resolution 1.



- May 19. law require, in the different states or territories, so as to secure the premises firmly by deed, and permanently to the Methodist Episcopal Church, according to the true intent and meaning of the following form of a deed of settlement; anything in the said form to the contrary notwithstanding."
- Resolution 2. *Resolved*, 2. That the word "ground" be stricken out of the general deed, and the word "land" inserted; and the words, "and none others," be stricken out of all future editions.
- Resolutions concurred in. On motion of D. Ostrander the resolutions of the committee were concurred in.
- Motion for electing presiding elders. The unfinished business of yesterday, as contained in L. Clark's motion respecting the choice of the presiding elders, was called up.
- Amendment moved. N. Snethen moved the following amendment: *Provided* always, that the bishops shall have the power to nominate them, and if the first nomination is not ratified by a majority of the annual conferences, the bishop shall proceed to nominate until a choice is made; and in all cases each nomination shall be determined separately by ballot, without debate.
- Motion to lay on the table the business of presiding elders. T. L. Douglass moved, that the business of the presiding elders, being made elective, lie on the table till we request our superintendents to explain their opinion respecting it. Lost—41 for it, 42 against it.
- Motion that the conference go into a committee of the whole. T. L. Douglass then moved, that the conference go into a committee of the whole. This motion was withdrawn by the mover.
- Consideration of amendment called for. The consideration of the amendment was then called up. The vote being called for, on counting the votes it was lost—39 in favour, and 43 against it.
- Adjourned at twelve o'clock.

## TUESDAY AFTERNOON.

- Motion on presiding eldership. Met, agreeably to adjournment at noon. After calling the list, resumed the business contained in L. Clark's motion, respecting the choice of the presiding elders. Lost—42 for it, and 45 against it.
- Report of committee on episcopal affairs. The report of the committee on episcopal affairs was called up and carried, to read as follows:—
- Report. Your committee, to whom was referred so much of Bishop M'Kendree's address to the conferences as relates to the episcopacy, or the work of God, being sufficiently within the views of the superintendency, together with two resolves referred to them on the verbal address of Bishop Asbury, beg leave to report that, as it respects the subject to which our attention was called by Bishop M'Kendree's address, we have given the subject our most serious reflections and deliberations; and from our view of our present

plans of operation, we do not find our way clear to recommend or propose any additions or alterations in the plan of our general superintendency.

May 19.  
Report on episcopal affairs.

We beg leave further to report on the resolutions above mentioned:—

1. That it is our sincere request and desire that Bishop Asbury would relinquish his thoughts of visiting Europe, and confine his labours to the American connexion so long as God preserves him a blessing to the Church.

2. As it respects the instituting of a rule to fix the relation of our bishops other than that in which they now stand to the Church of God, we do not see our way clear to recommend such a measure: this much we would observe, that we conceive it to be a case in which our bishops should exercise their own discretion; and, should circumstances make it necessary for them to curtail their labours, it will be for the succeeding General Conference to approve of the same.

Seth Crowell asked and obtained leave of absence.

Leave of absence granted.  
Report of Book Committee considered.

The report of the Book Committee was taken up, and considered paragraph by paragraph.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20.

May 20.

Met at nine o'clock, agreeably to adjournment yesterday. After calling the list, proceeded to the further consideration of the report of the Book Committee.

Report continued.

Moved and carried, that the further consideration of the ninth paragraph of the report of the committee be postponed till we take into view Mr. Evans's address on the subject.

Motion to postpone the consideration of the ninth paragraph.

Adjourned at twelve o'clock.

Adjournment.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

Met, agreeably to adjournment at noon. After calling the list, called up the report of the Book Committee, as under consideration in the forenoon. J. Soule moved for the postponement of this business to make room for J. Axley's motion as the order of the day. Lost.

Report of the Book Committee called up.

Finished the consideration of the report of the committee and passed it, except the ninth paragraph, which is laid over till the consideration of Mr. Evans's address is called for.

Report of committee finished.

Then called up the report of the committee to whom was referred the memorial of the trustees of the Charter Fund, which report was confirmed.

Report on Charter Fund.

J. Axley's motion, on the retailing and distilling of spirituous liquors among the travelling and local preachers, was called up as the order of the day. Laid over till to-morrow morning.

Motion concerning the retailing, &c., of liquor called up.

May 20.  
Leave of ab-  
sence granted.  
Motion for  
amendment of  
Discipline.

N. Sneath asked and obtained leave of absence after this evening.

On motion of S. G. Roszel, it was voted that the following rule be added immediately after the tenth rule of the ninth section of chapter first of our form of Discipline:—

Rule.

Whenever a complaint is made against any member of our Church for the non-payment of debt, when the accounts are adjusted and the amount properly ascertained, the preacher having the charge shall call the debtor before a committee of at least three, to say why he does not make payment; and if further time is requested, the committee shall determine whether it ought to be granted, and what security, or if any, should be given, to secure the payment; and, in case the debtor should refuse to comply, he shall be expelled, but in such case shall have the privilege of appealing to the quarterly meeting conference, who shall decide on the case, and their decision shall be final. And in case the creditor shall complain that justice is not done him, he shall have the privilege of laying his grievance before the quarterly meeting conference, who shall decide on the case, and the decision shall be final; and in case the creditor refuse to comply, he shall be expelled.

Motion to procure a trunk in which to deposit the Journal, &c.

On motion of Wm. M. Kennedy, the General Conference directed the secretary to procure a convenient trunk in which to deposit the Journal and other papers belonging to the General Conference, and that the book-agents take charge of the same: the trunk, and papers, and Journal marked as belonging to the General Conference.

Committee appointed to read and examine letters from different conferences.

On motion of J. Boyd, a committee of three was appointed to read and examine some historical letters from different annual conferences, on the rise and progress of Methodism in the United States, and to make report to this conference on the merits, and on some plan to perfect the work begun. N. Bangs, T. L. Douglass, and L. Blackman, were appointed members of the committee.

Motion that \$800 be advanced to pay the expenses of preachers.

On motion of R. Sneath, it was voted that the Book Concern advance \$300 to meet the expenses of the preachers who have stated their cases to the committee of temporal concerns of this conference.

Motion to annex the district of Lower Canada to Genesee Conference.

On motion of Bishop Asbury, it was voted that the district of Lower Canada be annexed to the Genesee Conference.

Memorial of the members of the New-York Quarterly Conference called up.

The memorial of the members of the New-York Quarterly Meeting Conference was called up, on the consideration of which S. G. Roszel moved, that the General Conference authorize each annual conference to raise, if they think proper, a fund, as in their wisdom they shall see fit, to be considered as a fund of relief for the wives, widows, and children of travelling preachers, as also for the relief

of the superannuated and supernumerary preachers, and affording supplies for missionary purposes. Carried.

May 20.

James Smith asked and obtained leave of absence.

THURSDAY, MAY 21.

May 21.

Met, agreeably to adjournment yesterday. Called the list.

E. Cooper moved to take up Mr. Evans's address. Carried.

Motion to take up Mr. Evans's address.

On motion, it was voted that the memorialist have leave to withdraw his memorial.

Memorialist to withdraw his memorial. Address reported.

Wm. B. Lacy, from the committee of the administration of doctrine, discipline, and practice, who was ordered to draft an address to the members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, reported. Voted to lie on the table.

J. Axley's motion respecting the retailing and distilling of spirituous liquors among the travelling and local preachers was called up. Lost.

Motion relative to the distilling and retailing of ardent spirits by preachers.

The committee on the business of local preachers reported as follows :—

Report of the committee on local preachers.

Your committee, after considering the various bearings of the resolutions to amend the fourth paragraph of the twentieth section of the form of Discipline, do not apprehend that such amendment is necessary, but beg leave to submit the following resolution as an amendment to said paragraph :—

Resolved, That every local elder, deacon, or preacher, shall have his name recorded in the journals of the quarterly meeting conference of which he is a member.

Resolution of said report.

Moved by S. G. Roszel, that the report of the committee be divided ; and the vote was taken on the first member of the report and lost.

Motion to divide the report.

S. G. Roszel then moved, that the original motion to amend the fourth paragraph of the twentieth section of the form of Discipline be confirmed. The motion was lost.

Motion to amend Discipline lost.

The second member of the report, that every local elder, deacon, and preacher, shall have his name recorded on the journals of the quarterly meeting conference of which he is a member, was carried.

Motion in regard to recording names of local preachers.

E. Cooper moved, that the following amendments be made in our form of Discipline, page forty-three, answer fourth: After the words "neglect thereof," read, "the quarterly meeting conference, if they judge it proper, may deprive him of his license." S. G. Roszel moved the following amendment to E. Cooper's motion: In the place of the word "license," insert "ministerial office." Carried. The vote was then taken on the motion with the amendment, and carried.

Amendments of Discipline.

Adjourned at twelve o'clock.

Adjournment.

May 21.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

Amendment.

Met at three o'clock, agreeably to adjournment. After calling the list, the further consideration of the ninth paragraph of the report of the Book Committee was called up and it was confirmed. The whole report of the committee was read and approved, as follows:—

Report of Committee on Book Concern.

The committee to whom was referred the consideration of the Book Concern, having had that subject under consideration, beg leave to report:—

1. That the subject of brother Elijah R. Sabin's letter, relative to a difference between his account and that of the book-agent, &c., properly belongs to the New-England Conference to adjust and settle, where we recommend the reference of the whole business.

2. Your committee have had the book-agent's report and irregular statements, together with his explanations, under consideration. But, as the agent has not settled up his book, nor closed the various accounts, so as to ascertain the precise state of the Concern, and at present he cannot attend to it, and your committee have not time, if it were within the province of their duty, to go through the accounts, &c., &c.; therefore they cannot venture any opinion upon the real amount that the Concern is worth. They have so far examined the aggregate statements and got information as to items, valuations, entries, &c., from the agent, as to be of the opinion that the Concern, in its real value, will fall short of the amount stated. The agent is also satisfied as to this, and that the error is owing to an oversight in the valuation of some of the stock, and a mistake in some entries, &c. The agent may be disposed to explain on this head; however, your committee are of opinion that the Book Concern is in a state of prosperity.

3. The committee are of opinion that the book-agent should not print any book or books on his own private account, nor follow any other temporal business than what the interests and benefit of the Book Concern call for.

4. Your committee are of opinion that the present mode of allowing a profit for selling books at the discretion or option of the agent occasions considerable perplexities in calculating the various rates of per cent. on the different books, particularly in the division of profits between the presiding elders, preachers, &c.; besides, the present allowances are so various, in proportion to the valuation of the books, that it has a tendency to produce dissatisfaction as well as perplexity. Therefore your committee recommend, that there be a standing, uniform allowance to the preachers of eighteen per cent. discount from the retail prices in all books sold by them; that is, out of every hundred cents or dollar's worth sold, the seller to have eighteen

May 21.  
Report on the  
Book Concern.

and the Book Concern eighty-two, and so in proportion, more or less; one-third of which allowance, being six per cent., to belong to the presiding elder for his trouble and responsibility, and two-thirds, being twelve per cent., to belong to the preachers who sell the books.

5. Your committee are of opinion that it will be an advantage to the Concern if the agent be authorized to sell for cash any of our books to booksellers at such discount as, at his discretion, he may find to be proper and to the benefit of the Concern, provided he shall not allow a greater discount than is usual among booksellers; and in case of different orders for books that are scarce, or in high demand, the preachers' orders shall have the preference.

6. Your committee recommend that the book-agent be directed to resume the publication of the Methodist Magazine, two volumes being published; to commence publishing the third volume, at furthest, by January next.

7. Your committee are of opinion that the agent should be authorized to purchase the remaining volumes or sets of Dr. Coke's Commentary on the Old Testament now on hand.

8. Your committee advise that the book-agent be directed to bind a quantity of the first part of the Hymn-book, separate from the second part, to supply those who may wish it separate.

9. Your committee recommend that everything be left out of our Hymn-book that expresses or indicates that Evans's note or tune-book is to be a standard for the Methodist connexion.

10. Let the eighth advice to the third question, page thirty, be removed, and added to the eighth paragraph of page two hundred and ten.

11. Your committee recommend that there be two book-agents appointed to conduct the business and manage the Concern, the one to be editor, the other general book-steward.

12. Your committee have had under consideration the sundry propositions from the West, to carry on a branch of the book-business there, in printing, binding, &c.; but they do not apprehend that it would be of sufficient advantage to the Book Concern at present to render such a measure expedient.

L. Blackman moved, that the Book Concern be removed to and carried on in the city of Baltimore. Voted to lie on the table.

N. Bangs moved, that the book-steward and editor be elected first. The question was put and carried.

S. G. Roszel moved the reconsideration of the eleventh paragraph of the report of the committee on the Book Concern. Carried, to read thus: "There shall be two book-

Motion to elect  
Book-Steward  
and editor, first.  
Motion for  
amendment.

May 21.

agents, the one editor and general book-steward, and the other assistant book-steward." The conference then proceeded to elect by ballot, when it appeared, on counting the votes, that D. Hitt was elected editor and general book-steward, and Thomas Ware assistant book-steward.

Voted that the salary be \$600.

The conference then voted, that the salary of each be \$600 per year.

Motion to remove the Book Concern to Baltimore resumed.

The motion to remove the Book Concern to Baltimore was resumed. The question was put first, Shall it be removed from New-York? Lost.

Thanks voted to H. Boehm.

L. Myers moved, that this conference express their gratitude to brother Henry Boehm, for his services to the connexion in collecting and remitting money belonging thereunto, and that they vote him some compensation as an acknowledgment of their gratitude. Their thanks were voted, but no compensation.

Motion to allow T. Ware \$100 for house rent.

On motion it was voted, that Thomas Ware, the assistant book-steward, be allowed \$100 toward house rent.

Book-agents to contract with some one in Philadelphia to receive and send off books, &c.

It was moved and carried, that the book-agents be authorized to contract with some person in Philadelphia to receive and send off the books that may have to pass through that city, agreeably to his discretion.

Adjourned at six o'clock.

May 22.

FRIDAY, MAY 22.

Met, agreeably to adjournment yesterday. After calling the list, proceeded to business.

Committee appointed to assist in selecting those parts of the Journal to be incorporated in Discipline.

E. Cooper moved, that a committee be appointed to attend with the book-agents in selecting those parts of the Journal which are to be incorporated in the Discipline. Carried. Moved that the committee consist of three, and that they have authority to modify the language and correct the grammatical construction of the next edition of the Discipline, but shall in no case alter the sense therein contained. E. Cooper, N. Bangs, and L. Clark were appointed the committee for that purpose.

Report of committee on historical letters.

The committee appointed to read and examine some historical letters on the rise and progress of Methodism in the United States, presented and read a report thereon. A concurrence voted.

Report of committee on moneys received and expended.

The committee appointed to manage the temporal affairs of this conference reported the amount of moneys placed in their hands, and how it was distributed.

Reading of Journal dispensed with.

D. Ostrander moved, that the reading of the Journal in the aggregate be dispensed with. Carried.

Motion to reconsider the election of assistant book-steward.

J. Early moved for the reconsideration of the election of the assistant book-steward. Lost.

J. Sale's motion, to prevent our preachers and private members from buying lottery tickets, or having anything to

do in lotteries, was called up and postponed until May the first, 1816.

May 22.  
Motion prohibiting business in lotteries. Amendment of Discipline.

C. Callaway moved an amendment to the answer of the first question of the eighteenth section of our form of Discipline: instead of its reading, "call as many ministers as he shall think fit," let it read, "call as many travelling ministers as he shall think fit." Carried.

S. Crowell's motion, on the manner of appointing and the qualification and duty of circuit-stewards, was called up and carried, to read as follows: "The assistant preacher shall have the right of nominating, but the quarterly meeting conference shall have the liberty either to confirm or reject such nomination." And that the word "steward" be left out of the fourth answer to the first question of section ninth.

Of Circuit Stewards.

D. Young called up his motion requesting the conference to inquire into the nature and moral tendency of slavery, &c. Voted to lie on the table.

Slavery.

W. Ryland's motion, to strike out the last sentence in section sixth, on dress, was read and indefinitely postponed.

Dress.

Samuel Merwin intimated that there were some necessitous preachers, whose cases had not been met by the distribution of the committee on temporal business. Voted, that such necessitous preachers make known their cases to the committee, so that they may be reported to conference this afternoon.

Necessitous preachers.

Jesse Lee moved, that the tracts on doctrine be left out of the future edition of our form of Discipline, and that the following tracts be printed and bound in a separate volume, viz.: "Predestination Calmly Considered," "Scripture Doctrines on Election and Reprobation," "On Final Perseverance," "A Predestinarian and his Friend," "Christian Perfection," and "An Antinomian and his Friend." Carried.

Motion to leave out tracts on doctrine for the future from the form of Discipline.

Adjourned at twelve o'clock.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON.

Met, agreeably to adjournment at noon.

The address to the members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, which was presented and read on Thursday morning and ordered to lie on the table, was now called up and passed with amendments. The further correction, printing, and circulating thereof was referred to the committee appointed to assist the agents in correcting the next edition of the Discipline.

Address to the members of the M. E. Church resumed.

The committee on temporal concerns stated the case of some necessitous preachers, and moved that the conference draw on the book-agent for \$200 more to meet their necessities. Carried.

Report of committee on temporal concerns relative to necessitous cases.

J. Early called up his motion, to make the following ad-



May 22.  
Treats at Elec-  
tions.

dition to the fourteenth section, twenty-third page of our Discipline: "If a member of our Church be convicted of giving treats at elections, directly or indirectly, he shall first be reproved by the senior minister or preacher of his circuit, and if afterward he persist in such pernicious practices, he shall be expelled from the Church." Carried.

Conference Ad-  
journed to  
meet in Balti-  
more, May 1,  
1816.  
Motion recon-  
sidered and  
lost.

Moved and carried to adjourn till May 1, 1816, to meet in Baltimore.

After it was moved and carried, this motion was called, reconsidered, and lost; but some counted and said there was not a quorum present.

FRANCIS ASBURY,  
WM. M'KENDREE.

I consider the reconsideration of Early's motion unofficial.

WM. M'KENDREE.

D. HITT, *Secretary.*

# JOURNAL

OF THE

## GENERAL CONFERENCE, 1816.

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 1.

May 1.

A Journal of the proceedings of the delegated General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States of America, met in the city of Baltimore, on Wednesday, May 1, 1816, in which William M'Kendree, bishop, presided. The conference was opened by reading a portion of the word of God, singing, and prayer. The following delegates presented their certificates of election from their respective conferences, and took their seats, viz. :—

General Conference assembled May 1, 1816.

*New-York Conference*—Freeborn Garrettson, William Phœbus, Nathan Bangs, Ebenezer Washburn, Eben Smith, Nathan Emory, Elijah Woolsey, Samuel Draper, Samuel Merwin, Peter P. Sandford, Henry Stead, Aaron Hunt, William Anson, Laban Clark, Thomas Ware, Daniel Ostrander.

New-York Conference delegates.

*New-England Conference*—George Pickering, Joshua Soule, Elijah Hedding, Oliver Beale, Martin Ruter, Asa Kent, Philip Munger, Joseph A. Merrill, Solomon Sias, Charles Virgin, Eleazer Wells, David Kilburn.

New-England Conference delegates.

*Genesee Conference*—Isaac Puffer, George Gary, Abner Chase, Henry Ryan, George Harmon, Daniel Barnes, Seth Mattison, Chandley Lambert, Charles Giles, William Case.

Genesee Conference delegates.

*Ohio Conference*—James Quinn, Charles Holliday, Marcus Lindsey, Jacob Young, Samuel Parker, Isaac Quinn, David Young, John Sale, Benjamin Lakin.

Ohio Conference delegates.

*Tennessee Conference*—Peter Cartwright, Samuel Sellers, James Axley, Jesse Walker, Thomas L. Douglass, James Smith.

Tennessee Conference delegates.

*South Carolina Conference*—Lewis Myers, Daniel Asbury, Joseph Tarpley, Wm. M. Kennedy, Thomas Mason, Hilliard Judge, Samuel Dunwody, Anthony Senter, John

South Carolina Conference delegates.

- May 1. B. Glenn, James Norton, Solomon Bryan, Henry Bass, Reuben Tucker, Alexander Tally.
- Virginia Conference delegates. Con-  
delegates. *Virginia Conference*—Philip Bruce, William Jean, Thos. Burge, Edward Carman, Cannellum H. Hines, John C. Ballew, Ethelbert Drake, Thomas Moore, Minton Thrift, Matthew M. Dance.
- Baltimore Conference delegates. Con-  
delegates. *Baltimore Conference*—Nelson Reed, Enoch George, Joshua Wells, Henry Smith, Stephen G. Roszel, Alfred Griffith, Andrew Hemphill, Thomas Burch, William Ryland, Asa Shinn, Jacob Gruber, Hamilton Jefferson, Christopher Frye, Beverly Waugh.
- Philadelphia Conference delegates. *Philadelphia Conference*—Robert R. Roberts, George Woolley, Lawrence M'Combs, Solomon Sharp, Joseph Totten, John Walker, Sylvester Hill, Stephen Martindale, Asa Smith, Henry Boehm, John Emory, William Bishop, John Sharpley.
- N. B. These two last members of Philadelphia Conference were not present at the commencement of the session, but came since.
- D. Hitt Secretary. On motion of brother D. Ostrander, brother Daniel Hitt was elected to act as secretary to this conference. Brothers Roszel and Ware were authorized to wait on brother Hitt with this communication, who immediately returned and made the following report, viz. :—
- Resignation of Hitt. That brother Hitt states he cannot serve as secretary in consequence of other business, which necessarily demands his attention.
- L. R. Fechtig Secretary. Whereupon the conference proceeded to elect brother Louis R. Fechtig as their secretary, who accordingly came forward and took the secretary's chair.
- Remains of Bishop Asbury. An address from the male members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the city of Baltimore, to this conference, was presented by S. G. Roszel, praying permission to remove the remains of Bishop Asbury from the place where they now are deposited to this city.
- A motion was made and seconded, that the prayer of the petitioners be granted. Carried.
- It was also moved, that J. W. Bond be appointed on the part of the conference to superintend the removal of his remains. Carried.
- Committee to act in connexion with a committee from the city. On motion of brother Roszel, the five following brethren, viz., P. Bruce, N. Reed, F. Garrettson, L. Myers, and G. Pickering, were appointed, on the part of the conference, by the president, to act in concert with the committee of the male members of the city of Baltimore, relative to the removal and interment of the remains of Bishop Asbury. Carried.
- Letter to brother Arnold. Moved and seconded, that a respectful letter be addressed to brother George Arnold, on whose premises Bishop Asbury's body is deposited, expressive of our thanks for his

attention to our venerable father during his illness, &c., and requesting his permission to have his remains removed. Carried.

May 1.

The conference adjourned until three o'clock P. M.

Adjournment.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

Three o'clock P. M. The conference met, according to adjournment, Bishop M'Kendree in the chair.

Met.

On motion of brother Ostrander, the rules formed for the regulation of the last General Conference were adopted, leaving them open for future amendment.

Rules for the regulation of Conference.

Moved and seconded, that the conference be removed to some place more convenient. Laid over until to-morrow morning.

Brother D. Young notified the conference that he intended to bring in a motion to-morrow to change the hours to meet and adjourn the conference in the forenoon.

Moved by Samuel Merwin, that the third article of the rules of the General Conference of 1812 be expunged. Carried.

Amendment of rules.

Moved and seconded, that the second member of the sixteenth article be expunged. Carried.

Conference then adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Adjournment.

THURSDAY, MAY 2.

May 2.

Conference met, according to adjournment, at nine o'clock A. M. Bishop M'Kendree in the chair.

Moved by Martin Ruter, that the conference determine whether the motion of Samuel Merwin and another, made on yesterday, viz.: "That the third article of the rules of the General Conference of 1812 be expunged," was legal or not. Withdrawn by the mover.

William Bishop and John Sharpley, delegates from the Philadelphia Conference, appeared, produced their certificates, and took their seats.

W. Bishop and John Sharpley took their seats.

The president, in order, called on the delegates from the different annual conferences, beginning with New-York, for any petitions or addresses they might have to the General Conference.

Call for petitions.

An address from certain local preachers in Georgia, South Carolina Conference, praying for redress of certain grievances, as conceived by them, was presented by the president and read.

Address from local preachers.

Moved by S. G. Roszel, that the said address lie on the table. Carried.

An address from James Nolley, Virginia, was presented, the reading was called for and commenced, when, on motion of John Emory, it was ordered to lie on the table.

Address from James Nolley.

- May 2.** David Young moved, according to notice yesterday, that the hours of nine and twelve o'clock, as stated in the rules for the sitting and adjournment of conference in the morning, be stricken out, and the hours of eight and eleven be inserted in lieu thereof. Withdrawn by the mover.
- Hours of meeting.**
- Reading of Bishop Asbury's address.** After an appropriate introduction by Bishop M'Kendree, the address of our late venerable superintendent, Bishop Francis Asbury, was presented and read in order, when an adjournment was called for; but the sitting was continued, and the reading of the address finished.
- Adjournment.** The conference then adjourned to meet at three o'clock.

#### THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

- The conference met, agreeably to adjournment. Bishop M'Kendree in the chair.
- Appearance of James Smith.** James Smith, from the Baltimore Conference, appeared and produced his certificate of election, and took his seat.
- Bishop M'Kendree's address to conference.** An address from Bishop M'Kendree to the General Conference was presented by himself, and read in order by T. L. Douglass.
- S. G. Roszel moved, that the address of Bishop M'Kendree be printed for the use of the members of conference. Withdrawn by the mover.
- The addresses of Bishop Asbury and M'Kendree referred to a committee.** A motion was made by Martin Ruter, that the address of Bishop Asbury, together with the address of Bishop M'Kendree, be referred to a committee, whose duty it shall be to report to the conference the different subjects in them proper to be committed to district committees. Carried.
- Moved by S. G. Roszel, that the members composing the committee be selected one from each annual conference. Carried.
- Committee.** The following persons were nominated and appointed, viz.: Nathan Bangs, George Pickering, William Case, John Sale, Thomas L. Douglass, Lewis Myers, Philip Bruce, Nelson Reed, and Robert R. Roberts.
- Rules of conference.** Moved by Hilliard Judge, that the rules adopted to govern the conference be printed, and each member of the conference be furnished with one copy.
- Moved by John Emory, that the motion of H. Judge lie on the table in order to prepare the way for a motion he wished to make, as necessary before the above motion was acted on. Carried.
- On motion of John Emory it was resolved, that the rules of the last General Conference be referred to a committee, to revise them and report to the conference to-morrow morning. Carried.
- Moved by James Smith, that the resolution of John Emory be reconsidered. Carried.
- The resolution passed on motion of John Emory, was reconsidered, acted on, and lost.

Moved by R. R. Roberts, that the rules of the last General Conference be read one by one and passed, with such amendments as the conference shall judge expedient. Carried.

May 2.  
Rules of last conference read.

Bishop M'Kendree, being indisposed in body, called brother Bruce to the chair and retired.

Thomas L. Douglass proceeded to read the rules of the conference as determined by R. R. Roberts's motion.

Moved by L. Clark, that the word "appointed" in the sixth article be struck out, and the word "nominated" inserted. Lost.

Correction of the rules.

Moved by John Emory, that the seventeenth article be amended by striking out the words "within the bar" and inserting "within the conference room." Carried.

Moved by David Young, that the thirty-fourth article, respecting the committee of the whole, be struck out. Withdrawn by the mover.

Moved by Daniel Ostrander, that the whole section, respecting the committee of the whole, be expunged, except the following words: "All questions in conference shall be propounded in the order they were moved," &c.; and the latter clause of the thirty-eighth article as it stands. After considerable debate, it was moved by John Emory that the previous question be now put. Carried.

The decision of the conference was then taken on Daniel Ostrander's motion, and lost.

Moved by John Emory, that the note at the bottom of the rules, respecting the previous question, be incorporated as one of the rules of the conference.

Moved by D. Ostrander, that the motion be amended by adding "a majority of two-thirds." Lost.

The question was then put on J. Emory's motion and carried.

Moved by Hilliard Judge, that the rules be printed. Carried.

Rules printed.

Moved by R. R. Roberts, that one hundred and fifty copies be printed. Lost.

Moved by Hilliard Judge, that one for each member and one for the president be printed. Carried.

S. G. Roszel and H. Judge were directed by the conference to superintend the printing of them.

Conference adjourned until nine o'clock A. M. to-morrow.

Adjournment.

FRIDAY, MAY 3.

May 3.

The conference met, according to adjournment. Bishop M'Kendree in the chair.

The Journal of yesterday was read, corrected, and approved.

Journal read and corrected.

James Ridgway and Thomas Walker, from the Phila-

May 2.  
Eldway and  
Walker present  
certificates.

Report of committee  
to whom the addresses  
were delivered.

delphia Conference, presented their certificates of election as members of this conference, and took their seats.

S. G. Rossel and Hilliard Judge delivered the rules of conference, printed, according to instructions given them yesterday.

The committee to whom the bishops' addresses were referred made the following report:—

1st. *Resolved*, That a committee of nine members, one from each annual conference, to be denominated the *Committee on the State of the Episcopacy*, be chosen by ballot; and that those parts of the addresses to this conference relating to the administration and present state of the episcopacy be referred to them to examine and report thereon.

2d. That five members, to be denominated the *Committee on the Book Concern*, be chosen by nomination, whose duty it shall be to examine into the state of the Concern and that so much of the addresses as relate to the business be referred to them to examine and report thereon.

3d. That five members, to be denominated the *Committee of Ways and Means*, be chosen by nomination to take into consideration the necessary arrangements for the more ample support of the ministry among us, to prevent locations, and the admission of improper persons into the travelling connexion and that so much of the addresses as relate to these subjects be referred to them to examine and report thereon.

4th. That one member from each annual conference be appointed by nomination, or otherwise, to be denominated the *Committee of Review and Revision*, to whom all rules and regulations enacted by the General Conference shall be referred for their examination; and if, after mature deliberation, any such rules and regulations shall by them be deemed unconstitutional or improper to be adopted, they shall state the grounds of their objections to the General Conference in writing, and in all such cases the General Conference shall reconsider all rules and regulations thus objected to; and if, on reconsideration, the conference confirm their former decision by a majority of two-thirds, such decision shall be final, and all rules and regulations so enacted shall be adopted as rules of discipline.—Chapter three, section ten.

5th. That three members be appointed by nomination, to be denominated the *Committee of Safety*, who shall take into consideration that part of the address relating to the duty of preachers, to inquire whether our doctrines have been maintained, discipline faithfully and impartially enforced, and the stations and circuits duly attended.

6th. That five members be appointed, to be denominated the *Committee of the Temporal Economy*, who shall examine into the propriety of revising the first section of the tempo-

ral economy of our Church, to set off one or more conferences, to fix their probable bounds, &c.; and that so much of the addresses as relate to that business be referred to them to examine and report.

May 2

7th. That that part of the address which relates to diminishing the number of delegates from each annual conference be referred to the Committee on the State of the Episcopacy.

Committee on Episcopacy.

Moved by Martin Buter, that the first resolution be confirmed. Carried.

Moved by Nathan Bangs, that the representatives of each annual conference, on the first resolution, elect their own member. Carried.

Whereupon the members from each conference, commencing with New-York, proceeded to vote by ballot, and in counting the votes, it appeared that the following persons were elected, viz.: Daniel Ostrander, George Pickering, George Harmon, David Young, Peter Cartwright, Lewis Myers, Thomas Burge, Nelson Reed, and Lawrence M'Combs.

The second resolution of the committee to whom the bishops' addresses were referred was amended and confirmed so as to read thus:—

“That five members, to be denominated the *Committee on the Book Concern*, be appointed, whose duty it shall be to examine into the state of the Concern; and that so much of the addresses as relate to that business be referred to them to examine and report thereon.”

Committee on Book Concern.

The third resolution was amended and confirmed so as to read thus:—

“That nine members be appointed, one from each annual conference, to be denominated the *Committee of Ways and Means*, to take into consideration the necessary arrangements for the more ample support of the ministry among us, to prevent locations and the admission of improper persons into the travelling connexion; and that so much of the addresses as relate to these subjects be referred to them to examine and report thereon.”

Committee of Ways and Means.

After some debating on the vote of concurrence of the fourth resolution, it was moved by Nathan Bangs to lay it on the table. Carried.

The fifth resolution reported by the committee, after being considered and amended, reads thus:—

“That three members be appointed, to be denominated the *Committee of Safety*, who shall take into consideration that part of the address relating to the duty of preachers, to inquire whether our doctrines have been maintained, discipline faithfully and impartially enforced, and the stations and circuits duly attended.”

Committee of Safety.

The conference adjourned until three o'clock.

Adjournment.



May 2.

## FRIDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met at three o'clock P.M., according to adjournment. Bishop M'Kendree in the chair.

Continuation of the reading of the report of the committee on the bishops' addresses.

The president ordered the reading of the report of the committee on the addresses of the bishops to be continued.

Seventh resolution adopted.

On motion of Daniel Ostrander, the sixth resolution was confirmed.

Fourth resolution taken up.

On motion of Samuel Merwin, the seventh resolution was confirmed.

Moved by Nathan Bangs, to take up the fourth resolution, which was laid on the table in the morning.

Moved by Elijah Hedding, that the fourth resolution be postponed indefinitely.

Isaac Quinn called for the previous question, Shall the main question now be put. Carried.

The main question was then put, and the motion for the indefinite postponement of the resolution was lost.

A motion was made by John Emory to amend the resolution by striking out the words "by a majority of two-thirds."

A motion was made by Laban Clark to recommit the resolution to the committee to revise and report thereon. Withdrawn by the mover.

The motion of John Emory on amendment was taken up, voted, and carried.

Moved by Robert R. Roberts, that the fourth resolution be adopted as amended.

John Emory moved, that the words "by nomination or otherwise" be stricken out; and that the words "improper to be adopted" be struck out; also that the words "inconsistent with existing rules" be inserted. Voted and carried.

Martin Ruter moved that the fourth resolution, with its amendments, be adopted.

Moved by Asa Shinn, that the consideration of the resolution be postponed until Monday morning next. Carried.

Address from a committee of the vestrymen of St. Peter's Church.

An address from a committee of the vestrymen of St. Peter's Protestant Episcopal Church, in this city, requesting us to occupy their church on certain hours during the sitting of this conference, was presented and read.

Joshua Soule moved, that the address lie on the table until to-morrow morning. Lost.

Motion to adjourn.

A motion was made by Beverly Waugh to adjourn. Lost.

Letter to the vestry of St. Peter's Church.

A motion was made by John Emory, that a respectful letter be addressed, by the secretary and Stephen G. Roszel, to the committee of the vestry of St. Peter's Church, informing them that it is not convenient to grant their request under existing circumstances. Carried.

Adjournment.

Conference then adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow.

SATURDAY, MAY 4.

May 4.

The conference met, according to adjournment. Bishop M'Kendree in the chair.

The Journal of yesterday was read, corrected, and approved.

Journal corrected.

The answer to the address of the vestrymen of St. Peter's Church was read and approved.

Answer to the address of the vestry.

In conformity to the second resolution in the report of the committee, Martin Ruter, Alfred Griffith, James Quinn, William M. Kennedy, and Charles Giles, were appointed a committee on the Book Concern.

Committee on the Book Concern.

In conformity to the third resolution in the report of the committee, &c., Nathan Bangs, Asa Kent, William Case, John Sale, James Axley, Hilliard Judge, Ethelbert Drake, Thomas Burch, and R. R. Roberts, were appointed a committee of ways and means.

Committee of Ways and Means.

In conformity to the fifth resolution in the report of the committee, &c., Joshua Soule, Enoch George, and Samuel Parker, were appointed a committee of safety.

Committee of Safety.

In conformity to the sixth resolution in the report of the committee, &c., Thomas L. Douglass, Elijah Hedding, Isaac Quinn, Henry Boehm, and Joseph Tarpley, were appointed a committee of temporal economy.

Committee of Temporal Economy.

The report of the Committee of the Chartered Fund was presented and read, requesting that the vacancy occasioned by the death of Hugh Smith be filled up with the first nomination in the certificate of the trustees. Carried.

Report of the Committee of Chartered Fund.

Moved by Hilliard Judge, that a committee of three members be appointed, to whom the report of the trustees of the Chartered Fund be referred to examine and report thereon. Carried. William Phœbus, Asa Shinn, and Edward Carman, were appointed for that purpose.

Committee to examine the report.

Moved by Martin Ruter, that a committee be appointed to receive information relative to the travelling expenses of delegates to and from this conference, to devise means for meeting them, and report to the conference thereon, either by resolution or otherwise.

Moved, that the motion of Martin Ruter lie on the table. Lost. The vote was then taken on the motion and carried, nine to seventy-five, and three were proposed. The number (three) was confirmed, and Oliver Beale, Samuel Sellers, and Henry Ryan, were appointed.

Committee to receive information relative to travelling expenses.

Moved by Nathan Bangs, that the following rule be incorporated in the form of Discipline, chapter one, section five :—

Rule incorporated in the Discipline.

Whenever the quarterly conference shall elect a person to be licensed as a local preacher, and the presiding elder has objections against granting a license to the person so elected, it shall be his duty to state to the quarterly confer-

May 4

ence the reason of his objections. In all such cases the decision shall be laid over until the next quarterly meeting, and if a majority of two-thirds shall then vote in favour of such person, the presiding elder shall grant the license as the Discipline directs.

Moved by Hilliard Judge, that the above lie on the table. Carried.

Moved to adjourn until Monday morning nine o'clock. Carried.

May 6

### MONDAY, MAY 6.

Conference met at nine o'clock, according to adjournment. Bishop M'Kendree in the chair.

Journal read.

The Journal of yesterday was read, corrected, and approved.

Committee on  
the remains of  
Bishop Asbury  
report.

The committee appointed to act on the part of this conference, in conjunction with the committee of the male members of society in the city of Baltimore, in making the necessary arrangements for the removal of the remains of Bishop Asbury, to be interred in this city, made a report. After a number of motions made to amend, and some desultory debate, the report was admitted and filed, as amended.

Report on Bish-  
ops' addresses.

The fourth resolution, contained in the report of the committee to whom the bishops' addresses were referred, was taken up, and a motion was made to amend it by striking out the words "unconstitutional or."

Conference adjourned until three o'clock.

### MONDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met, according to adjournment. Bishop M'Kendree in the chair.

The motion to amend the fourth resolution reported, &c., was taken up, voted, and lost.

A motion was then made by Martin Ruter, that the motion be postponed indefinitely. Carried.

Alteration of  
Discipline.

On motion by Isaac Quinn, it was resolved, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, that the words "every local preacher shall have his name inserted," in the fifth answer on the seventy-sixth page of the Discipline, beginning in the fifth line of that answer, be struck out, with the period or full stop preceding, and that the word "also" be inserted in the place of those words, and a comma inserted in place of the period; and that the words "without sufficient reason" be inserted after the words "neglect thereof," in the same answer. Ordered to lie on the table.

A motion was made by Nathan Bangs, that a committee be appointed to take into consideration that part of the Discipline which relates to local preachers, and any other subject which relates to them, and which the conference

may refer to them. Voted and carried. The number nine was proposed and carried.

May 6

On motion by Hilliard Judge, it was resolved, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, that our Discipline be amended, chapter first, section twentieth, article fifth, as follows:—

Proposed amendment of Discipline.

“When any local elder, deacon, or preacher shall remove from one circuit to another, he shall have a certificate from the quarterly meeting conference of which he is a member, signed by the president and countersigned by the secretary, in the following words: A. B. has been an acceptable elder, deacon, or preacher, as the case may be, of such a circuit.” Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Daniel Ostrander, it was resolved, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, that our Discipline be amended in section ninth, page forty-ninth, answer thirteenth, by inserting, after the word “obtaining,” the following clause: “A recommendation from the society of which he is a member, being approved by the quarterly meeting conference of this circuit, and receiving a license from the presiding elder or himself.”

Moved, that the above motion be ordered to lie on the table. Lost.

Conference adjourned until to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Adjournment.

TUESDAY, MAY 7.

May 7.

Conference met at nine o'clock, according to adjournment. Bishop M'Kendree in the chair.

The Journal of yesterday was read, corrected, and approved.

The motion made by Daniel Ostrander on yesterday was called up.

Ostrander's amendment taken up.

Laban Clark moved, that Daniel Ostrander's motion lie on the table in order to make way for another motion. Carried.

The motion made by Nathan Bangs on Saturday was called up.

John Emory moved, that N. Bangs's motion lie on the table, in order to prepare the way for another motion. Carried.

Alteration of Discipline.

On motion of John Emory, it was resolved, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, that the words on the seventy-fourth page of the Discipline be struck out and the following inserted, section twentieth, “Of the Local Elders:”—

“Question 1st. What directions shall be given concerning local preachers ?

“Ans. Before any person shall be licensed to preach as a

May 7.  
New rule on  
local preachers.

local preacher among us, he shall bring a recommendation from the society to which he belongs, and be personally examined before the quarterly meeting conference of the circuit by the presiding elder, or, in his absence, by the preacher having the charge, touching his acquaintance with the doctrines and discipline of our Church, to which he shall declare his assent, together with his gifts and grace for preaching, and the probability of his general acceptableness and usefulness as a preacher; and if approved of by the quarterly meeting conference in these respects, he shall then receive a license, signed by the presiding elder in behalf of the quarterly meeting conference, or, in his absence, by the preacher having the charge, in the following words, viz.: N. M., &c., which license it shall be the duty of such local preacher to have annually renewed."

S. G. Roszel moved, that John Emory's motion be referred to the Committee on the State of the Local Preachers. Carried.

Bangs's motion  
called up.

Hilliard Judge moved, that the motion made by Nathan Bangs, now lying on the table, be taken up and referred to the Committee on the State of the Local Preachers. Carried.

Motion on the  
previous question.

H. Judge moved, according to previous notice given on yesterday, that the fortieth article, relative to the previous question, be expunged entirely from the rules of the conference.

Nathan Bangs called for the previous question. The president was of opinion it was not in order, on prudential grounds, to put the previous question on a motion which goes to consider the propriety of the previous question itself.

Nelson Reed  
called to the  
chair.

The vote was then taken on H. Judge's motion and lost. Bishop M'Kendree retired, and called Nelson Reed to the chair.

John Emory moved, that the thirteenth answer on the forty-ninth page of the last edition of the Discipline be struck out.

Committee on  
local preachers.

The following members were appointed to act as the Committee on the State of the Local Preachers, viz.: Philip Bruce, Nathan Bangs, John Emory, Joshua Soule, George Harmon, Samuel Parker, Thomas L. Douglass, Joseph Tarpley, S. G. Roszel.

Adjournment.

Conference adjourned until three o'clock P. M.

#### TUESDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met, agreeably to adjournment. Bishop M'Kendree in the chair.

Report of the  
Committee on  
the State of the  
Episcopacy.

The report of the Committee on the State of the Episcopacy was called up.

Martin Ruter moved, that the first member of the re-

port on the state of the episcopacy, approving of their administration, be accepted and approved. Carried.

May 7.

Joshua Soule moved, that the conference accept the first resolution of the report of the committee.

Wm. Phœbus moved to amend the resolution so as to make it thus:—

*Resolved*, That it is expedient, and this conference will, in their present session, elect two additional bishops, and request our present superintendent to consecrate and set them apart for that office. Carried.

Lawrence M'Combs moved to amend the resolution by inserting the number "three" instead of "two."

Nathan Bangs moved, that the further consideration of the report of the Committee on the Episcopacy lie on the table until to-morrow morning. Carried.

Report of the committee laid on the table.

Samuel Merwin moved the following amendment to the rule in our Discipline in relation to the appointment of presiding elders. (See fifth section.)

Amendment of rule in the Discipline as to presiding elders.

"1st Question. How shall the presiding elders be chosen and appointed?"

"Answer. At an early period in each annual conference the bishop shall nominate a person for each district that is to be supplied, and the conference shall, without debate, proceed in the choice, the person nominated being absent; and if the person nominated be not chosen according to nomination, the bishop shall nominate two others, one of whom it shall be the duty of conference to choose.

"2d Question. By whom shall the preachers be appointed to their stations?"

"Answer. By the bishop, with the advice and counsel of the presiding elders."

Ordered to lie on the table.

Hilliard Judge moved for the reading of the report of the Committee on Temporal Economy. Carried.

Report of the Committee on Temporal Economy.

Daniel Ostrander moved, that the conference take up the report, member by member. Carried.

After several motions to amend, and considerable time spent in debate, conference adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Adjournment.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8.

May 8.

Conference met at nine o'clock, according to adjournment. Bishop M'Kendree in the chair.

The Journal of yesterday was read, corrected, and approved.

Journal read.

An address from E. R. Sabin was presented and referred to the Committee of the Book Concern.

Address of E. R. Sabin.

An address from a number of local preachers in New-England Conference was presented, read, and referred to the Committee on the State of the Local Preachers.

Address from local preachers.

May 8.  
Address of J.  
Nolly.

A motion was made that the letter or address from James Nolly be taken up, and referred to the Committee on the State of the Local Preachers. Carried.

A motion was made that the address from a number of local preachers in the South Carolina Conference be taken up, and referred to the Committee on the State of the Local Preachers.

Report of the  
Committee of  
Ways and  
Means.  
Report of the  
Committee on  
Temporal  
Economy.  
Report of the  
Committee on  
the State of the  
Episcopacy.

The Committee of Ways and Means presented their report, which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the Committee on the Temporal Economy was taken up and recommitted.

The report of the Committee on the State of the Episcopacy was called up, and the second member was taken under consideration, which reads thus:—

*Resolved*, That it is expedient, and this conference will, in their present session, elect two additional bishops, and request our present superintendent to consecrate and set them apart for that office.

Report laid on  
the table.

Daniel Ostrander moved, that the report of the Committee on the State of the Episcopacy lie on the table until other business shall be determined, by which we shall know what power the episcopacy shall possess. Voted and lost.

Thomas Ware moved to amend the report by inserting "one" instead of "two." Withdrawn.

Adjournment.

Conference adjourned until three o'clock P. M.

#### WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met, according to adjournment.

Report of the  
Committee on  
the Episcopacy  
taken up.

The report of the Committee on the State of the Episcopacy was called up, and taken under consideration.

L. M'Combs withdrew his motion to amend the report.

Hilliard Judge moved, that the report be amended by inserting the word "three" instead of "two."

Thomas Ware withdrew his motion to amend the report.

The motion made by Hilliard Judge was voted and lost.

The vote of concurrence was taken on the second member of the report, as amended, and carried.

The vote of concurrence was taken on the third member of the report and carried.

The report was then confirmed as amended, which reads as follows:—

Report of the  
Committee on  
the Episco-  
pacy, as adopt-  
ed.

"The Committee on the State of the Episcopacy, having had the subject referred them under their serious consideration, and having read and examined those parts of the addresses of Bishops Asbury and M'Kendree which relate to the state of the episcopacy, beg leave to report, that they are happy to say, so far as it relates to the official duties of our superintendents, they have been discharged, as far as we have been able to learn, with a perseverance and diligence which, considering their difficulties and fre-

quent weakness of body, deserve not only our approbation, but our sincere thanks to God and them. There is not anything which has appeared to your committee that at all deserves censure; but they are of opinion that the government of our Church, so far as depended on the superintendents, has been administered with as much firmness and impartiality as could be reasonably expected.

May 8.

“Further; it is the opinion of your committee that the state of the superintendency, in consequence of the ever-to-be-lamented death of our venerable father, Bishop Asbury, and the impaired state of health of Bishop M’Kendree, and the increasing extent of the work, is such as to require immediate and adequate strengthening, which, in the opinion of your committee, will be best done by adopting the following resolution:—

“Resolved, That it is expedient, and this conference will, in their present session, elect two additional bishops, and request our present superintendent to consecrate and set them apart for that office.

“With respect to diminishing the number of delegates for the next General Conference,

“Resolved, That the next General Conference shall be composed of one member for every seven, instead of one for every six of each annual conference.”

The motion of Samuel Merwin, laid on the table yesterday, was called up.

A division of the motion was called for. Carried.

The first part of the motion was then taken under consideration.

S. G. Roszel moved, from certain delicacies connected with the motion, that the conference resolve itself into a committee of the whole. Carried.

Conference resolved into a committee of the whole.

Bishop M’Kendree called Freeborn Garretson to the chair, and retired from it.

Freeborn Garretson called to the chair.

After some investigation, Samuel Merwin moved that the committee rise, report progress, and have leave to sit again. Carried.

Committee of the whole rise.

Bishop M’Kendree took the chair.

Bishop M’Kendree took the chair.

Conference adjourned until nine o’clock A. M. to-morrow.

THURSDAY, MAY 9.

May 8.

Conference met at nine o’clock, according to adjournment. Bishop M’Kendree in the chair.

The Journal of yesterday was read, corrected, and approved.

R. R. Roberts, Samuel Draper, and George Harmon were appointed a committee to confer with the delegates from the British Connexion, and take into consideration the situation of our brethren in Montreal, and report.

Committee to confer with the delegates of the British Conference.



May 8.  
Sealed letter.  
Sealed letters.

A letter from the bounds of the Philadelphia Conference was presented unopened.

Daniel Ostrander moved, that all sealed letters sent to this conference be submitted to the president, to be disposed of at discretion, to be read or not. *Lost.*

It was then moved, that the letter from the bounds of the Philadelphia Conference be opened and read. *Carried.*

Case of Joseph Samson.

The letter was then opened and read, and it was found to be an appeal, by Joseph Samson, from a decision of the Philadelphia Annual Conference, by which he had been expelled for denying the divinity of Jesus Christ.

Moved by John Emory, that the subject of the letter be taken up immediately. *Carried.*

Joseph Samson called into conference.

Joseph Samson was then called into conference. The Journal of the Philadelphia Conference was then read. Joseph Samson admitted the correctness of the Journal, which was read in his presence. He made some statements and then retired.

The legality and constitutionality of the proceedings of the Philadelphia Conference were called in question; and on this ground brother Bangs moved, that the case be referred back to the Philadelphia Conference for reconsideration.

After considerable debate, the previous question was called for by a large majority, which was taken on the motion to refer, and lost.

It was then moved, that we concur in the decision of the Philadelphia Conference.

Moved by Asa Shinn, that the case of Joseph Samson lie on the table. *Lost.*

Adjournment.

Conference adjourned until three o'clock P. M.

#### THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met, according to adjournment. Bishop M'Kendree in the chair.

Case of Joseph Samson.

The case of Joseph Samson was resumed, and the motion for concurrence taken up, and after some further discussion the decision was confirmed.

The report of the Committee on the Temporal Economy was presented, read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee appointed to receive information relative to travelling expenses, &c., was presented, read, and ordered to lie on the table.

On the presiding eldership. Conference resolved into a committee of the whole. P. Bruce called to the chair. The committee of the whole rose.

The motion of Samuel Merwin was called up and made the order of the day.

The conference resolved itself into a committee of the whole. Bishop M'Kendree called Philip Bruce to the chair.

The committee of the whole rose. Bishop M'Kendree resumed the chair, and the chairman reported progress, and begged leave to sit again.

Hilliard Judge moved, that his motion relative to the

local preachers be taken up and referred to the committee on the situation of the local preachers. Carried.

Brother Roszel announced to the conference that the remains of Bishop Asbury had arrived, and were at the house of Wm. Hawkins; whereupon the conference resolved to adjourn until three o'clock P. M. to-morrow, in order to attend the funeral in the forenoon.

Conference adjourned until three o'clock P. M. to-morrow.

May 9.  
Local preachers.

Arrival of Bishop Asbury's remains.

Adjournment.

FRIDAY, MAY 10.

May 10.

Conference met, according to adjournment. Bishop M'Kendree in the chair.

The Journal of yesterday was read, corrected, and approved.

The motion made by Samuel Merwin was called up and made the order of the day.

Moved by Daniel Ostrander, that the conference resolve itself into a committee of the whole upon the motion before us. Carried.

Bishop M'Kendree called George Pickering to the chair. After considerable debate, the committee rose, reported progress, and begged leave to sit again.

Bishop M'Kendree resumed the chair.

Conference adjourned until to-morrow morning at nine o'clock.

Journal read.

Presiding eldership.

Conference resolved into a committee of the whole.

Geo. Pickering called to the chair. Committee rose.

Bishop M'Kendree in the chair.

SATURDAY, MAY 11.

May 11.

Conference met at nine o'clock, according to adjournment. Bishop M'Kendree in the chair.

The Journal of conference was read, corrected, and approved.

Daniel Hitt, a delegate from the Baltimore Annual Conference, presented his certificate of election as a member of this conference, and took his seat.

A memorial from some members in the Staunton Circuit, Va., was presented, read, and referred to a select committee on the subject of slavery. The number nine was proposed and carried.

Moved by George Pickering, that the unfinished business of the last General Conference, so far as it relates to slavery, be referred to the select committee on that subject.

The Committee of Safety presented their report, which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

The Committee on the Book Concern presented their report, which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

John Emory moved, that the book-agent be requested to attend the conference on Monday morning and inform us of the state of the Concern, or when he can be ready to give us his statement respecting it. Carried.

Journal read.

Daniel Hitt took his seat.

Memorial on Slavery.

Select committee on Slavery.

Report of the Committee of Safety.

Report of the Committee on the Book Concern. Book-Agent.

May 11.

The motion of Samuel Merwin was called up and made the order of the day.

Conference resolved into a committee of the whole. P. Bruce called to the chair. Merwin's motion on presiding eldership.

On motion, the conference resolved itself into a committee of the whole on brother Merwin's motion.

Bishop M'Kendree called Philip Bruce to the chair.

In committee of the whole the subject was taken up and an amendment was proposed by Nathan Bangs, and admitted by the original mover, by which the motion under consideration reads thus:—

“*Quest.* How are the presiding elders chosen and appointed?”

“*Ans.* The bishop, at an early period of the annual conference, shall nominate an elder for each district, and the conference shall, without debate, either confirm or reject such nomination. If the person or persons so nominated be not elected by the conference, the bishop shall nominate two others for each of the vacant districts, one of whom shall be chosen. And the presiding elder so elected and appointed shall remain in office four years, unless dismissed by the mutual consent of the bishop and conference, or elected to some other office by the General Conference. But no presiding elder shall be removed from office during the term of four years without his consent, unless the reasons for such removal be stated to him in presence of the conference, which shall decide, without debate, on his case.”

Committee rose.

After considerable debate the committee rose, reported progress, and begged leave to sit again.

Bishop M'Kendree resumed the chair.

Adjournment.

Conference adjourned until three o'clock P. M.

#### SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met, according to adjournment. Bishop M'Kendree in the chair.

Merwin's motion lost in Committee.

On motion, the conference resolved itself into a committee of the whole on the motion made by Samuel Merwin, and after considerable debate the vote was taken and it was lost—forty-two in favour, and sixty against it.

Committee rose.

The committee then rose.

Philip Bruce, chairman of the committee of the whole on the business of appointing presiding elders, &c., reported that the vote had been taken and lost, forty-two in favour and sixty against the motion.

John Emory moved, that the amendment admitted by the original mover be struck out after the words “one of whom shall be chosen.” *Lost.*

The motion was then taken as amended, and, after a short debate, a call for adjournment was made.

Conference adjourned until Monday morning nine o'clock.

MONDAY, MAY 13.

May 13.

Conference met, according to adjournment. Bishop M'Kendree in the chair.

The Journal of yesterday was read, corrected, and approved.

Journal read.

The report of the committee of the whole, on the subject of appointing presiding elders, &c., was taken up, and after several had spoken in debate the vote was called for, and a motion was made to have a division of the question.

Report of the committee of the whole on the Presiding Eldership.

The president pronounced the motion to divide to be out of order. Brother Ostrander appealed to the conference. The vote was taken, and the opinion of the chair confirmed, fifty-one to forty-eight. The vote was then taken on the first part of the main question and lost—thirty-eight in favour of the motion and sixty-three against it.

The second part of the motion was then taken up, and after some desultory remarks adjournment was called for.

Conference adjourned until three o'clock P. M.

Adjournment.

MONDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met, according to adjournment.

The second part of S. Merwin's motion was called up, and a motion was made by H. Judge that it be amended by striking out the words "and counsel." Lost.

Presiding Eldership.

The vote was then taken on the second part of the motion, and it was lost.

Daniel Hitt, the book-agent, according to a determination on Saturday, stated to the conference that he was not prepared to give an estimate of the amount of stock on hand, but would do it as soon as he could get the accounts balanced.

Book Concern.

The business of the election of two additional bishops was taken up, and a motion was made that it be made the order of the day for to-morrow, three o'clock P. M.

Election of two bishops proposed.

Wm. Phœbus, Charles Virgin, Abner Chase, Charles Holliday, Samuel Sellers, Daniel Asbury, Cannellum H. Hines, Beverly Waugh, and Henry Boehm, were appointed a committee to examine into the subject of slavery and report.

Committee to examine into the subject of slavery.

The report of the Committee of Ways and Means was called up and taken under consideration, item by item. The first resolution passed. The second resolution passed amended. The third resolution was taken up.

Report of the Committee of Ways and Means.

Thomas Burch moved to amend the third resolution by inserting the sum of \$150 instead of \$100. Lost.

Conference adjourned until to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Adjournment.

May 14.

**TUESDAY, MAY 14.**

Conference met, according to adjournment. Bishop M'Kendree in the chair.

The Journal of yesterday was read, corrected, and approved.

Report of the  
Committee of  
Ways and  
Means consid-  
ered.

The report of the Committee of Ways and Means was called up, and the third resolution was taken under consideration.

Samuel Merwin moved, that it lie on the table. Lost.

A. Shinn moved that the resolution be amended by striking out the words "and their wives and widows \$100." Lost.

The previous question was then called for by a large majority, which was taken on the main question and carried in the affirmative.

The third resolution was thereupon adopted.

The fourth resolution of the report of the committee was then taken under consideration.

S. G. Roszel moved, that the words "the expenses of victualing" the family or families be struck out, and "the necessary family expenses" be inserted. Carried.

S. G. Roszel moved, that the fourth resolution be recommitted, to be so modified as to meet general views. Lost.

Daniel Ostrander moved to amend the resolution by adding the following clause:—

"But no preacher shall have any claim on the moneys distributed at the annual conference for any deficiency on account of family expenses." Carried.

Conference adjourned until three o'clock P. M.

**TUESDAY AFTERNOON.**

Conference met, according to adjournment. Bishop M'Kendree in the chair.

Election of two  
bishops.  
E. George.

The business of the election of two additional bishops was taken up, and, on balloting, Enoch George obtained a majority the first time of fifty-seven out of one hundred and six votes.

E. R. Roberts.

On balloting a second time Robert Richford Roberts obtained a majority of fifty-five out of one hundred and six votes.

Enoch George and Robert Richford Roberts were therefore elected bishops or superintendents of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States of America.

Time for ordi-  
nation of bish-  
ops.

Friday next was appointed the day for the ordination of the bishops elect.

Report of the  
Committee of  
Ways and  
Means.

The business of the report of the Committee of Ways and Means was resumed, and the fourth resolution taken under consideration as amended. After some desultory debate, the previous question was called for and lost.

John Emory moved, that the fourth resolution be re-committed. Carried.

May 14.  
Report on Ways and Means.

Bishop M'Kendree retired, and called William Phœbus to the chair.

The fifth resolution contained in the report was taken up, considered, and rejected.

Conference adjourned until to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15.

May 15.

Conference met, according to adjournment. Bishop M'Kendree in the chair.

The Committee on the State of the Local Preachers presented their report, which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the Committee of Ways and Means was resumed. The sixth resolution was taken up and ordered to lie on the table.

Report of the Committee of Ways and Means resumed.

Joshua Soule moved for a reconsideration of the fifth resolution. Carried.

The fifth resolution was taken up.

Nathan Bangs moved to amend the resolution by adding the following clause:—

“Provided, nevertheless, this rule shall never be so understood or applied as to encourage or in any way authorize any legal assessment or taxation.” Carried.

The resolution with the amendment was then taken under consideration.

Brother Munger moved to amend the resolution by adding the word “privileges” after the word “ability.” Withdrawn.

The resolution again under consideration as amended, and after some debate the previous question was called for and carried. The main question on the fifth resolution was then put and lost.

The seventh resolution was then taken under consideration and approved.

The eighth resolution was taken under consideration.

James Axley moved to strike out the word “committee.” Lost.

The ninth resolution was then taken under consideration. Conference adjourned until three o'clock P. M.

Adjournment.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met, according to adjournment. Bishop M'Kendree in the chair.

Bishop M'Kendree informed the conference of his indisposition, and that some necessary business rendered it inconvenient for him to attend this afternoon, and called Wm. Phœbus to the chair.

Indisposition of Bishop M'Kendree.

May 15.  
Report of the  
Committee of  
Ways and  
Means resum-  
ed.

The report of the Committee of Ways and Means was resumed, and the ninth resolution was again called up.

John Emory moved, that the resolution be amended by striking out the last clause, from the words "when in their judgment," &c., inclusive, and inserting the following: "If, in the judgment of the conference, from their inattention to their duties, or from conduct inconsistent with those duties, they are no longer useful itinerating ministers." Carried.

The main question was then put on the resolution as amended and lost.

S. G. Roszel moved, that the word "two" in the last division of the answer to the fourth question of the eighth section of the first chapter of our form of Discipline be struck out, and the word "three" be inserted.

Amendment.

Alfred Griffith moved to amend the resolution by inserting the word "four" instead of "three."

John Emory called for a division of the question, which was done and a vote taken,—Shall we strike out the word "two?" Lost.

John Ballew gave notice that he intended to bring forward a motion to alter the rules of conference respecting the time of sitting, &c.

The Committee of Ways and Means obtained leave, and reported on the fourth resolution, which was read and adopted.

The sixth resolution contained in the report of the Committee of Ways and Means, which was ordered to lie on the table, was called up and taken under consideration. Lost.

Hilliard Judge moved, that the presiding elder appointed to a district be at liberty to fix his family in any circuit or station within the said district, and that the committee appointed by the quarterly meeting conference of such circuit or station to make an estimate of the amount of fuel and table expenses of the preacher or preachers stationed with them be directed to make an estimate of the house rent, table expenses, and fuel of the said presiding elder and his family, and that they send a copy of such expenses to the stewards of each circuit or station in said district, that each circuit or station may pay its proportion of such expenses quarterly; and if there should be no such committee in the circuit or station where he may fix his family, the quarterly meeting conference shall appoint one for that purpose. Ordered to lie on the table.

Amendment of  
Discipline.

Asa Shinn moved, that the following words be added to our Discipline, part second, section fourth, page one hundred and ninety-three, at the end of the seventh article:—

"Nevertheless each annual conference, after examining into the temporal circumstances and resources of their superannuated and superannuated preachers, or those of their

widows and orphans, shall have authority to abridge their allowance as far as they may judge necessary."

May 15.

After considerable debate, the previous question was called for by a majority, which was taken and the motion was lost.

Conference adjourned until to-morrow morning, at nine o'clock.

Adjournment.

THURSDAY, MAY 16.

May 16.

Conference met, according to adjournment. Bishop M'Kendree in the chair.

The Committee on the Book Concern presented their report, which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

Report of the Committee on Book Concern.  
Report of the Committee on the Chartered Fund.

The report of the Committee on the Chartered Fund was presented, read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The motion made by H. Judge on yesterday was taken up and referred to the Committee of Ways and Means.

The report of the Committee of Safety was called up and taken under consideration.

Report of the Committee of Safety.

The first resolution was adopted. The second resolution was adopted. The third resolution was taken under consideration.

John Emory moved to amend the third resolution by inserting the following, viz.: "And disposing of those pews by public or private sale, or in any way, so as to make them private property," after the word "pews." Carried.

Pews.

N. Bangs moved to amend the resolution by striking out the words "and subversive," &c. Withdrawn.

M. Ruter moved to amend the amendment, by inserting the words "inconsistent with," instead of "subversive of." Carried.

The vote of concurrence was then taken on the resolution as amended and carried in the affirmative.

The fourth resolution was then taken under consideration, and, after some investigation, John Emory moved, that the resolution be so amended as to read thus:—

Fourth resolution taken up and altered.

"Resolved, That if any of our societies or congregations should so far," &c. Carried.

M. Ruter moved, that the words "and hereby are desired" be struck out, and the words "at liberty" be inserted.

Conference adjourned until three o'clock P. M.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met, according to adjournment. Bishop M'Kendree in the chair.

The consideration of the report of the Committee of Safety was resumed, and the amendment to the fourth resolution, made by Martin Ruter, was taken up, and, after some remarks, the motion was lost.

Report of the Committee of Safety resumed.



May 16.

The resolution was then taken under consideration.

Martin Ruter moved to postpone the resolution indefinitely. Withdrawn.

Daniel Ostrander moved, that the fourth resolution be recommitted to the committee to revise and report. Carried.

Fifth resolution taken up and altered.

The fifth resolution was then taken up.

John Emory moved, that the words "executive department" be struck out, and the words "presiding elders and assistant preachers" be inserted. Carried.

The vote of concurrence was then taken and carried.

Sixth resolution taken up and altered.

The sixth resolution was then taken up, and James Ridgway moved, that the words "presiding elders" be struck out, and the words "quarterly meeting conference" be inserted. Lost.

The vote of concurrence was then taken and carried.

John Ballew moved, that the hours of sitting shall be, to meet at eight o'clock and adjourn at twelve o'clock while the conference sits. Carried.

Seventh resolution taken up and altered.

The seventh resolution in the report of the Committee of Safety was taken up.

S. G. Roszel moved, to strike out the words "and circuits."

John Emory moved to postpone indefinitely. Lost.

Brother Roszel withdrew his motion to amend. The vote of concurrence was then taken and carried.

Eighth resolution taken up and concurred in.

The eighth resolution was taken up and concurred in.

John Emory requested liberty to have the documents relative to the Chartered Fund to peruse to-night. Granted.

James Smith asked and obtained leave of absence until Monday next.

Conference adjourned until to-morrow morning, at eight o'clock.

May 17.

## FRIDAY, MAY 17.

Conference met, according to adjournment. Bishop M'Kendree in the chair.

The Journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Bishop M'Kendree called Wm. Phœbus to the chair and retired.

Report of the Committee of Ways and Means.

The Committee of Ways and Means, to whom the sixth resolution was recommitted, presented their report, which was read and taken under consideration.

Motions relative to the alteration of the resolution.

Nelson Reed moved, that the word "steward" be struck out, and the word "committee" be inserted. Carried.

Daniel Ostrander moved to amend the resolution by striking out the words "unless there be a surplus." Carried.

Samuel Merwin moved, that the words "or so situated," &amp;c., between the words "district, and shall," be struck out.

Nathan Bangs moved for an indefinite postponement.

S. Merwin moved, that the resolution lie on the table. Carried.

S. Merwin moved, that the sixth section of the second chapter of the form of Discipline, on the article of dress, be referred to the Committee of Safety. Lost.

George Pickering moved, that the report of the Committee on the Book Concern be taken up. Lost.

The report of the Committee on the Temporal Economy was called up and considered.

The first answer to the first question passed. The second answer passed. The seventh answer passed. The eighth answer passed. The ninth, tenth, and eleventh answers were ordered to lie on the table until we hear and consider the report of the committee appointed to confer with our British brethren.

Conference adjourned until three o'clock P. M.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met, according to adjournment. Bishop M'Kendree in the chair.

The consideration of the report of the Committee on the Temporal Economy was resumed, and the provisional clause, with the second question and answer, were all confirmed.

Thomas Burch moved, that the words "and not for immoral conduct," in the second answer in the fifth question of the second section in the first part of the Discipline, be struck out. Lost.

The committee appointed to confer with our British brethren, relative to the situation of the societies of Montreal, obtained liberty and presented their report, which was read.

Brothers Black and Bennet made their statements, and after some discussion adjournment was called for.

Conference adjourned until to-morrow morning, at eight o'clock.

SATURDAY, MAY 18.

Conference met, according to adjournment. Bishop M'Kendree in the chair.

The Journal of yesterday was read, corrected, and approved.

The consideration of the report of the committee appointed to confer with the British delegates was resumed, and the first resolution was taken under consideration. After some investigation, Lewis Myers moved, that the report be recommitted. Carried.

R. R. Roberts in the chair.

R. R. Roberts, the chairman of the committee appointed

May 17.

Motion relative to the sixth section, second chapter of form of Discipline.

Report of the Committee on Temporal Economy.

Report on Temporal Economy resumed.

Report of committee to confer with British brethren.

May 18.

Report of committee to confer with British brethren resumed and recommitted to the committee.

May 18.  
E. E. Roberts  
released from  
committee.  
Report of Book-  
Agent.

to confer, &c., having been elected and ordained a bishop, is considered as released from serving on that committee, and John Emory was appointed to act in his place.

The book-agent came forward as requested, and made his statement, together with a list of balances which he presented. Filed with the records.

The list of balances presented by the book-agent was referred to the committee to examine and report.

Report of Com-  
mittee on  
Ways and  
Means.

The report of the Committee of Ways and Means on the sixth resolution, recommitted to them, and which had been ordered to lie on the table, was called up. A motion was made to postpone it indefinitely. Lost.

Motions con-  
cerning said re-  
port.

N. Bangs moved, that it lie on the table. Withdrawn.

Nathan Bangs moved, that all the other motions now before us lie on the table, in order to reconsider the sixth resolution as originally reported. Carried.

The original resolution was then taken under consideration.

John Sharply moved, that the resolution be amended by striking out the word "steward" and inserting the word "committee." Lost.

The resolution was then ordered before the conference. The previous question was called for by a majority, was put, and the resolution adopted.

The whole report of the Committee of Ways and Means, therefore, as amended and confirmed, now reads thus:—

The whole re-  
port of Com-  
mittee on  
Ways and  
Means.

"The Committee of Ways and Means, appointed to provide a more ample support for the ministry among us, to prevent locations and the admission of improper persons into the itinerancy, have taken the subject committed to them under serious consideration. They have found, with serious concern and deep regret, that in the present state of things there exist many evils which threaten to undermine that system of itinerating preaching which, under the blessing of God, has been so successful in spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ.

"1. The small pittance allowed to our preachers, and, in many places, the insufficient means used to insure even that, we conceive to be one reason why so many of our useful ministers are induced to locate. Groaning under the pressure of poverty now, and looking forward to a superannuated state without adequate means afforded them for a comfortable support in the decline of life, they sink under the melancholy prospect and reluctantly retire from the field, that they may provide a morsel of bread for themselves, their wives, and children.

"2. The many locations, from these and other causes, have a manifest tendency to weaken and embarrass the itinerancy by obliging us to fill up the vacancies with persons not competent to the work assigned them, and to commit the ad-

ministration, in some of its important branches, to the hands of young and inexperienced men.

May 18.  
Report  
continued.

"3. To the same causes may be attributed the many partial locations; that is, families of travelling preachers which are immovably fixed. Their scanty allowance furnishes an excuse, whether justifiable or not your committee presume not to determine, for combining farming, mercantile business, &c., with the ministrations of God's word. This practice, in the opinion of your committee, exceedingly embarrasses the general superintendency in the frequent changes which in the discharge of its duty are unavoidable. In consequence of this, either those whose families are thus located must be subject to distant removals from their families, or others must be exposed to the inconvenience of frequent and distant removals, to make way for those who are in this partially located state.

"4. We perceive a manifest defect among us, occasioned, in some measure, by the multiplicity of locations in regard to ministerial qualifications. Although a collegiate education is not, by your committee, deemed essential to a gospel ministry, yet it appears absolutely necessary for every minister of the gospel to study to show himself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed. Every one, therefore, who would be useful as a minister in the Church, to a sincere piety and laudable zeal for the salvation of souls should add an ardent desire for useful knowledge. He should strive by every lawful means to imbue his mind with every science which is intimately connected with the doctrine of salvation by Jesus Christ, and which will enable him to understand and illustrate the sacred Scriptures. But the early departure from the work of the ministry of many of those among us whose piety, zeal, talent, and mental improvement justified the expectation of their extensive usefulness in the Church, and the manifest indifference of some who remain with us to this important branch of ministerial duty, thus stripping the Church of some of its brightest ornaments, not only exposes her nakedness, but loudly calls for the prompt and vigorous interference of General Conference.

"To obviate these evils, and to secure to the Church a succession of holy, zealous, and useful ministers, becomes, at this time, in the humble opinion of your committee, the imperious duty of this conference. To accomplish these very desirable objects your committee beg leave to recommend the following resolutions, viz. :—

"Resolved, 1st. That it shall be the duty of the presiding elders and preachers to use their influence to carry the rules of Discipline relating to building and renting houses for the accommodation of preachers and families into effect. In order to this, each quarterly meeting conference shall

First resolution.

May 18.  
Report continu-  
ed.

appoint a committee, unless other means have been adopted, who, with the aid and advice of the preachers and presiding elders, shall devise such means as shall seem fit to raise moneys for that purpose. . And we furthermore recommend to each annual conference to make special inquiry of its members respecting this part of their duty.

Second resolu-  
tion.

"Resolved, 2. That those preachers who refuse to occupy the houses which may be provided for them on the stations and circuits where they are from time to time appointed, shall be allowed nothing for house-rent, nor receive anything more than their simple quarterage for themselves, wives, and children, and their travelling expenses. Nevertheless, this rule shall not apply to those preachers whose families are either established within the bounds of their circuits or stations, or are so situated that, in the judgment of the stewards or the above-mentioned committee, it is not necessary for the benefit of the circuit to remove them.

Third resolu-  
tion.

"Resolved, 3. That that part of the Discipline which relates to the temporal economy of our Church be so altered as to make the annual allowance of preachers \$100, and their wives and widows \$100.

Fourth resolu-  
tion.

"Resolved, 4. That there be a committee appointed by the quarterly meeting conference of every circuit and station, consisting of members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, whose duty it shall be to make an estimate of the amount necessary to furnish fuel and table expenses of the family or families of the preachers stationed with them; and that the stewards shall provide, by such means as they may devise, to meet such expenses, by money or otherwise, provided that the quarterly allowance of the preachers shall first be paid by the stewards.

Fifth resolution.

"Resolved, 5. That there be a meeting on every district of one steward from each station and circuit, to be selected from among the stewards by the quarterly conference, whose duty it shall be, by and with the advice of the presiding elders who shall preside in such meeting, to take into consideration the general state of the district in regard to temporalities, and to furnish a house and provision for the presiding elders' families, in conformity to the first and fourth resolutions of this report.

"In order the more effectually to provide for the distressed travelling, superannuated, and supernumerary preachers, their wives, widows, and children, your committee earnestly recommend,

Sixth resolu-  
tion.

"Resolved, 6. That each annual conference, in such way and manner as they may think proper, raise a fund for these purposes, according to the sixth article of the fifth section of the temporal economy of our Church.

"Thinking the Discipline sufficiently explicit on those parts which relate to the Christian experience, practice, &c.,

of preachers, your committee deem it needless to add anything on these subjects; but they beg leave to recommend—

May 18.

*Resolved*, 7. That it be the duty of the bishop or bishops, or a committee which they may appoint in each annual conference, to point out a course of reading and study proper to be pursued by candidates for the ministry; and the presiding elders, whenever a person is presented as a candidate for the ministry, shall direct him to those studies which have been thus recommended; and before any such candidate shall be received into full connexion, he shall give satisfactory evidence respecting his knowledge of those particular subjects which have been recommended to his consideration."

Seventh resolution.

The committee appointed to confer with Messrs Black and Bennett, delegated by the London Methodist Missionary Society to make an amicable adjustment of certain differences between our Church and the British connexion relative to Upper and Lower Canada, obtained liberty to make their report, which was read and confirmed, as follows:—

Report of the committee appointed to confer with British delegates.

"The committee appointed by the General Conference to confer with Messrs Black and Bennett, delegates appointed by the London Methodist Missionary Society to represent the British connexion to this conference, and, if possible, to make an amicable adjustment of certain differences between our Church and the British connexion, relative to Upper and Lower Canada, beg leave to submit the following report, viz. :—

"1. Your committee have had several friendly interviews with the above-mentioned delegates on these subjects, and they are happy to state that there appears to be an earnest desire to have all existing difficulties terminated to the peace and mutual satisfaction of both parties, and to perpetuate the Christian union and good understanding which have hitherto existed.

"2. It appears, from written communications as well as from verbal testimony, that unhappy dissensions have taken place in Montreal between certain missionaries, sent, at the request of a few official members of the society in that place in time of the last war, by the London Missionary Society, and some American preachers, which have terminated in the division of that society.

"3. Although the late hostilities between the two countries separated for some time those provinces from the immediate superintendency of the Methodist Episcopal Church in America, yet all the circuits, except Quebec, were as regularly supplied as circumstances would admit of with American preachers.

"4. It furthermore appears, from written and verbal communications, that it is the desire of the great majority

May 18. of the people in Upper and Lower Canada to be supplied, as heretofore, with preachers from the United States.

"5. In the two provinces there are twelve circuits and one station, (Montreal,) which have eleven meeting-houses which have been hitherto supplied by American preachers. These things being duly considered, together with the contiguity of those provinces to the western and northern parts of the United States, your committee respectfully submit the following resolutions:—

First resolution. "Resolved, by the delegates of the annual conferences of the Methodist Episcopal Church in General Conference assembled, 1. That we cannot, consistently with our duty to the societies of our charge in the Canadas, give up any part of them, or any of our chapels in those provinces, to the superintendence of the British connexion.

Second resolution. "2. That a respectful letter be addressed to the London Methodist Missionary Society, explaining the reasons for the above resolution."

Motion to draft an address to the London Missionary Society. John Emory moved, that a committee be appointed to draft an address to the London Methodist Missionary Society on the subject of their request relative to Montreal, &c. Carried. Nathan Bangs, John Emory, and Thomas L. Douglass were appointed for that purpose.

Conference adjourned until three o'clock P. M.

#### SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met, according to adjournment. Bishop Roberts in the chair.

Letter presented and referred to the Committee on Book Concern. A letter from James Eastburn was presented and referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.

Report of the Committee on the Chartered Fund was called up, and the resolution was confirmed as follows:—

"Your committee, which you honoured with the business of the Charter Fund, having examined the documents which came to hand from the trustees of said fund, as laid before the General Conference of 1812 and 1816, are of opinion that the strictest attention has been given to that interest by the worthy trustees of that fund. They have given a full statement and inventory of the kind of stock of which it is composed, and also of the amount and its annual production, which does not appear to your committee so profitable as it might have been if the request of the trustees had been granted by the conference of 1812. The income of the fund is about six per cent. per annum. The remittances to the several annual conferences are fairly exhibited from May, 1812, to May, 1816, from which it appears the balance of interest still to be remitted is \$775 89.

"The amount of capital at present is \$20,652 56. The trustees having again petitioned this conference to empower

them to change the stock as they may judge most to the advancement of that interest, your committee judge it would be a worthy act, and that such a grant might greatly promote the income. Your committee have the greatest confidence in the fidelity and economy of these gentlemen. Your committee, therefore, humbly submit the following resolution:—

May 18.  
Report continued.

“Resolved, by the delegates of the annual conferences of the Methodist Episcopal Church in General Conference assembled, That the trustees of the Chartered Fund of the said Church be, and they are hereby authorized and empowered, whenever, in their judgment, the capital and interests of the fund would be better secured or advanced thereby, to sell and dispose of any of the stocks or other property belonging thereto, and the net proceeds thereof to reinvest as soon as may be in such other stock or property in their corporated name as, in their opinion, would better combine the security of the capital with the increase of the annual income thereof.”

Resolution of the Committee on Chartered Fund.

A letter addressed to the trustees of the Charter Fund was read and approved.

Letter concerning Charter Fund read and approved.

Thomas Ware moved, that in case of the sale of stock to an amount not exceeding \$5,000, the General Conference authorize the trustees of said fund to loan the same to the Methodist Book Concern at lawful interest until next General Conference. Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the Committee on Temporal Economy was called up, and the ninth, tenth, and eleventh answers to the first question were considered, amended, and approved.

Report of Committee on Temporal Economy.

The report amended reads as follows:—

Report amended.

“The Committee on Temporal Economy, to whom the first section in the temporal economy of our Church and certain parts of the bishops’ addresses were referred, beg leave to report as follows, viz. :—

“Resolved, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, That the first section in the temporal economy of our Church be amended so as to read thus, viz. :—

Resolution of Committee on Temporal Economy

SECTION I.

“Quest. 1. What are the boundaries of the annual conferences ?

Question one.

“Ans. 1. The Ohio Conference shall include Ohio, Muskingum, Scioto, Miami, and Kentucky Districts.

Answer one.

“Ans. 2. The Missouri Conference shall be bounded by the Ohio Conference on the north, by the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers on the east, and by the Arkansas River on the south.

Answer two.

“Ans. 3. The Tennessee Conference shall include Salt River, Green River, Cumberland, Nashville, and Holstein Districts.

Answer three.



- May 18.  
Answer four. "Ans. 4. The Mississippi Conference shall include all the state of Louisiana south of the Arkansas, and all the Mississippi Territory south of the Tennessee River.
- Answer five. "Ans. 5. The South Carolina Conference shall include Georgia, South Carolina, and that part of North Carolina not included in the Virginia and Tennessee Conferences.
- Answer six. "Ans. 6. The Virginia Conference shall include the circuits situated on the branches of the Yadkin River, and that part of North Carolina north of Cape Fear River except Wilmington, and that part of Virginia on the south side of Rappahannock and east of the Blue Ridge except Fredericksburgh.
- Answer seven. "Ans. 7. The Baltimore Conference shall include the remaining part of Virginia not included in the Tennessee and Virginia Conferences, the western shore of Maryland, and that part of Pennsylvania east of the Ohio River and west of Susquehanna not included in Genesee Conference.
- Answer eight. "Ans. 8. The Philadelphia Conference shall include the whole of the peninsula between the Chesapeake and Delaware bays, and all that part of Pennsylvania lying between the Delaware and Susquehanna Rivers, except what is included in the Genesee Conference; and all the state of New-Jersey, with Staten Island and so much of the state of New-York as now is or may at any time be attached to the Bergen and Hamburg Circuits.
- Answer nine. "Ans. 9. The New-York Conference shall include all the state of New-York not included in the Genesee and Philadelphia Conferences, and those parts of Connecticut and Massachusetts west of Connecticut River; also that part of Vermont lying west of the Green Mountains, with that part of Lower Canada between Lakes Champlain and Magog.
- Answer ten. "Ans. 10. The New-England Conference shall include the remaining part of Vermont and all the New-England states east of the Connecticut River, and that part of Lower Canada east of Lake Magog.
- Answer eleven. "Ans. 11. The Genesee Conference shall include all within the bounds of Susquehanna, Oneida, Genesee, Chenango, and Upper and Lower Canada Districts.  
"Provided, nevertheless, that the bishops shall have authority to appoint other annual conferences in the interval of General Conference if the number of circuits should increase so as in their judgment to require it.
- Question two.  
Answer two. "Quest. 2. How are the districts to be formed?  
"Ans. 2. According to the judgment of the bishops. In case there be no bishops to travel through the districts and exercise the episcopal office, on account of death or otherwise, the districts shall be regulated in every respect by the yearly conferences and the presiding elders in the interval of General Conference, ordination only excepted.

"Each annual conference is to pay its proportionable part toward the allowance of the bishops."

May 18.

Conference adjourned until Monday, eight o'clock A. M.

May 20.

MONDAY, MAY 20.

Conference met at eight o'clock, according to adjournment. Bishop M'Kendree in the chair.

It was proposed that the sum of \$100 be presented to Messrs. Black and Bennett. The proposition was approved of, and S. G. Roszel and Oliver Beale were appointed to wait upon them, and make a tender of it to their acceptance.

Proposition to present \$100 to Messrs. Black and Bennett.

S. G. Roszel moved, that we reconsider the fourth resolution of the report of the Committee of Ways and Means. Carried.

Motion to reconsider the fourth resolution of report of Committee of Ways and Means. Motion to alter said resolution.

S. G. Roszel moved, that the words "consisting of members of the Methodist Episcopal Church" be inserted after the word "station," and the word "steward" shall be inserted after the words "with them and." Carried.

Solomon Sias moved, that the following provisional clause be added to the fourth resolution, viz. :—

"Provided the stewards shall not appropriate the moneys collected for the regular quarterly allowances of the preachers to the payment of family expenses." Carried.

T. L. Douglass moved, that the report of the Committee of Ways and Means, as amended and approved, be referred to the same committee, to be properly incorporated in the Discipline, as it shall appear in print. Carried.

Motion to refer the said report, as amended, to be properly incorporated in the Discipline.

John Emory was appointed to fill the place of R. R. Roberts, in the Committee of Ways and Means.

The letter addressed to the London Methodist Missionary Society was read. D. Ostrander moved to recommit the letter, in order to be transcribed. Carried.

Letter addressed to the London Missionary Society.

Bishop Roberts in the chair.

The Committee of Safety, to whom the fourth resolution was referred, made their report, and, after some debate on the subject, George Pickering moved to strike out the words "and our preachers," &c. Carried.

Report of the Committee of Safety on the fourth resolution.

The resolution was then approved, as amended, and reads as follows, viz. :—

"Report of the Committee of Safety, appointed to take into consideration those parts of the addresses of Bishops Asbury and M'Kendree which relate to the duty of preachers, &c.

"After due examination, your committee are of opinion that, in some parts of the connexion, doctrines contrary to our established articles of faith, and of dangerous tendency, have made their appearance among us, especially the ancient doctrines of Arianism, Socinianism, and Pelagianism, under certain new and obscure modifications; that, in too

May 20.  
Report continued.

many instances, nice and metaphysical investigations have taken place with a design to reconcile those truths which are founded on the authority of divine revelation with the limited and obscure views of human reason; that by such investigation the minds of the simple have been led into perplexity and doubt, and the simplicity and glory of the gospel plan of salvation, through faith in a Mediator, greatly obscured; and that there has been too great a departure from the doctrines of the Reformation, as defended by Wesley, especially the doctrine of human depravity, of the necessity of preventing grace, of justification by faith alone, of the direct witness of the Holy Spirit, and of holiness of heart and life, or gospel sanctification.

"Your committee regret that they are under the painful necessity of announcing to you that their examinations authorize them to fear that the Discipline has not been uniformly, faithfully, and impartially enforced in all parts of the work. There appears evidence too strong to admit of dispute, that some of the preachers to whom the administration of discipline has been committed have too much yielded to the influence of popular prejudices in matters where the vital interests of our connexion are concerned. In some instances great inattention has been manifested to the security of our houses of worship where they have been built on the principles of our economy; and in other cases the rules of our charter have been totally dispensed with, and houses erected with pews, which pews have been sold, either at public or private sales, so as to make houses of worship private property, and, consequently, to destroy all our claim to the use of them, except such as may be founded on the will of the pew-holders.

"In some instances, where such houses have been built, our societies and congregations, availing themselves of the constituted civil authority, have abandoned our system of temporal support, and had recourse to legal assessments on private property to realize the annual salaries of the preachers stationed with them.

"Your committee are apprehensive that the rule on dress has, in many instances, been almost dispensed with, and in others very partially administered, so as to afford unwarrantable indulgences to the rich; and that our love-feasts, society and class-meetings, have not been observed, in all parts of the work, with the caution and strictness which the letter and spirit of Discipline require, and which is indispensably necessary to preserve the harmony and spirituality of our societies.

"We regret to learn that, in some cases, preachers in charge have found methods to get members out of society without a constitutional process of trial, which, in the judg-

ment of your committee, is not only an abridgment of sacred rights, but has a most unhappy tendency in leading the minds of enlightened men to undervalue the blessings of Church communion.

May 20.  
Report con-  
tinued.

"In relation to the manner in which stations and circuits have been attended to by preachers in charge, your committee are of opinion that, in many places, our people have just cause of complaint that they have been neglected, both with respect to the public ministration of the word and visiting from house to house. Your committee apprehend that this evil may be traced to one of its principal sources in the narrow limits of the field of labour. Circuits have been formed, divided, and subdivided, on the principle of accommodation to local circumstances. This course has reduced circuits almost exclusively to Sabbath appointments. We cannot consider this among the least evils which threaten the connexion at the present crisis: it has, in the judgment of your committee, a general tendency to locality. It lays a foundation for the growth of jealousy, and may have a serious influence upon the union of the body.

"Your committee are of opinion that most, if not all, of these evils are violations of plain rules of Discipline, and, therefore, cannot see the necessity or propriety of any new legislation as a remedy for them.

"Under these circumstances, your committee judge it of the utmost importance for the General Conference, in its present session, to take such measures as will most effectually cure these growing evils, and, as far as possible, prevent their future existence; and, to accomplish this, report the following resolutions:—

"Resolved, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, 1. That the General Conference do earnestly recommend the superintendents to make the most careful inquiry in all the annual conferences, in order to ascertain whether any doctrines are embraced or preached contrary to our established articles of faith, and to use their influence to prevent the existence and circulation of all such doctrines.

First resolution.  
Doctrines.

"Resolved, 2. That it be specially recommended to all the presiding elders and stationed and circuit preachers to take particular care that all our houses of worship be secured on the principle of our deed of settlement in the form of Discipline.

Second resolution.  
Church-deeds.

"Resolved, 3. That the manner of building houses of religious worship with pews is contrary to the rules of our economy, and inconsistent with the interests of our societies.

Third resolution.  
Pews.

"Resolved, 4. That it is the opinion of this conference, that the practice of assessing and collecting taxes by civil law for the support of the ministers of the gospel is con-

Fourth resolution.

- May 20.** trary to the temporal economy of our Church, and inconsistent with apostolic example; that it goes to impede the progress of experimental religion and destroy the itinerant plan; and the superintendents, with all the annual conferences, are hereby desired to take such measures as, in their judgment, will most effectually cure such an evil.
- Fifth resolution.** "Resolved, 5. That the superintendents, together with all the presiding elders and assistant preachers, be, and are hereby, earnestly requested to carry into effect, in their several charges, our rules on dress, family worship, love-feasts, class and society meetings.
- Sixth resolution.** "Resolved, 6. That no preacher having the charge of a circuit shall be allowed to divide, or in any way lessen the circuit, without the consent and advice of the presiding elder.
- Seventh resolution.** "Resolved, 7. That it be, and hereby is recommended to the bishops and presiding elders, in the general and particular oversight of their charges, to guard against such divisions and reductions of districts and circuits as, in their judgment, may be inconsistent with the temporal and spiritual interests of our societies and the preservation of the energies of our itinerant system.
- Eighth resolution.** "Resolved, 8. That a copy of the above resolutions be recorded on the Journal of each annual conference."
- Report of Book Concern called up, with the additions.** The report of the Committee on the Book Concern was called up, with the additions now reported by said committee, and the report was taken under consideration, resolution by resolution.
- Motion to alter the first resolution of said report.** The first resolution under consideration. S. G. Roszel moved to strike out the word "New-York," and insert the word "Baltimore."
- Conference adjourned until three o'clock P. M.

#### MONDAY AFTERNOON.

- Conference met at three o'clock, according to adjournment. Bishop Roberts in the chair.
- Thomas Walker requested leave of absence during the remaining part of this session. Granted.
- First resolution of report on Book Concern resumed.** The consideration of the amendment to the first resolution of the report of the Committee on the Book Concern was resumed, and, after some debate, the vote was taken, and the motion was lost. The vote of concurrence was then taken and carried.
- Second resolution taken up.** The second resolution was then taken up. Joshua Soule moved, that so much of the resolution be struck out as makes it necessary that the editor should be chosen from among the travelling preachers.
- After some debate, the previous question was called for by a majority, which was taken on the amendment and lost. The vote of concurrence was then taken and carried.

Peter Cartwright moved, that there be a place of deposit established in Pittsburgh, and an agent appointed to transact the book business for the western conferences with the general book-agent.

May 20.  
Motion to establish a Western agency.

James Quinn moved, that P. Cartwright's motion lie on the table. Carried.

The first resolution intended to be entered on the Journal was considered and approved. The second resolution was taken up. A motion was made to amend it by inserting the amount of \$100 instead of \$150. Lost.

First resolution.  
Second resolution.

The third resolution was taken up and rejected.

Third resolution.  
Fourth resolution.

The fourth resolution was taken up. The first member was acted on and rejected; the second part was acted on and carried.

The fifth resolution was considered and rejected.

Fifth resolution.  
Motion to adjourn.

A motion was made by Samuel Merwin that we adjourn, to meet to-morrow morning at eight o'clock in the church. Carried.

Brother Ridgway moved, that we reconsider the motion. Carried.

The vote was taken again on the motion, and it was lost. Conference adjourned until to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

TUESDAY, MAY 21.

May 21.

Conference met at eight o'clock, according to adjournment. Bishop Roberts in the chair.

The Journal of yesterday was read and approved.

The committee appointed to take into consideration the subject of slavery presented their report, which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Report of Committee on Slavery read.

The Committee of Ways and Means presented their report, which was read, as it shall be incorporated in the Discipline, as follows:—

Report of the Committee of Ways and Means, as incorporated in the Discipline. Resolution relative to the fifth section of temporal economy.

"Resolved, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, That the fifth section of the Temporal Economy of our Church be so amended as to read thus, viz.:—

After the second answer to the question shall be inserted the following articles:—

"3. It shall be the duty of the presiding elders and preachers to use their influence to carry the above rules, respecting building and renting houses for the accommodation of preachers and their families, into effect. In order to this each quarterly meeting conference shall appoint a committee, unless other measures have been adopted, who, with the advice and aid of the preachers and presiding elders, shall devise such means as shall seem fit to raise moneys for that purpose. And it is recommended to the annual

Parsonages.

- May 21. conferences to make special inquiry of its members respecting this part of their duty.
- Parsonages. "4. Those preachers who refuse to occupy the houses which may be provided for them on the station and circuit where they are from time to time appointed shall be allowed nothing for house-rent, nor receive anything more than quarterage for themselves, their wives and children, and their travelling expenses. Nevertheless, this rule shall not apply to those preachers whose families are either established within the bounds of their circuits, or are so situated that, in the judgment of the stewards or the above-mentioned committee, it is not necessary for the benefit of the circuit to remove them.
- Family expenses. "5. It shall be the duty of the said committee, or one appointed for that purpose, who shall be members of our Church, to make an estimate of the amount necessary to furnish fuel and table expenses of the family or families of preachers stationed with them, and the stewards shall provide, by such means as they may devise, to meet such expenses in money or otherwise; provided the stewards shall not appropriate the moneys collected for the regular quarterly allowance of the preachers to the payment of family expenses.
- District stewards' meeting. "6. There shall be a meeting in every district of one steward from each station and circuit, to be selected from among the stewards by the quarterly meeting conference, whose duty it shall be, by and with the advice of the presiding elder, who shall preside in such meetings, to take into consideration the general state of the district in regard to temporalities, and to furnish a house, fuel, and table expenses of the presiding elder.
- Resolution to amend fourth section of temporal economy. "Resolved, That the fourth section of the temporal economy be amended so as to read thus:—
- "1. The annual allowance of the travelling preachers shall be \$100 and their travelling expenses.
- "2. The annual allowance of the wives of travelling preachers shall be \$100.
- "3. As in the Discipline.
- "4. The allowance of superannuated, worn-out, and supernumerary preachers shall be \$100.
5. The annual allowance of the wives of superannuated, worn-out, and supernumerary preachers shall be \$100.
- "6. The annual allowance of the widows of travelling, superannuated, worn-out, and supernumerary preachers shall be \$100.
- "7, 8. As they now stand in the Discipline.
- Resolution concerning third answer to first question of the eighth section of chapter one. "Resolved, That the following article be the third answer to the first question of the eighth section of chapter one:—
- "3. It shall be the duty of the bishops, or of a committee which they may appoint at each annual conference, to point out a course of reading and study proper to be

pursued by candidates for the ministry; and the presiding elders, whenever such are presented to them, shall direct them to those studies which have been thus recommended. And before any such candidate is received into full connexion, he shall give satisfactory evidence respecting his knowledge of those particular subjects which have been recommended to his consideration.

May 31.  
Course of Study.

"4: When a preacher's name is not," &c.

George Pickering moved, that the committee on the expenses, &c., be authorized to receive the money intended to meet the expenses and divide it.

Expenses of Delegates.

Moved, that the report now on the table be taken up and recommitted to them. Carried.

Moved, that they shall make a report of the particulars before they make any disbursements.

The consideration of the report of the Committee on the Book Concern was resumed. The sixth resolution was adopted.

Reconsideration of report on Book Concern

The seventh resolution was then taken under consideration.

Nathan Bangs moved, that the resolution of the Book Committee, relating to the editing a magazine, be recommended, for the purpose of so modifying it that there should be two editors appointed for the magazine and the general Book Concern, who should be associated in the work, and to leave it to the New-York Conference to grant them assistance, if they and the agents judge it necessary. Withdrawn.

Motion relating to said report as to Editorships.

The vote of concurrence was taken on the seventh resolution and lost.

John Emory moved, that the resolution on the appointing an editor and assistant book-steward, to act under his direction, be reconsidered. Lost.

J. Sharply moved, that the conducting of the magazine be committed to the book-steward and his assistant. Carried.

N. Bangs moved, that the New-York Annual Conference shall lend assistance to the agents if they judge it necessary. Carried.

S. G. Roszel moved, that the sixth resolution be reconsidered. Withdrawn.

N. Bangs moved, that the editors and general book-stewards shall issue a prospectus for publishing a magazine, and that the presiding elders and preachers shall collect subscribers and communicate to the agents the number wanted, and whether the subscribers wish them in monthly numbers or bound volumes. Lost.

Magazine.

The eighth resolution was taken under consideration and adopted.

The ninth resolution was rejected.



May 21.  
Report on Book  
Concern con-  
tinued.

The tenth resolution was adopted.

The eleventh resolution was confirmed.

The twelfth resolution was judged, by the chairman, not to be in order before conference. An appeal was made from the decision of the chair. The decision of the chair was confirmed.

The thirteenth resolution was taken up and passed.

The last member of the report of the Committee on the Book Concern was read.

John Emory moved, that a committee of three be appointed to take the subject proposed therein into consideration, and report to this conference what course, in their judgment, should be taken thereon. Carried.

Bishop M'Kendree resumed the chair, and appointed Bishop Roberts, John Emory, and T. L. Douglass for that purpose.

Motion concern-  
ing Sutcliff's  
Grammar.

N. Bangs moved, that the disposing of Sutcliff's Grammar, and the realization of the property of the Book Concern, be referred to the Book Committee to report thereon. Carried.

Conference adjourned until three o'clock P. M.

#### TUESDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met at three o'clock P. M., according to adjournment. Bishop M'Kendree in the chair.

The motion re-  
specting a place  
of deposit in  
Pittsburgh re-  
sumed.

The motion made by Peter Cartwright was resumed, and he amended his motion so as to make it read thus:—

"That the book-agents be, and are hereby authorized to employ a proper person in Pittsburgh to receive and forward books to the respective presiding elders in such places as they may direct in their respective districts in the several conferences in the West." Carried.

The conference proceeded, by ballot, to make choice of the place where our next General Conference shall be held, and, on counting the votes, a majority was in favour of Baltimore—fifty out of ninety-five.

Motion to  
amend the  
sixth article of  
the fifth sec-  
tion of tempo-  
ral economy.

John Emory moved, that the sixth article of the fifth section of the temporal economy of our Church be amended by inserting the words "subject to its own control" after the words "judged proper." Carried.

John Sale moved, that the words "nine" and "ninth" be struck out of the third article of the sixth section of the temporal economy, and the words "eleven" and "eleventh" be inserted in room thereof. Carried.

Editor and gen-  
eral book-stew-  
ard elected, J.  
Soule.

The conference proceeded to choose, by ballot, an editor and general book-steward, and, on counting the tickets, Joshua Soule had fifty-three votes out of one hundred and one.

Assistant editor  
elected, T. Ma-  
son.

The conference proceeded to choose, by ballot, an assistant editor and general book-steward, and, on counting the

tickets, Thomas Mason had fifty-seven votes out of ninety-nine.

May 21.

S. Merwin moved that we adjourn until to-morrow morning, eight o'clock, in the church. Carried.

Motion to adjourn.

Conference adjourned until to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 22.

May 22.

Conference met at eight o'clock, according to adjournment. Bishop M'Kendree in the chair.

Conference met.

The Journal of yesterday was read, corrected, and approved.

The Committee on Claims, appointed to examine into the expenses of the delegates, &c., presented their report, which was read.

Report of the Committee on Claims.

George Pickering moved, that we concur in the report.

John Emory called for a division of the question.

John Emory moved to amend the report by striking out the words "Book Concern" and inserting the words "Charter Fund." Withdrawn.

Motion to amend the report.

The question was then taken, Shall we make a draft on the Book Concern? Carried.

Motions as to Draft on Book Concern.

The sums proposed were \$200, \$1,000, \$888, \$800, \$788, \$500, and \$400.

Jacob Young moved, that the report be recommitted.

The previous question was called for and carried. The main question was then put on the recommitment and lost.

The numbers \$1,000, \$888, \$800, \$788, \$500, \$400, and \$200, were proposed, and all lost.

S. G. Roszel moved, that we draw on the Charter Fund for \$260. Withdrawn.

Alexander Tally moved, that we reconsider the filling up of the blank. Carried. \$888 and \$788 were proposed. The number \$788 was carried.

D. Ostrander moved, that we adopt the report of the committee. Carried.

Lewis Myers moved, that there be a collection in the house, among the members of this conference, to meet the necessitous cases of members. Withdrawn.

Motion to take up collection for necessitous cases.

S. G. Roszel moved, that we draw on the Book Concern for the dividend allowed to the Baltimore Annual Conference, and not yet drawn for, to appropriate to John Bond for his services. Withdrawn.

Motion to draw from the Book Concern the Baltimore Conference dividend.

Jacob Young moved for a reconsideration of the first resolution of the report of the Book Committee. Laid on the table until the reports are finished.

Motion to reconsider first resolution of report of Book Committee.

The committee appointed to take into consideration the most eligible mode of securing the interests of our Church in the capital stock at present employed in the book business made a report, which was ordered to lie on the table.

Report of committee on capital stock in the book business.

May 22.

Daniel Ostrander moved to reconsider the motion to fill up the blank of the report of the committee which appropriated \$788. Carried. And afterward the blank was filled up with \$500, at the suggestion of the late editor.

Jacob Young's motion was taken up and lost.

Samuel Merwin moved, that the following resolution be adopted, viz. :—

Resolution concerning the election of presiding elders.

“Resolved, by the delegates of the several annual conferences in General Conference assembled, That the motion relative to the election and appointment of presiding elders is not contrary to the constitution of our Church.”

S. G. Roszel moved an indefinite postponement. The previous question was called for on the main question, and it was lost.

Report of Committee on Local Preachers called up.

The report of the Committee on the State of the Local Preachers was called up.

S. G. Roszel moved to concur in the gross.

Freeborn Garrettson moved, that it be laid over until next General Conference. Lost.

S. G. Roszel moved to take it up member by member. Carried.

Ethelbert Drake moved to adjourn, to meet at three o'clock in the conference room. Carried.

Conference adjourned until three o'clock P. M.

#### WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met at three o'clock, according to adjournment. Bishop M'Kendree in the chair.

Communication respecting a book called “Shinn on Salvation.”

Bishop M'Kendree presented a communication from Mark Moore, on the subject of a book entitled “Shinn on Salvation.”

Committee from the Baltimore Conference to report on said book.

Moved by D. Ostrander, that a committee be appointed, out of the Baltimore Conference, consisting of three, to take into consideration the subject of Mark Moore's communication, and that they report to the next Baltimore Conference. Carried.

Letter to the London Missionary Society.

A letter to the London Methodist Missionary Society was read by John Emory, one of the committee appointed to draft the same. Approved.

Moved, that the British brethren, Black and Bennett, be furnished with a copy of the above letter. Carried.

Report of Committee on Local Preachers resumed.

The report of the Committee on the State of the Local Preachers was taken up. The first item in the preamble was confirmed. The second item was confirmed. The third item was ordered to lie on the table.

The first member, as proposed in the report, was read.

Moved, that the words “society or” be inserted before “class.” Carried. The member passed.

The second member was read and approved.

The third member to the fifth answer was read.

Moved by brother Cartwright, that "and have his name enrolled on a class-paper" be inserted.

May 22.  
Report on Local Preachers.

Moved, that the motion lie on the table until the leading principle be determined on. Carried.

Moved by John Emory, that the latter part of the member, after the words "and also," be struck out, and the following inserted in their place: "be requested to meet the class which may be to be met at any place where he may preach." Carried.

The question was then put, and the resolution was rejected.

The fourth member was then taken up and passed. The fifth member passed. The sixth passed. The seventh was considered.

John Emory moved, that the word "majority" be struck out. Lost.

Alfred Griffith, Thomas Burch, and Samuel Montgomery were appointed a committee to take into consideration the address of Mark Moore, and report thereon to the next Baltimore Annual Conference.

Shinn on Salvation.

John Emory asked and obtained leave of absence during the session of conference. He presented a resolution to conference which he intended to offer to-morrow.

The conference voted each of the newly-ordained bishops \$50 out of the moneys collected, according to a resolution of the Committee on Claims, which reads thus:—

"Your committee, appointed to attend to the expenses of delegates to and from the General Conference, beg leave to make the following report:—

Report of the Committee on Claims.

"1. That, upon a re-examination of the subject, they find the sum necessary to meet the demands \$1,419 75, to be appropriated as follows, viz.:—

" Thomas L. Douglass .....	\$75 00
Chandley Lambert .....	47 50
Charles Giles.....	50 50
Daniel Barnes.....	30 75
George Harmon.....	30 00
Isaac Puffer.....	35 00
George Gary.....	44 00
Seth Mattison .....	44 00
Henry Ryan.....	50 00
Martin Buter.....	73 00
Solomon Sias.....	67 75
Asa Kent.....	36 00
George Pickering .....	34 75
Joshua Soule.....	75 50
Eleazer Wells .....	53 50
Joseph A. Merrill.....	46 00
David Kilbourn.....	46 00
Charles Virgin .....	50 00
Philip Munger.....	40 50
Oliver Beale.....	60 00
William Case.....	48 00

May 22.	Peter Cartwright.....	\$51 00
Report on	Jesse Walker.....	55 50
claims.	Isaac Quinn.....	29 00
	James Quinn.....	10 00
	James Axley.....	27 60
	Benjamin Larkin.....	15 00
	Samuel Sellers.....	49 00
	Hilliard Judge.....	25 00
	British delegates, Bennett and Black.....	100 00
		<hr/>
		\$1,419 75

"2. Your committee are of opinion that, although Bishops George and Roberts have made no application, yet the sum of \$50 should be appropriated to each. To meet the above demands \$731 39 have been collected, and is now in hand, leaving a deficiency of \$688 36, to supply which your committee recommend a draft upon the Book Concern."

Conference adjourned until to-morrow morning, at eight o'clock.

May 23.

#### THURSDAY, MAY 23.

Conference met.

Conference met at eight o'clock, according to adjournment. Bishop M'Kendree in the chair.

The Journal of yesterday was read, corrected, and approved.

Seventh item of report on local preachers taken up.

The seventh item of the report on local preachers was taken into consideration.

H. Judge moved to strike out "a majority," and insert in its place "one-third." Lost.

The previous question was called for on the main question, and it was rejected.

Eighth and ninth items.

The eighth item was taken under consideration and concurred in. The ninth item was taken under consideration and adopted.

The report, so amended, reads thus:—

Report as adopted.

"The committee appointed to take into consideration the state of the local preachers beg leave to report, that they have deliberately examined the memorials from certain local preachers which have been referred to them, in which three objects particularly seem to be proposed:—

"1. That they may have representatives in the General Conference.

"2. The government of societies, &c.

"3. Be permitted to stipulate for salaries for their services.

"Your committee are of opinion that the first of these is inconsistent with the present constitution of the General Conference; that the second is inexpedient; and, as to the third, that provision is already made for the relief of local preachers in certain cases, and it is not the opinion of your

committee that this conference ought to make any further provision, except as is hereinafter recommended.

May 22.  
Report on local preachers continued.

“From an attentive inquiry into the state of the local preachers on all the parts of our vast continent, we are happy to be able to say that the great body of that very respectable and useful class of our brethren are, in our judgment, the firm supporters and friends of our doctrines, discipline, and Church government, and that by far the greater part of them would be much grieved at any radical changes in our present regulations. But, upon examining those parts of our Discipline which respect local preachers, your committee beg leave to recommend the following amendments:—

“1. That the twentieth section of the first chapter to the end of the second answer to the first question, be so altered as to read thus:—

Amendment of twentieth section of the first chapter of Discipline. Section twenty.

SECTION 20.

*Of the Local Preachers*

“*Quest.* 1. What directions shall be given concerning local preachers.

Question one.

“*Ans.* 1. Before any person shall be licensed to preach as a local preacher among us, he shall bring a recommendation from the society or class of which he is a member, and be personally examined before the quarterly meeting conference by the presiding elder, or, in his absence, by the preacher having the charge, touching his acquaintance with the doctrines of our Church, to which he shall give his assent, together with his gifts and grace for preaching; and if he be approved of by the quarterly meeting conference in these respects, and they believe that he will be generally acceptable and useful as a preacher, he shall then receive a license, signed by the presiding elder, or, in his absence, by the preacher having the charge, in these words, ‘N. M.,’ &c., (as at present,) which license it shall be the duty of such local preacher to have annually renewed.

Answer one.

“2. That the words ‘or deacon’ be inserted after the word ‘elder,’ in the last clause of the fourth answer of the same section.

“3. That in the first paragraph of the answer to the second question, instead of the words ‘has preached,’ there be inserted ‘has publicly or privately disseminated;’ and after the words ‘public offices,’ where they first occur, a comma; and that the words ‘from all public offices and privileges,’ where they occur the second time, be struck out.

“4. That in the succeeding paragraph the words ‘and in every case’ to culpable, inclusive, be struck out.

“5. That the following rule be inserted in the conclusion of the same section, *vis.*:—

May 23.  
Report on Local  
Preachers.

"Whenever a local preacher shall remove from one circuit to another, he shall procure, from the presiding elder of the district or the preacher having the charge of the circuit, a certificate of his official standing in the Church at the time of his removal, without which he shall not be received as a local preacher in other places.

"6. That the thirteenth article in the ninth section of the first chapter be struck out, and the following rule inserted in its place:—

"18. To license such persons as he may think proper to officiate as exhorters in the Church, provided no person shall be so licensed without the consent of the leaders' meeting, or of the class of which he is a member where no leaders' meeting is held; and the exhorters so authorized shall be subject to an annual examination of character in the quarterly meeting conference, and have their license annually renewed by the presiding elder, or the preacher having the charge, if approved of by the quarterly meeting conference.

"7. That in all places where a quarterly meeting conference is referred to, the phrase 'quarterly meeting conference' be used; and the phrase 'licensed preacher' instead of 'local preacher,' where it is intended to distinguish such from local elders or deacons."

Motion to alter the eighth section of temporal economy.

D. Ostrander moved, that the words "by the approbation of the presiding elder" be inserted between the words "preacher" and "he," in the eighth section of the temporal economy of our Church. Carried.

Motion concerning local preachers.

Isaac Quinn called up his motion on local preachers, viz.: "to have his name enrolled on a class-paper," &c., which had been laid on the table. The motion was lost.

Motion that no preacher shall distil or retail spirituous liquors.

James Axley moved, that no preacher shall distil or retail spirituous liquors without forfeiting his license.

Lewis Myers moved to amend James Axley's motion thus: "that every prudent means be used by our annual and quarterly meeting conferences to discourage the distilling or retailing of spirituous liquors among our people, and especially among our preachers." Withdrawn.

The previous question was called for: Shall the main question now be put? It was taken. Carried.

Brother Burge called for a division. Admitted.

The vote was put on the first member of the question. Carried.

The vote was put on the second member of the question. Carried.

Motion to alter the third question of eighteenth section of first chapter of Discipline.

S. G. Roszel moved, that the word "preach," in the third question, eighteenth section, first chapter of the Discipline, be expunged, and the words "disseminate publicly or privately" be inserted. Carried.

S. G. Roszel moved, that the answer to the second ques-

tion of the third section of the second chapter of the Discipline be expunged, and the following inserted: "by the preacher having the charge of the station." Lost.

S. G. Roszel moved, that the following rule be added to the third section of the second chapter of the Discipline, immediately after the third question:—

"To whom is a steward accountable for the faithful performance of his duties ?

*Ans.* To the quarterly meeting conference of the circuit or station." Carried.

S. G. Roszel moved, that the words "after allowances," at the close of the fifth paragraph of the fifth section of the second chapter of our Discipline, be expunged, and the following inserted: "The conference shall send such surplus forward to that conference they judge to be the most necessary." Carried.

The conference voted thanks to D. Hitt and Thomas Ware, late book-agents, for their services to the Church in that department.

Lewis Myers moved, that D. Hitt be authorized by the conference, according to his request, to return to New-York immediately and make a regular and full transfer of our Book Concern to his successors. Carried.

N. Bangs moved, that the conference adjourn to-morrow at twelve o'clock, to meet May 1, 1820.

Moved to amend it by inserting at six o'clock instead of twelve. Ordered to lie on the table.

The report to incorporate the General Conference, &c., was called for and lost.

The report of the Committee on Slavery was taken up and read. The report was considered, and John Sale moved that it be postponed until May, 1820. Lost.

Conference adjourned until three o'clock P. M.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met at three o'clock, according to adjournment. Bishop M'Kendree in the chair.

The report of the Committee on Slavery was taken up, and the motion for postponement was considered and lost.

George Pickering moved for concurrence on the report. Carried.

The whole report reads thus:—

"The committee to whom was referred the business of slavery beg leave to report, that they have taken the subject into serious consideration, and, after mature deliberation, they are of opinion that, under the present existing circumstances in relation to slavery, little can be done to abolish a practice so contrary to the principles of moral justice. They are sorry to say that the evil appears to

May 23.

Motion to alter second question of third section of second chapter of Discipline.

Motion to add another rule to third section of second chapter of Discipline.

Motion to alter the fifth paragraph of fifth section of second chapter of Discipline.

Thanks voted to the book-agents.

Report to incorporate the General Conference.

Report of Committee on Slavery read.

Report of Committee on Slavery resumed.

And carried.



May 28.  
Report on  
Slavery con-  
tinued.

be past remedy; and they are led to deplore the destructive consequences which have already accrued, and are yet likely to result therefrom.

"Your committee find that in the South and West the civil authorities render emancipation impracticable, and, notwithstanding they are led to fear that some of our members are too easily contented with laws so unfriendly to freedom, yet, nevertheless, they are constrained to admit that to bring about such a change in the civil code as would favour the cause of liberty is not in the power of the General Conference. Your committee have attentively read and seriously considered a memorial on the above subject, presented from several persons within the bounds of the Baltimore Annual Conference. They have also made inquiry into the regulations adopted and pursued by the different annual conferences in relation to this subject, and they find that some of them have made no efficient rules on the subject of slavery, thereby leaving our people to act as they please; while others have adopted rules and pursued courses not a little different from each other, all pleading the authority given them by the General Conference, according to our present existing rule, as stated in our form of Discipline. Your committee conclude that, in order to be consistent and uniform, the rule should be express and definite; and, to bring about this uniformity, they beg leave to submit the following resolution:—

Resolution to alter the second division of the ninth section and first answer of our Discipline concerning slavery.

"*Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, That all the recommendatory part of the second division, ninth section, and first answer of our form of Discipline, after the word 'slavery,' be stricken out, and the following words inserted: 'Therefore no slaveholder shall be eligible to any official station in our Church hereafter where the laws of the state in which he lives will admit of emancipation, and permit the liberated slave to enjoy freedom.'"

Second report of Committee on Book Concern.

The second report of the Committee on the Book Concern was taken up, and the first and second resolutions were concurred in.

N. B. The first and second reports of the Book Concern are entered here:—

"The Committee appointed to examine into the state of the Book Concern, after receiving such information on the subject as they could obtain, beg leave to offer the following report:—

"1. It appears, from an estimate presented by the general book-steward, which he represents as necessarily imperfect, that the whole amount of stock now belonging to the Concern, in books, debts, &c., is about \$147,133 94; that, after deducting the sums due from the Concern, and making allowances for bad debts and for damages on stock,

the amount of the capital will probably be about \$80,000; and that, notwithstanding the apparent increase of the capital during four years past to the last-mentioned sum, it appears that the Concern, owing to various causes which have been stated to the conference, is at present somewhat embarrassed.

May 28.  
Report on Book  
Concern con-  
tinued.

"2. For the purpose of placing the establishment under better regulations, your committee propose the following resolutions, to be incorporated with that section of our Discipline which relates to the printing and circulating of books:—

"Resolved, 1. That the Book Concern be continued in New-York.

"2. There shall be one editor and general book-steward, and an assistant to act under his directions, both of whom shall be chosen from among the travelling preachers, and, by virtue of their appointment, shall be members of the New-York Annual Conference, to whom, in the interval of the General Conferences, they shall be responsible for their conduct in the book business; and the New-York Conference shall have power, if they deem it necessary, by and with the advice of the superintendent and Book Committee, to remove either of them, and, in case of removal, death, or resignation, to appoint a successor to act until the succeeding General Conference.

"The following resolutions are recommended as proper to be adopted and entered upon the Journal of this conference:—

"Resolved, 1. That no higher commissions shall be given to booksellers than are allowed to preachers, and that anything to the contrary on the Journal of the conference shall be expunged.

"2. That each annual conference in the United States shall be, and is hereby authorized to give away annually of unsaleable books to any amount not exceeding \$50.

"3. That, in the opinion of this conference, it is expedient for the managers of the Book Concern to publish more small books and fewer large ones.

"4. That it shall be the duty of the book-stewards to publish an edition of Mr. Wesley's 'Answer to Dr. Taylor on Original Sin.'

"5. That, in the opinion of this conference, it is necessary and expedient to publish a periodical work, to be entitled The Methodist Missionary Magazine.

"6. That the work be issued in monthly numbers of forty pages each, in octavo form, and twelve numbers shall make a volume.

"7. That it shall be the duty of each annual conference to appoint a committee of three, who shall receive communications from their brethren, and correspond with the

May 28.  
Report on Book  
Concern con-  
tinued.

editor in order to furnish him with materials proper for publication.

"8. Your committee have been presented with a letter written by Mr. Eastburn to Mr. Griffin, containing conditions on which he proposes to offer the conference the right of printing and selling Dr. Adam Clarke's Commentaries on the Bible; but, being of opinion that it is not expedient to purchase the work, and by no means to do it on the terms proposed, they beg leave to submit the following:—

"*Resolved*, That, in the judgment of this conference, it is not advisable for our Book Concern to purchase or undertake the sale of Dr. Clarke's Commentary.

"9. The case of brother Henry Ryan has been represented to your committee, in which it appears that, during the late war, while he and the preachers on his district were travelling in Upper Canada, they were, in consequence of the prevailing distress and scarcity, reduced to the unavoidable necessity of supporting themselves, in part, by means of book-money, or of leaving the work; that they therefore expended money belonging to the Book Concern to the amount of more than \$700; and that, since the war, they have collected and refunded all that sum except \$227, for which sum brother Ryan is now responsible. Under these circumstances it is recommended that this conference adopt the following:—

"*Resolved*, That the Book Concern shall suffer the loss of \$227, due from Henry Ryan, and that he is hereby discharged from his obligation to pay it.

"Lastly, your committee recommend that this conference, if they can find it practicable, adopt, in their wisdom, some method to obtain for themselves better security of the property belonging to the book fund than that which they now have."

Second report of the Committee on the Book Concern.

"1. The committee, having considered the subjects on which they were required to report, beg leave to say, that they deem it unnecessary and improper for the agents of the Book Concern to purchase or sell Grammars or any other school-books, and they recommend the following resolution:—

"*Resolved*, That it is inexpedient for the Grammar of Mr. Sutcliff to be introduced and circulated among our books.

"2. On the important interests of the book fund, your committee are of opinion that the present state of the Concern is such as to render the purchase of real estate impracticable. They therefore recommend the following resolution:—

"*Resolved*, That the purchasing of a printing office, &c.,

or any other real estate, may with propriety be postponed until the next General Conference."

William Phœbus moved, that the word "connexion" be expunged from our Discipline, and the words "Church," "community," and "itinerancy" be inserted, as the grammatical construction may require. Carried.

Conference proceeded to determine the salary of the book-agent. The numbers \$1,500, \$1,200, \$1,100, and \$1,000 were proposed, and the sum of \$1,000 was carried.

The conference proceeded to determine on the salary of the assistant book-steward. The number \$600 was proposed and lost. The number \$500 was proposed and carried.

S. G. Roszel moved, that the expenses of the moving of Joshua Soule's family from their present place of residence to New-York be paid out of the book fund. Carried.

S. Martindale moved, that Thomas Ware be allowed \$100, to defray certain expenses. Carried.

Martin Ruter moved, that the double Hymn-Book be so revised as to secure the copyright. Carried.

D. Ostrander moved, that it be so revised and reduced as to put the two books into one volume. Lost.

John Emory moved, that the editor and general book-steward, and his assistant, in conjunction with the Book Committee at New-York, be authorized to estimate the sum necessary to defray the necessary expenses of the bishops' families, for which, agreeably to such estimate, they shall be authorized to draw on the editor and general book-steward. Carried.

Moved by Laban Clark, that the president appoint a committee, with the book-agents, to revise the Discipline, according to the Journals of the present General Conference, under the inspection of the superintendents. Carried.

The number three was proposed. Carried.

William Phœbus, N. Bangs, and D. Hitt were appointed for the purpose.

Joshua Soule moved, that we act on the old form of Discipline until the new form is received into the annual conferences. Carried.

The Journal of this day was read, corrected, and approved.

Moved, to reconsider the motion of M. Ruter, to revise the Hymn-Book, &c. Carried.

D. Ostrander was about to make a motion, when conference adjourned until to-morrow, at eight o'clock A. M.

May 23.

Resolution concerning the purchasing of a printing office or any real estate.

Amendments of Discipline moved.

Salary of book-agent.

Salary of assistant book-agent.

Moving expenses of Book-Steward to be paid out of the book fund.

Motions to revise the double Hymn-Book.

Motion to appoint a committee to estimate the necessary expenses of moving bishops' families, &c.

Motion to revise the Discipline according to the Journals of General Conference.

Motion to act on the old form of Discipline until the new is revised.

May 24.

## FRIDAY, MAY 24.

Conference met at eight o'clock, according to adjournment. Bishop M'Kendree in the chair.

A quorum not present.  
Thanks voted to the superintendents and secretary of the conference.

On calling the list there was not a quorum.

The members present voted thanks to the superintendents for their attention to business, &c., during this session of conference.

The vote of thanks was given to the secretaries for their services.

Conference adjourned until May, 1820.

WM. M'KENDREE.

LEWIS R. FECHTIG, *Secretary.*

# JOURNAL

OF THE

## GENERAL CONFERENCE, 1820.

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MONDAY, MAY 1.

May 1.

General Conference was opened, according to appointment, at the Eutaw church, (Baltimore,) by reading the word of God, singing, and prayer; after which Bishop M'Kendree informed the conference that he would be unable to attend regularly to the duties of his office, in consequence of ill health, but would give all the services he could, consistent with his health.

General Conference assembled  
May 1, 1820.

Bishop George took the chair, when the delegates from the different conferences were called to present their certificates, on which it appeared that the following members were present:—

Delegates called.

*New-York Conference*—Daniel Ostrander, Henry Stead, Nathan Bangs, Peter P. Sandford, Samuel Draper, Samuel Merwin, Eben Smith, Freeborn Garrettsen, Phineas Rice, Joshua Soule, Elijah Woolsey, Marvin Richardson, Ebenezer Washburn.

*New-England Conference*—George Pickering, Elijah Hedding, Timothy Merritt, Martin Ruter, Joseph A. Merrill, Erastus Otis, Daniel Fillmore, Solomon Sias, David Kilburn, Oliver Beale.

*Genesee Conference*—Charles Giles, William Case, Marmaduke Pierce, Henry Ryan, Abner Chase, Loring Grant, Israel Chamberlin.

*Ohio Conference*—John Collins, Jacob Young, James B. Finley, William Dixon, Alexander Cummins, Jonathan Stamper, James Quinn, Walter Griffith.

*Missouri Conference*—Samuel H. Thompson, John Scripps, Jesse Walker.

*Mississippi Conference*—Thomas Griffin, John Lane.

*Tennessee Conference*—James Axley, Jesse Cunningham, Marcus Lindsey, Peter Cartwright, William Adams, Charles Holliday.

May 1.

*South Carolina Conference*—Samuel Dunwoody, Wm. M. Kennedy, Joseph Travis, James Norton, Lewis Myers, Daniel Asbury, William Capers, James O. Andrew, Samuel K. Hodges.

*Virginia Conference*—Daniel Hall, John F. Weaver, Wm. Compton, Peyton Anderson, James Patterson, Edward Cannon, Ethelbert Drake, Matthew M. Dance.

*Baltimore Conference*—Joseph Frye, John Emory, Stephen G. Roszel, Lewis R. Fechtig, Beverly Waugh, Nelson Reed, Alfred Griffith, James M'Cann, Thomas Burch.

*Philadelphia Conference*—Ezekiel Cooper, Stephen Martindale, Lawrence M'Combs, Solomon Sharp, George Woolley, William Ryland, Thomas Ware, James Smith, Joseph Lybrand, Andrew Monroe, Gerard Morgan, James Ridgway, Joshua Wells, James Bateman.

Bishop Roberts in the chair.

Secretary appointed.

Brother N. Bangs nominated Alexander M'Caine to serve as secretary to the conference, who was elected; but not being present, Louis R. Fechtig was elected secretary *pro tem.*, until brother M'Caine should take his seat.

Rules and orders of last General Conference amended and adopted.

On motion of brother Bangs, the conference took up the "rules and orders" of the last General Conference, for their amendment and adoption.

It was determined that they should be read first generally, and afterward rule by rule. In reading the first order, on motion of brother Emory, the words "morning and evening" were stricken out.

On motion of brother Cooper, the word "always" was ordered to be inserted between the words "shall be."

Second order. On motion of brother Bangs, the hours nine, twelve, three, and six o'clock were stricken out.

On motion of brother Cooper, the blank was ordered to be filled up with eight o'clock A. M. and ten o'clock P. M.

On reading the rules, the first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth, eleventh, and twelfth were adopted without amendment.

Thirteenth. Moved by brother M'Combs, that the rule be amended by inserting after the word "time" the words "except the first time, which shall not be limited." Lost.

Moved by the same, that the rule be amended by inserting "except the first time," after which he shall be allowed half an hour. Lost.

The thirteenth rule was then adopted without amendment.

The fourteenth rule was ordered to be amended by inserting the word "room," after the second time the word "conference" occurs; and was adopted.

Rules fifteenth, sixteenth, seventeenth, eighteenth, nineteenth, twentieth, twenty-first, twenty-second, twenty-third, twentieth-fourth, twenty-fifth, and twenty-sixth were adopted without amendment.

Twenty-seventh rule. Moved, that it be amended by adding the words, "without debate." Carried, and the rule was then adopted.

May 1

Rule twenty-eighth was adopted without amendment.

Twenty-ninth rule. Moved by brother Cooper, to amend it by striking out the word "otherwise," and inserting the word "so" between the words "shall direct." Carried.

Moved by brother Emory, that all the rule after the words "and shall" be struck out, and filled up with the words "be disposed of as the conference may direct." Carried.

Brother Cooper proposed another amendment, which he withdrew to prepare the way for a different one; when, on motion of brother Ruter, the further consideration of the rules was postponed until it should be determined where the conference should meet in future.

Moved by brother Emory, that a committee be appointed to look for a more central situation, and report to this conference. Lost.

Place of meeting.

Moved by brother Ruter, that the conference meet to-morrow morning at Light-street. Lost.

Resolved, That there be preaching at the Light-street church every day at three o'clock during the session of the conference, and in all the houses in the city and Point at candle-light.

Services at Light-street.

Resolved, That the presiding elder of the Baltimore District, and the preachers in charge in the city and Point, be a committee to superintend the appointments of the preachers.

Committee superintend appointments.

Moved by brother Merwin to adjourn, and sit again at half-past three; which motion was lost.

The conference then adjourned until to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

TUESDAY, MAY 2.

May 2.

Conference met at eight o'clock, and was opened by reading a portion of God's word, singing, and prayer.

The minutes of yesterday being read by brother L. Fechtig, secretary *pro tem.*, the certificates of those members which had not been presented yesterday were presented this morning, viz.: James Smith and James Ridgway, of the Philadelphia Conference; Joshua Wells and Gerard Morgan, of the Baltimore Conference; and Andrew Monroe, of the Tennessee Conference.

Certificates presented.

Alexander M'Caine, who was elected secretary yesterday, being present this morning, was called to the desk.

Secretary.

The twenty-ninth rule was read, and the amendments proposed yesterday being under consideration, it was moved by brother Bangs, and seconded by brother ———, that the

Rules.



May 2.  
Amendment of  
Rules.

further consideration of the rule be postponed till brother Cooper shall have prepared his amendment. Carried.

To the thirty-second rule the following amendment was proposed by brother Emory: "And the conference shall take such order, to require their attendance, as may be judged proper." The amendment was lost.

The question was then taken on the original rule, without amendment, and carried.

Brother Cooper now brought forward his amendment to the twenty-ninth rule, which amendment was in the following words: Between the words "contents thereof" and the words "shall be disposed of," be introduced the words "being made by the introducer, they," &c. The question was taken on the amendment and carried.

The rule was then adopted as amended.

Moved by brother Merwin, that the thirty-third, thirty-fourth, thirty-fifth, and thirty-sixth rules, under the head "of the committee of the whole conference," be stricken out, but was afterward withdrawn by the mover.

Moved by the same brother, that the thirty-third rule, the first under the head of the committee of the whole conference, be rescinded. Lost.

It was then moved to adopt the said rule. Adopted.

The thirty-fourth and thirty-fifth rules were also adopted.

The thirty-sixth rule being read, it was moved by brother Cooper, and seconded by brother Capers, that at the end of the rule be added, "excepting the rule which limits the term of speaking to fifteen minutes." Lost.

The rule was then adopted.

The thirty-seventh, thirty-eighth, thirty-ninth, and fortieth rules were adopted without amendment.

It was then moved that the rules, as amended, be adopted. Carried.

Printing  
rules.

Moved by brother Roszel, that one hundred copies of the rules, as amended, be printed for the use of the members of this conference. Carried.

List of  
names,  
preachers  
printed.

Moved by brother Emory, that a like number of copies of the list of names of the preachers composing this General Conference, their places of residence, and the conferences from which they came, be also printed. Carried.

Moved by brother Bangs, that a committee be appointed to superintend the printing of the same. Carried.

The committee who give the preachers their appointments was directed to attend to the same.

Letters address-  
ed to brothers  
Black and  
Jones.

Moved by brother Ruter, and seconded by brother James Smith, that the secretary be directed to address a letter to brother Black and brother Jones, inviting them, whenever they think proper, to take a seat with us as spectators; and also that the travelling elders in this city be permitted the same privilege.

A division of the above was called for.

May 2

Moved by brother Emory, and seconded by brother Soule, that the above motion lie on the table. Carried.

Moved, that the local preachers in this station be permitted to take their seats with us as spectators. Signed, T. Burch, N. Bangs.

Local preachers admitted as spectators.

The above motion was withdrawn, to make room for the following:—

Moved, that the travelling and local preachers present in the city of Baltimore be permitted to take seats, as spectators, during the session of General Conference, except when the conference shall see it necessary to have closed doors. Signed, E. Drake, L. M'Combs.

After much debate on the above motion, it was moved by brother Ridgway, and seconded by ———, that it be indefinitely postponed. Lost.

The vote was then taken on the previous question. Carried.

The main question was next put, and carried.

Information was given by Bishop Roberts that he had a communication, in writing, from Bishop M'Kendree, the reading of which was called for by the conference. It was accordingly read.

Communication from Bishop M'Kendree.

Bishop George made an oral communication respecting the work of God in Canada.

Oral communication from Bishop George.

Bishop Roberts also offered some remarks on various parts of the Discipline and economy of our Church.

Remarks of Bishop Roberts.

The following resolutions were submitted by brother Roazel, and seconded by brother D. Hall:—

Resolutions on Bishop M'Kendree's address.

*Resolved*, 1. That so much of Bishop M'Kendree's address as refers to the episcopacy be referred to a committee, and that they report to the conference on the same. Carried.

Moved, that the committee consist of eleven members, and that one preacher from each annual conference be on the same. Carried.

Moved, that the delegates from each annual conference elect one of their delegation to compose the committee on the subject of the episcopacy. Signed, J. Emory, S. G. Roazel. Carried.

*Resolved*, 2. That so much of Bishop M'Kendree's address and Bishop Roberts' communication as refers to the local preachers be referred to a committee, and that they report on the same. Carried.

It was resolved that the committee consist of five members.

*Resolved*, 3. That so much of Bishop M'Kendree's address as refers to our children, and the children of our hearers, and the utility of having a doctrinal catechism, be

May 2  
Reference of the  
Bishops' Ad-  
dresses.

referred to a committee, and that they report on the same. Carried.

A committee of five was directed to be appointed.

*Resolved*, 4. That so much of Bishop M'Kendree's address as refers to the subject of slavery be referred to a committee, and that they report on the same. Carried.

It was moved and seconded that a committee of eleven be appointed, and that there be on it one from each conference. Carried.

*Resolved*, 5. That so much of Bishop M'Kendree's address as refers to the missions among the Indians, or other nations, be referred to a committee, and that they report on the same.

A committee of five was directed to be appointed.

*Resolved*, 6. That so much of Bishop M'Kendree's address as refers to the rule on the subject of spirituous liquors be referred to a committee, and that they report on the same. Carried.

A committee of five was directed to be appointed.

At one o'clock, the hour of adjournment, it was voted that the conference sit half an hour longer. Carried.

Resolution on  
Bp. George's  
remarks.

*Resolved*, 7. That the business of the Canadas, as communicated by Bishop George, be referred to a committee, and that they report on the same. Carried.

A committee of five was directed to be appointed.

*Resolved*, 8, by brothers S. G. Roazel and B. Waugh, That so much of Bishop M'Kendree's address as has reference to our houses of worship be referred to a select committee, and that they report on the same. Carried.

A committee of five was directed to be appointed.

*Resolved*, 9. That so much of the communication of Bishop Roberts as relates to the subject of the location of the travelling preachers, without their consent, by an annual conference, be referred to a select committee, and that they report on the same.

Moved and seconded, that the above resolutions lie on the table. Carried.

Committee on  
Boundaries.

*Resolved*, 10. That so much of Bishop M'Kendree's address as relates to the boundaries of the annual conferences be referred to a select committee. Carried. Signed, D. Ostrander, S. G. Roazel.

A committee of eleven members, one from each conference, was then directed to be appointed.

Committee on  
Episcopacy.

*Resolved*, That we forthwith proceed to elect the committee on the subject of the episcopacy. Carried.

Announcing the ballots, the following members were declared elected: Daniel Ostrander, Elijah Hedding, William Case, James Quinn, J. Walker, M. Lindsey, J. Lane, L. Myers, E. Cannon, J. Emory, T. Ware.

The conference then closed with prayer.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3.

May 3.

After the exercises of reading a portion of Scripture, singing, and prayer, the roll was called, and the Journal of yesterday being read and corrected, Bishop Roberts stated that Bishop M'Kendree's indisposition prevented his attendance.

Brother James Bateman presented his certificate and took his seat.

Certificate of J. Bateman.

As soon as the Journals were read, the president, Bishop George, according to the eighth rule, called for the petitions and papers concerning any business belonging to the General Conference, beginning with New-York.

A report (No. 1) was submitted by brother Bangs, chairman of the committee who drew up said report, which was read.

Reports.

It was moved and seconded that the report lie on the table. Carried.

A report (No. 2) was also presented by brother Bangs, signed by Wm. Thacher, Joseph Crawford, and Billy Hibbard, which was also ordered to be laid on the table.

Moved, that the reading of the petition (No. 3) presented by a brother from the Genesee Conference, praying that a certain circuit be attached to the Baltimore Conference, be dispensed with, and that the petition be referred to the Committee on the Boundaries of the Conference. Carried.

Addresses from the Canada District being presented, it was moved and seconded that one address from each of the Canada Districts be read. Carried.

Addresses from Canada District.

One address was then read by brother Case, and another by brother Ryan.

Moved and seconded, that the above documents, with such others as the brethren possess, be reported to the committee on the Canada business. Carried.

Referred to committee.

Brother Finley stated that there was some documents from the Ohio Conference, but as he did not think they would be called for this morning, he is not prepared to submit them.

A document from the official members of our Church in this city, in leaders' meeting assembled, was presented by brother Burch, the reading of which was called for. It was accordingly read, and a motion submitted to the conference by brother Bangs, seconded by brother Roszel.

Document from the official members of the Church.

Resolved, 1. That so much of said documents as relates to a revision of our Discipline, respecting the trial of members, &c., be referred to a select committee. Carried.

This committee is to consist of five.

Resolved, 2. That so much of the memorial from the official meeting in Baltimore, as refers to our children, be re-

May 8.           ferred to the committee to be appointed on that subject. Carried.

*Resolved*, 3. That so much of the memorial aforesaid as refers to the local preachers be referred to the committee on that subject. Carried.

*Resolved*, 4. That so much of the memorial as relates to the subject of dress be referred to the committee appointed on so much of said memorial as relates to a revision of the Discipline on the trial of members, &c. Signed, W. Capers, N. Bangs.

The following are the names of members composing committees on the different subjects referred to in the communications of the bishops:—

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| Episcopal committee.  | 1. The Episcopal Committee, viz.: Daniel Ostrander, Elijah Hedding, William Case, James Quinn, Jesse Walker, Marcus Lindsey, John Lane, Lewis Myers, Edward Cannon, John Emory, Thomas Ware.   |
| Committee on Local Preachers.   | 2. A committee to take into consideration the business of local preachers, viz.: Martin Ruter, William Capers, Samuel Merwin, Lawrence M'Combs, James Smith.   |
| Committee on Bishop M'Kendree's address on the instruction of children. | 3. A committee to take into consideration that part of Bishop M'Kendree's address for the better instruction of the Methodist children, viz.: Wm. M. Kennedy, Beverly Waugh, Thomas Burch, Ethelbert Drake.  |
| Committee on Slavery.   | 4. A committee to take into consideration that part of Bishop M'Kendree's address relative to slavery, viz.: Ezekiel Cooper, Freeborn Garrettson, George Pickering, Charles Giles, Samuel H. Thompson, William Adams, Thomas Griffin, James Norton, Peyton Anderson, Joshua Wells, Alexander Cummins.                  |
| Committee on Missions.  | 5. A committee to take into consideration so much of Bishop M'Kendree's address as relates to missions, viz.: William Ryland, John Collins, Joseph Travis, John Emory, Eben Smith.   |
| Committee on Spirituous Liquors.  | 6. A committee to take into consideration so much of Bishop M'Kendree's address as relates to spirituous liquors, viz.: Nelson Reed, Erastus Otis, James B. Finley, Samuel Dunwoody, Henry Ryan.   |
| Committee on Canada business.   | 7. A committee to take into consideration the Canada business, viz.: Nathan Bangs, Joshua Soule, Joseph A. Merrill, Timothy Merritt, Joseph Frye.  |
| Committee on Houses of Worship.   | 8. A committee to take into consideration so much of Bishop M'Kendree's address as relates to houses of worship, viz.: Stephen G. Roszel, James Ridgway, Peter P. Sandford, Oliver Beale, Loring Grant.  |
| Committee on Boundary Lines.  | 9. A committee to take into consideration so much of Bishop M'Kendree's address as relates to the boundary lines of the conferences, viz.: Alfred Griffith, Solomon Sharp, Ebenezer Washburn, David Kilburn, Marmaduke Pierce, Jacob Young, John Scripps, Charles Holliday, John Lane, Daniel Asbury, James Patterson. |

Near eleven o'clock Bishop Roberts took the chair.

*Resolved, &c.,* That so much of Bishop M'Kendree's address as relates to the life of the late Bishop Asbury be referred to a select committee. Carried.

May 2.  
Lib of Asbury.

It was then moved and seconded, that the said committee consist of five. Carried.

*Resolved, &c.,* That a committee be appointed to take into consideration the state of our Book Concern, together with any further regulations which may be deemed advisable for the improvement thereof, and to report thereon. Carried.

Committee on the Book Concern.

*Resolved,* That the committee consist of seven.

*Resolved, &c.,* That the Committee on Slavery be instructed to inquire into the expediency of expressing our approbation of the "American Society for Colonizing the Free People of Colour of the United States," and of recommending the same. Carried.

Colonization Society.

*Resolved, &c.,* That so much of the address of Bishop M'Kendree as relates to the admission of candidates into the travelling and local ministry, and so much of the Baltimore memorial as relates to the same subject, be referred to the Committee on Local Preachers. Carried.

M'Kendree's address on travelling and local ministry.

*Resolved, &c.,* That a committee be appointed to inquire into the expediency of digesting and recommending the outline of a plan for the institution of schools or seminaries of learning, within the bounds, and under the direction of the several annual conferences, or otherwise, as may be judged most advisable. Carried.

Committee on the institution of schools.

*Resolved,* That the committee consist of seven.

Moved and seconded, that the report of the Book Committee, from New-York, be now taken up. Carried.

Report of the Book Committee from New-York taken up.

On which it was moved by brother Ridgway, and seconded by brother T. Ware, that the report of the Book Committee of New-York be referred to the Book Committee. Lost.

Moved by brother Ostrander, and seconded by brother Soule, that the report of the Book Committee of New-York be referred to a select committee of this conference. Carried. And a committee of five were directed to be appointed.

The motion submitted yesterday by brother Ruter, respecting a letter of invitation to be addressed to brothers Black and Jones, was now called up, and was amended by adding the words "of the British connexion" after their names; and was further amended by substituting the word "visitors" in lieu of the word "spectators."

Letter of invitation to brothers Black and Jones taken up.

It was moved to amend the resolution further by striking out the name of brother Jones. Lost.

Moved and seconded, that the words "whenever they think proper," of the original motion, be stricken out. Carried.

May 3. Moved and seconded, that it be adopted as amended. Carried.

Moved and seconded, that the second part of the original motion, which relates to the travelling elders in the city, &c., be erased from the Journals. Carried.

Branch of the  
book business  
in the West.

*Resolved*, That the Committee on the Book Concern be instructed to take into consideration the expediency of establishing a branch of the book business in the West, as also to inquire into the expediency of vesting part of our funds in land in the western country, and report on the same. Signed, J. B. Finley, J. Lane.

A division being called for, the former part of the resolution was read and passed. The latter part was then read and passed.

Printing  
M'Kendree's  
address.

*Resolved*, That numbers of the address of Bishop M'Kendree be printed, that the various committees may have a copy thereof.

The foregoing resolution was proposed to be amended by adding "provided it meets with the approbation of the bishops," which amendment was accepted by the mover. Carried.

Different numbers were proposed to fill up the blank, as two hundred and fifty, one hundred and fifty, and one hundred; when, on motion, it was resolved that one hundred copies be printed. Carried.

It was moved and seconded, that the above be referred to the committee appointed to superintend the printing of the rules. Carried.

Moved and seconded, that brother Soule be added to the above committee. Carried.

Conference  
trunk.

Moved and seconded, that this conference authorize the secretary to purchase a new conference trunk. Carried.

Notice was given by brother Sias, that to-morrow morning he intends to bring forward a motion to amend the ninth article of our rules by inserting the words "read and" between the words "being" and "disposed."

It was announced from the chair that brother W. Case wished to be excused from serving on the Committee on the Episcopacy.

It was moved and seconded that he be excused. Lost. Conference closed with prayer.

May 4.

#### THURSDAY, MAY 4.

Bishops George and Roberts were present, Bishop George in the chair. After reading, singing, and prayer, the roll was called, and the Minutes of yesterday were read and corrected.

Papers and peti-  
tions called for.

The papers and petitions belonging to the General Conference were called for, according to the eighth rule.

Brother J. B. Finley submitted a petition from various quarterly meeting conferences in the Ohio Conference, which was read.

May 4.  
Petition from Ohio.

It was moved and seconded that the same lie on the table till a similar document from the New-York Conference be taken up. Carried.

A printed pamphlet, from the Tennessee Conference, was announced by Bishop George to be in his possession. It was moved to refer it to the Committee on Slavery. Withdrawn by the mover.

Pamphlet from the Tennessee Conference on Slavery.

Moved and seconded, that the document be read. Carried.

The reading of the document being called for and objected to, the vote was taken without debate, and carried.

During the course of reading, it was moved and seconded that the reading of the appendix be dispensed with.

It was then moved and seconded, that the motion be amended by adding, "that the further reading of the pamphlet be dispensed with." Carried.

Moved and seconded, that the above be referred to the Committee on the subject of Slavery. Carried.

Referred to the Committee on Slavery.

Bishop George stated that a document of similar nature, from the local preachers in Tennessee, was in his possession; which, on motion, was referred to the Committee on Slavery.

Document from local preachers of Tennessee.

A communication from the Baltimore Conference was handed to the chair by brother Fechtig, the consideration of which was postponed until to-morrow.

Communication from Baltimore Conference.

An appeal from Morris Howe was announced by Bishop George. It was moved and seconded, that it lie on the table until appeal cases be taken up. Carried.

Morris Howe's appeal.

A communication from the Mite Society of Philadelphia was, on motion of brother Bangs, referred to the Committee on Missions.

A communication from the Charter Fund was presented, the reading of which was called for. The document being read, it was moved and seconded, that the vacancies occasioned by the death of Thomas Haskins and Jacob Baker be now filled up from the nomination made by the trustees of the Charter Fund. Carried.

The persons nominated were, Alexander Cook, George Ireland, James Donley, and John M'Curdy.

On counting the votes, Alexander Cook and James Donley were declared duly elected.

The exhibit of the state of the Charter Fund was, on motion, referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.

Charter Fund.

Moved and seconded, that a verbal communication made by brother Weaver respecting the bequest of Jesse Lee, deceased, be referred to the same committee. Carried.

Communication of brother Weaver.



- May 4.** *Resolved, &c.,* That the Committee on the Book Concern be instructed to inquire into the expediency of adopting measures for the compilation and publication of a tune-book which may be recommended to our societies and congregations at large. Carried.
- Publication of a tune-book. At ten o'clock Bishop Roberts took the chair, and read the names of certain persons appointed on committees, as follows:—
- Committee on the Institution of Schools. A committee to inquire into the expediency of digesting and recommending the outline of a plan for the institution of schools, and to consist of seven, viz.: Nathan Bangs, Henry Stead, Jonathan Stamper, Daniel Fillmore, Stephen Martindale, James Bateman, John T. Weaver.
- Committee on the report of Book Committee. A committee on the report of the Book Committee concerning the Hymn-Book, to consist of five, viz.: S. G. Roszel, Lewis Myers, James B. Finley, Gerard Morgan, Samuel Draper.
- Constitution of Missionary and Bible Society. Moved by brother Bangs, and seconded by brother Merwin, that the constitution and report, &c., of the Missionary and Bible Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church be committed to the Committee on Missions, to consider and report thereon. Carried.
- Moved and seconded, that the Book Committee inquire whether there are no papers to be collected, the works of our former worthy Bishop Whatcoat; and that they take those papers, if any, into consideration, and report on the same. Signed, D. Hall, N. Bangs. Carried.
- Committee on Band Rules. Moved by brother Merritt, and seconded by brother Beale, that a committee be appointed to revise the Band Rules, and to report on the same. Carried.
- A committee, to consist of three, was directed to be appointed.
- Communication on Mr. Asbury's will. Information was given by brother Soule, that a communication from brother Henry Boehm, in relation to Mr. Asbury's last will and testament, was received by him.
- Article on dress referred to committee. *Resolved,* That the article on dress be referred to the committee to whom was referred so much of the memorial from Baltimore as relates to said subject. Signed, W. Capers, S. Merwin. Carried.
- Moved by brother T. Griffin, and seconded by J. Travis, that the committee appointed to take into consideration the revision of our Discipline do say what shall be the disapprobation to Methodist preachers who form connexions, or marry women belonging to no religious society. The above was withdrawn by the mover.
- Committee on Rights and Privileges. Moved by brother Capers, and seconded by brother Travis, that there be appointed a committee on rights and privileges, and that said committee consist of ——. Carried.
- The blank was ordered to be filled up with five.

Moved by brother Bangs, and seconded by brother Mer-  
wiz, that a committee be appointed to revise the Discipline,  
so as to make the different parts of it harmonize with each  
other, and that said committee present their revised copy  
to the next General Conference.

May 4.  
Committee to  
revise Disci-  
pline.

It was moved and seconded, that the above resolution  
lie on the table. The motion to lie on the table was with-  
drawn.

The original motion was amended, with the consent of  
the mover, by making it read, after the words "and that,"  
&c., "they report thereon, as soon as practicable, to this  
General Conference." Carried.

Moved and seconded, that a committee of five be ap-  
pointed. Carried.

*Resolved*, That the committee appointed to take into  
consideration that article of our Discipline respecting the  
trial of members take into consideration the propriety of  
making provision by which a member of another society at  
a distance, travelling for his health or on business, and who  
may continue for an indefinite time in any circuit or station,  
without attaching himself to the Church, and in which time  
may be guilty of such conduct or immorality as would sub-  
ject a member, in those circuits or stations, to a trial, may  
be there brought to trial. Signed, S. G. Roszel, E. Can-  
non. Lost.

Trial of mem-  
bers.

Moved by brother Ostrander, and seconded by brother  
Merritt, that the words "by the baptism of thy well-beloved  
Son, Jesus Christ, in the river Jordan," be stricken out of  
the form of baptism of infants, and that the words "by the  
institution of thy well-beloved Son" be inserted in their  
stead.

Change of Disci-  
pline.

Moved, &c., that the above lie on the table. Carried.

Moved by brother Griffin, and seconded by brother  
Travis, that the committee appointed to revise that part of  
our Discipline relative to the trial of members do take into  
consideration to say what shall be done with those Method-  
ist preachers who marry women belonging to no religious  
society.

Moved and seconded, that the above motion be amended  
by striking out "belonging to no religious society," and the  
words be inserted "who have not the form, and who are  
not seeking the power of godliness." Signed, J. Cham-  
berlin, L. Grant. Carried.

The question was then taken on the motion as amended,  
and carried.

Moved by brother Sias, and seconded by brother Hed-  
ding, that the second and third answers to the second ques-  
tion on marriage be stricken from the form of Discipline.  
Also the last of the section, "and even in a doubtful case,"  
&c. Moved, that the same lie on the table. Carried.

Change of Disci-  
pline.

**May 4.** Moved by brother Roszel, and seconded by brother Cannon, that whenever a motion is presented to the conference to strike out any part of our rules contained in the Discipline, the mover shall give one day's previous notice, and that the same order be attended to in motions for any amendment of our rules.

Rule as to motions for change of Discipline.

The above was withdrawn to make room for the following:—

Moved, that no motion to alter or abolish any rule, at present contained in the Discipline, shall be decided on the day on which it is made, unless it be on the last day of the conference. Signed, S. G. Roszel, J. Emory.

A motion was made and seconded, that the resolution lie on the table; but before the question was taken, a motion for adjournment was made and carried.

**May 5.**

### FRIDAY, MAY 5.

Met, agreeably to adjournment, and opened conference according to rule, Bishop George in the chair. The roll was called, after which the Journal of yesterday was read and corrected.

Document from the Ohio Conference.

A call was made for papers. One was presented from the Ohio Conference, (No. 6,) petitioning for a new conference. Referred to the Committee on the Boundaries of the Conferences.

Letter from brother Colbert.

A letter from brother Colbert (marked No. 7) was committed to the Book Committee.

Memorial, No. 8.

A memorial (No. 8) was received from the official characters of Philadelphia, relating to the revision of the Discipline.

Moved and seconded, that this document lie on the table. Carried.

The unfinished business of yesterday was called up, and the Journal being read, the question on the main question being put, it was lost.

Life of Bishop

Moved, that the secretary of the Baltimore Conference be directed to lay before the Committee on the Life of Bishop Asbury the proceeding of that conference on that subject. Signed, J. Emory, L. K. Fechtig. Carried.

Appeals.

Moved and seconded, that appeals now be taken up. Carried.

Appeal of Morris Howe.

Moved and seconded, that the appeal of Morris Howe be taken up first. Carried.

The address to the conference being read, it was moved and seconded that the appeal of Morris Howe be referred to the Committee on Rights and Privileges. Signed, B. Waugh, T. Ware.

Before a vote was taken on the motion, it was moved and seconded that the consideration of the same be postponed until to-morrow. Lost.

The question was taken on the first motion and lost.

Moved and seconded, that the further consideration of this subject be postponed until the documents relating to the case be brought before the conference. Carried.

*Resolved, &c.*, That the Committee on Rights and Privileges be instructed to inquire into the constitutionality of the location of travelling ministers without their consent by an annual conference, and that they report to the conference. Signed, B. Waugh, T. Merritt. Carried.

The names of the brethren composing the committee, directed to be appointed yesterday, were announced.

The appeal of William Houston (No. 9) from the decision of the Baltimore Annual Conference was read, and it was moved and seconded that it be referred to the Committee on Rights and Privileges. Lost.

It was moved and seconded, that the further consideration of the appeal of brother Houston be deferred until the report of the Committee on Rights and Privileges on that subject is received. Lost.

At a quarter past ten Bishop Roberts took the chair.

Moved, &c., that we reconsider our vote on brother Houston's business. Referred to the Committee on Rights and Privileges.

The previous question being called for, Shall the main question now be put? it was carried.

The motion for reconsideration was then put and lost.

It was moved and seconded to lay the papers relating to brother Houston's case on the table. Carried.

*Resolved*, That the Committee on Rights, &c., be discharged from considering the question of constitutionality referred to them, and that the same be now taken up in conference. Signed, D. Ostrander, N. Bangs.

A division of the question being called for, it was carried, and the Committee on Rights, &c., were accordingly discharged from the consideration of the question of constitutionality referred to them.

The latter part of the former motion being under consideration, it was moved to amend it by striking out the same and substituting the following: "and that the appeal of Wm. Houston be now taken up;" which, being accepted by the mover, the question was taken on it, as amended, and carried.

The papers relating to Wm. Houston's appeal were again read, as well as extracts from the Journals of the Baltimore Annual Conference. In the course of debate the following resolution was submitted, signed by Wm. Capers and E. Cooper:—

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, That they do decidedly disapprove the act of the Baltimore Annual Conference, by

May 5.

Appeal postponed.

Location of travelling ministers.

Appeal of Wm. Houston.

Referred to the Committee on Rights and Privileges.

Committee discharged.

Appeal of Houston taken up.

Papers read.

Resolution on the subject.

May 5.  
Case of W.  
Houston.

which Wm. Houston, an infirm travelling preacher of said conference, was located against his will, no charge of immorality nor other ground of censure against Wm. Houston having been preferred against him, or in any wise pretended.

It was moved and seconded to amend the motion by erasing "decidedly disapprove" and inserting the word "reverse," which was accepted by the mover.

An adjournment was called for, and carried, before any vote was taken on the question.

May 6.

### SATURDAY, MAY 6.

Met at the usual hour, and opened conference in the ordinary way, Bishop George in the chair, after which the Journal was read and corrected.

After the appointments for preaching the next Sabbath were read, a call for papers was made, beginning with New-York Conference.

Document from  
a printing office  
in New-York.

Brother Merwin presented one (No. 10) from a printing establishment in New-York, which being read, it was moved and seconded that it be referred to the Book Committee. Carried.

Petition from  
brother Prindell.

A petition from brother Prindell, (No. 11,) praying to be exempted from the payment of a certain sum of money due the Book Concern, being read, it was resolved that the application of brother Prindell for relief from a debt said to be due to the Book Concern be referred to the delegates from the Genesee Conference, as a committee, to report thereon. This motion was withdrawn. Signed, E. Cooper, T. Ware.

Referred to  
Committee on  
Book Business.  
Letter from  
Michael Burge.

Moved and seconded, that the same be referred to the committee on the book business. Carried.

A letter was offered by brother Grant from Michael Burge, who was expelled by the connexion from the Genesee Conference.

It was moved and seconded, that it be read; but, being considered a private communication, it was moved, &c., to refer the same to the Committee on Rights and Privileges. Carried.

Report from  
Committee on  
Houses of Wor-  
ship.

A report (No. 12) from the committee to whom was referred "so much of Bishop M'Kendree's address as relates to our houses of worship" was read.

It was moved and seconded, that the report be laid on the table. Carried.

Report of Com-  
mittee on the  
Work of God  
in Canada.

A report (No. 13) from the committee to whom was referred "brother George's communication on the work of God in Canada" being read by brother Bangs, the chairman of said committee, it was moved and seconded that the same lie on the table.

It was amended, with the consent of the mover, that it be made the order of the day for Tuesday next.

May 6.

A division of the question being called for, the vote on the former part was taken, and was carried.

The latter part was then submitted, and the vote being taken was lost.

The chair was taken by Bishop Roberts a few minutes after ten o'clock.

The unfinished business of yesterday being called up, brother Houston's case was taken into consideration. It was moved, &c., that the resolution be indefinitely postponed. It was withdrawn by the mover.

Unfinished business called up. Houston's case.

It was moved further to amend the original resolution by adding thereto "as appears from the Journal of said conference, and the letter addressed to the said Wm. Houston;" which amendment, being admitted by the mover, was accordingly adopted.

It was moved, &c., to amend the resolution by striking out "against his will," after the word located. Signed, J. Wells. Brother Wells withdrew his amendment.

It was moved, &c., that the word "infirm" be stricken out. The motion to strike out was withdrawn.

Moved, &c., to strike out the whole of the resolution after the words "his will." Withdrawn.

The previous question was called for. It was asked, "Shall the main question now be put?" Lost.

Brother Roesel, in defending the act of the Baltimore Annual Conference in locating brother Houston, had spoken his fifteen minutes; but, by the consent of the conference, was permitted to proceed.

The vote being called for, much debate took place, and, before the question was put, the previous question being called for, it was asked, "Shall the main question now be put?" It was voted in the affirmative.

A division of the question being called for, it was decided by the chair that the resolution was indivisible.

It was then moved and seconded, that the present session be continued until this resolution be decided on. Carried.

Session prolonged.

The question was now put, and carried—forty-nine to twenty-seven.

The names of the members of the Committee to revise the Band Rules were read from the chair.

Committee on Band Rules.

Conference closed with prayer.

MONDAY, MAY 8.

May 8.

Conference met at the usual hour, and was opened by reading, singing, and prayer. Bishop George was present, and took the chair.

May 8.

The roll was called, and the Journals were read and corrected.

Document from  
Missionary and  
Bible Society.

A call was made on the respective conferences for their papers. One was presented by brother Bangs, (marked No. 14,) from the Missionary and Bible Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church in America.

Moved and seconded, that the above address be referred to the Committee on Missions. Carried.

Papers from the  
Ohio Conference  
on Burke's  
Case.

A statement was made by brother Quinn, of the Ohio Conference, that he held in his hand a bundle of papers (marked No. 15) respecting the case of Wm. Burke, of said conference.

Moved and seconded, that the above papers be laid on the table. Carried.

Moved and seconded, that the report of the Committee on Meeting-houses be now taken up. Withdrawn.

Case of Morris  
Howe taken  
up.

Moved, &c., that the case of Morris Howe be taken up. Signed, N. Bangs, S. Merwin. Carried.

The papers were then read. A debate took place on a point of order, which was submitted to the chair. The president gave no opinion on the subject, but wished the case to be argued, considering it a similar case to brother Houston's.

The following resolution was submitted:—

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, That the decision of the Baltimore Annual Conference, by which Morris Howe was located without his request, ought to be, and the same is hereby reversed. Signed, D. Ostrander, J. Soule.

It was moved to amend the resolution by adding, "no sufficient reason therefor appearing on the records in the said case." Signed, J. Emory, P. P. Sandford.

About half-past ten o'clock Bishop Roberts took the chair.

The amendment being under consideration and debate, the previous question was called for. It was decided by the chair to be out of order.

The question was taken on the amendment and carried.

Moved and seconded, to postpone the further consideration of the case of Morris Howe until to-morrow. Signed, S. G. Roszel, T. Burch. Carried.

Thomas Mason  
assistant secretary.

*Resolved*, &c., That brother Thomas Mason be appointed to assist brother M'Caine in the secretary's business of this conference. Signed, Wm. R. Kennedy, E. Cooper. Carried.

Appeal  
M'Caine.

Moved and seconded, that the appeal of brother M'Caine be now taken up. Carried.

M'Caine's state-  
ment.

Brother M'Caine stated that he believed he stood charged, on the Journal of the Philadelphia Annual Conference, of having sought evil against Mary Elliott, to her injury, and

of having strove to deprive her of membership without a trial; which charge he denied, and called on the members of the Philadelphia Conference to establish said charge.

May 8.

On the Journal of the Philadelphia Annual Conference it appeared that he had been found guilty by the Philadelphia Annual Conference,

1. Of having sought evil against Mary Elliott, to her injury;
2. Of having endeavoured to deprive said Mary Elliott of her membership contrary to Discipline.

Charges preferred. pre.

The reading of the documents on which the Philadelphia Conference acted was commenced, but before they were gotten through the hour for adjournment arrived.

Adjourned at one o'clock.

TUESDAY, MAY 9.

May 9.

Conference met at eight o'clock, according to rule, and was opened by the prescribed exercises of reading, singing, and prayer. Bishop George took the chair, on which the roll was called, and the Journal of yesterday was read and corrected.

The usual call was made on the conference for papers, but none were presented.

The reports from standing and select committees were called for, when brother Cooper, chairman of the committee appointed to take into consideration the subject of Slavery, reported (No. 16) on the same; which, when read, it was moved and seconded that it be laid on the table. Carried.

Report of Committee on Slavery.

The printed pamphlet from the Tennessee Conference, and manuscript document from the local preachers of the same conference, on the subject of slavery, which had been put into the possession of the chairman of the Committee on the Subject of Slavery, were returned by him this morning and laid on the table.

Printed pamphlet from Tennessee Conference.

The order of the day was called for, which was the case of brother Alexander M'Caine, on which Bishop George addressed the conference.

Case of M'Caine resumed. A. re.

It was moved and seconded, that the documents in the case be read. Withdrawn.

Brother M'Caine was then called on to speak in his own defence, which he did, stating the reason of his appeal.

It was moved and seconded, that the decision of the Philadelphia Conference, in the case of brother Alexander M'Caine, be reversed. Signed, S. Merwin, S. G. Roszel.

The reading of documents was called for, and a letter from Mrs. Vanschoick was read, with several other documents.

About half-past ten o'clock Bishop Roberts took the chair.



May 8.

The reading of documents was continued until the testimony on behalf of the Philadelphia Conference was closed.

M'Caine makes his defence.

Brother M'Caine then rose and proceeded to make his defence.

A notice was read that to-morrow a motion would be made to alter the rule of the General Conference respecting the time of meeting and adjournment, so as to admit of two sessions in the day.

Adjourned at one o'clock.

May 10.

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 10.

Conference met at the usual hour, and was opened with the usual exercises. Bishop M'Kendree and Bishop George were present. Bishop George took the chair.

The roll being called, the Journals of yesterday were read and corrected.

The papers of the several annual conferences were called for. None were presented.

Report of the Committee on the Episcopacy.

The reports of the standing committees were called for, when one (No. 17) was announced by brother John Emory, from the Committee on the Episcopacy, the chairman of the said committee being absent through indisposition, which was read.

On motion, &c., it was directed to lie on the table.

Laid on the table. Report from the Committee on Boundaries.

A report (No. 18) from the Committee on the Boundaries of the Conferences was read by the chairman of the committee, brother Alfred Griffith.

Moved and seconded, that the report be laid on the table. Carried.

Report from the Committee on Band Rules.

A report (No. 19) from the committee appointed to revise the "Band Rules" was read by the chairman of the committee, brother T. Merritt, and, on motion, &c., it was ordered to be laid on the table.

Report from the Committee on Education.

A report (No. 20) from the Committee on Education was read by the chairman of said committee, brother N. Bangs.

Moved and seconded, that the report be laid on the table. Carried.

A. M'Caine resumes his statement.

The order of the day was called for, and brother Alexander M'Caine proceeded in making his statement, which was broken off yesterday by adjournment. When the statements were closed, the following resolution was offered, as a substitute for the motion made in the case yesterday :—

Resolution to rescind the action of the Philadelphia Conference on the case.

*Resolved, &c.,* That the decision of the Philadelphia Conference, by which Alexander M'Caine was pronounced guilty of seeking evil against Mary Elliott, to her injury, and of striving to deprive her of her membership without trial, and by which a penalty was inflicted on him, was in-

correct, and ought to be, and the same is hereby rescinded. Signed, S. Merwin, D. Ostrander.

May 10.

After some remarks from some of the delegates from the Philadelphia Conference, and some remarks by brother M'Caine in reply, he withdrew until the conference should decide on his case.

A division of the case was called for.

It was moved and seconded, that the delegates of the Philadelphia Conference be excused from voting in the case of brother M'Caine, it being an appeal from the decision of the Philadelphia Conference. Carried.

Delegates from the Philadelphia Conference excused from voting.

The question on the first member of the resolution was put and carried.

Question carried.

The question on the second member of the resolution was put and carried.

Bishop Roberts took the chair at half-past ten o'clock.

Moved and seconded, that there be a committee of — appointed, to inquire into the expenses of the delegates in coming to and going from this conference; and that there be a collection made next Sabbath in all our houses of worship in this city toward meeting said expenses.

Committee on Expenses.

The blank in the above note was filled up with five.

Resolved, &c., That the Committee on the Book Concern be instructed to inquire into the expediency of allowing a larger discount to purchasers of our books to the amount of — for cash. Carried. Signed, J. Emory, J. A. Merrill.

Instruction to the Committee on the Book Concern.

Resolved, &c., That the Committee on the Book Concern be instructed to inquire into the expediency of authorizing our editor and general book-steward to furnish such of our books at first cost as may be wanted to compose libraries, in any circuits or stations where there are preachers' houses, for the use of the travelling preachers who may be in said circuits or stations from time to time; provided the said price be paid in cash, current money, and that any order for such books shall always be accompanied with a certificate of the preacher in charge in the said circuits or stations that they are intended for the purposes aforesaid, and for no other. Signed, J. Emory, W. Ryland.

Resolved, &c., That the case of William Burke be now taken up. Signed, J. Norton, E. Washburn.

Wm. Burke's case.

The papers relating to the above case were directed to be read, but in reading the report of the committee who tried the case in Cincinnati, Bishop M'Kendree called the attention of the conference to some explanatory remarks, after which some desultory conversation took place among the members, on which it was directed by the president that the decision of the Ohio Conference be read.

The Journals of that conference relating to his suspension were read.

May 16.

Afterward an extract from a letter directed to Bishop M'Kendree, dated Cincinnati, July 15, 1818. Next was read Bishop Roberts's letter to W. Burke, dated August 14th, 1819; and the answer to that letter, addressed to Rev. R. R. Roberts, dated August 14, 1819.

Next was read a part of the Journals of the Ohio Conference.

Bishop M'Kendree again made a communication, casting light on the transaction.

At this stage of the business the following resolutions were submitted, signed, J. Emory, J. Soule:—

Resolutions in  
the case of  
Wm. Burke.

*Resolved, &c.*, 1. That the letter of Wm. Burke to Bishop M'Kendree, dated Cincinnati, August 15, 1818, was, in the opinion of this conference, justly considered by Bishop M'Kendree as an official notice of his wish to appeal in the circumstances stated in the letter. Carried.

*Resolved, &c.*, 2. That, agreeably to the principles on which this conference has acted in other cases, Wm. Burke was entitled to an appeal from his condemnation and suspension by the Ohio Conference. Carried.

*Resolved, &c.*, 3. That whereas Wm. Burke, in a letter to Bishop Roberts, dated August 14, 1819, denied his ever having signified an appeal, and as the said Wm. Burke has not appeared in person, by letter, or otherwise, to prosecute an appeal, and no cause being shown why the decision of the Ohio Conference, in the case of Wm. Burke, should be reversed, the same be, and is hereby confirmed.

Moved and seconded, to amend the above resolution by striking out the word "confirmed" and inserting the words "dismissed, as standing good and valid."

The amendment was lost.

The previous question being called for, Shall the main question now be put? Carried.

The question was taken on the resolution and carried.

The following resolution was offered, signed, W. Case, J. Merrill:—

Change of the  
regular hours  
of meeting.

Moved and seconded, that the rule respecting the regular hours of meeting and adjourning shall be so altered as to read thus: Meet at eight o'clock A. M., adjourn at twelve. Meet at three o'clock, adjourn at six o'clock P. M. Carried.

Bishop M'Ken-  
dree permitted  
to go into the  
country.

Bishop M'Kendree requested permission to go into the country, on account of his health. Granted.

Moved and seconded, that the secretary of the Ohio Conference take into his possession all the papers concerning Wm. Burke. Carried.

Moved and seconded, that the conference meet to-morrow morning at the conference room, at Light-street. Lost. Conference adjourned at one o'clock.

THURSDAY, MAY 11.

May 11.

The conference met, and was opened with reading a chapter, singing, and prayer. Bishop George and Bishop Roberts were present. Bishop George took the chair.

The roll was called, and the Journals of yesterday were read and corrected.

On reading the Journals the secretary was interrupted when he came to the third resolution, submitted yesterday, in the case of Wm. Burke.

The following resolution was offered, signed by J. Emory, and seconded:—

Moved, &c., that the Journal be corrected by stating the resolutions as they were at first submitted, afterward the amendments which were proposed and admitted.

Alteration of the Journal.

The vote being taken, it was lost.

The secretary finished the reading of the Journals.

Brother J. Soule, the book-agent, stated that the agents were ready to make a communication to this conference with respect to the Book Concern.

According to the eighth rule, the papers from the several conferences were called for. None were offered.

The select committees were called on for their reports.

Brother Ruter, chairman of the Committee on the Local Preachers, made a report (No. 21) on the same, which was read, and on motion, &c., was directed to be laid on the table.

Report of the Committee on Local Preachers.

Brother N. Reed, the chairman of the Committee on Spirituous Liquors, made a report, (No. 22,) which was read.

Report of the Committee on Spirituous Liquors.

Moved and seconded, that the said report be laid on the table. Carried.

Brother Compton, chairman of the committee appointed to take into consideration the expediency of a revision of the rule respecting the trial of members and several other particulars, made a report, (No. 23,) which being read, was, on motion, ordered to be laid on the table.

Report of the Committee on the Trial of Members.

Brother Sias, chairman of the committee to whom was referred so much of Bishop M'Kendree's address as relates to the better instruction of the Methodist children, made a report, (No. 24,) which was read. Ordered to be laid on the table.

Report of the Committee on the Instruction of Children.

Brother William Capers, chairman of the Committee on Rights and Privileges, made a report on the case of Michael Burge, of the Genesee Conference, (marked 25,) which was read. On motion, &c., it was directed to be laid on the table.

Report of the Committee on Rights and Privileges.

The book-agents presented and read an exhibit (No. 26) of the state of the Book Concern. They also made a communication on the state of the Book Concern in general, which was read by brother Soule.

Book-agents read an exhibit of the Book Concern.

May 11.

Moved, that the report of the book-agents, with the accompanying documents, be referred to the Committee on the Book Concern. Signed, N. Bangs, J. Smith. Carried.

Brother J. Soule stated, for the information of the conference, that the books of the Book Concern were now in this city and at their disposal.

Moved and seconded to take up the report on meeting-houses. Carried.

Report of the  
Committee on  
Meeting-  
houses taken  
up.

The resolutions in that report were read generally; and being read separately, the question was then taken on the first resolution and carried.

The second resolution was taken up and read.

Moved, &c., that that part of the second resolution which follows the word "Church" be stricken out. Signed, S. Sias, E. Hedding. The amendment was lost.

Moved by E. Cooper, and signed by N. Bangs, to expunge the words "at least three," and substitute the words "the trustees and an equal number of other." The amendment was withdrawn.

Moved and seconded, that the above resolution be amended by inserting between the words "committee" and "to the following," the words "unless other legal measures have been adopted to secure the objects of this resolution."

The conference adjourned at twelve o'clock, according to the change adopted yesterday, to meet at three o'clock this afternoon.

#### THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met at three o'clock. The roll was called: Bishop Roberts and Bishop George were present. Bishop Roberts took the chair.

The second resolution in the report of the committee being read, the amendment proposed by brother Bangs in the morning session being withdrawn, the original resolution was read, and a small alteration in the phraseology being made, the question was put and carried.

The third resolution being read, it was moved to amend the same by striking out the following words: "under censure of the conference to which they belong."

The question was taken on the amendment and carried.

The question was then taken on the resolution, as amended, and carried.

The fourth resolution in the report of the committee was stricken out.

The next resolution, which now becomes the fourth in order, was read, and a division of the resolution being called for, at the end of the second sentence which closes with the words "possible made free."

The question was taken on the former part of the resolution and carried.

May 11.

After much debate on the latter part of the resolution, the following amendment was submitted by brother Sias, and seconded by J. Merrill, to add the words "or the right of full exercise of our Discipline be secured to the Church." Before the question was taken on the amendment the time of adjournment arrived.

FRIDAY, MAY 12.

May 12.

Conference met at the usual hour, and was opened with the usual exercises. Present, Bishop George and Bishop Roberts.

The roll was called, and the Minutes of yesterday were read and corrected.

Bishop George took the chair.

The papers, according to rule eighth, were called for. None were presented.

A letter (No. 27) from brother Thomas Everard, a superannuated preacher belonging to the Philadelphia Conference, was read.

Letter from T. Everard.

It was moved and seconded, that it be referred to the Philadelphia Conference. Withdrawn.

Moved and seconded, that the superintendents be requested to give brother Everard a certificate of his standing in our connexion as a superannuated preacher, according to his request.

The question on this motion was taken and carried.

Moved and seconded, that the letter be referred to the Philadelphia Conference. Carried.

A call was made on the select committees. A supplement to the report of the Committee on Canada Affairs was offered, and read by the chairman of said committee, brother N. Bangs.

Supplement to the report on Canada Affairs.

Moved, &c., that this supplement be laid on the table. Carried.

The unfinished business of yesterday was taken up, and the amendment to the latter part of the fourth resolution being under consideration, the question was taken on the amendment and lost.

Unfinished business. Report on meeting-houses.

The latter part of the resolution under consideration.

The previous question was then put and taken on the latter part of the resolution. Lost.

The following resolution, signed S. G. Rossel and J. Lane, was read:—

Resolved, That those societies who have pewed their houses of worship since the last General Conference be, by the bishop or the presiding elders in their districts, informed that their doing so is contrary to the resolutions of the Gen-

May 23.

eral Conference of 1816; and that, if they expect to be supplied with the ministry under the appointment of the bishop, they must make their houses free by the next General Conference.

The resolution was withdrawn to make room for the following:—

Pews.

*Resolved*, That from this date no house built with pews shall be recognized as a Methodist chapel or house of worship; and that our superintendents be, and they are hereby requested to send no preacher to take the pastoral charge of the society or congregation occupying such. Signed, P. Anderson, M. M. Dance.

Moved, that the above resolution, with the remainder of the report, be postponed until next Tuesday. Signed, N. Bangs, J. Lane. Withdrawn.

Moved, &c., to recommit the report to the committee. Carried.

Committee increased.

Moved, &c., to increase the committee by adding four more. Carried.

Brother S. G. Roszel wished to be discharged from the committee on houses of worship. Permission to withdraw was not granted.

Moved and seconded, that the case of brother Morris Howe be taken up. Lost.

Report of the Committee on Episcopacy taken up.

Moved and seconded, that the report on the episcopacy now be taken up. Carried.

The report of the said committee was read. The resolutions were then read separately.

The first resolution being read, the question was put and carried.

The second resolution was also read and adopted.

The third resolution was read and adopted.

The fourth resolution was read and adopted.

The preamble to the resolutions was directed to be read.

The first paragraph, closing with the words "faithfully enjoined," was read, and the question being taken, it was adopted.

The second paragraph, beginning with the words, "there is one case," and closing with the words "itinerant system," was read.

It was moved, &c., that it be indefinitely postponed. This motion was withdrawn.

Moved, &c., to recommit the paragraph. Withdrawn.

Near ten o'clock Bishop Roberts took the chair, and the paragraph under consideration being again read, it was moved that the main question be now put. The question being put, was carried.

Moved and seconded, that the vote on the fourth resolution be reconsidered. Lost.

The question was put on adopting the several resolu-

tions in the report of the Committee on the Episcopacy, and carried.

May 12.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY.

The committee to whom was referred so much of Bishop M'Kendree's address as relates to the episcopacy, beg leave to report :—

Report of the  
Committee on  
Episcopacy.

In relation to the first branch of their inquiry, your committee, after mature deliberation, are of opinion that there has been no act in the administration of the episcopacy personally, since the last General Conference, so far as the knowledge or information of your committee extends, deserving the censure of this conference. On the contrary, your committee think that the general superintendents are entitled to the thanks of this conference for their patient and persevering efforts, amid numberless toils and cares, in promoting the great and good cause in which they have been so extensively and faithfully engaged. There is one case, however, in which the episcopacy may be indirectly concerned, so far as they may be deemed responsible, under our present form of government, for the administration of their agents, the presiding elders, which your committee conceive it their duty to express their decided disapprobation of, as a manifest violation of explicit and acknowledged law. It is the case of a preacher continued in the pastoral charge of the same station more than two years in succession, not indeed by the direction of the episcopacy, but against their express appointment.

Your committee, however, forbear to press this case at present, from a hope that this notice of it, as it now stands, will be sufficient, and will aid the episcopacy, of whose disposition in this respect your committee entertain no doubt, in the correction of it. But your committee are decidedly of opinion, that to connive at such acts, in favour of individual preachers or societies, and much more to permit a repetition of them, as our rules now are, would produce extensive dissatisfaction, and be highly injurious to our itinerant system.

In relation to the strengthening of the episcopacy, your committee further report, that they have regarded with deep and affectionate concern the declining health and strength of our senior superintendent. Worn down by long, extensive, and faithful labours in the service of God and the Church, your committee feel a solicitude, which they doubt not is equally felt by the conference, that every practicable provision may be made for his relief and comfort; hoping that by a provident forbearance for a time from his arduous labours and weighty cares, the Church may yet, at some future period, through the kindness of a gracious providence, have the benefit of his very desirable



May 12.  
Report on the  
Episcopacy  
continued.

services and counsels. They therefore submit the following resolution:—

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, 1. That it is the wish and desire of this General Conference that Bishop M'Kendree, during the continuance of his afflictions and debility, should travel in such directions or remain in such places as he may judge most conducive to his own health and comfort; and that he be accordingly, at the close of this General Conference, respectfully and affectionately requested so to do.

*Resolved, &c.*, 2. That whenever Bishop M'Kendree shall think himself able, it is the wish and desire of this General Conference that he should continue, so far as his health may prudently admit of it, the exercise of his episcopal functions and superintending care.

*Resolved, &c.*, 3. That the committee appointed by the last General Conference to make provision for the families of the bishops are hereby continued, and that the same committee be directed to take into consideration the present state of Bishop M'Kendree's health, and to provide for defraying any extra expenses which, in their judgment, his afflictions may make requisite.

*Resolved, &c.*, 4. That it is expedient that one additional general superintendent be elected and ordained during the session of this General Conference.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

*Baltimore, May 9, 1890.*

Report of the  
Committee on  
Canada Affairs  
taken up.

It was moved and seconded, that the report of the Committee on Canada Affairs be now taken up. Carried.

Previous to the reading of the resolutions contained in the report, brother Black, of the British connexion, who was present, expressing a desire to offer a few remarks, it was moved and seconded that leave be given him. Carried.

Brother Black's  
remarks.

Brother Black then made some remarks, stating the views of the British Conference relating to the subject.

The reading of the resolutions being gone through, they were then read one by one; but before the vote was taken, the reading of the preamble was called for. On motion, &c., it was resolved to be read.

Correction  
report.

It was moved and seconded, to strike out the word "superintendents" and substitute the word "bishops." Carried.

The second resolution was read. When under consideration, it was moved, &c., to amend the address by making it read thus: "The chapel has finally been sold."

While this subject was under discussion, an adjournment was called for and carried.

May 21

FRIDAY AFTERNOON.

Bishop Roberts and Bishop George were present. Conference was opened by the usual exercises. The list was called. Bishop Roberts in the chair.

Brother Garrettsen asked leave of absence from to-morrow afternoon. Granted.

Leave of absence granted to brother Garrettsen.

The second resolution being still under consideration, it was moved and seconded that the report, in toto, be recommitted. The motion for recommitment was withdrawn.

Report on Canada Affairs resumed.

The amendment proposed this morning was also withdrawn.

The preamble, the resolution, and the address being read, and under consideration, it was moved and seconded to strike out the words "together with the preceding part of this report." Carried.

An amendment was proposed by the chairman of the committee, and adopted, making a small change in the phraseology.

Moved, &c., to amend the resolution, after "brother," in Canada, to add "to be read in the quarterly conference." Lost.

The question was put on the resolution as amended and carried.

The third resolution was read.

Moved and seconded, that the consideration of this resolution be postponed until the supplement to this report shall have been taken up and acted on. Carried.

Further consideration of resolution postponed.

Moved &c., that the supplement be now taken up. Carried.

Supplement taken up.

Bishop George took the chair at three o'clock.

The supplement was read. The first resolution being under consideration, it was moved and seconded that the resolution be adopted.

Before the question was taken, an amendment to the resolution was submitted, which proposed to strike out the following words: "that this conference address the British Conference on this subject," and substitute the following: "recommend the bishops to send a delegate to the British Conference in July next." Signed, S. G. Roszel, J. Wells.

The chair pronounced the latter motion to be out of order.

Motion out of order.

The first resolution being under consideration, the following amendment was proposed: to strike out the words "this subject," and add the following: "the subject of a mutual exchange of delegates, as representatives of the one connexion to the other."

At this stage of the business the following resolution was offered:—

May 22.  
Report on Canada Affairs.

Moved, that the further consideration of the report of the Committee on Canada Affairs be postponed until to-morrow. Lost.

The question was then put on striking out the words "this subject" and substituting the above amendment, and carried.

The second resolution of the supplement was read.

It was moved and seconded to strike out the last clause of the resolution, viz.: "each conference to pay in proportion to the number of members composing said conference."

A division of the resolution being called for, stopping at the words "to defray the expenses," the question was taken on the former part and carried.

The question was put on the latter part of the resolution and lost.

The third resolution in the report being taken up, it was moved and seconded that it be indefinitely postponed. Carried.

The fourth resolution under consideration.

It was moved and seconded to amend the resolution by erasing the word "loyal" and putting the word "orderly" in its place. Carried.

Moved and seconded to strike out the words "we believe," and substitute "this article does not interfere with." Carried.

Moved and seconded to strike out the part of the resolution that follows the word "reside."

Moved, &c., to recommit the resolution. Carried.

Brother Cooper excused as chairman of Book Committee.

Brother Cooper requested to be excused from serving as the chairman of the Book Committee, on account of indisposition. He was excused.

Moved, &c., to change the time to meet at eight o'clock, and adjourn at one P. M. Lost.

Conference adjourned at six o'clock.

May 13.

## SATURDAY, MAY 13.

Conference met at eight o'clock, and was opened with reading, singing, and prayer. Present, Bishop George. The roll was called, and the Journals were read and corrected.

Document from the Philadelphia Conference.

Papers were called for from the conferences. One from the Philadelphia Conference was presented, as follows:—

"Brother Boehm stated that he had lost a sum of money to the amount of eighty dollars, belonging to the Book Concern, by a black girl belonging to his family, who took the money from the place where he had deposited it in his house."

On motion, it was resolved that the case be recommended to the consideration of the ensuing General Conference.

Extracts from the Journal of the Philadelphia Conference.

May 28.

Moved, &c., that the conference will now proceed to the election of a general superintendent. Carried. Signed, B. Waugh, J. Norton.

Moved to proceed to the election of a general superintendent.

Resolved, &c., That before we proceed to act on the above resolution, the conference go to prayer. Carried.

Brother Garrettsen gave out a few verses of a hymn and then prayed.

Prayer by brother Garrettsen. Roll called.

The roll was called to see who were absent, and it appeared that the only one absent was Loring Grant, who was sick.

In conducting the election, two persons, namely, brothers S. G. Roszel and D. Ostrander, were appointed to receive the votes.

S. G. Roszel and D. Ostrander tellers.

On receiving and counting the votes, it appeared that there were eighty-eight; and that Joshua Soule, of this number, had forty-seven, and Nathan Bangs thirty-eight. There were three scattering votes. Joshua Soule was declared duly elected to the office of a bishop.

Joshua Soule elected bishop.

Brother Lane submitted the following resolution:—

Resolved, &c., That sister Parker be released from paying a note for \$337 77½, and all other debts due the Book Concern by our beloved brother Samuel Parker, deceased. Signed, J. Lane, J. T. Weaver.

Moved, &c., that the above be referred to the Book Committee. Carried.

Moved, &c., that the report of the Committee on Slavery be now taken up. Carried.

Report of the Committee on Slavery taken up.

The report was read.

The first part of the resolution being under consideration, which relates to striking out the third answer to the question in the section on slavery, the vote was put and carried. The above answer is accordingly stricken out.

The latter part of the resolution, which provides a substitute for the above answer, was read.

Brother Capers, in speaking on the subject, extended his remarks to fifteen minutes. On motion, it was resolved that leave be given him to proceed.

Ten minutes past eleven o'clock Bishop Roberts took the chair.

After much debate on the subject, it was moved and seconded that it be recommitted. The question was taken on the amendment. Lost.

Moved, &c., that we will continue our session until one o'clock. Carried.

Moved, &c., that the further consideration of the report of the committee on the subject of slavery be postponed until Monday morning next. Carried.

Moved, &c., to reconsider the vote that was taken on the

May 13.

10th inst., which referred to the lifting a public collection in all the churches to-morrow for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the preachers coming to and going from this conference. Carried.

Moved and seconded, that notice be given to-morrow, in all our houses, that a public collection will be taken on next Sabbath week for the above. Carried.

Case of William  
Burke recon-  
sidered.

Moved and seconded to reconsider the vote that was taken on the case of William Burke.

The previous question being called for, Shall the main question now be put? it was carried.

The question for reconsidering being put, was carried.

Moved, &c., that the further consideration of this case be postponed until Bishop M'Kendree be present. With-drawn.

Moved, that the resolutions which were submitted on the 10th inst., in the case of Wm. Burke, be committed to a select committee. Signed, J. Emory, J. Norton.

Moved, &c., that this conference do adjourn, to meet at eight o'clock Monday morning. Carried.

Leave of ab-  
sence granted  
J. M'Cann.

Leave of absence was requested by brother James M'Cann. Granted.

Conference adjourned at ten o'clock, before any decision was made on the motion for commitment.

May 15.

## MONDAY, MAY 15.

Conference met at the usual hour, and commenced with the usual exercises. Bishops M'Kendree, George, and Roberts were present. Bishop George took the chair. The roll was called, and the Journals of Saturday were corrected and passed.

No papers were offered in answer to the call made on the respective conferences, according to rule eighth.

The select committees were requested to present their reports.

Report of the  
Committee on  
Missions.

One (No. 28) was read by brother Ryland, the chairman of the Committee on Missions. On motion, &c., it was resolved to be laid on the table.

Report of the  
Committee on  
Canada Affairs  
returned.

The chairman of the Committee on Canada Affairs returned their report as it had been submitted formerly, stating that they could not make any alteration that, in their judgment, would make it more worthy the acceptance of this General Conference.

Report of the  
Committee on  
Houses of  
Worship.

Brother Roszel, from the Committee on Houses of Worship, made another report, (No. 29,) supplemental to the one formerly submitted, which had been referred back to them.

On motion, &c., it was resolved that the same be laid on the table.

The chairman of the Committee on Boundaries made a report, (No. 30,) as amended.

May 18.  
Report on  
Boundaries.

On motion, &c., it was ordered to be laid on the table.

The Journals relating to the unfinished business of Saturday were again read.

It was resolved, that the resolutions relating to the case of Wm. Burke, which had been acted on on the 10th inst., be taken up.

Case of William  
Burke taken  
up.

The motion made on Saturday for committing the resolution, and submitted, in the case of Wm. Burke, being withdrawn, the following was offered (signed, J. Emory, J. Collins) as a substitute for the third resolution, which had been acted on on the 10th inst. :—

*Resolved, 3.* After reading the Journal of the Ohio Conference on the case of Wm. Burke, the letter of Wm. Burke to Bishop M'Kendree, dated Cincinnati, August 15, 1818, the letter of Bishop Roberts to the said Wm. Burke, dated August 14, 1819, and his answer, that the further consideration of the said case be, and hereby is, dismissed ; the decision of the Ohio Conference standing valid and unaltered. Carried.

The question was taken on the two former resolutions, and in connexion with this, and carried.

Moved, that the answer in the first question in the fifth section of the form of Discipline be stricken out, and the following answer substituted: "By the annual conference." Signed, T. Merritt, B. Waugh. Ordered to be laid on the table.

The subject of slavery was called up, and a motion was made and seconded that the report be recommitted. Carried.

Report on  
Slavery recom-  
mited.

*Resolved, &c.,* That the report of the Committee on Education be taken up. Carried.

Report on Edu-  
cation taken  
up.

The report was read. The resolutions being read separately, it was moved, &c., to amend the first resolution by adding, "provided that said principals, or presidents and teachers under them, shall always be members of the Methodist Episcopal Church." This was withdrawn, to make room for a motion to recommit the report. This also was withdrawn by the mover, brother Cooper.

The resolution being read, a division of it was called for, ending at the words "think proper."

The question was put on the former part of the resolution and carried.

It was moved, &c., that the following be added to the latter part of the resolution: "provided that said trustees, principals, and the teachers under them, shall always be members of the Methodist Episcopal Church."

Half-past ten o'clock Bishop Roberts took the chair.

The question was taken on the amendment and lost.

May 15.  
Resolutions on  
Education.

The question was taken on the latter part of the resolution and lost.

The second resolution was read, and, by the consent of parties, was amended by the insertion of a few words. The question being put on the resolution as amended was carried.

The third resolution under consideration. It was moved, &c., to amend the resolution by striking out the words "or teachers." Lost.

The question was then put on the resolution and carried.

The fourth resolution. *Resolved, &c.*, That the principals of the Wesleyan Academy and Wesleyan Seminary be requested to forward a copy of their constitutions to each annual conference. Passed.

The fifth resolution was passed without alteration.

The question was taken on the whole as amended and carried.

Here follow the resolutions as amended:—

Resolutions amended.

1. *Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, That it be, and is hereby recommended to all the annual conferences, to establish, as soon as practicable, literary institutions, under their own control, in such way and manner as they may think proper.

2. *Resolved, &c.*, That it be the special duty of the episcopacy to use their influence to carry the above resolution into effect, by recommending the subject to each annual conference.

3. *Resolved, &c.*, That the following amendment to the second answer of the third question of the fourth section of the first chapter of the Discipline, be adopted, viz: after the word preachers, that there be added, "and the presidents, principals, or teachers of seminaries of learning which are or may be under our superintendence.

4. *Resolved, &c.*, That the principals of the Wesleyan Academy and Wesleyan Seminary be requested to forward a copy of their constitutions to each of the annual conferences.

5. *Resolved, &c.*, That a copy of this report be recorded on the Journals of the several annual conferences.

Respectfully submitted,

N. BANGS, *Chairman.*

Baltimore, May 9, 1820.

Report on meeting-houses taken up.

Moved and seconded to take up the report of the Committee on Local Preachers. Withdrawn, to take up the report of the Committee on Meeting-houses.

The report was read, and the first resolution of the supplemental report under consideration. A division of the

resolution was called for, stopping at the word "considered." Carried.

May 15.

Moved, &c., that it be amended by inserting the following words, after the words "in future:" "and as far as possible to make those houses free which have already been built with pews." Carried.

The time for adjournment came before the question was taken.

MONDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference opened with the usual exercises, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

The fourth resolution being under consideration as amended, the question was taken on the passage of it and carried.

Report on meeting-houses and pews continued.

The fifth resolution was read. It was moved and seconded that the resolution be amended by inserting the words "by and with the advice and consent of the presiding elder," between the words "shall" and "be," in the last line but one. The amendment was lost.

Moved, &c., to strike out the words "at liberty," and insert the words "his duty." Lost.

Moved, &c., that the word "embarrassed," where it occurs, be stricken out. Carried.

Moved, &c., to amend it further by striking out the words "in trust." Lost.

The question was taken on the resolution as amended and lost.

The sixth resolution was read.

Moved, &c., that it be amended by inserting "that all the seats be made free," after the word "therein." The amendment was lost.

The question was taken on the original resolution and carried.

The seventh resolution being read, when the question was taken it was lost.

Moved, &c., that the last resolution be indefinitely postponed. Withdrawn.

The last resolution was under discussion, when the conference adjourned at six o'clock.

TUESDAY, MAY 16.

May 16.

Conference was opened at the usual hour with the usual exercises. Bishop George and Bishop Roberts were present. Bishop George took the chair.

The roll was called and the Journals were amended.

A call was made for papers from the annual conferences. The following was submitted, (marked 31.) Referred to the Book Committee.



May 16.  
Communication  
from J. French.

A communication (marked 32) from J. French was offered to the conference by Bishop Roberts. Ordered to be laid on the table.

Report on meet-  
ing-houses and  
pews adopted.

The unfinished business of yesterday being resumed, the last resolution of the report on houses of worship was read.

It was moved that that part of the report, together with the resolution to which it refers, be indefinitely postponed. Carried.

The whole of the resolutions, being read as amended, were passed.

*Resolved*, 1. That from this date no house of worship under our charge shall be built, or the building commenced, until the site or ground on which such house or houses are to be erected is secured to the Church, as our deed of settlement directs, and said deed is legally executed.

*Resolved*, 2. That from and after this date no house of worship under our charge shall be commenced until three-fourths of the money necessary to complete the building be in hand or subscribed. The estimate of the sum necessary for the whole expense of said house or houses to be made by a judicious committee, to consist of at least three members of our Church, to be chosen by the quarterly meeting conference of the circuit or station in which such house or houses are designed to be built.

*Resolved*, 3. That it be made the duty of each presiding elder and preacher in charge to make proper inquiry on their districts, circuits, and stations, respecting the title we have to our houses of worship, and in all cases where the title is found to be deficient, to adopt the most judicious and prudent measures to have them secured, as directed in our deed of settlement; and wherever a vacancy or vacancies is found in the trusteeship to have said vacancy or vacancies filled, as directed in our Discipline.

*Resolved*, 4. That the practice of building houses with pews, and the renting or selling said pews, is contrary to our economy; and that it be the duty of the several annual conferences to use their influence to prevent such houses from being built in future, and as far as possible to make those houses free which have already been built with pews.

*Resolved*, 5. That in future we will admit no charter, deed, or conveyance for any house to be used by us as a house of worship, unless it be provided, in such charter, deed, or conveyance, that the trustees of said house shall, at all times, permit such ministers and preachers, belonging to the Methodist Episcopal Church, as shall from time to time be duly authorized by the General Conference of the ministers of said Church, or by the annual conferences, to preach and expound God's holy word, and to execute the rules and Discipline of the Church, and to administer the

sacraments therein according to the true meaning and purport of our "deed of settlement."

May 16.

Moved, &c., that the first answer to the first question in the second section of our Discipline be amended by adding, after the word "decent," the words "and with free seats." Signed, S. G. Roszel, J. B. Finley.

Moved and seconded, that the present motion be amended by prefixing to the words "with free seats" the following words: "as far as practicable." Signed, E. Hedding, J. A. Merrill.

Near eleven o'clock Bishop Roberts took the chair.

After a lengthy debate, the question was taken on the amendment and lost.

The question was taken on the original motion and was carried, forty-five to twenty-seven.

It was then moved and seconded that the report of the Committee on Meeting-houses be recommitted, that they may prepare it as amended, and refer it to those heads in the Discipline where it should be inserted. Carried.

Report on Meeting-houses re-committed.

Moved and seconded to call up the resolution that had been laid on the table relating to the choice of presiding elders. Carried.

Resolutions on the choice of presiding elders taken up.

It was taken up.

It was moved and seconded that we go into committee of the whole. The question was taken on going into committee of the whole and lost—thirty-seven to forty-three.

An indefinite postponement of the subject was moved. Afterward it was withdrawn.

Moved and seconded, that we now adjourn. Carried.

Adjourned a few minutes before twelve o'clock.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met, and was opened as usual.

The motion respecting the choice of presiding elders still under consideration.

Presiding-elder question.

This discussion was commenced by brother Alfred Griffith, who spoke until his fifteen minutes were expired. Permission was given him by vote of conference to proceed.

Alfred Griffith speaks.

Brother Daniel Hall next took the floor, and extended his remarks to the full period allowed by rule. Permission was given him to go on. He did so until he run out his second period also.

Daniel Hall took the floor.

Ten minutes after four o'clock Bishop George took the chair.

Brother James Smith spoke his fifteen minutes. Permission was given him to proceed. He accordingly did so till three minutes before six o'clock, when an adjournment was called for.

James Smith spoke over fifteen minutes. Permitted to go on.

May 17.

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 17.

At the usual hour conference met, and was opened with the usual exercises. The roll was called, and the proceedings of yesterday were read and corrected. Present, Bishops George and Roberts. Bishop George took the chair.

A call was made for papers.

Document from  
Thomas Ma-  
son.

One (marked No. 32) from brother Thomas Mason was offered, and read by brother J. Soule.

Moved, &c., that the above be referred to the Committee on the Book Concern. Carried.

The select committees were called on for their reports.

Report of the  
Committee on  
the Life of  
Bishop As-  
bury.

Brother George Pickering, chairman of the committee appointed to examine the life of Bishop Asbury, made a report, (marked No. 33,) which was ordered to be laid on the table.

Report of the  
Committee on  
revision  
of  
Hymn-Book.

Brother S. G. Roszel, chairman of the committee appointed on the revision of the Hymn-book, made a report, (marked No. 34,) which was read.

Moved, &c., that it be laid on the table. Carried.

Expenses  
of  
delegates.

The report of the Committee on Expenses of Delegates to the General Conference was next read by brother S. G. Roszel, chairman of the committee appointed on that subject.

Moved and seconded, that the committee be directed to make an appropriation of whatever moneys may be put into their hands. Carried.

Presiding-elder  
question.

The unfinished business of yesterday, which relates to the choice of presiding elders, was taken up.

In the course of the debate brother Ryan spoke fifteen minutes. Leave was given him to go on with his remarks.

Brother William Capers, in speaking against the motion, spoke fifteen minutes, but by vote was permitted to go on.

Eleven o'clock Bishop Roberts took the chair.

Brother Samuel Duwody also spoke against the motion fifteen minutes; when that time was expired, leave was given him to go on.

Debates.

Brother James Smith, having spoken yesterday, claimed the privilege to reply to the remarks of some of the brethren on the opposite side of the question if no brother wished to go on with the debate; none offering to go on, he proceeded in his reply. He continued his remarks to the extent of the period fixed by rule. Leave was given him to go on.

Brother William Capers explained some things misapprehended by the last speaker.

Brother A. Griffith, conceiving himself to be misunderstood by some of the speakers on the negative side of the question, begged to make a few remarks if no brother wished to occupy the floor. None rising, he proceeded in his remarks.

Brother Wm. Capers again arose and explained.

May 11.

Adjournment was called for four minutes before twelve o'clock, and carried.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met, according to adjournment, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

The subject of the election of presiding elders still under consideration.

Presiding-elder question.

Brother Ostrander spoke fifteen minutes. Leave was given him to proceed.

Moved and seconded, that the present motion lie on the table until to-morrow morning. Carried.

The following resolution was submitted, signed, E. Cooper, J. Emory :—

Resolved, &c., That the bishop, or the president of each annual conference, shall ascertain the number of presiding elders wanted, and shall nominate three times the number, out of which nomination the conference shall, without debate, elect by ballot the presiding elders.

Moved, &c., that it be laid on the table until to-morrow Carried.

Brother Daniel Hall asked leave of absence. Granted.

Leave of absence granted D. Hall. Report on Canada Affairs taken up.

Moved, &c., that the report on Canada affairs be now taken up. Carried.

The fourth resolution, which had been recommitted, was read and passed.

All the resolutions being read before the question was taken, it was moved and seconded to reconsider the vote taken on the above. Lost.

The question was then taken on passing the resolutions and carried.

RESOLUTIONS ON CANADA AFFAIRS.

Resolved, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, 1. That it is the duty of the bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church to continue their episcopal charge over our societies in the Canadas, except Quebec.

Resolutions.

Resolved, &c., 2. That the following address be sent to brethren in Canada :—

DEAR BRETHREN,—We have received, and read with deep interest, the affectionate memorials and addresses from the several circuits in the provinces of Canada, in which you have expressed your ardent desire for the continuance of our ministerial care over you. We most cordially reciprocate the sentiments of brotherly affection and Christian attachment you have expressed, and pledge ourselves to use our best endeavours for your spiritual and eternal interest.

Address to be sent to the brethren in Canada.

May 17.  
Address  
brethren  
Canada.

to  
in

We sincerely deprecate those evils of which you complain, and which have grown out of the conduct of the missionaries sent by the British Conference to labour in Canada. Confiding, however, in the integrity of that conference, and believing they have been misled by partial and erroneous statements sent by interested persons in Canada, we still hope that the existing embarrassment will be removed, and that an amicable adjustment of this unhappy affair may be brought about. We can assure you that no means which in our opinion will be likely to produce this desirable result shall be left untried.

That you may be convinced that we have been neither inattentive to your interests nor unmindful of the respect due to our British brethren, we beg leave to lay before you a brief statement of what has been done in reference to this subject.

It is doubtless well-known to you that your case was fully laid before us at our last session in this city, and impartially considered in the presence of brothers Black and Bennett, who were sent as representatives by the British Conference; and after hearing all that could be said on both sides of the question, it was resolved most expedient, among other reasons because we understood it was your earnest desire, to continue as we had done heretofore our ministerial labours among you. That the British Conference might be fully apprized of the course we had taken, an address was sent to them, stating the reasons which had directed our decision in relation to Canada, and requesting that some arrangements might be made for an amicable adjustment of the existing difficulties. To this communication we have received no direct answer. Similar communications have been since sent by Bishops M'Kendree and George. The letter sent by Bishop George contained a full development of the affairs of Canada, but neither has an answer to this been received.

As one of the circuits has petitioned to have a separate annual conference in Canada, this subject has been considered, and it is thought to be inexpedient for the present, because, among other reasons, it might prevent that interchange of preachers so very desirable and so essential to your prosperity.

After assuring you of our unabated attachment to you as a branch of the Church over which we are called in the providence of God to extend our oversight, and of our determination, at your earnest request as from a consciousness of imperious duty, to continue to afford you all the ministerial aid in our power, we exhort you to steadfastness in the faith, to unity and love, and to perseverance in all holy obedience.

*Resolved, &c., 3.* That the following note be inserted in

the Discipline, under the twenty-third article of our Church, viz.: "As far as it respects civil affairs we believe it the duty of Christians, and especially all Christian ministers, to be subject to the supreme authority of the country where they may reside, and to use all laudable means to enjoin obedience to the powers that be; and therefore it is expected that all our preachers and people who may be under the British or any other government, will behave themselves as peaceable and orderly subjects.

May 17.  
Resolutions on  
Canada Affairs,

*Resolved, &c.*, 4. That this conference address the British Conference on the subject of a mutual exchange of delegates, as representatives of the one conference to the other.

And on British  
Conference.

*Resolved, &c.*, 5. That if, after receiving the views of the British Conference in reference to such interchange, the episcopacy shall judge it expedient at any time previous to the sitting of the next General Conference to send a delegate, the episcopacy shall have authority to appoint and send such delegate, and furnish him with the requisite instructions, and also to draw on the Book Concern for the amount necessary to defray the expenses.

*Resolved, &c.*, 6. That the episcopacy, by and with the advice and consent of the General Conference, if they judge it expedient prior to the sitting of the next General Conference, shall have authority to establish an annual conference in Canada.

Moved, &c., that we take up the report on the boundaries of the annual conferences. Carried.

Report on the  
boundaries of  
the annual con-  
ferences taken  
up.

The report of the committee was then read, afterward each answer defining the boundaries of each conference.

Moved and seconded that we adjourn, to meet at eight o'clock to-morrow at the conference-room in Light-street. Lost.

Adjourned five minutes past six o'clock.

THURSDAY, MAY 18.

May 18.

At eight o'clock conference met, and was opened with the usual exercises.

The roll was called, and the Journals of yesterday were read and passed.

Bishop George took the chair, and made the call for papers, according to rule eighth.

The committees were called on for reports. None were presented.

The unfinished business of yesterday, relating to the boundaries of the conferences, was resumed.

Unfinished business of yesterday taken up.

In fixing the boundaries of the Genesee Conference, the following was submitted:—

May 18.  
Conference  
boundaries.

Moved, &c., that the Montreal Station be attached to the New-York Conference. Lost.

Moved and seconded, that the vote that was taken yesterday on the boundaries of the Baltimore Conference be reconsidered. Signed by brothers Quinn and Finley. Carried.

The previous question being called for, Shall the main question now be taken? it was carried.

The question on the passage of the boundaries was taken, as reported by the committee, and carried.

#### BOUNDARIES OF THE CONFERENCES.

Boundaries of  
the confer-  
ences.

Answer 1.

The Ohio Annual Conference shall commence at the town of Madison, on the Ohio River, state of Indiana, thence running due north to the nearest point on Lake Michigan, shall include the whole of the Michigan Territory, thence running down Lake Erie to the town of Erie, thence to Waterford, on French Creek, thence down French Creek to the Alleghany River, thence down the Alleghany and Ohio Rivers to the place of beginning.

Answer 2.

The Missouri Conference shall include that part of the state of Indiana not included in the Ohio Conference, the states of Illinois and Missouri, and the Territory of Arkansas.

Answer 3.

The Kentucky Conference shall include the Kentucky, Salt River, Green River, and Cumberland Districts, and that part of the state of Virginia included in the Greenbrier and Monroe Circuits, heretofore belonging to the Baltimore Conference, and the Kanawha and Middle Island Circuits, heretofore belonging to the Ohio Conference.

Answer 4.

The Tennessee Conference shall include the Nashville, French Brood, and Holston Districts, together with the New River Circuit, heretofore belonging to the Baltimore Conference, and that part of Tennessee District north of Tennessee River.

Answer 5.

The Mississippi Conference shall include the states of Mississippi and Louisiana, and all that part of the state of Alabama south of Tennessee River.

Answer 6.

The South Carolina Conference shall include Georgia, South Carolina, and that part of North Carolina not included in the Virginia and Tennessee Conferences.

Answer 7.

The Virginia Conference shall include the circuits situated on the banks of the Yadkin, and that part of North Carolina north of Cape Fear River, excepting Wilmington, and that part of Virginia on the south side of the Rappahannock and east of the Blue Ridge, except Fredericksburgh.

Answer 8.

The Baltimore Conference shall include the remaining part of Virginia not included in the Virginia, Philadelphia, Kentucky, and Tennessee Conferences, the western shore

of Maryland, and that part of Pennsylvania east of the Ohio River and west of the Susquehanna, together with the Bald Eagle, Lycoming, Northumberland, and Shamokin Circuits, heretofore belonging to the Genesee Conference.

May 18.  
Boundaries of  
the confer-  
ences.

The Philadelphia Conference shall include the whole of the peninsula between the Chesapeake and Delaware Bays, and all that part of Pennsylvania lying between the Delaware and Susquehanna Rivers, except what is included in the Baltimore and Genesee Conferences, and all the state of New-Jersey and Staten Island, and so much of the state of New-York as now is or at any time may be included in the Bergen and Hamburg Circuits.

Answer 9.

The New-York Conference shall include all the state of New-York not included in the Genesee and Philadelphia Conferences, and those parts of Connecticut and Massachusetts west of Connecticut River; also that part of Vermont lying west of the Green Mountains, and that part of Lower Canada between Lakes Champlain and Magog.

Answer 10.

The New-England Conference shall include the remaining part of Vermont and all the New-England states east of Connecticut River, and that part of Lower Canada east of Lake Magog.

Answer 11.

The Genesee Conference shall include the Oneida, Genesee, Chenango, Seneca, and Upper and Lower Canada Districts, the Chataque and Lake Circuits, heretofore belonging to the Ohio Conference, and that part of the Susquehanna District not included in the Baltimore Conference.

Answer 12.

*Resolved*, That the following words be inserted as the answer to the eighth question of the third section chapter first of our book of Discipline, viz.: "There shall be twelve conferences in the year."—See second part, section one.

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, That the bishops be, and are hereby authorized, by and with the advice and consent of the New-England Conference, to form a new conference in the eastern part of the New-England Conference, in the interval between this and the next General Conference, if they shall judge it to be expedient.

New confer-  
ences.

Moved, &c., that the report on the local preachers be taken up. Lost.

The order of the day was called for. The motion relating to the election of the presiding elders was by vote deferred until to-morrow morning, in order to take up the resolution submitted yesterday by brother Cooper and seconded by brother Emory; when it was moved by brother Asbury, and seconded by brother Drake, that the words "three times" be stricken out, and the word "twice" be inserted. The amendment was withdrawn.

Moved, &c., that the motion lie on the table, to make way for a resolution read by Brother Rossel.



May 18.

Ten minutes before eleven o'clock Bishop Roberts took the chair.

The question was taken on laying the motion on the table and carried—forty-five to thirty-seven.

The following resolution was submitted, signed, N. Bangs, Wm. Capers :—

Resolution on the election of presiding elders.

Moved, that three of the members who desire an election of the presiding elders, and an equal number of those who are opposed to any change of our present plan, be appointed a committee to confer with the bishops and the bishop elect upon that subject, and that they report to us whether any, and if any, what, alteration might be made to conciliate the wishes of the brethren upon this subject, and that they report to-morrow.

Moved, &c., to strike out the word "three." Lost—thirty to forty-three.

Moved, &c., to strike out the words "the bishops and the bishop elect."

A division of the question was called for. The question was taken on striking out the "bishops." Lost.

It was then taken on striking out "the bishop elect." Carried—forty to thirty-seven.

The question was taken on the passage of the resolution and carried.

Moved and seconded, that the report of the Committee on Local Preachers be taken up. Carried.

Report of the Committee on Local Preachers taken up.

The report of the committee being read, a communication from Dr. French, which had been laid on the table, was voted to be taken up now.

It was moved and seconded that the paper be now read. Carried.

The secretary proceeded in reading the document until the time of adjournment arrived, when a motion was made to continue the session until the paper be read. Lost.

Conference adjourned at twelve o'clock.

#### THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met, according to adjournment, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

The secretary, by the direction of the president, finished the reading of the document signed John French.

Report on local preachers.

The conference then took up, one by one, the resolutions offered in the report of the Committee on Local Preachers.

Moved, that the word "chairman" be stricken out and the word "president" be inserted in its place. Carried.

Moved, &c., to amend the resolution by striking out the word "two" and inserting the word "four." Signed, J. Axley, H. Ryan. Lost.

Moved and seconded, that the resolution be recommitted. Lost.

Before the question was taken on its final passage the following resolution was submitted, signed, Wm. Ryland, J. Smith :—

May 18.

*Resolved, &c.*, That it shall be the duty of the local preachers' conference to make minutes of their proceedings, which, in case of appeal, shall be produced at the annual conference. Withdrawn.

The question on the passage of the whole was taken, and carried.

RESOLUTIONS ON LOCAL PREACHERS.

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, That there shall be held annually in each presiding elder's district a district conference, of which all the local preachers in the district who shall have been licensed two years shall be members, and of which the presiding elder of the district for the time being shall be president, or, in case of his absence, the conference shall have authority to elect a president *pro tem*. It shall be the duty of the presiding elder of each district to appoint the time and place of the first conference, after which the presiding elder shall appoint the time, and the conference the place, of its own sitting.

Resolutions on local preachers. First.

*Resolved, &c.*, That the district conference shall have authority to license proper persons to preach and renew their license, to recommend suitable candidates to the annual conference for deacons' or elders' orders in the local communion, for admission on trial in the travelling communion, and to try, suspend, expel, or acquit any local preacher in the district against whom charges may be brought: *Provided*, that no person shall be licensed without being first recommended by the quarterly conference of the circuit or station to which he belongs; nor shall any one be licensed to preach, or recommended to the annual conference for ordination, without first being examined in the district conference on the subject of doctrine and discipline.

Second.

*Resolved, &c.*, That the district conference shall take cognizance of all the local preachers in the district, and shall inquire into the gifts, labours, and usefulness of each preacher by name.

Third.

*Resolved, &c.*, That when charges are preferred against any local preacher, it shall be the duty of the preacher in charge to call a committee, consisting of three or more local preachers within the station, circuit, or district, before whom it shall be the duty of the accused to appear, and by whom he shall be acquitted, or, if found guilty, be suspended until the meeting of the next district conference.

Fourth.

*Resolved, &c.*, That our form of Discipline, so far as relates to local preachers, be so altered as to be rendered conformable with this report.

Fifth.

May 18.  
Resolutions on  
local preachers  
concluded.

*Resolved, &c.,* That the Committee on Local Preachers be requested to carry the last resolution into effect. Carried.

*Resolved, &c.,* That the usual trial for two years required of preachers who enter the travelling connexion may not be required of those who are elders. Signed, W. Capers, J. Smith.

Moved and seconded that it lie on the table. Carried.  
Conference adjourned.

May 18.

### FRIDAY, MAY 19.

Conference met at eight o'clock, and was opened with the usual exercises. The list of members was called, and the Journals of yesterday were read and approved.

The regular call was made for papers.

The committees were called on for their reports.

Report of the  
Book Com-  
mittee.

Brother M. Ruter, chairman of the Book Committee, made a report, (No. 35,) which was read.

Moved and seconded to take up the report. Carried.

On reading the third resolution, the following amendment was moved:—

“In order to secure the property of the Concern permanently to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in conformity to the rules and regulations which now are or hereafter may be in our Discipline upon that subject. Signed, N. Bangs, J. B. Finley. Carried.

A division of the sixth resolution was called for, ending at the words “due from them.” Carried.

The question was taken on the first part. Carried.

Moved, &c., to amend the eighth resolution by inserting the following words after the word “magazine:” “on the terms recommended by the late circular of the editors.” Lost.

Moved, &c., to add the following: “and every preacher who obtains subscribers shall be responsible to his presiding elder at the end of the year for all the numbers he sends for.” Signed, N. Bangs, M. Ruter.

Bishop Roberts  
in the chair.

At eleven o'clock Bishop Roberts took the chair.

Moved and seconded, that the eighth resolution and the amendment under discussion lie on the table. Lost.

The question was taken on the amendment and carried—forty-three to thirty-one.

Moved and seconded to insert the word “responsible” between the words “obtained” and “subscribers.” Carried.

Before the question was taken on the passage of the resolution for the purpose of bringing it in a more explicit form. Carried.

Moved and seconded, that the committee be instructed

to examine the circular issued by the book agents, respecting the publication of the magazine, and to report on it to the conference. Carried.

May 12.

Moved and seconded to call up the motion respecting the election of presiding elders. No vote was taken on it, the chair having decided that it will be in order to take it up hereafter.

Conference adjourned at twelve o'clock.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met, according to adjournment, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

Leave was asked by the chairman of the committee, brother Cooper, appointed yesterday to confer with the bishops on the subject relating to the election of the presiding elders, to report. Leave being given, he made the following:—

Report of the committee appointed to confer with the bishops relating to the election of presiding elders.

“The committee appointed to confer with the bishops on a plan to conciliate the wishes of the brethren on the subject of choosing presiding elders, recommend to the conference the adoption of the following resolutions, to be inserted in their proper place in our Discipline:—

“*Resolved, &c.*, 1. That whenever, in any annual conference, there shall be a vacancy or vacancies in the office of presiding elder, in consequence of his period of service of four years having expired, or the bishop wishing to remove any presiding elder, or by death, resignation, or otherwise, the bishop or president of the conference, having ascertained the number wanted from any of these causes, shall nominate three times the number, out of which the conference shall elect by ballot, without debate, the number wanted: *Provided*, when there is more than one wanted not more than three at a time shall be nominated, nor more than one at a time elected: *Provided*, also, that in case of any vacancy or vacancies in the office of presiding elder in the interval of any annual conference, the bishop shall have authority to fill the said vacancy or vacancies until the ensuing annual conference.

Resolutions.

“*Resolved, &c.*, 2. That the presiding elders be, and hereby are, made the advisory counsel of the bishop or president of the conference in stationing the preachers. Signed, Ezekiel Cooper, Stephen G. Rossel, N. Bangs, J. Wells, J. Emory, Wm. Capers.”

The report being read, it was moved and seconded to adopt the report.

The first resolution being read, the question was taken on it and carried—sixty-one to twenty-five.

The question was taken on the second resolution as amended, with the consent of the committee. Carried.

The question was taken on their final passage, and carried.

Report adopted.

May 18:  
Resolutions re-  
committed to  
the same com-  
mittee.

Leave of ab-  
sence granted  
J. Soule.

Leave of ab-  
sence granted  
J. Emory and  
James Ridg-  
way.

Report of the  
Book Com-  
mittee re-  
sumed.

Moved and seconded, that the resolutions be recommitted to the same committee, in order to be incorporated in that section of the Discipline relating to the presiding elders. Carried.

Brother Joshua Soule requested leave of absence for this afternoon. Granted.

Brothers John Emory and James Ridgway also requested leave of absence. Granted.

Moved and seconded to take up the unfinished business of this morning. Carried.

The residue of the report of the Book Committee was taken up.

The ninth resolution under consideration. The question was taken and carried—forty-two to eighteen.

Moved and seconded to amend the tenth resolution by adding "and Book Committee." Carried.

Moved and seconded, that the twelfth resolution be amended by striking out "\$800" and making it "\$1,000." Carried.

Moved and seconded to amend the fourteenth resolution by leaving brother Colbert to pay the principal any time before the next General Conference. Lost.

The resolution was then adopted.

The last resolution under consideration. The time to adjourn came before the question was taken on the same.

May 20.

## SATURDAY, MAY 20.

Conference met at eight o'clock, and was opened with reading, singing, and prayer. The roll was called. The Journals were read and corrected.

Bishop George took the chair.

The eighth rule was complied with in calling for papers.

Communication  
from D. Hitt,  
formerly book-  
agent.

One (marked No. 36) from brother Daniel Hitt, formerly book-agent, was read by brother Roszel. Ordered to be laid on the table.

The select committees were called on for reports.

Report of Book  
Committee on  
the eighth reso-  
lution.

One (No. 37) was read by brother Ruter, chairman of the Book Committee, to whom was recommitted the eighth resolution of their former report. No. 37 is offered in lieu of the same.

Leave of ab-  
sence granted  
to brother  
Ryan.

Brother Ryan begged leave of absence for the remainder of the day. Granted.

Moved and seconded, that the seventeenth resolution of the report be amended by inserting the following words after "the books:" "other than those published by our Concern, or such as are recommended by an annual conference."

Leave of ab-  
sence granted  
D. Asbury.

Mr. Daniel Asbury asked leave of absence for the remainder of the day. Granted.

Brother Hall asked leave of absence. Granted.

The question was taken on the amendment. Lost.

The question was taken on the original resolution and carried.

Half-past ten o'clock Bishop Roberts took the chair.

The following resolution was submitted, signed, S. Merwin, N. Bangs :—

*Resolved*, That the sum of one thousand dollars be paid out of the funds of the Book Concern to brother Joshua Soule, as an additional remuneration for his services as book-agent for the four years past. Carried.

The resolutions were then read, and the question being taken on their final passage, was carried.

May 26.  
Leave of absence granted Brother Hall.

Additional remuneration to Joshua Soule.

RESOLUTIONS ON THE BOOK CONCERN.

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, 1. That it is expedient for the Book Concern to be located at the city of New-York.

*Resolved, &c.*, 2. That the book-agents be authorized, if they should judge it advisable at any time between this and the next General Conference, with the advice and consent of the superintendents and Book Committee, to purchase a suitable lot of ground in New-York city, and, so far as they can do it without going further into debt, to erect buildings thereon proper for the use of the Concern.

*Resolved, &c.*, 3. That the superintendents be authorized and requested, with the assistance of the agents and Book Committee, if they shall jointly judge it expedient and necessary, to adopt some measures for the purpose of obtaining an incorporation or incorporations for the better security of the stock of the Concern permanently to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in conformity to the rules and regulations which now are or hereafter may be in our Discipline upon that subject.

*Resolved, &c.*, 4. That the book-agents shall have authority to obtain insurance on property belonging to the Concern so far as they may judge it expedient.

*Resolved, &c.*, 5. That the agents be authorized, in cases of cash payments for books, to make a discount of twenty-five per cent., and in all other sales it shall be the same as heretofore.

*Resolved, &c. &c.* That it shall be the duty of all presiding elders having accounts open with the Concern to pay over to the agents annually, or oftener, all the money in their hands, or which may be due from them, rendering at the same time an account of all the books remaining in their districts unsold; and it shall be the duty of preachers in circuits and stations having accounts with the presiding elder to make settlements and render payments in a similar way.

Resolutions on the Book Concern.

May 20.  
Resolutions on  
the Book Con-  
cern continued.

*Resolved, &c., 7.* That necessity and expediency require immediate exertion in every annual conference in furnishing materials for the Magazine; and that it is not only the duty of each conference to appoint a committee on this subject, but to see that they do the duty assigned them.

*Resolved, &c., 8.* That it shall be the duty of every preacher of a circuit or station to use his influence to obtain subscribers for the Magazine, to record the names and places of abode of all the subscribers he obtains in a suitable book, which shall be lodged in the hands of a steward, and the names reported by him to the presiding elder of the district; and the presiding elder shall, as soon as may be, report the number thus obtained to the agents at New-York. No person shall subscribe for a shorter time than one year, and each subscriber shall pay the price of one year's subscription on the delivery of the first number.

*Resolved, &c., 9.* That it shall be the duty of the editor of our Magazine to place a portrait of some one of the preachers of our connexion in each volume of the work.

*Resolved, &c., 10.* That the publication of a tune-book be left discretionary with the book-agents and Book Committee.

*Resolved, &c., 11.* That the request of the Messrs. Harper for the privilege of printing for the Book Concern be referred to the agents, to be granted or refused, as they may judge expedient.

*Resolved, &c., 12.* That the sum of \$1,000 be paid brother Thomas Mason out of the book fund, as an additional compensation for his services during the last three years.

*Resolved, &c., 13.* That the request of brother Andrew Prindle, of the Genesee Conference, praying to be exonerated from a debt of \$61 53, due from him to the Book Concern, be granted.

*Resolved, &c., 14.* That the petition of brother William Colbert, requesting to be released from his obligation to pay the interest on the sum of \$178 51, which has been due for many years, be granted him on condition that he shall pay the principal by the first day of July, 1821.

*Resolved, &c., 15.* That the request made for sister Parker, widow of our late brother Samuel Parker, deceased, that she may be released from paying a debt of \$337 77½, be granted.

*Resolved, &c., 16.* That it is inconsistent to grant the request of our brother Henry Boehm, praying to be released from the payment of \$80 of book money which had been stolen from him—forty-four to nineteen.

*Resolved, &c., 17.* That it is highly improper for preachers belonging to our connexion to sell or circulate books containing doctrines contrary to those we preach.

*Resolved, &c., 18.* That the book-agents shall have liberty to publish any new work not before published by us which shall be approved and recommended by the Book Committee at New-York.

May 30.  
Resolutions on  
the Book Con-  
cern continued.

*Resolved, &c., 19.* That an additional book-agent shall be appointed, whose duty it shall be to reside in Cincinnati, and manage the Concern in the western country under the direction of the editor at New-York, and who, by virtue of his appointment, shall be a member of the Ohio Annual Conference, under the same regulations by which the agents at New-York are members of the New-York Annual Conference.

*Resolved, &c., 20.* That the section in our Discipline on page one hundred and seventy-eight be so altered as to be made conformable with the eighteenth and nineteenth resolutions in this report.

*Resolved, &c., 21.* That the Ohio Conference shall appoint a committee of three, whose duty it shall be to examine the accounts of said agents and report to the said conference annually; and in case of the death or resignation of the agent, the Ohio Conference shall have authority to appoint a successor until the sitting of the ensuing General Conference.

*Resolved, &c., 22.* That the book-agents shall make out the bills of all the books at the retail price, subtracting the commission of eighteen per cent. from the aggregate amount of said bill.

Moved and seconded, that the memorial of brother Daniel Hitt, presented and read, be now taken up. Carried.

Memorial of D.  
Hitt taken up.

The memorial was read. It was then moved and seconded to postpone acting on it until the next General Conference. Withdrawn.

Moved, &c., that the sum specified in the memorial be granted.

Moved, &c., that we sit until one o'clock. Carried.

Session prolonged.

Moved, &c., that brothers Soule and Mason be requested to give such information as they possess on the subject of the memorial.

The question was taken on the motion to grant the sum claimed. Negated.

Moved and seconded to reconsider the fourth and fifth resolutions in the report on Canada affairs. Carried.

Moved and seconded, that the fourth resolution be stricken out, and also so much of the fourth resolution as precedes the words "and authority," and the following be substituted: "that the episcopacy be required, if practicable, to send a delegate to the British Conference at their next session in July, and furnish him with the necessary instructions, and also to draw on the Book Concern for the amount necessary to defray such expenses.



May 20.  
Motion to meet  
at eight o'clock  
on Monday  
morning.

Moved, &c., that when we meet it shall be at eight o'clock on Monday morning.  
Conference adjourned until eight o'clock on Monday morning.

May 22.

### MONDAY, MAY 22.

Conference met at eight o'clock, according to adjournment, and was opened as usual. Bishop Roberts took the chair. The roll was called, and the Journal corrected.

No papers were presented when the call was made.

The select committees were next called on.

Report on Slavery.

One (marked No. 38) from the committee appointed on the subject of slavery was presented by brother E. Cooper, chairman of the same, in place of No. 16, formerly reported by the same committee.

Laid on the table.

Moved and seconded, that it be laid on the table. Carried.

Unfinished business laid on the table.

Moved and seconded, that the unfinished business of Saturday be laid on the table. Carried.

Election of general book-steward.

Moved, &c., that we now proceed to elect the editor and general book-steward. Carried.

N. Bangs elected.

On counting the votes, N. Bangs had fifty, J. Emory thirty-six, John Scrips one. N. Bangs was declared duly elected.

Moved and seconded, that we now proceed to elect an assistant book-steward. Carried.

T. Mason elected assistant book-steward.

On counting the votes, Thomas Mason was elected, having ninety-nine votes, and J. Emory four—there were three scattering.

Leave of absence granted Bishop George.

Bishop George requested leave of absence, being indisposed.

Moved and seconded, that we now proceed to elect an agent for the Book Concern in Cincinnati.

On the first ballot there was no election, M. Ruter having only forty-one votes, Marcus Lindsey thirty-nine, and there were six scattering.

On the second ballot there were eighty-five votes, of which number M. Ruter had forty-three, M. Lindsey forty-one, and one scattering. Martin Ruter was declared elected.

Martin Ruter elected agent in Cincinnati.

Moved and seconded, that we now fix the salaries of the agents. Carried.

Salaries of book-agents.

Different sums were proposed for the editor and the general book-steward. His salary was fixed at \$1,200 per annum. The salary of the assistant was fixed at \$900 per annum. The salary of the agent for Cincinnati was fixed at \$800 per annum.

Ruter's expenses in moving to Cincinnati.

Moved and seconded, that brother Ruter's expenses in moving to Cincinnati shall be paid out of the Concern, after it has been audited and allowed by the Book Committee there. Carried.

Moved and seconded, to call up the unfinished business relating to the Canada affairs, which, by a vote of conference this morning, was directed to be laid on the table. Carried.

May 22.  
Canada Affairs.

Brother Ryan commenced speaking on the subject, and continued until his fifteen minutes were expired. Leave was given him to proceed.

The motion which was submitted on Saturday, relating to the sending of a delegate to the British Conference, was now taken up, and so amended as to read as follows:—

“That the episcopacy be requested, if practicable, to send a delegate to the British Conference at their next session in July, or at any time thereafter, and furnish him with the necessary instructions, and also to draw on the Book Concern for the amount necessary to defray such expense.”

Delegate to the British Conference.

The question was taken on it and carried.

At the request of the late president of the Asbury College, it was moved and seconded that a committee be appointed to hear such statements respecting the Asbury College as Dr. Jennings and any of the trustees may wish to make, and to report to this conference. Signed, Martin Ruter, S. G. Roszel. Carried.

Committee appointed to receive statements concerning Asbury College.

A committee of three were appointed: E. Cooper, M. Ruter, and N. Bangs.

Committee.

Moved, &c., that the report of the Committee on Rights and Privileges on the case of Michael Burdge be taken up. Signed, W. Capers, L. Grant.

Report of the Committee on Rights and Privileges.

The report of the committee being read, it was moved and seconded to continue the present session fifteen minutes longer. Carried.

It was moved, &c., that when a travelling preacher is divested of his ministerial character by the vote of an annual conference, it is in effect an expulsion from the travelling connexion, and ought to be so returned in the Minutes. Signed, D. Ostrander, J. Collins.

At a quarter past twelve o'clock conference adjourned.

MONDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

The motion submitted in the forenoon session by brother Ostrander was withdrawn.

The report of the committee on the case of Michael Burdge was again read.

It was moved and seconded that the report be recommended. Lost.

Report of the committee on M. Burdge's case.

Resolved, &c., That the course pursued by the Genesee Conference in the case of brother Burdge was equivalent to expulsion, and therefore he is entitled to an appeal.

A division of the question was called for at the word “expulsion.” Before the question was taken on the division the motion was withdrawn.

May 23.  
Case of Michael  
Burdge.

It was then moved and seconded, that the further consideration of the report of the committee on the case of Michael Burdge be indefinitely postponed. Carried.

*Resolved, &c.,* That a note be inserted in the printed Minutes, stating that Michael Burdge was not expelled from our Church, but was deposed from the travelling connexion and dispossessed of his ministerial office, and left as a private member of our Church. Withdrawn.

Subject postponed.

Moved and seconded, that the further consideration of this subject be postponed until to-morrow. Carried.

*Resolved, &c.,* That whenever a member of an annual conference is deprived of his ministerial character, a statement of his case should be made in answer to the twelfth question in the third section of chapter one in the Discipline. Signed, P. Anderson, M. Dance. Directed to be laid on the table.

*Resolved, &c.,* That the following question be inserted in the printed Minutes of the annual conferences, and also in the form of Discipline, under the title "Of the Annual Conferences," question tenth: "Who have been suspended this year for improper conduct?" Signed, K. Drake, Esekiel Cooper. Ordered to be laid on the table.

Report of the  
Committee on  
Slavery.

Moved and seconded, that the report of the Committee on Slavery be taken up. Carried.

The report was read.

Moved and seconded to adopt the report.

Laid on the  
table.

After some debate, it was moved and seconded that the report lie on the table until to-morrow morning. Carried.

The following resolution, signed, J. Axley, L. M'Combs, was submitted:—

Local and travelling  
preachers and slave-  
holding.

*Resolved, &c.,* That no person shall hereafter be licensed as a local preacher or exhorter, nor shall the annual conference receive any one as a travelling preacher on trial or into the travelling connexion, who holds slaves.

Before the question was taken conference adjourned, at six o'clock.

May 23.

## TUESDAY, MAY 23.

At eight o'clock conference met, according to adjournment, and was opened as usual. Bishop George was present and took the chair.

The roll was called, and the Journals were corrected.

No papers were presented when the call was made, according to the eighth rule.

The select committees were called on for their reports.

Report on  
Houses of Wor-  
ship.

One was presented by brother Rossel, chairman of the Committee on Houses of Worship, reporting the arrangement of the resolutions which had been adopted in a former part of the session.

The report, on motion, was directed to be referred to the committee who shall be appointed to arrange, in the form of Discipline, the resolutions which have been or may be passed in this General Conference.

May 22.

The unfinished business of yesterday was called up.

It was moved and seconded that we now resolve ourselves into a committee of the whole, in order to discuss the subject of slavery. Lost.

It was then, by vote, determined to take up the resolution offered yesterday afternoon in preference to the report of the Committee on Slavery.

This resolution was withdrawn, to make room for the amendment offered by brother Reed and seconded by brother Ryland.

Moved, &c., to strike out all that provisional clause in the first answer to the question, commencing at the words, "when," &c., to the end of the first answer.

The resolution being under consideration, brother Cartwright spoke fifteen minutes. Leave was given him to proceed.

Bishop Roberts took the chair near half-past ten o'clock.

Brother Samuel Dunwoody spoke the time allowed. Leave was given him to go on.

The debate on the subject under consideration was suspended, to allow Bishop M'Kendree to make a communication to the General Conference.

The communication being ended, Bishop Roberts prayed, and Bishop M'Kendree pronounced his benediction on the conference and withdrew.

The discussion of the former subject being resumed, brother James Smith spoke until twelve o'clock.

It was moved and seconded that the conference sit until he has finished his speech. Carried.

Conference adjourned at ten minutes past twelve o'clock.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met, according to adjournment.

Brother Lindsey took the floor and spoke fifteen minutes. He received permission to go on.

Debate on slavery continued.

Brother Griffin spoke his fifteen minutes. Leave was given him to go on.

Brother Marcus Lindsey asked leave of absence for the remainder of the session. Not granted.

Moved and seconded, that the motion under debate be laid on the table, to make room for one which brother Oestander wished to offer.

The galleries were cleared, and the house closed before the question was taken to lay the proposition on the table.

The question was then taken on laying the former subject, which had been so long debated, on the table. Carried.

May 28.

The following was submitted, signed, D. Ostrander, James Smith :—

Resolution on J. Soule's case of resignation.

Whereas brother Joshua Soule, bishop elect, has signified in his letter to the episcopacy, which letter was read in open conference, that if he be ordained bishop he will not hold himself bound to be governed by a certain resolution of this General Conference relative to the nomination and election of presiding elders; wherefore,

*Resolved, &c.*, That the bishops be earnestly requested by this conference to defer or postpone the ordination of the said Joshua Soule until he gives satisfactory explanations to this conference.

After some debate, brother Soule made some remarks.

Presiding-elder question.

Moved and seconded, that this resolution be indefinitely postponed. Before the question was taken on this motion the resolution was withdrawn.

Moved and seconded to reconsider the question respecting the election of the presiding elders. Signed, J. Collins, S. K. Hodges.

Conference adjourned at six o'clock, without coming to any decision.

May 24.

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 24.

Conference met, according to adjournment, and was opened in the usual way. Bishop George was present and took the chair.

The roll was called, and the Journals were read and corrected.

A call was made for papers. There were none offered.

The standing and select committees were called on.

Report of the Committee on Asbury College.

Brother E. Cooper, chairman of a committee appointed to receive information from the late principal of Asbury College, stated that the committee had an interview with the said principal, and as the General Conference had passed some resolves on the subject of seminaries which superseded the necessity of any further propositions or proceedings between the conference and the said late principal or trustees of Asbury College; therefore

*Resolved*, That the committee be discharged from any further proceedings on the subject.

The unfinished business of yesterday was taken up.

The resolution respecting the election of the presiding elders being read, before the question was taken on the resolution the following motion was submitted, signed, E. Cooper, L. M'Combs.

Expenses of delegates.

It was moved and seconded that the committee, to whom was referred the expenses of the delegates to this General Conference, be instructed to draw on the Book Concern for — dollars, to meet the amount of said expenses.

Ordered that this last resolution be laid on the table.

Moved and seconded, that the further consideration of the question for reconsideration be postponed until to-morrow, to give time for deliberation and consultation in a course proper to be pursued to promote peace and conciliation.

May 24.  
Presiding-elder  
question, and  
J. Soule's resig-  
nation.

The question was taken on this resolution and lost—forty to forty-five.

Twenty minutes past nine o'clock Bishop Roberts took the chair.

Brother M'Combs spoke against the motion for reconsideration fifteen minutes. Leave was given him to proceed.

Bishop George took the chair eight minutes before ten o'clock.

Brother Joseph Smith spoke fifteen minutes against reconsideration. Conference agreed that he should go on.

The resolution being under debate, it was suggested by brother Reed that if we go into the ordination of brother Soule it was now time to rise for that object.

Five minutes before eleven o'clock brother Joshua Soule rose and expressed a wish that the General Conference should, by vote, request the episcopacy to delay his ordination for some time. No order was taken on the subject.

At eleven o'clock Bishop Roberts took the chair, and the debate went on on the motion for reconsideration.

Brother Sias spoke against reconsideration for fifteen minutes. Leave was given him to go on.

The question was called for seven minutes before twelve o'clock, but, on counting the members, there was not a quorum.

Bishop George stated that the episcopacy had deferred the ordination of brother Joshua Soule to some future period.

Ordination of J.  
Soule deferred.

Conference adjourned to meet at three o'clock.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met, and on calling the roll there were only four absent. Bishop Roberts in the chair.

The subject which had been debated still being under consideration, it was moved and seconded that the above resolution for reconsideration lie on the table, in order that we might go into a committee of the whole. This was withdrawn.

Presiding-elder  
question con-  
tinued.

Moved and seconded, that the vote be taken by ballot. Carried—forty-five to thirty-five.

On counting the ballots there were forty-three yeas and forty-three nays.

A second vote was taken, and, on counting, the votes were the same—forty-three to forty-three.

May 24.

The chair pronounced it was not carried, inasmuch as there was not a majority.

Subject of Slavery taken up.

Moved and seconded, that we take up the subject of slavery. Carried.

The resolution offered by brother Reed was again read, and debated until six o'clock. No decision was taken.

May 25.

## THURSDAY, MAY 25.

Conference met at eight o'clock, and was opened in the usual form. The roll was called, and the Journals read and corrected. Bishop George was present and took the chair.

Papers were called for, according to the rules of the house.

The standing and select committees were also called on. No report was offered.

Secretary ordered to present the local preachers a copy of the resolutions passed on their case. Unfinished business of yesterday.

Moved and seconded, that the secretary be permitted to give the local preachers of this city a copy of those resolutions which have been passed relating to their case. Carried.

The unfinished business of yesterday was taken up and debated.

Moved and seconded, that the vote be taken by ballot. Withdrawn.

The question was taken on the motion offered by brother Reed relating to slavery, and lost.

Report on Slavery read.

The report of the committee on the subject of slavery, offered in lieu of a former one which had been recommitted, was read.

Leave of absence granted broth. Thompson.

Brother Thompson asked leave of absence. Granted.

Moved and seconded, that the report be indefinitely postponed. Carried.

Moved, &c., that we proceed immediately to fix the place of the sitting of the next General Conference. Signed, D. Ostrander, E. Smith. Ordered to be laid on the table.

Committee on Missions report. Time fixed for the ordination of J. Soule.

Moved and seconded, that the report of the Committee on Missions be taken up. Carried.

Bishop George informed the conference that the ordination of brother Soule would take place at twelve o'clock to-day in this house.

Communication from J. Soule.

Brother Joshua Soule presented a communication in which he stated his resignation of the office of a bishop in the Methodist Episcopal Church, to which he had been elected.

On motion, ordered that the letter be laid on the table.

Moved and seconded, that we dispense with the reading of the preamble of the report on missions, and take up the resolutions. Carried.

Half-past ten o'clock Bishop Roberts took the chair.

In passing the resolutions, the thirteenth article was

ordered to be recommitted. The rest of the resolutions were passed.

The following was submitted :—

*Resolved, &c.,* That no annual conference shall receive any aid from the missionary fund for the support of missionaries within its bounds unless such annual conference establish a conference society, auxiliary to the parent institution, and also use its influence to establish branch societies in its stations and circuits. Lost.

*Resolved, &c.,* That the second answer to the first question in the ninth section of the first part of our Discipline be altered so as to read, "To renew the tickets for the admission of members into love-feast quarterly, and to regulate the bands." Carried.

Moved and seconded to take up the motion fixing the place of the next General Conference. Withdrawn.

Moved and seconded to take up the report on the Life of Bishop Asbury. Carried.

The report was read.

The first resolution being read, was amended and passed.

Brother Thomas Mason, assistant secretary, requested leave of absence for the remainder of the session. Granted.

Conference adjourned at twelve o'clock.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

At the opening of the conference brother Joshua Soule expressed a wish that the conference would come to a decision on his letter of resignation, offered this morning.

Moved and seconded, that brother Joshua Soule be requested to withdraw his resignation. This motion was withdrawn.

Moved and seconded, that this conference do not express their decision on the subject before to-morrow morning. Carried.

The report of the Committee on the Life of Bishop Asbury was taken up.

The blank in the first resolution was filled with "three."

The third resolution was stricken out.

The fourth resolution was lost.

The fifth resolution was amended and passed.

The question was taken on the final passage of the resolutions, and carried.

RESOLUTIONS ON THE LIFE OF BISHOP ASBURY.

*Resolved, &c.,* 1. That a committee of three be appointed by this conference to assist Dr. Jennings in furnishing such further facts and information as may be obtained respecting Bishop Asbury, and in revising the manuscript, the better to fit it for the press.

*Resolved, &c.,* 2. That so soon as the Life of Bishop

May 25.  
Resolutions on  
Missions taken  
up.

Report on the  
Life of Bishop  
Asbury.

Leave of ab-  
sence granted  
to T. Mason.

Case of J. Soule.

Report on Bish-  
op Asbury's  
Life taken up.

Resolutions on  
Bishop Asbu-  
ry's Life.



May 25.  
Life of Asbury.

Asbury shall be ready for the press, it shall be put into the hands of the book-agents for publication.

*Resolved, &c.*, 3. That the sum of \$225, with the interest due for the use of it, which was advanced by brother S. G. Roedel for the purpose of defraying the expenses of preparing the manuscript, shall be paid him out of the book fund.

*Resolved, &c.*, 4. That when the Life of Bishop Asbury is prepared for the press and put into the hands of the book-agents, the book-agents and Book Committee shall determine what sum ought to be allowed to Dr. Jennings to remunerate him for his labour in writing said life, deducting therefrom the sum already paid to Dr. Jennings. Carried.

Moved and seconded, that the preachers in the circuits and stations be requested to furnish the committee appointed to aid Dr. Jennings in writing Bishop Asbury's Life with all the materials they can on the subject. Carried.

Change of Discipline.

Moved, the following amendment to the answer to the fifth question of section three of the second part of our Discipline, viz.: strike out "two" and insert "three," and strike out "four" and insert "seven," "one of which shall be the recording steward." Carried.

Committee on Missions report.

The Committee on Missions, to whom was recommended one of the resolutions discussed and submitted to them in the morning session, reported one in its stead, which was read.

The question was taken on the passage of the resolution and carried.

Moved and seconded to dispense with the reading of the report and resolutions previous to taking the vote on their final passage. Carried.

The question was taken on the final passage and carried.

Moved, that five hundred copies of the report of the committee on the Missionary Society, with the constitution as amended and adopted, be immediately printed for the delegates to take with them into the different parts of our work. Withdrawn.

Report of the Committee on Missions put into the hands of the corresponding secretary.

Moved and seconded, that the report of the Committee on Missions be put into the hands of the corresponding secretary of the parent institution, to be by him presented to the board of managers of that institution. Carried. It was immediately given to him.

Moved and seconded, that the chairman of the committee on the expenses of the preachers be permitted to report. Carried.

Report of the Committee on Expenses.

The report was read. The resolutions were acted on singly.

The first resolution being read, was discussed until near six o'clock.

Moved and seconded to lay the report of the committee on the table. Lost.

May 25.

Conference adjourned at six o'clock.

FRIDAY, MAY 26.

May 26.

Conference met, and commenced with the usual exercises. The roll was called, and after a long desultory conversation was corrected and passed.

Bishops George and Roberts were present. Bishop George took the chair.

According to the eighth rule, papers were called for.

The select and standing committees were also called on for reports. None were presented.

The unfinished business of yesterday was called up.

The first resolution in the report of the committee on the expenses of the members of the General Conference being read, it was moved and seconded that the resolution be amended by inserting the words "in future" after "delegation." This amendment was admitted, the resolution being under discussion.

Expenses of delegates.

The previous question was called for. It was asked: Shall the main question now be put? Carried.

The question was taken on the resolution as amended and carried.

The question was taken on the second resolution and lost.

The question was taken on the third resolution and passed.

The resolution offered by brothers E. Hedding and S. Sias was called up, and, with the consent of the mover, was amended by inserting, "and as far as may be."

Resolved, That the committee to whom was referred the expenses of the delegates to this General Conference be instructed to draw on the Book Concern for \$——, to meet, as far as may be, the amount of said expenses.

Committee on the Expenses of Delegates instructed to draw on the Book Concern.

Bishop Roberts took the chair five minutes before eleven o'clock.

The question was taken on the passage of the resolution and carried.

After various sums were proposed, it was moved and seconded to fill up the blank with \$1,000. Carried.

The blank in resolution filled with \$1,000.

Moved, that the rule passed at this conference respecting the nomination and election of presiding elders be suspended until the next General Conference, and that the superintendents be, and they are hereby directed to act under the old rule respecting the appointment of presiding elders. Signed, Edward Cannon, Wm. M. Kennedy.

Rule respecting the nomination and election of presiding elders postponed.

Moved and seconded, that the above resolution be indefinitely postponed. It was doubted whether the resolution

- May 24. was in order. The resolution was admitted by the chair to be in order.  
 An appeal was made from the decision of the chair.  
 Moved and seconded to adjourn. Lost.
- Session prolonged. Moved and seconded, that we sit until one o'clock.  
 Carried.
- The question was taken on the point of order, and the decision of the chair was sustained.
- The question for postponement was not taken when conference adjourned, at one o'clock.

## FRIDAY AFTERNOON.

- Bishop Roberts in the chair.
- Resolutions on expenses of delegates. *Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, 1. That each annual conference shall meet the expense of their delegation in future in attending the General Conference.
- Resolved*, &c., 2. That each annual conference shall receive of the sum collected in proportion to the aggregate amounts of their expenses, including the expense of the horses, not embraced in the exhibit rendered. Adopted.
- Presiding-elder question. The resolution which had been submitted in the forenoon was again read and debated.
- Brother Alfred Griffith spoke fifteen minutes. Leave was given him to go on.
- The previous question being called for, Shall the main question now be put? it was withdrawn.
- The question on indefinite postponement was taken—thirty-nine to forty-four.
- The resolution being under debate, brother Hedding spoke fifteen minutes, and was allowed to go on by permission of conference.
- Brother Bangs continued his speech fifteen minutes. Leave was given him to go on.
- Moved and seconded, that the motion under consideration be laid on the table. Carried.
- Bishop George took the chair.
- Leave of absence granted brother Ruter. Brother Ruter asked leave of absence for this afternoon. Granted.
- J. Soule tenders his resignation by letter. The letter of brother Soule to this General Conference, in which he tendered his resignation, being called for and read, it was moved and seconded that the conference accept the resignation. Withdrawn.
- Requested to withdraw his resignation. Moved, that brother Soule be, and hereby is requested to withdraw his resignation, and comply with the wishes of his brethren in submitting to be ordained. Signed, S. G. Roszel, Samuel K. Hodges. Carried.
- Session prolonged. Moved and seconded, that we sit one hour longer. Carried.
- Brother Soule, having come into conference, again

stated his purpose to resign. His resignation was accepted.

May 26.  
Brother Soule's resignation accepted.

An adjournment was moved and seconded. Lost.

Ten minutes after six o'clock Bishop Roberts took the chair.

The previous question being called for, Shall the main question now be put? it was carried.

The question was taken on the motion by dividing the house—forty-five to thirty-five.

Moved and seconded to fix the place of the next General Conference. Carried.

Moved to fix the place of the next General Conference.

The places in nomination were New-York, Philadelphia, Georgetown, and Pittsburgh.

Moved and seconded, that the seat of the conference be fixed by a majority of votes—thirty-five to thirty-three.

Baltimore fixed as the place of meeting.

The votes were taken. On the second count Baltimore had thirty-seven, Georgetown thirty-two, and there were two scattering.

Conference adjourned at five minutes past seven o'clock.

SATURDAY, MAY 27.

May 27.

Conference met at ten minutes past eight o'clock. The roll was called, and the Journals corrected.

Bishops George and Roberts were present. Bishop George took the chair.

Moved and seconded, that the thanks of this conference be given the superintendents, by a rising vote, for their faithful services during the session. Carried unanimously.

Vote of thanks to the superintendents.

Moved and seconded, that the thanks of this conference be given to the secretary for his services. Carried.

Vote of thanks given to the secretary.

Moved, &c., that the first resolution on the Canada affairs be reconsidered. Carried.

Canada Affairs.

Moved and seconded, that the resolution be amended by adding as follows: "provided, nevertheless, that the episcopacy shall have authority to negotiate with the British Conference respecting Lower Canada in the way and manner they shall see fit." Carried.

Moved and seconded, that brother Case have privilege to take any extracts from the Journals, or copies of any documents on the subject of the Canadas which may be thought proper for the use of the delegates. Carried.

Privilege given brother Case to take extracts from Journal.

Brother Emory asked leave of absence for the remainder of the session. Granted.

Leave of absence granted brother Emory. Letter intended for the British Conference.

A letter, intended to be sent to the British Conference, was read in conference. On motion, the letter was accepted.

Moved, that we immediately proceed to elect a general superintendent. Signed, J. Wells, Wm. Capers.

Moved, &c., that it lie on the table. Lost.

- May 27.  
Committee to  
revise the Dis-  
cipline.
- The motion was then withdrawn.  
*Resolved, &c.,* That the superintendents who shall attend the New-York Conference, and ——, be a committee to revise the form of Discipline, and conform it to the regulations and resolutions of this conference. Carried.  
The blank was filled up with "three."  
Moved, &c., to take up the appeal of Michael Burdge. Carried.
- Case of Michael  
Burdge refer-  
red to the  
Genesee Con-  
ference.
- Moved, that the case of Michael Burdge be referred to the Genesee Conference, either to confirm his expulsion or correct the error in the last Minutes. Carried.  
The papers were delivered to brother Pearce, of the said conference.
- Case of Morris  
Howe.
- Moved, &c., to take up the case of Morris Howe, which had been laid on the table on the eighth instant. Carried.  
The papers were read, and the question taken on the former resolution, going to revise the decision of the Baltimore Annual Conference, and carried.  
The following was submitted:—  
Whereas a difference has arisen in the General Conference about the constitutionality of a certain resolution passed concerning the appointment of presiding elders; and whereas there does not appear to be any proper tribunal to judge of and determine such a question; and whereas it appears important to us that some course should be taken to determine this business, therefore  
*Resolved, &c.,* That we will advise, and hereby do advise the several annual conferences to pass such resolutions as will enable the next General Conference so to alter the constitution that whenever a resolution or motion which goes to alter any part of our Discipline is passed by the General Conference it shall be examined by the superintendent or superintendents; and if they, or a majority of them, shall judge it unconstitutional, they shall, within three days after its passage, return it to the conference with their objections to it in writing. And whenever a resolution is so returned, the conference shall reconsider it, and if it pass by a majority of two-thirds it shall be constitutional and pass into a law, notwithstanding the objections of the superintendents; and if it be not returned within three days, it shall be considered as not objected to and become a law. Carried.
- Resolution on  
the veto-power  
of the bishops.
- Locating a dis-  
cibedient preach-  
er.
- Resolved, &c.,* That the annual conferences have a right to locate any member, by a majority of two-thirds, that will not fill the relation given him by his conference, having, in the judgment of the conference, health sufficient for the purpose of filling said relation. Signed, S. G. Roszel, J. B. Finley.  
Moved, &c., to amend the resolution by erasing the word "locate" and inserting the word "expel."  
The question was taken on the amendment. Lost.

The previous question was called for, Shall the main question now be put? and carried.

May 27.

The question was taken on the resolution, and was lost.

"I desire a copy of the report of the Committee on the Book Concern, so far as that report goes, to approve my administration in that department. JOSHUA SOULE."

Brother Soule desires a copy of the report of the Committee on the Book Concern.

Moved, &c., that the secretary be authorized to give a copy of the above report. Carried.

Moved and seconded, that the secretary be authorized to give copies, to the episcopacy, of the decisions of the General Conference in the cases of brothers Burke, Burdge, Houston, and Howe. Carried.

Moved, the following amendments to the answer to the third question of section eighteen of chapter first of the form of Discipline, viz. :—

Amendment of Discipline as to appeals.

If the condemned person signify his intention to appeal at the time of his condemnation, or at any time thereafter, when he is informed of his condemnation, in all such trials it shall be the duty of the secretary of the annual conference to keep regular minutes of the trial, including all the questions proposed to the witnesses and their answers, together with the crime with which the accused is charged, the specification or specifications, and also preserve all the documents relating to the case; which minutes and documents, only, in case of an appeal from the decision of the annual conference, shall be presented to the General Conference in evidence in the case. And in all cases when an appeal is made and admitted by the General Conference, the appellant shall either state, personally or by representative, who shall be a member of conference, the ground of his appeal, showing cause why he appeals, and he shall be allowed to make his defence without interruption; after which the representatives of the annual conference, from whose decision the appeal is made, shall be permitted to respond in presence of the appellant, who shall have the privilege of replying to such representatives, which shall close the pleadings on both sides. This done, the appellant shall withdraw, and the conference shall decide. Carried.

Joshua Soule, Nathan Bangs, and Daniel Ostrander were appointed a committee to assist the episcopacy to revise the form of Discipline and conform it to the regulations and resolutions of this conference.

Committee to revise the form of the Discipline.

Moved, &c., to strike out the last sentence of the chapter on local preachers relating to spirituous liquors. Lost.

Moved, &c., that no member in our Church shall distil ardent spirits without forfeiting his standing.

Motion on distillation of ardent liquors.

Moved, &c., that the above resolution be indefinitely postponed. Carried.

Moved and seconded, that we continue the present session until two o'clock. Carried.

May 27.  
Report of the  
Committee on  
Expenses of  
Delegates, and  
distribution of  
money.

Moved, &c., that the Committee on Expenses be now permitted to report and distribute the moneys appropriated to the delegates. Carried.

New-York Conference.....	\$182 00
New-England Conference.....	292 97
Genesee Conference.....	196 00
Ohio Conference.....	300 00
Missouri Conference.....	62 50
Tennessee Conference.....	127 17
Mississippi Conference.....	102 50
South Carolina Conference.....	196 00
Virginia Conference.....	123 43
Baltimore Conference.....	37 50
Philadelphia Conference.....	53 12

\$1,673 19

Quarterly tick-  
ets.

*Resolved, &c.,* That the book-agents be, and are hereby instructed to print quarterly tickets for the use of our societies, which shall be sent to the order of the presiding elders, and shall be settled for at the agents' price. Carried.

Delegates for  
next General  
Conference.

Moved and seconded, that the next General Conference shall consist of one delegate for every seven members of the several annual conferences. Carried.

Vote of thanks  
returned to the  
brethren in the  
city.

Moved and seconded, that the thanks of this conference be returned to the brethren in this city, through the medium of the stationed preachers in the city, for their kind and hospitable treatment to the members of this General Conference. Carried.

Conference ad-  
journed.

Moved and seconded, that we now proceed to finish the Journal and adjourn until May 1, 1824.

ENOCH GEORGE,  
R. R. ROBERTS.

ALEXANDER M'CAINE, *Secretary.*

# JOURNAL

OF THE

## GENERAL CONFERENCE, 1824.

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SATURDAY, MAY 1.

May 1.

At a General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, begun and held in the city of Baltimore on Saturday, May 1, 1824, in which Bishops M'Kendree, George, and Roberts presided, the preachers assembled in the "M'Kendrian Female Sunday-school Room," and Bishop M'Kendree opened the conference by reading a portion of Scripture, singing, and prayer.

Conference assembled.

Opening of conference.

Bishop George then took the chair, and called on the members present to elect their secretary, when John Emory and Wm. Case were nominated, and, on taking the votes, brother Emory had fifty-four for and fifty-three against. He was therefore elected; but as brother Emory was not present, it was moved and carried that Thomas L. Douglass be appointed to act as secretary *pro tem.* until brother Emory can be seen, and information obtained whether or not he can serve.

Secretary appointed.

The delegates were then called for, commencing with the New-York Conference and taking them in their order, and the following members presented their certificates of election and took their seats, viz. :—

Delegates called.

*New-York Conference*—Freeborn Garrettson, Samuel Merwin, Nathan Bangs, E. Smith, Daniel Ostrander, Ebenezer Washburn, Peter P. Sandford, John B. Stratton, Henry Stead, Marvin Richardson, Stephen Martindale, Phineas Rice, Arnold Scofield, Laban Clark, William Ross—15.

*New-England Conference*—George Pickering, Elijah Hedding, Timothy Merritt, Enoch Mudge, Joseph A. Merrill, David Kilburn, John Lindsay, Wilbur Fisk, Elisha Streeter, Ebenezer Blake, Edward Hyde, Eleaser Wells, John W. Hardy, Benjamin R. Hoyt—14.

*Genesee Conference*—Fitch Reed, Joseph Baker, Wyatt Chamberlain, George Peck, Israel Chamberlayne, George W.



May 1.

Densmore, John P. Alverson, James Hall, Gideon Lanning, Isaac B. Smith, Loring Grant, Benjamin G. Paddock—12.

*Ohio Conference*—Charles Elliott, John F. Wright, Greenbury R. Jones, Martin Ruter, Charles Waddel, James B. Finley, Jacob Young, John Sale, James Quinn, John Waterman, R. Bigelow, David Young, John Strange—13.

*Kentucky Conference*—Jonathan Stamper, Thomas A. Morris, Charles Holliday, John Brown, Peter Cartwright, Richard Corwine, George M'Nelly, Marcus Lindsey—8.

*Missouri Conference*—William Beauchamp, David Sharp, Samuel H. Thompson, John Scripps, Jessé Walker—5.

*Tennessee Conference*—Hartwell H. Brown, Thomas Stringfield, William M'Mahon, Robert Paine, George Ekin, Joshua W. Kilpatrick, John Tevis, Thomas L. Douglass, Thomas Madden—9.

*Mississippi Conference*—Alexander Sale, William Winans, Daniel De Vinne—3.

*South Carolina Conference*—Lewis Myers, Nicholas Tally, Samuel K. Hodges, James Norton, William Capers, James O. Andrew, Samuel Dunwody, William M. Kennedy, Lovick Pierce, Joseph Travis, Henry Bass—11.

*Virginia Conference*—Caleb Leach, Lewis Skidmore, Hezekiah G. Leigh, Benjamin Devany, Henry Holmes, C. Drake, John Lattimore, William Compton, John C. Ballow—9.

*Baltimore Conference*—Andrew Hemphill, James M'Canis, Daniel Hitt, Joshua Soule, Joseph Frye, Henry Smith, Richard Tydings, Nelson Reed, Robert Burke, John Thomas, Christopher Frye, John Bear, Stephen G. Roszel—13.

*Philadelphia Conference*—Thomas Ware, Lawrence Lawrenson, Manning Force, Thomas Neal, Lawrence M'Combs, Ezekiel Cooper, John Smith, Jacob Moore, John Potts, Joseph Rusling, Charles Pitman, Alward White, James Smith—13.

Committee to  
superintend the  
preaching ap-  
pointments.

On motion of Stephen G. Roszel, the following brethren, viz., Joseph Frye, Joshua Soule, Andrew Hemphill, and Job Guest, were appointed a committee to superintend the business of appointing preachers to preach in this city during the sitting of conference.

Committee of  
three to draw  
up rules.

On motion of Wm. Capers, the conference voted that a committee of three members be appointed to draw off rules for the government of conference during its present session, and the president appointed William Capers, Joshua Soule, and George Pickering for that purpose; and it was further determined that the rules of the last General Conference should govern us in our proceedings until the report of the above committee should be received.

On motion of William Capers, *Resolved*, That it is desirable that the conference should occupy a more airy and

convenient room, and that the committee appointed to manage the appointing of preachers to preach be instructed to make arrangements for the removal of our sitting to the Butaw Church as early as possible.

May 1.

Conference adjourned until Monday morning, eight o'clock.

MONDAY, MAY 8.

May 2.

The conference met at eight o'clock A. M., and was opened with reading a portion of the Holy Scriptures, singing, and prayer, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

Robert Burch and John Thomas, delegates from the Baltimore Conference, and Russel Bigelow, a delegate from the Ohio Conference, appeared, presented their certificates of election, and took their seats.

Additional delegates received.

The president announced that information was received that the representative of the British Conference of Wesleyan Methodists, and a member of that body appointed to accompany him, were in this city; whereupon, on motion of \_\_\_\_\_, it was

Committee appointed to wait on delegates from British Conference.

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to wait on them at their lodgings and invite them to the conference.

Joshua Soule and Nathan Bangs were accordingly appointed.

The committee appointed to "draw up rules for the government of the conference" reported.

Report of the Committee on Rules.

After some time spent in reading and considering the report, the committee who had been directed to wait on our British brethren returned, and introduced to the bishops, severally, the Rev. Richard Reece, late president of the British Conference of Wesleyan Methodists, and now elected as their representative to this General Conference, and the Rev. John Hannah, appointed to accompany him, who were then introduced to the conference by the Rev. Bishop M'Kendree.

Mr. Reece presented to the president a communication from the British Conference, expressive of their fraternal regard and affectionate attachment, and by which also himself and Mr. Hannah are accredited, which was read by the secretary.

Communication from the British Conference.

Mr. Reece then personally made to the conference a very affectionate and interesting address; after which, on motion of Ezeiel Cooper, it was unanimously

*Resolved*, That the president be requested to give to our British brethren, in the name and in behalf of the conference, the right hand of fellowship, and to express to them the cordiality with which this conference reciprocate the paternal and affectionate regard expressed in their communication. It was accordingly done.

Reception of delegates from the British Conference.

The consideration of the report on the rules of confer-

May 3.  
Report of the  
Committee on  
Rules of Con-  
ference resum-  
ed.

ence was then resumed, and the remainder of the morning spent in reading and amending the same.

At the hour of adjournment, on motion of Nathan Bangs, it was resolved to meet to-morrow morning, at eight o'clock, in the Eutaw Church.

May 4.

## TUESDAY, MAY 4.

The conference met at eight o'clock A. M. in the Eutaw Church, and was opened with reading a portion of the Holy Scriptures, singing, and prayer, Bishop George in the chair.

Additional dele-  
gates.

Thomas Madden, a delegate from the Tennessee Conference, and John Strange, a delegate from the Ohio Conference, appeared, presented their certificates of election, and took their seats.

Address from  
the bishop.  
Laid on the  
table.

An address from the bishop was presented and read, and, on motion of Samuel Merwin, was laid on the table until the consideration of the report of the Committee on the Rules of Conference be completed.

Nathan Bangs gave notice that he should move to-morrow morning to dispense with calling the list of names.

Report of the  
Committee on  
Rules resumed.

The consideration of the report of the Committee on the Rules of Conference was resumed.

The following resolution was moved by Ezekiel Cooper and seconded by S. G. Roszel:—

Committee on  
Slavery.

*Resolved*, That a committee on the affairs of people of colour, consisting of five, be appointed by the president, to take into consideration the subject of slavery among our preachers and people, and also of the free people of colour, as to their rights and privileges as members; and also of the coloured local preachers, and such other matters as may appear necessary to inquire into on that subject. Adopted. Signed, E. Cooper, S. G. Roszel.

The following resolution was moved by Ezekiel Cooper and seconded by L. M'Comb:—

Committee on  
the affairs of  
the member-  
ship or laity  
was moved,  
but lost.

*Resolved*, That a committee on the affairs of the membership or laity, consisting of —, be appointed by —, to take into consideration the receiving of members, trial of members, appeals, class-meetings, bands, petitions, and such other matters as may appear peculiar to the affairs of the laity and membership. Signed, E. Cooper, Lawrence M'Combs.

The question was taken on appointing such committee, and was lost.

The conference then adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5.

May 5.

The conference met at Eutaw Church, and was opened with reading a portion of the Holy Scriptures, singing, and prayer, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

David Young, a delegate from the Ohio Annual Conference, appeared, presented his certificate of election, and took his seat.

Additional delegates.

A delegate from the Genesee Conference also appeared and took his seat, his certificate of election having been previously presented and read.

The president announced that Bishop M'Kendree was prevented from attending by indisposition.

Bishop M'Kendree absent from indisposition.

Thomas L. Douglass moved, that the resolution moved by E. Cooper and seconded by L. M'Combs, for the appointment of a committee on the affairs of the members or laity, be erased from the Journal. Lost.

N. Bangs moved, that the calling of the list of names each morning be dispensed with, unless a doubt be entertained whether a quorum be present. Carried.

Calling of list each morning dispensed with.

Yelverton T. Peyton was nominated assistant secretary and elected.

Assistant secretary.

D. Ostrander moved, and P. P. Sandford seconded the following resolution:—

Motion on rules of order.

*Resolved*, That whenever any resolution is put to its final passage, it shall be in order for any two members to call for a division of the conference; and whenever such division shall be called for, the yeas and nays shall be taken, and the names entered on the Journals. Signed, D. Ostrander, P. P. Sandford.

M. Ruter moved to strike out so much of the resolution as follows the word "conference." Withdrawn.

The question was then taken on the resolution and lost.

S. G. Roszel moved, that the rules, as reported and amended, be now adopted.

Rules as reported adopted.

E. Cooper moved, that the rules be first read again as amended. Carried.

The rules were then read, and, on motion, several amendments were made.

The question was then taken on their adoption, and carried.

On motion of S. G. Roszel, it was resolved that the committee that reported the rules cause them to be printed; and, on motion, it was further ordered that the number of copies be one hundred and fifty.

Printing of rules.

On motion of S. G. Roszel, it was resolved that the conference now proceed to elect the Committee on the Episcopacy; and, on motion, it was resolved that a majority present, of each conference, be requisite to an election.

The following members were then elected: P. P. Sand-

**May 5.**  
**Committee on**  
**Episcopacy.** on ford, E. Hedding, J. Huestis, J. Quinn, M. Lindsey, Wm. Beauchamp, T. L. Douglass, W. Wigans, L. Myers, E. Drake, J. Soule, and E. Cooper.

On motion, it was resolved that the conference now proceed to elect the Committee on Boundaries of the Annual Conferences.

**Committee on**  
**Boundaries.** as The following members were elected: D. Ostrander, J. A. Merrill, L. Grant, J. Young, P. Cartwright, J. Walker, R. Payne, D. DeVinne, S. K. Hodges, L. Skidmore, D. Hitt, and L. M'Combs.

The following committees were then announced by the president:—

**Committee on**  
**the State of the**  
**Itinerancy.** Committee on the State of the Itinerancy: Samuel Merwin, John Lindsay, Jonathan Huestis, James B. Finley, Jesse Walker, Charles Holliday, William M'Mahon, Alexander Sale, Samuel K. Hodges, Ethelbert Drake, Alward White, and Andrew Hemphill.

**Committee on**  
**Local Presch-**  
**ers.** Committee on the Affairs of Local Ministers: William Wigans, Lawrence M'Combs, Wm. Compton, Robert Burch, Joseph Travis, Ebenezer Washburn, David Kilbourne, George Harmon, John Sale, Samuel H. Thompson, Jonathan Stamper, Hartwell H. Brown.

**Committee on**  
**Book Concern.** Committee on the Book Concern: E. Cooper, T. L. Douglass, Wm. M. Kennedy, John Scripps, Lewis Skidmore.

**Committee on**  
**Missions.** Committee on Missions: Elijah Hedding, William Ross, James Smith, Wilbur Fisk, John Waterman, James O. Andrew, Thomas Stringfield.

**Committee on**  
**Education.** Committee on Education: Martin Ruter, Marcus Lindsey, Stephen Martindale, Jacob Moon, Henry Smith.

**Committee on**  
**Churches, &c.** Committee on Churches, Parsonages, &c.: Daniel Ostrander, Elijah Hedding, Joseph Baker, Lawrence Lawrenson, Robert Payne, Caleb Leach, Nelson Reed.

**Committee on**  
**Affairs of Peo-**  
**ple of Colour.** Committee on Affairs of People of Colour, &c.: Stephen G. Roszel, Lovick Pierce, Peter Cartwright, Joshua Walls, Thomas Ware.

**Committee on**  
**Revisal and**  
**Unfinished**  
**Business.** Committee on Revisal and Unfinished Business: Timothy Merritt, John Tevis, Laban Clark, Samuel Dunwody, William Capers.

The following resolution was offered:—

Moved, that a select committee of five be appointed by the president, to take into consideration the Canada affairs and report thereon." Signed, George Pickering, Lovick Pierce. Lost.

**Address of the**  
**bishop taken**  
**up.** On motion, the address of the bishop was taken up and read.

The following resolution was offered:—

**Canada affairs**  
**referred.** Resolved, That so much of the address of the episcopacy as refers to the Canada business be referred to a select committee, to consist of five members, to be appointed by the president. Signed, S. G. Roszel, Joshua Soule.

E. Washburn moved to amend the resolution by referring the subject to the Committee on the Boundaries of the Conferences. Lost.

May 5.

The question was then taken on the original motion and carried.

E. Martindale offered the following resolution:—

Resolved, That the official members of our Church be permitted to take seats in the galleries of this church as spectators. Signed, S. Martindale, E. Streeter. Laid on the table.

Official members admitted in the gallery.

Conference adjourned.

THURSDAY, MAY 6.

May 6.

The conference met at eight o'clock A. M., and was opened with reading a portion of the Holy Scriptures, singing, and prayer, Bishop George in the chair.

Christopher Frye and John Bear, delegates from the Baltimore Annual Conference, appeared, presented their certificates of election, and took their seats.

Additional delegates.

S. Martindale's motion, laid on the table yesterday, was taken up and withdrawn.

The president stated to the conference that he had been informed that Mr. Wm. Burke is in town, with the view of bringing an appeal before the conference. Mr. Burke, being present, informed the conference that he could be present on Thursday, the 13th inst., when, on motion, his business was made the order of the day for that day.

Wm. Burke's case.

The following resolution was offered:—

Resolved, That so much of the address as relates to our financial system and the support of the ministry be referred to a select committee of ——. Signed, D. Ostrander, E. Washburn. Laid on the table.

M. Ruter offered the following resolution:—

Moved, that a committee be appointed to address the British Conference, in answer to their communication to us by our brother Reece." Signed, M. Ruter, L. Myers. Carried, and ordered that the committee consist of three, to be appointed by the president.

Committee to address the British Conference.

The following resolution was offered:—

Resolved, That so much of the episcopal address as relates to circulars be referred to the committee appointed to address the British Conference. Signed, James B. Finley, George Ekin.

E. Cooper offered the following resolution:—

Resolved, That so much of the episcopal address as refers to the subject of Church government, the various speculations entered into by some of our friends, and the memorials that will probably be laid before us from the private members, be referred to a committee on addresses, consist-

The bishops address relating to Church government referred to a committee.

- May 4.** ing of five, appointed by the president, to take into consideration all such memorials as may be presented. Signed, E. Cooper, L. M'Combs.
- The question was taken on the appointment of such a committee and carried.
- Moved, that the number be twelve, one from each conference. Carried.
- Moved, that they be elected by the annual conferences severally. Lost.
- Additional delegate.** James Smith, a delegate from the Philadelphia Annual Conference, appeared, presented his certificate of election, and took his seat.
- Committee on Canada Affairs.** The president announced the following committee on the affairs of Canada: M. Ruter, Fitch Reed, J. A. Merrill, W. Chamberlain, George Pickering.
- Communication from the trustees of the Charter Fund.** The communication from the trustees of the Charter Fund was presented and read.
- Moved, that the documents be printed under the direction of the Committee on the Rules, &c., at the expense of the conference. Carried, and ordered that the number of copies be one thousand two hundred and fifty.
- Communication from T. C. Van Wick.** A communication from T. C. Van Wick to Bishop George, relative to the Charter Fund, was presented and read.
- L. M'Combs moved, that the communications from the trustees of the Charter Fund be referred to the Committee on the Itinerancy. Carried.
- M. Ruter moved, that the conference concur in the reply of the trustees of the Charter Fund to T. C. Van Wick. Carried.
- Vacancy in board of trustees of the Charter Fund filled.** On motion of E. Cooper, it was resolved that the conference now proceed to fill up the vacancy in the board of trustees of the Charter Fund, and Thomas Jackson was duly elected.
- Report of the Committee on Revisal of Discipline. Referred to Committee on Revisal.** N. Bangs presented the report of the committee of the New-York Conference on the revisal of the Discipline.
- On motion of E. Cooper, the report was referred to the Committee of Revisal and Unfinished Business.
- S. Martindale presented a petition from Wm. Myers, which was read, and, on motion of D. Ostrander, was referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.
- Petition from the Monongahela Local District Conference.** Robert Burch presented a petition from the Monongahela Local District Conference, which was read, and, on motion, referred to the Committee on Local Preachers.
- R. Bigelow presented a letter from the Miami District Conference, and a paper, signed by one hundred and nineteen names, which were read; and, on motion, the first was referred to the Committee on Local Preachers, and the second to the Committee of Address on Petitions and Memorials, &c.

C. Leach presented a communication from certain members of St. George's Church in Philadelphia, which was read.

May 6.  
Communication from St. George's Church, Philadelphia.

On motion, the reading of the printed paper accompanying the communication was dispensed with, and the communication and paper referred to the Committee of Address, &c.

Wm. M'Mahon presented a communication from the Huntsville District Conference, which was read, and, on motion, referred to the Committee on Local Preachers.

Communication from the Huntsville District Conference.

J. Soule having informed the conference that the papers in the conference trunk had by some means been very much injured, the secretary requested that the state of the papers be examined previously to his taking charge of them, and, on motion, L. Clark and S. G. Roszel were appointed a committee with the secretary for this purpose.

Committee to examine conference papers.

J. A. Merrill gave notice that he should propose a resolution to-morrow to make provision for defraying the expenses of the delegates to this conference, and the conference adjourned.

TUESDAY, MAY 7.

May 7.

The conference met at eight o'clock A. M., and was opened with reading a portion of the Holy Scriptures, singing, and prayer, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

The Committee on Revisal and Unfinished Business made the following report:—

Report of the Committee on Revisal and Unfinished Business.

The Committee on Revisal, &c., beg leave to present their first report. Your committee have examined the Journals of the last General Conference, and find nothing which, by an act of that conference, was deferred to this. The committee, however, are impressed that there was business left by the last General Conference in an unfinished state. Among other business, the committee would mention a memorial from the leaders' meeting in Baltimore, upon the subject of the education of children, with the report of a committee thereon, and would recommend that it be referred to the Committee on Education. They would also recommend that the report of a special committee of the last General Conference on the band rules be referred to a special committee of this conference.

The president announced the following committee of address, &c.: N. Bangs, E. Wells, B. G. Paddock, G. R. Jones, T. A. Morris, Wm. M'Mahon, W. Beauchamp, Wm. Capers, H. G. Leigh, J. Frye, C. Pitman, A. Sale.

Committee of Address.

E. Mudge moved that the report of the Committee on Revisal be amended by striking out so much of it as relates to a special committee of this conference, and inserting the Committee on Revisal, &c. Lost.

Amendment of report on revisal.



May 7.

On motion, the report was then adopted, and it was ordered that the committee consist of three.

Communication from New-Haven District Conference.

S. Merwin presented a communication from the New-Haven District Conference, which was read, and, on motion, referred to the Committee on Local Preachers.

N. Bangs presented the report of the managers of the Missionary Society, with accompanying documents.

The report was read, and, on motion, with the documents, referred to the Committee on Missions.

Communication from Champlain District Conference.

J. B. Stratton presented a communication from the Champlain District Conference, which was read, and, on motion, referred to the Committee on Local Preachers.

J. B. Stratton presented a similar printed communication from the same district conference, which was referred to the same committee.

Communication from E. Johnson.

J. Soule presented a communication from E. Johnson, of the state of Maine, which was read, and, on motion, was referred to the Committee on Churches and Parsonage-houses.

Communication from New-England Conference.

J. A. Merrill presented a communication from the New-England Conference, which was referred to the Committee on the Boundaries of the Annual Conferences.

Communications presented.

J. Moon presented a communication from the Black River District, which was read, and, on motion, referred to the Committee on Local Preachers.

B. G. Paddock presented a communication from the same district, which was read, and, on motion, referred to the Committee on the Boundaries of Conferences.

Memorials, &c., referred.

J. Hall presented a communication from Benoni Hains, which was read, and, on motion, referred to the Committee on the Episcopacy.

J. Young presented a communication from the Lancaster District Conference, Ohio, with a protest attached to it by himself, as the president of that conference, which was read; and also a communication from Wm. Cunningham, which was partly read, and the further reading dispensed with.

It was moved that the petitioner have leave to withdraw his petition. Carried.

J. Young presented other communications from N. Walker and L. Swormstedt, which were read.

It was moved, that all the papers presented by J. Young, except the protest, be referred to the Committee of Address, &c.

After some discussion, J. Young asked leave to withdraw his protest, which was granted, and the papers were referred, without the protest, to the Committee of Address.

The president presented a communication from Cincinnati, which was read, and referred to the Committee of Address, &c.

A communication was presented from the Greenbrier District Conference, and referred to the Committee on the Bounds of Conferences.

May 7.  
Communications presented.

A communication was presented from the Holston District. It was read, and referred to the Committee on Local Preachers.

S. R. Hodges presented a communication from the Athens District Conference, Ga., which was read, and referred to the Committee on Local Preachers.

B. Druanny presented a communication from the Norfolk District Conference, which was read, and referred to the Committee on Local Preachers.

E. Drake presented a communication from Washington, N. C., which was read, and referred to the Committee of Address, &c.

S. G. Roszel presented a communication from Jefferson Circuit, which was read, and referred to the Committee of Address, &c.

J. Soule presented a communication from Baltimore, which was read, and referred to the Committee of Address, &c.

E. Cooper offered the following resolution :—

*Resolved*, That the Rev. Richard Reece, the delegate from the British Conference to the American General Conference, be, and he is hereby, respectfully requested to preach a sermon to this General Conference, in Eutaw Church, on Wednesday next, the 12th inst., at four o'clock P. M. Signed, Ezekiel Cooper, Stephen G. Roszel. Unanimously adopted.

Rev. Richard Reece requested to preach a sermon for the General Conference.

W. Capers presented the following resolution :—

*Resolved*, That this conference would gladly be availed of the opinion of our reverend and beloved brethren of the British connexion on any subject which may come before us during our session. Signed, W. Capers, E. Cooper.

British Conference.

The resolution was unanimously adopted, and the conference adjourned.

SATURDAY, MAY 8.

May 8.

The conference met at eight o'clock A. M., and was opened with reading a portion of the Holy Scriptures, singing, and prayer, Bishop George in the chair

L. Clark made the following report :—

The committee appointed to examine the trunk beg leave to report that they find the documents, Journals of certain annual conferences, &c., contained therein, considerably injured through the breaking of a bottle of ink that was, by some one, unguardedly left in the trunk. The papers and Journals above mentioned, though considerably stained by the ink, are mostly intelligible, except one paper, which we believe to be an exhibit of the Book Concern in New-

Report of the Committee to examine trunk.

- May 8. York, which is entirely destroyed. Signed, L. Clark, S. G. Roszel.
- The report was accepted.
- Communication presented from Philadelphia, and referred to Committee of Address. M. Ruter presented a communication from Philadelphia, which was read, and referred to the Committee of Address, &c.
- Communication presented from the Schuylkill District Conference. J. Potts presented a communication from the Schuylkill District Conference, Philadelphia.
- After a part of this communication had been read, J. Lindsey moved to dispense with the further reading of it, which was lost. It was then read through, and, on motion of N. Bangs, laid on the table.
- Memorial of the ministers of Schuylkill District Conference. A memorial from the ministry of the Schuylkill District Conference was presented and read, and, on motion, laid on the table.
- Communication presented from Talbot Circuit. E. Cooper presented a communication from Talbot Circuit, which was read, and referred to the Committee of Address, &c.
- Committees announced. The president announced the following committees:—  
Select committee to draft an address to the British Conference: Martin Ruter, George Pickering, Wilbur Fisk.  
Select committee to revise the band rules: Timothy Merrit, Eben Smith, Phinehas Rice.
- Communication presented from H. Boehm. E. Cooper presented a communication from H. Boehm, which was read, and referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.
- Communication presented from Wilmington, Del. L. Lawrenson presented a communication from Wilmington, Del., which was read, and referred to the Committee of Address.
- Communication presented from West Jersey District Conference. J. Moore presented a communication from the West Jersey District Conference, which was read, and referred to the Committee on Local Preachers.
- Communication presented from Chesapeake District Conference. T. Ware presented a communication from the Chesapeake District Conference, which was read, and referred to the Committee on Local Preachers.
- Communication presented from Schuylkill District Conference. E. Cooper moved, that the communications from the Schuylkill District Conference, and that from the ministry of the same body, be taken up and referred to the Committee of Address, &c. Carried.
- Memorial presented from Baltimore District Conference. J. Soule presented a memorial from the Baltimore District Conference, which was read, and referred to the Committee on Local Preachers.
- Communication presented from a meeting held in Baltimore. J. Soule presented a communication from a numerous meeting of the male members of Baltimore, which, having been partly read, L. Clark moved that the further reading of it be dispensed with. Lost.
- It was then read through, and referred to the Committee of Address, &c.
- J. Soule presented a communication from Baltimore re-

specting Sabbath schools, which was read, and referred to the Committee on Education.

May 8.

M. Ruter presented certain memorials from Canada, petitions from Hallowell and Bay Quintic Circuits, and another from twelve of the travelling preachers in Canada, and four others on trial, which were read and laid on the table; and counted memorials from the Thames and Lewis Creek Circuits, which were read and laid on the table. Another from the New Settlement Mission was read and laid on the table.

Memorials presented from Canada petitioners.

On motion, these several communications, with the accompanying papers, were taken up and referred to the Committee on Canada Affairs.

S. G. Roszel gave the following notice: I give notice that I shall bring forward, if spared and permitted, on Monday next, a motion that the messengers sent to this conference be heard on the subject of their mission.

Notice given by S. G. Roszel.

J. Soule presented the following resolution of the Committee on the Episcopacy:—

Resolution offered.

*Resolved*, That this committee request our chairman to inquire of the conference whether this committee is authorized to examine into all matters connected with the episcopacy which to them appear proper to be inquired into.

N. Bangs offered the following resolution:—

Resolution offered.

*Resolved*, That the Committee on the Episcopacy be instructed to inquire into all matters that they may believe necessarily connected with the episcopal office and duties, and whether the number of bishops shall be increased. Signed, N. Bangs, W. Capers. Carried.

D. Ostrander's motion, respecting the financial system, was then taken up and adopted, and it was ordered that the number of the committee be five.

Motion relative to the financial system.

L. Clark moved, that so much of the address of the bishops as relates to the strengthening of the episcopacy be referred to the Committee on the Episcopacy. Carried.

Motion relative to the bishops' address.

T. Merwin moved, that the Committee on the Itinerancy be discharged from the further consideration of the papers on the Charter Fund, referred to them, and that the same be referred to the Committee on Finance, &c. Carried.

Motion to discharge Committee on Itinerancy.

J. A. Merrill offered the following resolution:—

Resolution offered.

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to ascertain the amount of the expenses of the delegates to this conference, and devise means to meet the same, and that they report thereon. Signed, J. A. Merrill, Jonathan Stamper.

S. G. Roszel moved to strike out, after the word conference, "and devise means to meet the same."

Motion concerning expenses of the delegates of the annual conference.

J. A. Merrill then withdrew his motion, and W. Capers offered the following:—

Moved, that a special committee be appointed to inquire

May 9.

whether the several annual conferences have taken means to meet the expenses of the delegates composing the General Conference, whether any further provisions are, at this time, necessary, and whether it is expedient for this conference to pass any general act on this subject. Signed, W. Capers, J. A. Merrill. Carried, and ordered that the committee be five.

Conference adjourned.

May 10.

## MONDAY, MAY 10.

The conference met at eight o'clock A. M., and was opened with reading a portion of the Scriptures, singing, and prayer, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

Committees announced.

The president announced the following committees, viz.:—  
Committee on Finance: D. Ostrander, J. W. Hardy, J. Strange, John Smith, Benjamin R. Hoyt.

Committee to inquire into the expenses of the delegates: Samuel Luckey, J. Lindsey, J. Norton, C. Frye, J. Walker.

R. Tydings was appointed on the Committee on the Itinerancy, in place of A. Hemphill, released.

Communication presented from agent of the American Colonization Society.

N. Bangs presented a communication from one of the agents of the American Colonization Society, and, on motion, the reading was dispensed with, and they were referred to the Committee on the People of Colour, &c.

Communication presented from the managers of the Missionary Society.

N. Bangs presented a communication from the managers of the Missionary Society, which was read, and, on motion, referred to the Committee on Missions.

Communication presented from New-London District Conference.

J. A. Merrill presented a communication from the New-London District Conference, which was read, and referred to the Committee on Local Preachers.

Letter presented from Barnabas M'Henry.

T. L. Douglass presented a letter from Barnabas M'Henry, with accompanying documents. The letter was partly read, and the further reading dispensed with; and, on motion, the letter and documents were laid on the table.

Printed paper entitled, "An Appeal," &amp;c., presented from J. Dixon.

T. Stringfield presented a printed paper, entitled "An Appeal," &c., from J. Dixon.

The reading was dispensed with, and it was laid on the table.

Communication presented from Wesleyan African Church.

E. Cooper presented a communication from the Wesleyan African Church; also certain resolutions, &c., of the Philadelphia Annual Conference, on the same subject; which were read, and, on motion, referred to the Committee on the Affairs of the People of Colour.

Communication presented from Kent County, Md.

J. Smith presented a communication from Kent County, Md., which was read, and referred to the Committee of Address, &c.

Resolution offered.

E. Cooper offered the following resolution:—

Whereas sundry papers, petitions, and memorials, which are referred to one committee, do contain information,

May 20.

matters and things which belong to the duties, and ought to be laid before another or other committees; particularly the two committees on the affairs of the local preachers, and on petitions and memorials from the members of our Church. Therefore,

*Resolved*, That the committees, collectively and respectively, be hereby instructed mutually to interchange any and all such papers, petitions, and memorials, as are referred to them respectively, which contain information or matters which relate or belong to the business or duties of any other committee or committees, and especially the two above mentioned. Signed, E. Cooper, W. Capers. Carried.

W. Capers offered the following resolution:—

*Resolved*, That the Committee on Revision and Unfinished Business be discharged from the further consideration of a report presented from New-York, including a revised copy of our form of Discipline. Signed, W. Capers, T. Merritt. Carried.

Resolution offered.

On motion, it was then ordered that the report, &c., mentioned in the preceding resolution, be referred to a special committee of three.

Motion to refer said resolution to a committee of three.

Moved by N. Bangs, that that part of the report of the committee of the New-York Conference, on the subject of the revision of the Discipline, which refers to the financial concerns of our Church, be referred to the Committee on Finance.

Motion relative to revised form of Discipline.

The reading of the paper was called for, and it not being present, the motion to refer was withdrawn.

N. Bangs offered the following resolution:—

Moved, that a committee be appointed to inquire whether any, and if any, what, alterations may be made in the rule of Discipline on the admission and trial of members, and also on the proper subjects of baptism; and that said committee be authorized to call on any of the other committees for papers which may refer to the above subjects. Signed, N. Bangs, W. Capers. Carried, and ordered that the committee be three.

Resolution offered.

S. G. Roszel offered the following resolution:—

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, That the messengers from the Canadian brethren be, and hereby are, permitted to speak on the subject of their mission when the Canadian affairs are brought before the conference. Signed, S. G. Roszel, N. Bangs. Laid on the table.

Resolution offered.

On motion of N. Bangs, the appeal of Barnabas M'Henry was taken up.

Motion respecting appeal of B. M'Henry.

Moved, that the letter of B. M'Henry be referred to the Committee on the Itinerancy.

Motion to refer B. M'Henry's letter to Committee on Itinerancy.

The opinion of Bishops George and Roberts, given in the case at Lexington, was read.

May 10.  
Motion to dis-  
miss the con-  
sideration of  
said letter.

W. Capers offered the following resolution :—

Moved, that we dismiss the further consideration of a letter and papers from brother Barnabas M'Henry, and that they be returned to his representative, said papers not properly claiming to be an appeal to this General Conference. Signed, W. Capers, T. L. Douglass. Laid on the table.

Journal of Ten-  
nessee and  
Kentucky Con-  
ferences re-  
specting Barna-  
bas M'Henry's  
case read.

The Journal of the Tennessee Conference on B. M'Henry's case was read, and also the Journal of the Kentucky Conference, and the report of the committee on B. M'Henry's trial.

W. Capers's motion was then taken up.

Moved, that the motion be postponed till to-morrow. Lost, and the resolution was adopted.

Motion to re-  
spectfully ad-  
dress a letter to  
B. M'Henry.

T. L. Douglass moved, that a letter be respectfully addressed to B. M'Henry, informing him of the reasons why this conference have not considered his case as properly brought before them. Carried. T. L. Douglass was appointed to prepare the letter.

Conference adjourned.

May 11.

## TUESDAY, MAY 11.

The conference met at eight o'clock A. M., and was opened with reading a portion of the Holy Scriptures, singing, and prayer, Bishop George in the chair.

Bishop M'Kendree stated to the conference that his not taking the chair alternately with Bishops George and Roberts was occasioned solely by affliction, and with the understanding and concurrence of his colleagues.

Committees an-  
nounced.

The president announced the following committee on the rules of discipline for admitting and trying members, &c.: Nathan Bangs, Peter P. Sandford, Wilbur Fisk.

Report of the  
Committee on  
Churches and  
Parsonages  
presented.

D. Ostrander, from the Committee on Churches and Parsonages, presented a report, which was read and laid on the table.

Report of the  
Committee on  
Boundaries  
presented.

D. Ostrander, from the committee on the boundaries of the several annual conferences, presented a report, which was read and laid on the table.

Report of the  
Committee on  
Education.

M. Ruter, from the Committee on Education, presented a report, which was read and laid on the table.

Communication  
presented from  
the African  
Zion Church  
in New-York.

P. P. Sandford presented a communication from the African Zion Church in New-York, which was read, and referred to the Committee on the Affairs of the People of Colour.

Appeal of James  
Blair present-  
ed.

M. Lindsey presented certain papers purporting to be the appeal of James Blair, which were laid on the table.

Communication  
presented from  
D. Hitt.

S. K. Hodges presented a communication from John Hannon, which was referred to the Book Committee.

D. Hitt presented a communication from himself, with

accompanying documents, which were referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.

May 11.

The president presented a communication from Joseph Scott, which was read, and referred to the Committee on Local Preachers; and also a communication from Charles Virgin, which was read, and referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.

Communication presented from Jos. Scott and Charles Virgin.

J. Waterman presented a communication from the Carlisle District Conference, which was referred to the Committee on Local Preachers.

Communication presented from Carlisle District Conference.

James Smith presented a communication from Frederick Circuit, which was read, and referred to the Committee of Address, &c.

Communication presented from Frederick Circuit.

N. Bangs presented the report of the book-agents, which was read by himself and T. Mason.

Report of book-agents presented.

M. Ruter also made a verbal report of the Concern at Cincinnati, and, on motion, the papers were referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.

Report of Cincinnati Book Concern.

N. Bangs offered the following resolution:—

Resolutions offered.

Moved, that the secretary of the New-York Conference be instructed to furnish the Committee on the Book Concern with the several reports of the Book Committee of the New-York Conference and of the acts of said conference for the last four years in relation to the Book Concern. Signed, N. Bangs, T. L. Douglass. Carried.

W. Capers offered the following resolution:—

Moved, that the Committee on the Book Concern be instructed to inquire whether books which contain doctrines contrary to those believed and inculcated by us, do not issue from that Concern; whether it is expedient, under any circumstances, and, if at all, under what circumstances, to increase further the stock of the Concern by purchasing books; and whether it is absolutely necessary to the prosperity of the Concern that the works published by us should be so richly bound as many of them are. Signed, W. Capers, J. Norton. Carried.

G. Ekin gave notice that he would to-morrow offer the following resolution, (No 2):—

Notice to offer a resolution.

Moved that it shall be the duty of each preacher in charge to instruct the class-leaders in his circuit or station to bring or send their class-papers to their last quarterly meeting in the year, that the presiding elder may examine them. Signed, George Ekin, Thomas Stringfield.

W. Fisk offered the following resolution:—

Resolution offered as to support of preachers.

Moved, that the Committee on Finance be instructed to inquire into the expediency of striking out so much of the Discipline as relates to the allowances of preachers, their wives, and children, and that each annual conference have the direction and control of so much of the temporal concerns of the Church as relates to the support of its



- May 11. own preachers. Signed, Wilbur Fisk, J. A. Merrill. Carried.
- Resolutions of  
Pews. T. Merritt offered the following resolutions:—  
Moved, that the Committee on Churches, &c., be instructed to inquire into the expediency of allowing each annual conference the exclusive direction and control of building churches within its own limits, provided they be secured according to the deed of settlement provided in our form of Discipline, and to report thereon. Signed, T. Merritt, George M'Nelly. Carried.
- Slavery. Moved, that the Committee on the Affairs of the People of Colour be instructed to inquire into the expediency of allowing each annual conference, in the states where the laws allow of holding slaves, to have the right of governing themselves in relation to the subject of slavery, and subject to the general rule, and report thereon. Signed, T. Merritt, E. Mudge. Carried.
- Presiding el-  
ders. Moved, that the Committee on Itinerancy be instructed to inquire into the expediency of allowing each annual conference to determine for itself whether its presiding elders shall travel through districts, as they now do, or be put into circuits or stations, to act as chairmen of smaller districts, and to report thereon. Signed, T. Merritt, E. Mudge. Lost.
- Resolution to  
appoint an ad-  
ditional secre-  
tary. At the request of the secretary, it was resolved to appoint an additional secretary; and Thomas Mason was appointed.  
Moved, that the Committee on the Book Concern be instructed to inquire into the propriety of giving the presiding elders power to reduce the price of those books that are damaged. Signed, John Waterman, James Smith. Lost.
- Motion to ap-  
point a com-  
mittee to revise  
a rule of Dis-  
cipline as to  
debts, disputes,  
&c. Moved, that the committee appointed to inquire into the propriety of revising the rule regulating the admission of members, &c., be instructed to inquire into the propriety of making some addition and amendments to the rule providing for the settlement of disputes, concerning the payment of debts or otherwise, between two or more members of the Church, so as to make the aforesaid rule more applicable to such disputes between private members and preachers, and between local and travelling preachers. Signed, Russel Bigelow, G. R. Jones. Carried.
- Report of the  
Committee on  
Churches and  
Parsonages. The report of the Committee on Churches and Parsonage-houses, relative to the case of Elisha Johnston, was taken up.  
Moved and seconded, that the report be adopted.  
Moved, &c., to amend the report by striking out the word "wages." The amendment was lost.
- Motion to take  
up appeal of  
J. Blair. The motion to adopt the report was carried.  
Moved, &c., that the appeal of James Blair be now taken

up. Carried, and the papers in the case and the Journal of the Kentucky Conference were read.

May 11.

The president, being called on to determine whether there is any appeal before the conference, J. Blair having made no communication whatever to the conference, either personally or by any representative, decided that there is not; and the secretary was directed to return the papers to the member who presented them, which was done.

N. Bangs offered the following resolution:—

Resolutions offered.

Moved, that the Committee on Education be instructed to inquire into the expediency and practicability of establishing a general seminary of learning, or college, under the superintendence of the General Conference. Signed, N. Bangs, L. Clark. Carried.

R. Bigelow offered the following resolution:—

Moved, that the Committee on Meeting-houses, &c., be instructed to inquire into the expediency of some specific rule for the appointment of trustees of meeting-houses. Signed, Russel Bigelow, James B. Finley. Carried.

Conference adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12.

May 12.

The conference met at eight o'clock A. M., and was opened with reading a portion of the Holy Scriptures, singing, and prayer, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

Conference assemblies.

N. Tally was appointed a member of the Committee on the Expenses of the Delegates, in place of J. Norton, released.

M. Ruter, from the Committee on Canada Affairs, presented a report, which was read; and, on motion, J. Emory, the representative of the last General Conference to the British Conference, having been requested to speak on this subject, suggested the propriety of recommitting the report to the same committee, and of respectfully inviting the British representative, the Rev. Richard Reece, and his companion, the Rev. John Hannah, to meet with the committee; which, on motion, was accordingly done.

Report of the Committee on Canada Affairs.

E. Cooper offered the following resolution:—

Resolution offered.

Moved, that the superintendent be respectfully requested to communicate to this conference the result of brother John Emory's mission to the British Conference relative to the Canada affairs, and other points, and how far the stipulations between the two connexions, and the agreement on both sides, have been carried into effect, and that it be done previously to our acting on the report of the Committee on Canada Affairs. Signed, E. Cooper, N. Bangs. Carried.

Communication presented from local preachers of Philadelphia.

J. Potts presented a communication from the local preachers of Philadelphia, which was read, and, on motion,

- May 12. committed to the Committee on the Affairs of the Local Preachers.
- J. B. Finley offered the following resolution:—
- Resolution on printing class-books. Moved, that the Committee on the Itinerancy be instructed to inquire into the expediency of having class-books or papers printed at the Book Concern, so as to have a general circulation throughout the whole connexion. Signed, J. B. Finley, S. G. Roszel. Carried.
- D. Ostrander offered the following resolution:—
- Resolution concerning lay delegation. Moved, that the Committee of Address on petitions, &c., be instructed to inquire into the expediency of directing the several annual conferences to take measures to ascertain the sentiments of our preachers, travelling and local, and also of the members of our Church, on the subject of a lay delegation, and report the result to the next General Conference. Signed, D. Ostrander, George Ekin. Carried.
- L. Myers offered the following resolution:—
- Resolution concerning marriages of single preachers. Moved that the Committee on Finance be instructed to inquire into the necessity and expediency of so altering our Discipline, that hereafter no single preacher, who shall enter our travelling connexion and marry under four years, shall be allowed any quarterage for his wife, or anything for family expenses, until the expiration of said four years. Signed, L. Myers, Samuel Dunwody. Carried.
- J. Norton offered the following resolution:—
- Resolution to amend the first section of the second chapter of the Discipline. Resolved, That the committee appointed to examine the rule on the admission and trial of members, &c., be instructed to inquire into the expediency of so amending the first section of the second chapter of our Discipline, by striking out so much thereof as makes it the duty of the preacher in charge to put back on trial for marrying an un-awakened person. Signed, James Norton, Caleb Leach. Carried.
- J. Moore offered the following resolution:—
- Resolution concerning local preachers. Moved, that the Committee on the Local Ministry be instructed to inquire into the expediency of doing away the local district conferences, and making all the ordained local preachers members of the annual conferences. Signed, Jacob Moore, John Smith. Lost.
- H. G. Leigh offered the following resolution:—
- Resolution concerning discount allowed to preachers and venders of books. Moved, that the Committee on the Book Concern be instructed to inquire into the expediency of so regulating the discount allowed to the preachers and venders of our books, that no advantage be given one above another. Signed, H. G. Leigh, Thomas L. Douglass. Carried.
- Resolution to give travelling preachers, when dropped, a certificate of moral character. Moved, that the Committee on the Itinerancy, &c., be instructed to take into consideration the expediency of making it the duty of annual conferences to give a travelling preacher, when dropped, a certificate of his moral character, without which he shall not be acknowledged a member

of the Methodist Episcopal Church ; nor shall he be allowed to preach until he obtain a license from a district or quarterly conference, as the case may be. Signed, W. Comp-ton, John C. Ballew. Carried.

May 12.

M. Ruter gave notice that on to-morrow he should bring forward a motion for a special committee for the settlement of some disputed accounts of some preachers and the Book Concern.

Notice to ap-point a com-mittee to settle disputed ac-counts.

Moved, that the Committee on the Affairs of the Local Preachers be instructed to inquire into the expediency of so altering the rule relative to the local preachers that, in all cases wheresoever a majority of the local preachers in each district do not attend the conference, the business of said conference shall be done by the quarterly conference of the circuits respectively. Signed, L. M'Combs, J. Soule. Carried.

Resolution to alter the rule relative to local preachers.

On motion of D. Ostrander, the report of the Commit-tee on the Bounds of the Annual Conferences was then taken up.

Motion to take up report of the Committee on Boundaries.

Moved, that the sections of the report of the Committee on the Boundaries of Conferences which relate to the Genesee and Canada Conferences be laid on the table until the Committee on Canada Affairs report. Signed, N. Bangs, James Smith. Carried.

Motion to lay on the table the sections of said report concern-ing the Gene-ssee and Canada Conferences.

The report being still under consideration, the conference adjourned.

THURSDAY, MAY 13.

May 13.

The conference met at eight o'clock A. M., and was opened with reading a portion of the Holy Scriptures, sing-ing, and prayer, Bishop George in the chair.

Conference as-sembles.

The bishop made the following communication to the conference, with accompanying documents, which were read :—

“ To the General Conference, &c.

“ In compliance with the resolution of the General Con-ference requesting information on the subject of brother John Emory's mission to the British Conference in 1820, the superintendents herewith communicate certain docu-ments containing all the information desired and in their possession. In addition to the subjects in which brothe. Emory was specially instructed, it will be found that he effected an arrangement, while in England, for the mutual exchange of new publications between our respective book-rooms—a measure which, we believe, is highly approved of by our book-agents, as it is also by ourselves, and we pre-sume will be by you.

Documents pre-sented contain-ing informa-tion concern-ing Emory's mission.

“ Very respectfully, &c.,

WM. M'KENDREE,  
R. R. ROBERTS.

“ Baltimore, May 13, 1824.”

May 13.  
 Postscript concerning the state of the Canada missions.

P. S. The present state of Kingston, U. C., and part of the Ottawa Circuit, L. C., will appear from the correspondence between the missionary committee in London and your superintendents respecting them.

The accompanying documents were also read.

Resolution on Canada Affairs.

E. Cooper offered the following resolution :—

Moved, that so much of the superintendents' communication on John Emory's mission to the British Conference, and its results, as relates to the Canada affairs, be referred to the Committee on Canada Affairs; and that the residue thereof be referred to the committee appointed to answer the letter from the British Conference to us. Signed, E. Cooper, M. Bangs. Carried.

Vote of thanks given to brother Reece for his excellent sermon.

Moved, the adoption of the following resolution, viz. :—

*Resolved*, That the thanks of the conference be presented to our beloved brother Reece for his excellent sermon preached yesterday to the General Conference, and that he be, and hereby is, respectfully requested to furnish a copy for publication, and also to furnish us with a copy of his address to this conference, on the day of his introduction, for publication. Signed, J. Soule, A. Hemphill. Adopted unanimously.

Assistant secretary *pro tem.* appointed.  
 Wm. Burke's appeal taken up.

T. Mason being absent, Wm. Case was nominated and appointed assistant secretary until T. Mason can be present.

L. M'Combs and M. Ruter moved that the appeal of Wm. Burke be now taken up.

At the request of the president, E. Cooper took the chair, and the motion of L. M'Combs was carried.

Wm. Burke was then invited by the chairman to present his appeal, and the grounds of it.

The Journal of the Ohio Conference of August, 1820, on Wm. Burke's case, was read, and Wm. Burke stated his appeal, and the grounds of it, without interruption.

The delegates of the Ohio Conference then responded, and Wm. Burke commenced his reply; and the case being still under consideration at the hour of adjournment, the conference was adjourned.

May 14.

FRIDAY, MAY 14.

Conference assembled.

The conference met at eight o'clock A. M., and was opened with reading a portion of the Holy Scriptures, singing, and prayer, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

The president announced the following committee :—

Committee to consider the revised copy of the Discipline from New-York: Laban Clark, Charles Elliott, David Young.

Case of Wm. Burke resumed.

E. Cooper was again called to the chair, and the case of Wm. Burke was resumed. Wm. Burke then concluded his reply, and afterward withdrew.

S. H. Thompson offered the following resolution :—

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, That the decision of the Ohio Annual Conference in 1820, by which Wm. Burke was expelled from the Methodist Episcopal Church, be, and the same is hereby confirmed. Signed, S. H. Thompson, Peter Cartwright.

J. B. Finley, J. Young, Charles Elliott, G. R. Jones, John Sale, R. Bigelow, J. Tevis, J. Stamper, and John Brown, who had voted on the case of Wm. Burke at the time of his expulsion by the Ohio Annual Conference, severally asked to be excused from voting on this appeal, and were excused.

M. Ruter, who was a member of the Ohio Conference at that time, but did not vote on the case of Wm. Burke, asked to be excused from voting on this appeal, and was not excused.

Wm. Winans, from considerations of a personal nature between Wm. Burke and himself, asked to be excused from voting on this appeal, and was excused.

It was moved that J. Waterman be requested to speak on this case. Lost.

The chair decided that J. Waterman was at entire liberty to speak on the case, if he chose, without any request of the conference.

At one o'clock, the hour of adjournment, it was moved and seconded to sit fifteen minutes longer.

The question was then taken on the resolution made by S. H. Thompson and Peter Cartwright, and carried.

Conference adjourned.

SATURDAY, MAY 15.

The conference met at eight o'clock A. M., and was opened with reading a portion of the Holy Scriptures, singing, and prayer, Bishop George in the chair.

Daniel Ostrander, from the Committee on Churches and Parsonage-houses, made a report, which was read, and laid on the table.

J. Soule, from the Committee on the Episcopacy, made a report, which was read, and laid on the table.

E. Cooper, from the Committee on the Book Concern, made a report, in part, which was read, and laid on the table.

M. Ruter, from the Committee on Education, made a further report, which was read, and laid on the table.

D. Ostrander, from the Committee on the Financial System, made a report, which was read, and laid on the table.

Moved and seconded, that the report be printed, under

May 14.

Resolution to confirm the decision of the Ohio Conference.

Members of the Ohio Conference excused from voting on the case of Wm. Burke.

Motion to request J. Waterman to speak on W. Burke's case.

May 15.

Conference assembled.

Report of the Committee on Episcopacy.

Report of the Committee on the Book Concern.

Report of the Committee on Education.

Report of the Committee on Financial System.

- May 15. the direction of the committee, for the use of the members of this conference, and to be headed, "Under Correction."
- Moved that the motion be laid on the table. Carried, and the report also was laid on the table.
- Report of the Committee on Canada Affairs. M. Ruter, from the Committee on Canada Affairs, made a report, which was read, and laid on the table.
- Report of the Committee on Band Rules. T. Merritt, from the Committee on the Band Rules, made a report, which was read.
- Report of the Committee on the Expenses of Delegates. S. Luckey presented the report of the Committee on the Expenses of the Delegates, which was read.
- Call from the chair for petitions, memorials, and appeals. On the call from the chair for petitions, memorials, and appeals, it was stated that J. Crawford, from the New-York Conference, was present, with the view of bringing an appeal before the conference unrepresented, which he wished to be taken up as early as convenient; and, on motion, it was made the order of the day for Monday, the seventeenth instant.
- Memorial presented from J. Walker. A memorial from J. Walker, of the Missouri Conference, was presented, read, and laid on the table.
- Resolution to appoint a committee to settle disputed accounts. M. Ruter offered the following resolution:—  
Moved, that a special committee be appointed, with authority to settle any disputed accounts that may be brought before them between the Book Concern and certain individual persons. Signed, M. Ruter, A. Hemphill. Carried.
- Motion to refer J. Walker's memorial to a special committee. Moved by E. Cooper, that J. Walker's memorial be referred to the special committee for the settlement of disputed accounts between the Book Concern and certain individuals. Carried.
- Appeal of J. Dixon, of the Tennessee Conference. The appeal of James Dixon, of the Tennessee Conference, was taken up, read, and referred to a select committee of three.
- Committee announced to settle disputed accounts. The president announced the following committee on disputed accounts between individuals and the Book Concern: Wm. Beauchamp, Wm. Capers, Joshua Wells.
- Communication presented from Roanoke District Conference. H. Holmes presented a communication from the Roanoke District Conference, which was read, and referred to the Committee on Local Preachers.
- Two memorials presented from Georgetown, D. C. Two memorials from Georgetown, D. C., were presented by J. M'Cann, and after the reading of a part of one and the whole of the other, they were referred to the Committee of Address on Memorials, &c.
- Memorial presented from Foundry Station, Washington, D. C. S. G. Roszel presented a memorial from the Foundry Station, Washington, D. C., which was read in part, and referred to the same committee.
- Committee announced on the case of J. Dixon. The president announced the following committee on the case of James Dixon: Henry Holmes, Thomas Stringfield, Thomas A. Morris.
- Leave of absence granted to J. Soule. J. Soule requested leave of absence during the remainder of the sitting, in consequence of indisposition. Granted.

D. Ostrander gave the following notice:—

“I give notice that I shall, on Monday, bring in a resolution appointing Wednesday, the twenty-sixth instant, as the day when the General Conference will finally close its present session. Signed, D. Ostrander.”

J. Waterman presented an address to the General Conference, signed by sundry persons, which was referred to the Committee on Local Preachers.

The order of the day was called for, and the report of the Committee on the Boundaries of the Conferences was taken up, and the conference proceeded in the consideration thereof to the conclusion of the boundaries of the Kentucky Conference; when, on motion, the residue of the report was recommitted to the same committee.

Wm. Capers asked leave of absence till Thursday next. Granted.

Moved, that on and after Monday next we hold two sessions a day, to commence at eight o'clock A. M. and three o'clock P. M., and adjourn at twelve o'clock noon and six o'clock P. M. Signed, Samuel Luckey, George Pickering. Carried.

Conference adjourned.

MONDAY, MAY 17.

The conference met at eight o'clock A. M., and was opened with reading a portion of the Holy Scriptures, singing, and prayer, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

D. Ostrander, from the committee to whom the report on the boundaries of the annual conferences was recommitted, made a report, which was laid on the table.

N. Bangs, from the Committee on the Revision of the Discipline for the admission and trial of members, &c., made a report, which was read, and laid on the table.

Moved, that nothing but the decision on Mr. Burke's case be given to him, unless he requests it, by the secretary. Signed, S. G. Roszel, Thomas L. Douglass. Lost.

Moved, that the secretary be directed to furnish Wm. Burke with a copy of the proceedings of this conference upon the case of his appeal. Signed, E. Cooper, L. M'Combs. Carried.

T. Merritt gave the following notice:—

“To-morrow I shall move a resolution to limit the term for receiving petitions and memorials, and for repealing the second rule under the third head in the rules and orders of the General Conference.”

On motion, the appeal of Joseph Crawford was taken up, and, on motion, all persons present, not members or officers of the conference, were requested to withdraw.

May 15.  
Notice to bring a motion to appoint Wednesday, the 26th inst., for conference to adjourn.  
Address presented to General Conference by J. Waterman.  
Report of the Committee on Boundaries.

Leave of absence granted to Wm. Capers.  
Motion to hold two sessions on Monday, the 17th.

May 17.

Conference assemblies.

Report of the Committee on Boundaries.

Report of the Committee on Revision of the Discipline.

Motion to give nothing but the decision to Mr. Burke.

Motion to give to Mr. Burke a copy of the proceedings of conference on his appeal.

Appeal of Jos. Crawford taken up.



May 17.  
Leave of ab-  
sence granted  
to J. Soule.  
Case of J. Craw-  
ford.

J. Soule, on account of indisposition, asked and obtained leave of absence when he may wish to retire.

The Journal of the New-York Conference of 1820, in the case of J. Crawford, was read.

J. Crawford was then invited to state the grounds of his appeal, which he did without interruption.

The delegates of the New-York Conference then responded in the presence of the appellant, and, at the hour of adjournment, conference adjourned.

#### MONDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference as-  
sembled.

The conference met, and was opened with reading a portion of the Holy Scriptures, singing, and prayer.

Appeal of Jo-  
seph Crawford  
resumed.

The appeal of Joseph Crawford was resumed, and he made his reply, and afterward withdrew.

Leave granted  
the New-York  
delegation to  
retire when the  
vote was taken.

D. Ostrander asked leave for himself and as many others of the New-York delegation as may choose to retire without the bar when the question shall be taken on this appeal, which was granted.

M. Lindsey offered the following resolution:—

Resolution to  
confirm the de-  
cision of the  
New-York  
Conference on  
said case.

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, That the decision of the New-York Conference, by which Joseph Crawford was expelled from the Methodist Episcopal Church, be, and hereby is confirmed. Signed, Marcus Lindsey, S. H. Thompson.

J. Soule, who was a member of the New-York Conference at the time of Joseph Crawford's expulsion and voted on his case, asked to be excused from voting on this appeal, and was excused.

Motion to  
amend said re-  
solution.

W. Fisk moved that the above resolution be amended by striking out the word "confirmed" and inserting the word "reversed."

At the hour of adjournment, on motion, it was resolved to sit five minutes longer; and, on motion, the conference then adjourned till to-morrow morning, the case of Joseph Crawford being still under consideration.

May 18.

#### TUESDAY, MAY 18.

Conference as-  
sembled.

The conference met at eight o'clock A. M., and was opened with reading a portion of the Holy Scriptures, singing, and prayer, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

Case of Joseph  
Crawford re-  
sumed.

The case of Joseph Crawford was resumed.

The amendment offered by W. Fisk yesterday was withdrawn.

Fitch Reed, who was a member of the New-York Conference at the time of Joseph Crawford's expulsion and voted on his case, and H. H. Brown and John Smith, not having heard the defence, severally asked to be excused from voting on this appeal, and were excused.

John Scripps asked to be excused from voting on this appeal, and was not excused.

May 18.

The president decided that if the conference resolved not to confirm the decision of the New-York Annual Conference, the case will still be open for any other course which the conference may think proper to take.

The question was then taken on the resolution offered yesterday by M. Lindsey and S. H. Thompson. Lost.

The following resolution was then offered :—

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, That the case of J. Crawford be referred back to the New-York Annual Conference for a new trial. Signed, Wilbur Fisk, James Smith. Carried.

Resolution to refer the said case to the New-York Conference for a new trial.

On motion, it was resolved to dispense with the regular order of business, and to take up the reports on the Canada affairs.

Motion to suspend the regular order of business.

L. Pierce gave notice that he should to-morrow offer the following resolution :—

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, That it be and is hereby recommended to the several annual conferences to adopt the following article as a provision to be annexed to the sixth article of the "limitations and restrictions" adopted by the General Conference in 1808, viz. :—

Notice of a resolution to give the bishops a qualified veto power.

*Provided*, also, that whenever the delegated General Conference shall pass any rule or rules which, in the judgment of the bishops, or a majority of them, are contrary to or an infringement upon the above "limitations and restrictions," or any one of them, such rule or rules being returned to the conference within three days after their passage, together with the objections of the bishops to them, in writing, the conference shall reconsider such rule or rules, and if, upon reconsideration, they shall pass by a majority of two-thirds of the members present, they shall be considered as rules, and go into immediate effect; but in case a less majority shall differ from the opinion of the bishops, and they continue to sustain their objections, the rule or rules objected to shall be laid before the annual conferences, in which case the decision of a majority of all the members of the annual conference present when the vote shall be taken shall be final. In taking the vote in all such cases in the annual conferences, the secretaries shall give a certificate of the number of votes, both in the affirmative and negative, and such certificates shall be forwarded to the editor and general book-steward, who, with one or more of the bishops, who may be present, shall be a committee to canvass the votes and certify the result. Signed, Lovick Pierce, Wm. Winans.

H. H. Brown asked and obtained leave of absence for the remainder of the day.

Leave of absence granted to H. H. Brown.

May 18.  
Report of the  
Committee on  
Canada Affairs.

Circular ad-  
dressed to the  
Canada Meth-  
odist Episcopal  
Church.

Leave of ab-  
sence granted  
to the Missouri  
delegation.

Motion to fur-  
nish the mes-  
sengers from  
Canada with a  
copy of the re-  
port and ad-  
dress.

Resolution to  
close General  
Conference on  
Wednesday,  
May 26th.

Resolution that  
after the 20th  
inst. no petition  
or memorial be  
received.

Vote of thanks  
given to John  
Emory.

Report of the  
Committee on  
Boundaries  
taken up.

Conference as-  
sembled.

Report of the  
Committee on  
Boundaries re-  
sumed.

Report of the  
Committee on  
Churches and  
Parsonages  
taken up.

The report of the Committee on Canada Affairs was then read, and the resolution and preamble were severally sustained.

A circular addressed to the ministers, preachers, and members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada was read.

The extreme illness of David Sharp, a delegate from the Missouri Conference, being stated, his colleagues of the Missouri delegation asked and obtained leave of absence.

The address to the ministers, &c., in Canada was then adopted, and, on motion, the report and address, &c., were read a second time by their title and finally adopted.

It was moved that the secretary be directed to furnish the messengers from Canada with a copy of the report and address. Carried.

D. Ostrander offered the following resolution:—

*Resolved*, That this General Conference will finally close its present session on Wednesday, the twenty-sixth instant. Signed, D. Ostrander, John Lattimer. Laid on the table.

T. Merritt offered the following resolution:—

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, That after Thursday, the twentieth inst., no petition or memorial shall be received by the General Conference, and that the second rule under the third head of "Rules and Orders of the General Conference," so far as it stands opposed to this resolution, be, and the same is hereby repealed. Signed, T. Merritt, J. Baker. Laid on the table.

*Resolved*, &c., That this conference return its thanks, by a rising vote, to our beloved brother Emory, for his active zeal and indefatigable diligence in faithfully and satisfactorily fulfilling the duties of his office as delegate of this conference to the British Conference. Signed, Thomas Madden, Martin Ruter. Adopted.

The report of the Committee on the Boundaries of the Conferences was then taken up, and the same being still under consideration, the conference adjourned.

#### TUESDAY AFTERNOON.

The conference met at three o'clock, and was opened with reading a portion of the Holy Scriptures, singing, and prayer.

The consideration of the report of the Committee on the Boundaries of the Annual Conferences was resumed, and the several resolutions and provisions, as amended, were sustained.

The report of the Committee on Churches and Parsonage-houses was then taken up and read, and the first resolution being under consideration, the conference adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19.

May 19.

The conference met at eight o'clock A. M., and was opened with reading a portion of the Holy Scriptures, singing, and prayer, Bishop George in the chair.

Conference assembled.

M. Lindsey presented a petition from himself and certain other preachers in behalf of the representatives of Samuel Demint, deceased, which was read and referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.

Petition in behalf of representatives of Samuel Demint, deceased.

E. Hedding, from the Committee on Missions, presented a report, which was read and laid on the table.

Report on Missions read.

W. Beauchamp, from the Committee on Disputed Accounts between individuals and the Book Concern, presented a report on the case of Jesse Walker, which was read and laid on the table.

Report of the Committee on Disputed Accounts.

It was moved and seconded to dispense with the order of the day, and to take up the report of the Committee on the Episcopacy. Lost.

Motion to take up report of the Committee on Episcopacy.

The consideration of the report of the Committee on Churches and Parsonage-houses was then resumed, and, on motion of M. Ruter and J. A. Merrill, the report was re-committed.

Report of the Committee on Churches, &c., resumed.

The report of the Committee on the Episcopacy was then taken up and read.

Report on Episcopacy read.

E. Cooper and Robert Burch moved to amend the first resolution by inserting the words "generally of" between the words "approve" and "the." Carried.

Motion to amend first resolution.

N. Bangs offered the following resolution:—

Moved, that the fourth resolution of the report on the Episcopacy be re-committed, and that the committee be instructed so to amend it as to divide the connexion into episcopal departments. Signed, N. Bangs, Ezekiel Cooper.

Resolution to recommit the fourth resolution to committee.

The motion being divided, the question was taken on the recommitment and lost, and the residue of the resolution was withdrawn. The several resolutions of the report, as amended, were then adopted.

W. Capers gave the following notice:—

On to-morrow I will introduce a resolution to change the thirteenth article of the constitution of the Missionary Society. W. Capers.

Notice to change the thirteenth article of constitution.

The report, in part, of the Committee on the Book Concern was then taken up.

Report on Book Concern.

On motion it was resolved, that Thomas Mason, the assistant book-agent, be requested to speak on any subject connected with the Book Concern.

The first, second, and third resolutions were adopted, and the fourth resolution being under consideration, the conference adjourned until three o'clock P. M.

May 19.

## WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

N. Reed moved, that a door-keeper be appointed.  
Lost.

Report on Book Concern resumed.

The consideration of the report of the Committee on the Book Concern was resumed.

The fourth resolution was adopted.

S. Martindale moved that D. Hitt be allowed interest on the amount mentioned in the fourth resolution. Lost.

T. Mason's statement on the fifth resolution.

On the fifth resolution Thomas Mason asked permission to make a statement, which was granted.

Certificate of D. Hitt read.

The certificate of Daniel Hitt on W. Myers's case was read, and the question was taken on the fifth resolution and lost; and, on motion of D. Ostrander, the petitioner had leave to withdraw his petition.

Report on education.

The report of the Committee on Education was then taken up and read.

Motion to recommit said report.

D. Ostrander moved, that the report be recommitted.  
Lost.

The resolutions were then sustained as amended.

D. Ostrander offered the following resolution:—

Resolution concerning resolutions or reports indispensable to be acted upon.

*Resolved*, That a committee of — be appointed to inquire and report what resolutions or reports it is indispensable for the conference to act upon in their present session, and to report the same, and that the conference take up said resolutions and report in the order reported. Signed, D. Ostrander. Laid on the table.

D. Young offered the following resolution:—

Resolution concerning disputed accounts.

*Resolved*, &c., That all the members of this conference who have disputed accounts with the Book Concern, be permitted to present them to the special committee appointed to settle disputed accounts. Signed, D. Young, J. B. Finley. Laid on the table.

Notice of a resolution concerning resolutions suspended at the last General Conference.

P. Cartwright gave notice that he should to-morrow offer the following resolution:—

Whereas the resolutions which were suspended at the last General Conference are null and void, inasmuch as a majority of the annual conferences have judged them unconstitutional, and whereas six of the annual conferences have recommended their adoption; therefore

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, That said resolutions go into effect as soon as their adoption shall be recommended by those annual conferences which have not recommended them, they being approved by two-thirds of the present General Conference. Signed, Peter Cartwright, Wm. M<sup>r</sup> Mabon.

Conference adjourned until to-morrow.

THURSDAY, MAY 20.

May 20.

The Conference met at eight o'clock A. M., and was opened with reading a portion of the Holy Scriptures, singing, and prayer, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

Conference assembled.

E. Cooper, from the Committee on the Book Concern, presented a further report, in part, which was read and laid on the table.

Report on Book Concern.

P. P. Sandford presented a petition from the quarterly conference of New-York, respecting the place of holding the next General Conference, which was read and laid on the table.

Petition from the New-York Quarterly Conference.

E. Hedding and others presented a memorial in behalf of Oliver Beale, which was read.

Memorial in behalf of O. Beale.

E. Hedding offered the following resolution:—

*Resolved, &c.,* That Oliver Beale be exonerated from the interest due on the debt due by him to the Book Concern, on the same conditions as in the case of Charles Virgin. Signed, E. Hedding, E. Cooper. Adopted.

Resolution to exonerate O. Beale from interest on debt due the Book Concern.

J. Hanly presented a petition from G. Harmon, which, on motion of D. Ostrander, was referred to the book-agents and the Book Committee at New-York, with discretionary power to act on it as they may think proper.

Petition from G. Harmon presented.

J. Sale presented a petition from himself, which, on motion, was referred to the Committee on Disputed Accounts between individuals and the Book Concern.

Petition presented from J. Sale.

J. B. Finley made a verbal communication in behalf of Pittsburgh, respecting the place of the next General Conference.

Communication in behalf of Pittsburgh, respecting the place of the next General Conference. Do. from the Baltimore Quarterly Conference.

S. G. Roszel presented a petition from the Baltimore Quarterly-meeting Conference, respecting the place of the next General Conference, which was read and laid on the table.

S. G. Roszel gave notice of the following resolution:—

*Resolved,* by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, That in all cases where any person shall have joined the Methodist Episcopal Church, who has been regularly ordained by a bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church, such ordination shall be, and hereby is considered valid. Signed, S. G. Roszel, Benjamin Devany.

Resolution concerning regularly ordained members of the Protestant Episcopal Church.

J. M'Can presented a communication from the Colonization Society, which was read, and, on motion of J. B. Finley, referred to a select committee of three.

Communication presented from Colonization Society.

On motion of S. G. Roszel, the Committee on the Affairs of the People of Colour were discharged from the further consideration of the papers referred to them respecting the Colonization Society, and the same were referred to the select committee last ordered.

Motion to discharge the Committee on the Affairs of the People of Colour.

May 26.  
Communication  
presented from  
Alexandria, on  
the subject of  
slavery.

The president presented a communication from twenty-five persons in Alexandria, D. C., on the subject of slavery, which was read and referred to the Committee on the Affairs of the People of Colour.

Resolution to  
give certificates  
to members  
going from our  
Church to other  
Churches.

L. Skidmore gave notice of the following resolution:—

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, That we will give and receive notes certifying the moral standing of members wishing to go from our Church to other Churches and coming from other Churches to ours. Signed, L. Skidmore, S. Martindale.

Resolution con-  
cerning form of  
Baptism and  
Matrimony.

L. Skidmore offered the following resolution:—

*Resolved*, That the Committee on the Subject of Baptism, &c., be instructed to inquire into the expediency of striking out the following sentence from the first prayer of our form of the ministration of baptism to infants, viz.: "And by the baptism of thy well-beloved Son, Jesus Christ, in the river Jordan, did sanctify water for the holy sacrament." And that the committee be further instructed to inquire into the expediency of adding another form of baptism which shall be for believers; and that the committee be further instructed to inquire into the expediency of abridging the form of solemnization of matrimony, especially that part which requires repetition after the minister. Signed, L. Skidmore, Hez. G. Leigh. Adopted.

Resolution to  
alter the second  
article of Re-  
strictive Rules.

T. Merritt gave the following notice:—

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, That it is expedient so to alter the second article of the Restrictive Rules as not to allow of more than one representative for every fourteen members of an annual conference, nor allow of a less number than one for every twenty-one: *Provided*, however, that if it should so happen that an annual conference should not have the number of members to send a representative, such conference shall be allowed one representative. Signed, T. Merritt, E. Mudge.

Report on finan-  
cial concerns.

The report of the Committee on Financial Concerns was then taken up and read.

Motion to alter  
the first specifi-  
cation.

Moved by E. Cooper, to strike out, in the first specification, the words "one hundred," and insert "eighty." Withdrawn.

The first resolution was then taken up. A division of the resolution was called for.

The question on the first member was put and lost.

A motion was made to recommit the report. Withdrawn.

The following committee was appointed:—

A committee to take into consideration the Communications of the Colonization Society: Joshua Soule, Nathan Bangs, Lewis Myers.

On motion, W. Capers was permitted to introduce the resolution notified yesterday, to alter the thirteenth article of the Constitution of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Laid on the table.

S. H. Thompson moved the following :—

Moved, that Friday, the twenty-first inst., be set apart by this General Conference as a day of fasting and prayer for the divine blessing on this conference and the connexion at large, and especially that the afflicted members of the conference be made subjects of our petitions. Signed, Samuel H. Thompson, Charles Pitman. Carried.

Moved, that Armstrong & Plaskitt's bill for printing, presented yesterday by J. Soule, be paid out of the book funds. Carried.

The second report of the Committee on Education was taken up and sustained.

N. Bangs offered the following resolution as an addition to the report :—

Resolved, That the preachers be instructed to discourage our people from teaching Sunday schools during the regular hours of Church-service. Signed, N. Bangs, S. Merwin. Lost.

The report of the Committee on the Band Rules was then taken up and read. The first resolution being under consideration, the conference adjourned until three o'clock P. M.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

The conference met, and was opened with reading a portion of the Holy Scriptures, singing, and prayer.

The consideration of the report on the Band Rules was resumed, and all the resolutions were rejected, except the last, which was sustained.

The report of the Committee on the Expenses of the Delegates was then taken up and read.

The first resolution was lost.

M. Ruter moved that the report be recommitted, and that the committee be instructed to report a moderate draft on the book fund to meet the expenses of the delegates. Carried.

On motion, the regular order was dispensed with, and the report on the boundaries of the conferences was taken up, and the question was taken on the final passage of the several resolutions, and they were severally passed, and also the provisos, as follows :—

Your Committee on Boundaries beg leave to make the following report :—

Resolved, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, That the boundaries of the several annual conferences be as follows :—

1. Maine Conference shall include all the state of Maine

May 30.  
Resolution to alter the thirteenth article of the Constitution of the Missionary Society.  
Motion to set apart Friday, the 31st inst., as a day of fasting and prayer.

Motion to pay printing bill out of book fund.

Report of the Committee on Education.

Resolution concerning said report.

Report on Band Rules.

Report on Band Rules resumed.

Report of expenses of delegates.

Regular order dispensed with.

Report of the Committee on Boundaries.

First boundary.



- May 22. and that part of New-Hampshire lying east of the White Hills and north of the waters of the Ossipee Lake.
- Second boundary. 2. New-England Conference shall include the remaining part of the state of New-Hampshire, that part of Vermont lying east of the Green Mountains, those parts of Massachusetts and Connecticut lying east of Connecticut River, and all the state of Rhode Island.
- Third boundary. 3. New-York Conference shall include those parts of Connecticut and Massachusetts lying west of Connecticut River, that part of Vermont lying west of the Green Mountains, and all the state of New-York not included in the Genesee and Philadelphia Conferences.
- Fourth boundary. 4. Genesee Conference shall include the Oneida, Black River, Chenango, Susquehanna, Ontario, Genesee, and Erie Districts and Sharon Circuit, from New-York, except that part of Erie District southwest of Cattaraugus Creek.
- Fifth boundary. 5. Canada Conference shall include all the upper province of Canada.
- Sixth boundary. 6. Pittsburgh Conference shall commence at the mouth of Cattaraugus Creek on Lake Erie, thence to Olean Point, on Alleghany River, thence eastward to the top of the Alleghany Mountains, thence along the mountains southward to the head of Tygart's Valley, thence to the Ohio River, so as to include the Middle Island and Little Kanhona Circuits, thence up said river to the mouth of Little Muskingum, thence to the mouth of White Woman, so as to include Munroe, Barrensville, and Duck Creek Circuits; thence northeastward between the waters of Tuscarawas and Mohican to Lake Erie, near the mouth of Cayahoga, so as to include Tuscarawas and Canton Circuits, thence down the lake to the mouth of Cattaraugus.
- Seventh boundary. 7. The Ohio Conference shall include the remaining part of the state of Ohio, the territory of Michigan, and the Kenhawa.
- Eighth boundary. 8. Illinois Conference shall include the states of Indiana and Illinois.
- Ninth boundary. 9. Missouri Conference shall include the state of Missouri and Arkansas Territory.
- Tenth boundary. 10. Kentucky Conference shall include the state of Kentucky, and that part of the state of Tennessee lying north of the Cumberland River.
- Eleventh boundary. 11. Tennessee Conference shall include all that part of Tennessee state south of Cumberland River and west of the Cumberland Mountains, and that part of Alabama state lying north of the mountains which divide the waters of Mobile Bay from the Tennessee River.
- Twelfth boundary. 12. Holston Conference shall include the remaining part of Tennessee lying east of the Cumberland Mountains, and that part of Virginia and North Carolina embraced in Holston District and the Black Mountain and French Broad

Circuits, formerly belonging to South Carolina Conference.

May 24

13. Mississippi Conference shall include the states of Mississippi and Louisiana and that part of Alabama not included in Tennessee Conference, and all West Florida.

Thirteenth boundary.

14. South Carolina Conference shall include all of South Carolina, Georgia, East Florida, and that part of North Carolina not included in the Virginia and Holston Conferences.

Fourteenth boundary.

15. Virginia Conference shall include the circuits situated on the Yadkin River, and that part of North Carolina lying north of Cape Fear River, except Wilmington, and that part of Virginia lying south of Rappahannock and east of the Blue Ridge, except Fredericksburgh.

Fifteenth boundary.

16. Baltimore Conference shall include the remaining part of Virginia not included in the Virginia, Holston, Ohio, Pittsburg, and Philadelphia Conferences, the western shore of Maryland, and that part of Pennsylvania lying east of the Alleghany Mountains and west of Susquehanna River, including Northumberland District.

Sixteenth boundary.

17. Philadelphia Conference shall include the whole of the peninsula between the Chesapeake and Delaware Bays, and all that part of Pennsylvania lying between the Susquehanna and Delaware Rivers, except what is included in the Baltimore and Genesee Conferences; and all the state of New-Jersey, Staten Island, and so much of the state of New-York as now is, or at any time may be, included in the Bergen and Hamburg Circuits.

Seventeenth boundary.

*Provided* that the bishops be, and are hereby authorized, by and with the advice and consent of the South Carolina and Mississippi Conferences, to form a new conference of such sections of country as may be included in those conferences. *Provided* also that the bishops shall have authority to appoint other annual conferences, if the number of circuits should increase so as, in their judgment, to require it.

The report of the Committee on the Trial and Admission of Members was then taken up and read, and, on motion, was recommitted.

Report of the Committee on Trial and Admission of Members.

G. M'Nelly gave the following notice:—

*Resolved*, That the following item be inserted in our form of Discipline, in its proper place, viz.: "Persons on trial shall be entitled to trial and appear as members in all charges of immorality." Signed, George M'Nelly, R. Clarwine.

Conference adjourned until to-morrow.

May 21.

FRIDAY, MAY 21.

Conference assembled.

The conference met at eight o'clock A. M., and was opened with reading a portion of the Holy Scriptures, singing, and prayer, Bishop George in the chair.

Report of the Committee on Local Preachers.

William Winans, from the Committee on Local Preachers, presented a report, which was read, and laid on the table.

Report on Revision of the Discipline.

N. Bangs, from the Committee on the Revision of the Discipline, presented a report, which was read, and laid on the table.

Notice to bring up a resolution referring to suspended resolutions.

D. Young gave the following notice:—

"I give notice that a resolution will be introduced tomorrow, referring to what is called the suspended resolutions.  
D. YOUNG."

Notice to bring up a resolution to amend the Discipline.

L. Myers gave the following notice:—

"I give notice that I intend to bring in a resolution tomorrow to amend the second paragraph of the fourth section of the second part of our Discipline.  
L. MYERS."

Motion to suspend the order of business.

G. Pickering moved to dispense with the regular order of business, and to take up the report of the Committee on the Episcopacy. Lost.

Report on Missions.

The report of the Committee on Missions was then taken up and read.

Motion to recommit and report.

S. H. Thompson moved that the report be recommitted. Carried.

Report of the Committee on Disputed Claims.

The report of the Committee on Disputed Claims, in the case of Jesse Walker, was then taken up, read, and adopted; and the secretary was directed to furnish Jesse Walker with a copy of the resolutions.

Second report of the Committee on the Book Concern in the case of Samuel Demint.

The second report, in part, of the Committee on the Book Concern, in the case of Samuel Demint, was taken up, read, and adopted.

Resolution referring to article of limitations and restrictions.

The motion of G. Ekin (No. 2) was taken up and lost.

The resolution offered by L. Pierce, on annexing a provision to the article of "limitations and restrictions," was taken up.

D. Ostrander moved that it be laid on the table; on which motion the conference was divided, and sixty-one appeared in favour of laying the resolution on the table and sixty-five against it.

The following amendment was then offered:—

*Provided*, also, that in all the above votings, both in the annual conferences and in the General Conference, the votes shall be taken by ballot. Signed, James Smith, N. Bangs.

The amendment was admitted.

Conference adjourned until three o'clock.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON.

May 31.

The conference met, and was opened with reading a portion of the Holy Scriptures, singing, and prayer. The consideration of the resolution offered by L. Pierce was resumed.

Conference met.

It was moved by E. Cooper, and seconded by N. Bangs, to dispense with the usual method of taking the vote, and to take it on this question by ballot. Lost.

Motion to dispense with the regular order of voting.

The question was then taken on the resolution, when it was sustained, sixty-four voting in the affirmative and fifty-eight in the negative.

D. Ostrander gave the following notice:—

Notice to offer a resolution to alter the session on receiving preachers.

“I give notice that I shall, on to-morrow, or on some future day, ask leave to bring in a resolution to alter some part of the section on receiving preachers, so as to allow the annual conferences to employ a preacher who shall be recommended either by the quarterly conference of his circuit or the district conference of his district.”

D. Ostrander’s resolution for closing the session of the conference on the twenty-sixth instant was taken up and lost.

Resolution for closing conference on the 26th inst. taken up.

T. Merritt, agreeably to previous notice, offered the following resolution:—

Resolution to alter the second article of Restrictive Rules.

*Resolved*, That it be proposed to all the annual conferences so to alter the second article of the Restrictive Rules as not to allow of more than one representative for every fourteen members of an annual conference, nor allow of less number than one for every twenty-one: *Provided*, however, that if it should happen that an annual conference should not have the number of members required for a representative, such conference shall, notwithstanding, be allowed one representative. Signed, Timothy Merritt, E. Mudge.

D. Young’s resolution was taken up and carried.

Resolution taken up.

P. Cartwright’s resolution was withdrawn.

S. G. Roszel’s resolution was taken up.

J. O. Andrew moved that it be amended by recognising the validity of the ordination of the regularly ordained ministers of every Church.

W. Fisk was released from the Committee on Missions, and Fisk Reed appointed in his place.

W. Fisk released from the Committee on Missions, and F. Reed appointed.

Conference adjourned until to-morrow.

SATURDAY, MAY 29.

May 31.

The conference met at eight o’clock A. M., and was opened with reading a portion of the Holy Scriptures, singing, and prayer, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

Conference met.

E. Hedding, from the Committee on Missions, to whom a

Report on Missions.

- May 22. former report had been recommitteed, presented a report, which was read, and laid on the table.
- Report of the Committee on Admission and Trial of Members. N. Bangs, from the Committee on the Admission and Trial of Members, to whom a former report had been recommitteed, presented a report, which was read, and laid on the table.
- Report of special committee on the case of J. Dixon. H. Holmes, from the special committee on the case of James Dixon, presented a report, which was read.
- Secretary directed to furnish Joseph Crawford with a copy of proceedings. The question was taken on the resolution, and lost, and a collection was taken, by the permission of the president, for his benefit; amounting to \$——, and placed in the hands of ——.
- Letter from Wm. Burke read. On motion of M. Ruter, the secretary was directed to furnish Joseph Crawford with an extract of the proceedings of this conference in his case.
- Communication presented from trustees in Detroit. A letter from Wm. Burke to E. Cooper, and through him to the conference, was read, and the requests contained therein were not granted.
- Letter from President of the Baltimore Tract Society read. The president presented a communication from certain trustees in Detroit, Michigan Territory, which was read, and referred to the Committee on Churches and Parsonage-houses.
- Letter from Salisbury, Md., presented. A communication from the president of the Religious Tract Society of Baltimore was presented and read, and, on motion of L. M'Combs, the secretary was directed to communicate to the president of said society, through their president, the thanks of this conference for the tracts presented to the conference; which was done.
- L. Clark released from Committee on Revision of Discipline. The president presented a communication from Salisbury, Md., which was read, and laid on the table until the report on the affairs of local preachers be taken up.
- Resolution relative to altering Discipline. L. Clark asked to be released from the committee on the revision of the Discipline, and was released; and N. Bangs was appointed in his place.
- Resolution concerning the suspended resolutions of last General Conference. L. Myers, agreeably to previous notice, offered the following resolution:—
- Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, That the following clause be added to the second paragraph of the fourth section (page 177) of the second part of our Discipline, viz.: But this provision shall not apply to the wives of those preachers who were single when admitted on trial and marry under four years, until after the expiration of said four years. Signed, Lewis Myers, Samuel Dunwoody. Sustained.
- D. Young, agreeably to previous notice, offered the following resolution:—
- Whereas a majority of the annual conferences have judged the resolutions making presiding elders elective, and which were passed and then suspended at the last General Conference, unconstitutional; therefore,

Resolved, &c., That the said resolutions are not of authority, and shall not be carried into effect. Signed, D. Young, G. R. Jones. Sustained.

May 22

D. Ostrander, agreeably to previous notice, offered the following resolution:—

Resolved, That the following amendment be introduced into the answer to the fourth question in the eighth section of the first chapter of the form of Discipline, on receiving preachers, &c.: between the word "from" and "the" insert "the district conference of his district, or." Signed, D. Ostrander. Sustained.

Resolution to amend Discipline.

E. Cooper offered the following resolution:—

Resolved, &c., That the Rev. John Hannah, travelling companion of the Rev. Richard Reese, the delegate from the British Conference to this General Conference, be, and he is hereby respectfully requested to preach a sermon to this conference, in Eutaw Church, on Tuesday next, the twenty-fifth instant, at seven and a half o'clock in the evening. Signed, Ezekiel Cooper, N. Bangs. Adopted unanimously.

Resolution to request Rev. J. Hannah to preach a sermon to this conference.

The consideration of the resolution offered by S. G. Roszel, and the amendment thereto, was resumed, and, on motion of P. Cartwright, they were referred to a select committee of three.

S. G. Roszel's resolution taken up.

L. Skidmore's resolution was then taken up. Withdrawn by the mover.

The president then announced the following committee to examine the subject of ordination, and to report, &c.: Ezekiel Cooper, Thomas L. Douglass, Martin Ruter.

Committee announced by the president.

The resolution (No. 16) offered by T. Merritt was then taken up.

T. Merritt's resolution taken up.

D. Ostrander moved to amend it by striking out fourteen and twenty-one, and inserting ten and fifteen. The resolution was withdrawn by the mover.

On motion of W. Capers, the regular order was dispensed with, and the report of the Committee on Missions was taken up, with the resolution (No. 13) previously offered by W. Capers; and the resolutions of the report were sustained.

Regular order dispensed with.

On motion of D. Ostrander, the regular order was further dispensed with, and the report of the Committee on Local Preachers was taken up.

Report on local preachers taken up.

On the first resolution W. Capers moved to strike out the words "a majority" and insert "one-third," and the amendment being under consideration the conference adjourned.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

The conference met, and was opened with reading a portion of the Holy Scriptures, singing, and prayer.

May 23.  
Report on Local  
Preachers re-  
sumed.

The consideration of the report of the Committee on Local Preachers was resumed.

The amendment moved by W. Caspers was withdrawn.

The question was then taken on the first section of the first resolution, and lost.

D. Ostrander offered the following amendment to the report, in place of the resolution last rejected:—

*Provided* that if any district conference shall refuse or neglect to hold its regular sessions, then, and in all such cases, the quarterly-meeting conferences of the circuits and stations respectively shall be authorized to transact the business of the district conference. Sustained.

Notice of J.  
Young.

J. Young gave the following notice:—

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, That the fifth and sixth answers in the fifth section of the second part of our Discipline be stricken out, and something better be adopted in their stead.

Conference adjourned until Monday morning.

May 24.

## MONDAY, MAY 24.

The conference met at eight o'clock A. M., and was opened with reading a portion of the Holy Scriptures, singing, and prayer, Bishop George in the chair.

Report on Itin-  
erancy laid on  
the table.

S. Merwin, from the Committee on the Itinerancy, presented a report, which was read, and laid on the table.

Report on the  
Communication from De-  
troit.

D. Ostrander, from the Committee on Churches and Parsonages, presented a report on the communication from Detroit, which was read and adopted, and the report which had been recommitted was laid on the table.

Report of the  
Committee on  
Revision laid  
on the table.

L. Clark, from the Committee on the Revision of the Discipline, presented a report, which was read, and laid on the table.

S. Luckey, from the Committee on the Expenses of the Delegates, to whom a former report had been recommitted, presented a report, which was read, and laid on the table.

Instructions to  
Committee on  
Book Concern.

N. Bangs moved that the Committee on the Book Concern be instructed to inquire whether a more equitable apportionment may not be made of the avails of the Book Concern and of the Chartered Fund. Signed, N. Bangs, J. B. Finley. Carried.

J. O. Andrew gave the following notice:—

“J. O. Andrew gives notice that he will, on to-morrow, introduce the following resolution:—

“*Resolved, &c.*, That whenever any person, who is in good standing in any other branch of the Church of God, shall request admission into our Church, they shall not be re-

quired to undergo the usual probation of six months, but shall be received as members in full connexion.

May 24.

“JAMES O. ANDREW.”

J. O. Andrew gives notice that he will, to-morrow, introduce the following resolution:—

“Resolved, &c., That the fifth answer to the first question of the fifth section of the second part of the Discipline, in the first part of the answer, be so altered as to read thus: ‘It shall be the duty of the stewards, or of a committee appointed for the purpose;’ and in the latter part of the answer, after the words ‘in money or otherwise,’ strike out the rest of the paragraph. JAMES O. ANDREW.”

L. Myers’s resolution (No. 17) was taken up and sustained.

The resolution (No. 18) offered by D. Young was taken up and sustained.

Resolution of D. Young taken up.

The Journal of the last General Conference, on the subject of the suspended resolutions, was read.

The reading of the Journals of the annual conferences on the subject was called for, when it was moved by D. Ostrander that the resolution be laid on the table until afternoon. Lost.

The Journals of the Ohio, Kentucky, Mississippi, Tennessee, Missouri, Philadelphia, and New-York Annual Conferences, and an extract from the Journal of the South Carolina Annual Conference on the subject, were read.

The Journals of the other conferences were not present at the hour of adjournment. The subject being still under consideration, the conference adjourned until three o’clock.

MONDAY AFTERNOON.

The conference met, and was opened with reading a portion of the Holy Scriptures, singing, and prayer.

The consideration of the resolution offered by D. Young was resumed.

It was moved that the vote on this question be taken by ballot. Carried.

When the ballots were taken and counted, it appeared that sixty-three were in favour of the resolution and sixty-one against it; and it was therefore sustained.

The resolution (No. 19) offered by D. Ostrander was then taken up and sustained.

Resolution of D. Ostrander sustained.

The resolution offered by George M’Nelly (No. 20) was taken up and not sustained.

On motion of W. Wimans it was resolved to suspend the rules of the conference so as to admit of the following motion:—

Moved, to suspend so much of the rules and order of the conference as to allow an amendment to the second paragraph of the twentieth section of the Discipline, by inserting



May 21.

between the words "licensed" and "without" "or recommended for admission into the travelling connexion." Signed, W. Winans, W. Capers. Sustained.

Report of the  
Committee on  
Local Preach-  
ers.

The report of the Committee on Local Preachers, so far as it had been once sustained, was then taken up and passed.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE AFFAIRS OF LOCAL  
PREACHERS.

Your committee, having deliberated with anxious solicitude on the momentous affairs committed to them for consideration, and having weighed the various suggestions contained in the numerous petitions and memorials which were referred to them, have agreed to, and now beg leave to present the following report:—

It does not appear to your committee that it is expedient to abolish the district conferences, as is prayed for in some of the petitions which were referred to them, nor can they recommend the taking of any step toward allowing a delegation of local preachers to the General Conference, esteeming such a measure inexpedient, though demanded by many of the memorials which were referred to them; but they do deem it important to alter, amend, and add to the rule of Discipline concerning local preachers, and therefore respectfully submit the following resolutions, viz.:—

Resolutions sub-  
mitted by the  
Committee on  
Local Preach-  
ers.

1. *Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, That the following alterations, additions, and amendments be made in the twentieth section of the first chapter of our form of Discipline, viz.:

(1.) At the close of the first paragraph add, "In all cases a majority of all the members of conference belonging to a district shall be necessary to do business; and if in any case there should not be this quorum, then the business of such district shall be transacted by the next ensuing quarterly-meeting conference within the district.

*Provided*, that if any district conference shall refuse or neglect to hold its regular sessions, then, and in all such cases, the quarterly-meeting conferences of the circuits and stations respectively shall be authorized to transact the business of the district conference. Lost.

(2.) In the second paragraph, between the words "license" and "to recommend," insert, "annually when in their judgment their gifts, grace, and usefulness will warrant renewal."

(3.) In the fourth paragraph, between the words "conference" and "and," insert "the preacher in charge shall cause exact minutes of the charges, testimony, and examination, together with the decision of the committee, to be laid before the district conference, where it shall be the duty of the accused to appear."

(4.) After the fourth paragraph insert a new one, numbered five, thus : " 5. When a local elder or deacon shall be expelled, the president of the conference shall require of him the credentials of his ordination, to be filed with the papers of the annual conference within whose limits the expulsion has taken place. And should he, at any future time, produce to the annual conference a certificate of his restoration, signed by the president and countersigned by the secretary of the district conference, his credentials shall be restored to him."

May 24.  
Report on Local Preachers continued.

(5.) In the sixth paragraph strike out, " the necessity of his official services as an elder in the circuit where he resides."

(6.) In the seventh paragraph, fifth line, between the words " every " and " local," insert " licensed."

2. Resolved, &c., That the fifth and subsequent members of the paragraphs of this section be so changed as to coincide with the insertion of a fifth paragraph.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM WINANS, *Chairman.*

Baltimore, May 21, 1894.

S. Martindale gave notice of the following resolution :  
(No. 31. See file.)

P. Rice asked leave of absence for himself and P. P. Sandford after to-morrow. Granted.

Conference adjourned until to-morrow.

Leave of absence granted to P. Rice and P. P. Sandford.

TUESDAY, MAY 25.

May 25.

The conference met at eight o'clock A. M., and was opened with reading a portion of the Holy Scriptures, singing, and prayer, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

The president presented a communication from the grand secretary of the Grand Lodge of Maryland, which was read.

S. G. Roszal, from the Committee on the Affairs of the People of Colour, presented a report, which was read, and laid on the table.

Communication from the Grand Lodge of Maryland.  
Report on the Affairs of Coloured People.

E. Cooper, from the Committee on the Book Concern, presented a report. which was read, and laid on the table.

Report on Book Concern laid on the table.

N. Bangs, from the Committee of Address, &c., on memorials, &c., from private members, presented a report, which was read, and laid on the table.

Report on the Address laid on the table.

G. Pickering moved to dispense with the regular order of business, and to take up the report of the Committee on the Episcopacy, which had been once sustained. Carried.

On motion it was resolved that the secretary reply to the communication from the grand secretary of the Grand Lodge, &c., and inform him that it will not be practicable for this conference to attend the funeral of our late dis-

Reply to the Grand Lodge of Maryland.

May 25. distinguished fellow-citizen, General Winder, with the reasons.

The report of the Committee on the Episcopacy being still under consideration, the conference adjourned until three o'clock P. M.

Adjourned.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON.

The conference met, and was opened with reading a portion of the Holy Scriptures, singing, and prayer.

Report of the Committee on Episcopacy.

The consideration of the report of the Committee on the Episcopacy was resumed, and the report was finally passed.

Motion to elect general superintendents.

On motion of S. G. Roszel it was resolved that the conference will proceed, to-morrow morning, immediately after the opening of the conference, to elect two general superintendents, agreeably to the report of the Committee on the Episcopacy.

Regular order of business suspended for the consideration of the report of Book Concern.

On motion of E. Cooper, the regular order of business was dispensed with, and the report of the Committee on the Book Concern was taken up.

On motion, at the hour of adjournment, it was resolved to sit ten minutes longer; and the report on the Book Concern was laid on the table.

S. Dunwody moved that the delegates of this General Conference who are sick, shall be allowed to send their votes for the bishops and book-agents, under a sealed cover. Signed, Samuel Dunwody, Wm. M. Kennedy. Lost.

Motion to elect book-agents.

S. Merwin moved that the conference proceed immediately after the election of the general superintendents, to-morrow morning, to elect the book-agents, which motion was under consideration when the conference adjourned until to-morrow.

May 26.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26.

The conference met at eight o'clock A. M., and was opened with reading a portion of the Holy Scriptures, singing, and prayer, Bishop George in the chair.

Communication in behalf of the representatives of Alexander Cummins.

J. F. Wright presented a communication in behalf of the representatives of Alexander Cummins, deceased, which, on motion of D. Ostrander, was referred to the book-agent and committee at Cincinnati, with discretionary power to act on it as they think proper.

Report of Book Committee again taken up.

On motion of E. Cooper it was resolved to take up and finish the report of the Committee on the Book Concern previously to entering into the election for the general superintendents. Carried.

The report of the Committee on the Book Concern was again taken up.

The resolution, (No. 10,) on motion of S. G. Roszel, was laid on the table after the election of the agents.

L. Skidmore offered the following resolution:—

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to inquire what is necessary to be done by this General Conference in reference to the Life of Bishop Asbury. Signed, L. Skidmore, E. Cooper. Carried.

May. 24.  
Life of Asbury.

E. Cooper offered the following resolution:—

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, That the thanks of the conference be presented to our beloved brother, the Rev. John Hannah, for his excellent sermon preached last evening to the General Conference, and that he be, and hereby is respectfully requested to furnish a copy for publication. Signed, E. Cooper, S. Martindale. Unanimously adopted.

Vote of thanks to Rev. John Hannah.

The conference then proceeded to the election of two general superintendents, agreeably to the resolution of yesterday.

Election of superintendents.

Ezekiel Cooper and Joshua Wells were appointed to receive and tell the tickets; when, on taking and counting the ballots, it appeared that one hundred and twenty-eight votes were given, of which Joshua Soule had sixty-four, William Beauchamp sixty-two, Elijah Hedding sixty-one, John Emory fifty-nine, Martin Ruter five, Lewis Myers two, N. Bangs one, P. P. Sandford one, and D. Ostrander one; and sixty-five being requisite to make a majority of the votes given in, it was declared that no choice was made, and the conference proceeded to ballot again.

Tellers.

First ballot no election.

On motion it was resolved to sit till one o'clock.

Session prolonged.  
Second ballot J. Soule elected.

On taking and counting the ballots the second time, it appeared that one hundred and twenty-eight votes were given in, of which Joshua Soule had sixty-five, Elijah Hedding sixty-four, Wm. Beauchamp sixty-two, John Emory fifty-eight, L. Myers two, Martin Ruter two, John Hedding one. Joshua Soule was declared to be duly elected.

No other choice having been made, the conference proceeded to ballot the third time for the second general superintendent.

Previously to the third balloting John Emory asked permission of the president to speak to the conference, which was granted.

J. Emory's remarks and resignation as a candidate.

J. Emory begged the conference to accept his acknowledgment of the respectful notice taken of his name in the former balloting for an office so high and sacred, but requested that he might not be considered as in nomination in the subsequent balloting.

The conference then proceeded to ballot the third time, when, on counting the ballots, it appeared that one hundred and twenty-eight voters gave in tickets, of which Elijah Hedding had sixty-six, Wm. Beauchamp sixty, J.

Third ballot E. Hedding elected.

May 22. Emory one, and one was blank. Elijah Hedding was declared to be duly elected.

Conference adjourned until three o'clock.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

The conference met, and was opened with reading a portion of the Holy Scriptures, singing, and prayer.

Motion to elect book-agents.

On motion it was resolved to proceed to the election of the book-agents.

The president was requested to decide whether the assistant agent be again eligible to the office after the expiration of the term of eight years. He stated that his opinion had always been that he is not reeligible after the expiration of that term, but expressed a wish that the conference should express their own opinion.

L. Skidmore then offered the following motion:—

Moved, that the General Conference deem it consistent with our Discipline that an assistant agent may continue more than eight years in succession in the Book Concern. Signed, L. Skidmore, L. Clark. Lost.

Election for book-steward.

The conference then proceeded to the election of the editor and general book-steward at New-York, when, on counting the ballots, it appeared that Nathan Bangs had ninety-four votes, Wm. Beauchamp twenty-one, J. Emory eight, Wilbur Fisk one, and two were blank. Nathan Bangs was declared to be duly elected.

N. Bangs elected editor and general book-steward.

The conference then proceeded to the election of the book-agent at Cincinnati, when, on counting the ballots, it appeared that Martin Ruter had seventy-one votes, Wm. Beauchamp forty-seven, M. Lindsey five, H. Leigh one, G. R. Jones one, and N. Bangs one. Martin Ruter was declared to be duly elected.

M. Ruter elected book-agent at Cincinnati.

Report of Book Committee again taken up.

On motion of D. Ostrander the order of the business was dispensed with, and the report of the Committee on the Book Concern was taken up for its completion and final passage.

On motion, at the hour of adjournment, it was resolved to sit half an hour longer, and the report as amended was passed as follows:—

The Committee on the Book Concern, having had the various objects of their appointment under consideration, now take liberty to report,

Report.

1. The agents, so far as we have been able to discover, have been diligent and faithful in the discharge of their duties and trusts, and we see no cause even to suspect their integrity.

2. Judging and calculating from the exhibits of the Concern,—the inventory of stock, the agents' report, and other written and verbal items of information,—we find the gross amount of stock, at its nominal valuation, including debts

and property of every description, good, bad, and doubtful, to be about \$270,002 28. The amount of debts against the Concern is \$48,542 50; leaving the balance of stock as estimated at \$221,459 78. It appears that \$33,636 52 of the debt against the Concern is on interest, which is a heavy draw-back upon the profits of the business.

3. We believe that, owing to the method of estimating the stock, which the agents one after another have followed, to show what has been the increase from one General Conference to another, and from a consideration of bad and doubtful debts, and such other stock as may be lost, injured, and unproductive, the net and real value of the stock is considerably less than the estimated amount represents it to be; and we recommend that in all future exhibits and estimates there be such a per centum deducted from the gross nominal amount, and such an allowance for bad and doubtful debts and for unproductive stock, of little worth, &c., as will exhibit an estimate of the real value of capital, and no more.

4. We are of opinion that the heavy debt against the Concern should be reduced as fast and as much as is possibly compatible with the safety and interest of the business; and the out-standing debts be collected in, in order to which the bishops, the presiding elders, and every preacher, and every book committee and annual conference should exert their influence. And the capital stock should not be much, if any, increased: the old, unproductive stock should be disposed of upon such terms as are within the agents' power, either by exchange or reduced prices; or given away.

5. We are also of opinion that the Book Concern should be put upon a more safe establishment for its legal security to the connexion, and that the agents should be under a more definite and legal responsibility to the General Conference for the faithful discharge of their duties and trusts. The committee is apprized of the difficulties attendant on introducing changes, or improvements, or departures from old habits or customs. Therefore we shall only propose at present the few following resolutions, viz. :—

*Resolved, &c.*, 1. That the per centum commission allowed the preachers for selling books be continued as it now is; but any preacher purchasing books of the agents for his own library shall be allowed thirty-three and one-third per cent. discount: and the agents may allow from twenty to thirty-three and one-third per cent. to book-sellers, at their discretion, according to the kinds and quality of the books. Sunday schools and all benevolent institutions for the gratuitous distribution of books, shall always have them as low as they can possibly be afforded.

*Resolved, &c.*, 2. That we deem it inexpedient for the preachers to become agents for other booksellers.

May 21.  
Report on Book  
Concern con-  
tinued.

Resolutions of  
Committee.

May 26.  
Resolutions of  
Committee on  
Book Concern  
continued.

*Resolved, &c., 3.* That the seventh or last paragraph of the section on printing books, &c., page one hundred and ninety-three, be stricken out, and in lieu thereof it be inserted: "Any travelling preacher who may publish any work or book of his own, shall do it on his own responsibility, and he shall be amenable to the conference for any obnoxious matter or doctrine therein contained."

*Resolved, &c., 4.* That when any preacher sends or transfers any works or books of his own publication to the agents, or to account of the agents, if the work is accepted by the agents, there shall be allowed thirty-three and one-third per cent. discount to the Book Concern, and five copies in every hundred; but the agents shall not publish any works or books on their own account. Every work or book published by the agents shall be for the benefit of the connexion, and shall be subject to the inspection of the Book Committee.

*Resolved, &c., 5.* That the agents are hereby instructed not to increase nor to retain on hand an unproductive, unprofitable stock; and they are also instructed to liquidate and discharge the heavy debts against the Concern as soon as they possibly can consistently with the true interests of the Concern; and also to press the collection of debts due to the Concern.

*Resolved, &c., 6.* That when any presiding elder shall have been in arrears one hundred dollars, and any other preacher twenty dollars, at the annual settlement, for more than one year, without having paid any part thereof, he shall not be allowed any further credit or supply of books until the said debt be liquidated to the satisfaction of the agents; and he shall be amenable to the conference for his neglect of duty and be liable to have all the connexion books and claims for books in his possession taken out of his hands and transferred to another; and no preacher shall be allowed to appropriate the book money in his hands to his own use, in any way or manner whatever, but shall always remit it to the agents or to their order and direction as soon as possible.

*Resolved, &c., 7.* That the agents and their books and accounts shall always be subject to the inspection and examination of the Book Committees, both at New-York and Cincinnati; and the said agents shall be liable to checks and control from the said committees; and the said agents and committees shall be amenable to the annual conference at each place for the punctual and faithful discharge of their respective duties.

*Resolved, &c., 8.* That the bishops, as overseers of the temporalities as well as the spiritualities of the Church, are hereby requested to pay strict attention to the affairs of the Book Concern at every annual conference; that book committees of inquiry and examination be appointed, and that

the rules and regulations relative to the Book Concern be attended to.

*Resolved, &c., 9.* That the Book Committee at New-York and Cincinnati be authorized to estimate, from year to year, the amount necessary for the support of the book-agents, in addition to what is allowed by the Discipline to preachers as quarterage, and the amount shall be paid out of the funds of the Book Concern: and that the agents, both at New-York and Cincinnati, be allowed to employ such assistance from time to time, and under such regulations and restrictions, and upon such terms as the Book Committee at each place shall deem essential to the interests of the Concern, and no more.

*Resolved, &c., 10.* That an exhibit of the temporal transactions of the annual conferences be published at the discretion of the agents and Book Committee, in the general Minutes or the Magazine, or both, annually; and that each annual conference, if it choose, may publish its own Minutes with an exhibit of its own pecuniary transactions.

*Resolved, &c., 11.* That the agents shall be at liberty to suspend the regulation requiring payment for the Magazine in advance.

All of which is respectfully submitted. By order of the Committee.

EZEKIEL COOPER, *Chairman.*

May 24, 1824.

L. Myers gave the following notice:—

“I give notice that I intend on to-morrow to move so to modify our rule in relation to ‘the assistant editor and general book-steward’ as to make him eligible to reelection at the expiration of eight years.”

Notice of motion.

D. Ostrander moved that the book-agents and Book Committee in New-York be instructed to publish in the next annual Minutes so much of the report of the Committee on the Book Concern as, in their judgment, is necessary and proper to be published. Carried.

Report to be printed.

The president announced the following committee to make inquiry respecting the present state of the Life of the late Bishop Asbury: Nelson Reed, Ezekiel Cooper, and Joshua Wells.

Committee to inquire into the Life of Bishop Asbury.

The conference adjourned until to-morrow

THURSDAY, MAY 27.

May 27.

The conference met, and was opened with reading a portion of the Holy Scriptures, singing, and prayer, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

Wm. Beauchamp, from the Committee on Disputed Claims, &c., presented reports in the cases of John Sale and David Young, which were read and adopted.

Report in cases of John Sale and David Young.



May 27.

## COPY OF THE RESOLUTIONS INCLUDED IN THE REPORTS.

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, That the Book Committee of the Ohio Annual Conference be authorized to settle with John Sale on the following principles, viz. :—

1. They shall ascertain the deficit in the transfer of books made by S. Parker, and pass the same to the said Sale's credit.

2. They shall release him from the amount of the demand on Saul Hinkle by his producing Hinkle's obligation for the same.

3. They shall settle the disputed account against Ogles by according as they shall judge equitable.

4. They shall release the said Sale from the amount of the demand against Elijah Sparks.

All of which is respectfully submitted. Signed, &c.,  
WM. BRAUCHAMP.

Report in the case of David Young.

## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE IN THE CASE OF D. YOUNG.

It appears, from the information they have obtained, that a transfer of books, amounting to \$750 25, from David Young to John Collins, has not been passed to the credit of said Young; that cash paid by him to the Book Committee, amounting to \$234, has been charged as well as credited to him. Your committee are inclined to think that he ought to have credit for both these sums; but as this is in some degree doubtful, in consequence of the want of more information, they recommend the adoption of the following resolution :—

*Resolved*, &c., That the Book Committee of the Ohio Conference be, and hereby is authorized to settle with David Young on principles of equity, rectifying what errors they may find in reference to the above items.

M. Ruter offered the following resolution :—

*Resolved*, That the book-agents in the West and the Book Committee of the Ohio Conference be, and hereby are authorized to settle any disputed accounts in the West prior to the date of this conference. Signed, M. Ruter, J. B. Finley. Carried.

Report concerning book-agents and Book Committee.

Report of the Committee on Communication from the agents of Colonization Society.

N. Bangs, from the chairman J. Soale, presented a report from the Committee on the communication from the agents of the Colonization Society, which was read and adopted, as follows :—

The committee appointed to take into consideration the address of the acting Committee of the American Colonization Society, and other documents on the same subject, report that, in their opinion, the General Conference are not in possession of sufficient information relative to said Society to render it proper for them in their official capac-

ity to adopt any measure on the subject further than to recommend it to the notice of the proper authorities of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church as a suitable field for sowing good seed of the kingdom of God. Under this view of the subject your committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution:—

May 27.

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, That it is expedient, whenever the funds of the Missionary Society will justify the measure, for the episcopacy to select and send a missionary or missionaries to the colony in Africa, now establishing under the auspices of the American Colonization Society.

L. Myers, agreeably to the notice given yesterday, offered the following resolution, which was laid on the table:—

Moved, to dispense with the rules and order of the house so far as to admit of the following amendment to the first article of the seventh section of part second of our form of Discipline: add, after the last word in the article, "Notwithstanding, nothing herein shall apply to the assistant editor and general book steward." Signed, L. Myers, W. Winans.

Election of assistant book-agent.

J. Lindsey moved to take up the report of the Committee on the Expenses of the Delegates; and, on motion of Ezekiel Cooper, it was resolved to lay this motion on the table and to go into the election of the assistant book-agent at New-York; when, on taking and counting the ballots, it appeared that one hundred and twenty-three votes were cast, of which John Emory had seventy-two, Heseckiah G. Leigh forty-six, Thomas Mason three, Marcus Lindsey one, John Scripps one. John Emory, who had been previously nominated, not being a member of the conference, was declared to be duly elected.

John Emory elected assistant book-agent.

Bishop M'Kendree gave notice that the ordination sermon and the consecration of the bishop elect would take place in this church to-morrow at twelve o'clock, and afterward made a parting address to the conference.

Elijah Hedding, bishop elect, also addressed the conference, and begged that he might be allowed time till the afternoon session to consider whether he can consent to be set apart for the episcopal office.

A communication from the Maryland African Auxiliary Colonization Society was presented and read, and, on motion, referred to the committee on that subject.

The report of the Committee on the Expenses of the Delegates was then taken up.

Report of the Committee on Expenses of Delegates.

N. Bangs and M. Ruter moved to strike out \$2,000 and insert \$1,000.

The question was taken on striking out, and lost.

E. Drake moved to add \$408, so as to read \$2,408. Carried.

May 21.  
Report of Com-  
mittee on Ex-  
penses of Dele-  
gates con-  
tinued.

The third resolution was rejected, and the report, as amended, was passed, as follows:—

The committee to whom was recommitted the subject of the expenses of the delegates, &c., have attended to the several instructions given them by the conference, and report—

1. That the medium expenses of the delegates from the different annual conferences in coming to and returning from the General Conference (supposing the same for returning as for coming) will be very nearly as follows:—

	Each Delegate.	All the Delegates.
New-York.....	\$28 00	\$448 00
New-England.....	41 00	570 00
Genesee .....	42 64	516 40
Ohio .....	48 18	560 69
Kentucky .....	52 12	416 96
Missouri.....	60 00	360 00
Tennessee .....	50 00	450 00
Mississippi .....	65 00	195 00
South Carolina .....	60 00	660 00
Virginia .....	34 55	310 95
Baltimore (supposed) .....	10 00	140 00
Philadelphia .....	14 50	188 50
<b>Making in all.....</b>		<b>\$4,816 50</b>

2. In compliance with their instructions, your committee respectfully submit the following resolutions:—

*Resolved, &c.*, That the committee appointed to inquire whether the several annual conferences have taken measures to meet the expenses of the delegates, &c., be, and they are hereby authorized to draw on the book fund for \$2,408, to be appropriated toward defraying the expenses of said delegates.

*Resolved, &c.*, That each annual conference, previously to each session of the General Conference, shall make a public collection in each circuit or station within their boundaries; which sums so collected shall be brought to the General Conference, and be divided among the members in meeting their expenses, in proportion to the expenses of each member in attending the General Conference.

W. Capers offered the following resolution:—

*Resolved, &c.*, That we do entertain unlimited confidence in the integrity, ability, and ministerial worth of our beloved brother, Elijah Hedding; and he having signified to the General Conference some hesitancy of receiving episcopal ordination, arising, as we believe, out of his own humble views of his qualifications, as well as on account of impaired health, we affectionately request him to submit himself to the call of Providence and of the Church, and receive ordination to the office of a bishop. Signed, W. Capers, W. Winans. Adopted without opposition.

Resolution as to  
E. Hedding.

N. Bangs and J. Tevis asked leave of absence after this afternoon, on account of the indisposition of their families; which was granted.

May 27.  
Leave of absence granted to N. Bangs and J. Tevis.

J. Waterman asked and obtained leave of absence.

The report on the affairs of the people of colour was then taken up.

Report on the Affairs of the Coloured People.

D. Ostrander moved that the report be laid on the table to take up that on missions. Lost.

Moved by W. Winans, to amend the report by striking out the words "mercy and humanity." Accepted.

Moved by Wm. M'Mahon, to amend it by adding, "and when slaves are exposed to sale by the public officer."

Moved by S. K. Hodges to lay the resolution on the table. Carried.

Joshua Soule, bishop elect, addressed the conference, and requested time till the afternoon to make a decision on receiving episcopal ordination. He then withdrew.

M. Lindsey moved that brother Soule be requested to receive ordination to the office of a bishop.

Moved, that the same resolution which had been passed with respect to brother Hedding be passed with respect to brother Soule.

Resolution as to J. Soule.

The resolution which had been passed in relation to brother Hedding was then read, with the substitution of the name of brother Soule for that of brother Hedding, and was adopted without opposition.

Conference adjourned until three o'clock.

#### THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

The conference met at three o'clock P. M., and was opened with reading a portion of the Holy Scriptures, singing, and prayer.

The report of the Committee on the Affairs of the Coloured People was taken up. The second resolution in the report was read and sustained.

Report on the Affairs of the Coloured People.

It was then moved by J. Young, and seconded by —, that the remaining part of the report lie on the table.

The motion for laying it on the table was withdrawn.

The consideration of the report was resumed.

The third resolution was read and sustained.

The fourth resolution was read and sustained.

The fifth resolution was withdrawn.

The sixth resolution was read and sustained.

It was then moved and seconded that the rules of the house be so far suspended as to take up the above report and give it a final passage, so far as it has been sustained; and it was finally passed.

May 27.

## RESOLUTIONS PASSED ON THE SUBJECT OF SLAVERY.

Resolutions  
passed on the  
subject of slav-  
ery.

*Resolved, &c.*, 1. That all our preachers ought prudently to enforce upon our members the necessity of teaching their slaves to read the word of God; and also that they give them time to hear the word of God preached on our regular days of divine service.

*Resolved, &c.*, 2. That our coloured preachers and official members have all the privileges in the district and quarterly meeting conferences which the usages of the country in different sections will justify: *Provided* also, that the presiding elder may, when there is a sufficient number, hold for them a separate district conference.

*Resolved, &c.*, 3. That any of the annual conferences may employ coloured preachers to travel where they judge their services necessary, provided they be recommended according to the form of Discipline.

*Resolved, &c.*, 4. That the above resolutions be made a part of the section in the Discipline on Slavery.

N. Reed, from the Committee on the Life of Bishop Asbury, presented a report, which was read and laid on the table.

C. Leach offered the following resolution:—

Expenses of  
senior bishop.

*Resolved, &c.*, That, in the sense of this conference, the provisions adopted at the last General Conference to meet the contingent expenses of our senior bishop were to embrace all expenses which might occur in his travelling; either from personal infirmity or necessary aid in a travelling companion or otherwise. Signed, Caleb Leach, Lovick Pierce. Carried.

Bishop As-  
bury's Life.

Moved, that Dr. Samuel K. Jennings be respectfully requested to deliver the materials in his possession, together with the manuscripts of Bishop Asbury's Life, as far as he has written it, into the hands of Rev. Wm. Beauchamp; and that brother Beauchamp make use of them and all other materials within his reach in the compilation of Bishop Asbury's Life. Signed, Jesse Walker, Thomas L. Douglass. Carried.

British Confer-  
ence.

On motion, M. Ruter, from the Committee to address the British Conference, was permitted to present a report, which was read by W. Fisk, and adopted.

On motion of M. Ruter, it was resolved that the general superintendents be, and are hereby authorized and requested to appoint a delegate to the British Conference, to visit them in 1826, under the same regulations as were adopted in 1820.

Address of the  
British Confer-  
ence printed.

On motion, it was resolved that the editor be permitted to print the address of the British Conference to this conference, and the address of this conference to that conference; and also the address of the bishop to this con-

ference, together with the report of the Committee on Missions.

May 27.

On motion it was resolved to fix on the place of the next General Conference. Pittsburgh, New-York, and Baltimore were nominated; and, on taking and counting the ballots, it appeared that Pittsburgh had seventy votes, New-York thirty-one, and Baltimore nineteen. Pittsburgh was declared to be the place of the next General Conference.

On motion, the second report on education was taken up and adopted.

RESOLUTIONS IN REFERENCE TO SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, 1. That it shall be the duty of each travelling preacher in our connexion to encourage the establishment and progress of Sunday schools.

Resolutions on Sunday schools.

*Resolved, &c.*, 2. That a committee of one or more be appointed at this General Conference, whose duty it shall be to compile a larger Catechism for the use of Sunday schools and of children in general, and submit it, when completed, to the book-agents and Book Committee of New-York; and if by them approved, it shall be the duty of the agents to publish it.

*Resolved, &c.*, 3. That the book-agents be, and hereby are instructed to provide and keep on hand a good assortment of books suitable for the use of Sunday schools.

RESOLUTIONS OF THE FIRST REPORT ON EDUCATION PASSED.

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, 1. That, as far as practicable, it shall be the duty of every preacher of a circuit or station to obtain the names of the children belonging to his congregation; to form them into classes for the purpose of giving them religious instruction, to instruct them regularly himself, as much as his other duties will allow; to appoint a suitable leader for each class, who shall instruct them in his absence; and to leave his successor a correct account of each class thus formed with the name of its leader.

Resolutions on Education.

*Resolved, &c.*, 2. That we approve of the resolution passed in the General Conference of 1820, on the subject of seminaries of learning, and hereby recommend that each annual conference, not having a seminary of learning, use its utmost exertion to effect such an establishment.

*Resolved, &c.*, 3: That it shall be the duty of every travelling preacher in our Church to keep in mind the importance of having suitable teachers employed in the instruction of the youth of our country, and to use his influence to introduce teachers into schools whose learning, piety, and religious tenets are such as we could recommend.

May 27.

*Resolved, &c.*, 4. That a copy of the first of the foregoing resolutions, with such alterations in the phraseology as may be necessary, be inserted in its proper place in the Discipline; and that a copy of the second and third be sent to the several annual conferences, to be disposed of as they may think expedient.

Bishops elect  
consent to re-  
ceive episcopal  
ordination.

The bishops elect then severally addressed the conference, and consented to submit to the call of the conference and to receive episcopal ordination.

Portraits of  
Preachers.

*Resolved, &c.*, That the book-agents be requested to adopt measures to insert the likeness of a travelling preacher in the Magazine once in three months, and that Rev. Messrs. Reece and Hannah, delegates from the British Conference, be requested to sit for their likenesses before they leave the continent.

Conference adjourned until to-morrow.

May 28.

## FRIDAY, MAY 28.

The conference met at eight o'clock A. M., and was opened with reading a portion of the Holy Scriptures, singing, and prayer, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

Leave of ab-  
sence to B. G.  
Paddock.  
Life of Asbury.

B. G. Paddock asked and obtained leave of absence.

Brother Beauchamp informed the conference that he should be obliged to decline undertaking the compilation of the late Bishop Asbury's Life, unless the conference give him discretionary power, and authorize him to report to the episcopacy or otherwise.

E. Cooper, from the Committee on Ordination, presented a report, which was read and adopted, as follows:—

Committee on  
Validity of Or-  
ders dis-  
charged.

The committee to whom was referred the question of admitting the validity of the ordination of any person who shall have joined our Church, and who has been regularly ordained by a bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and of recognising the validity of the ordination of every Church, now report, that the subject requires more deliberate consideration and explanation to come at a proper, discriminating decision than your committee has time to attend to, or the General Conference to act upon, at this almost closing period of the session; therefore we recommend that the committee be discharged from the further consideration of the subject.

*EZEKIEL COOPER, Chairman.*

May 28, 1824.

Vote of thanks.

B. R. Hoyt offered the following resolution:—

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, That the secretary be directed to furnish a note to the preachers in charge in this city, to be read in each of our chapels, expressive of the

gratitude of this conference to our friends for the many and continued expressions of their Christian courtesy to us. Signed, B. R. Hoyt, Joseph A. Merrill. Unanimously adopted.

May 23.

L. Myers moved to suspend the rules of the conference, so as to take up the resolution relative to the suspended resolutions, which has been once sustained. Lost, two-thirds not voting in the affirmative.

Presiding-elder question.

Moved, that it is the sense of this General Conference that the suspended resolutions, making the presiding elder elective, &c., are considered as unfinished business, and are neither to be inserted in the revised form of the Discipline nor to be carried into operation before the next General Conference. Signed, Robert Payne, W. Capers.

Moved, that the rules of the conference be suspended to consider the above resolution. Carried, and the resolution of R. Payne was then adopted.

The Committee of Revisal gave notice that they were ready to report.

Report on Revisal.

Moved by M. Ruter, that the report be referred to a committee of three, to incorporate the same with our form of Discipline. Carried.

Conference adjourned until three o'clock.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON.

The conference met, and was opened with reading a portion of the Holy Scriptures, singing, and prayer.

The report of the Committee on Missions was taken up, and finally passed.

Report on Missions passed.

The report of the Committee on Address, &c., was taken up, read, and sustained.

Report of the Committee on Address sustained.

On motion, the rules were dispensed with, and the report was read a second time and finally passed.

On motion it was resolved, that the book-agents cause one thousand five hundred copies of the Address to be printed, to be directed to the memorialists, or placed in the hands of the presiding elders to be distributed among the members.

The Committee on Addresses, Memorials, and Petitions report, that it is inexpedient to recommend a lay delegation. They therefore submit for adoption the following resolution:—

Lay delegation.

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the several annual conferences in General Conference assembled, That the following circular be sent in answer to the memorials, petitions, &c. (See file.)

*Resolved*, &c., That in consequence of the age and infirmity of Bishop M'Kendree, it is highly improper for him to travel alone, and that he be, and hereby is respectfully requested to choose a travelling companion to accom-

Bishop M'Kendree's health.



May 23.

pany him at his own discretion. Signed, J. Wells, W. Capers. Carried.

On motion, the following resolution, offered by W. Winans, which had been once sustained, was taken up:—

License  
preachers. of

Moved, to suspend so much of the rules and order of conference as to allow an amendment to the second paragraph of the twentieth section of the Discipline, by inserting, between the words "licensed" and "without," "or recommended for admission into the travelling connexion." Signed, W. Winans, W. Capers. Passed.

The report of the Committee on the Itinerancy was then taken up, and, on motion, the rule requiring a second reading was dispensed with; and the report, as amended, was passed.

#### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE ITINERANCY.

Report of the  
Committee on  
Itinerancy.

The committee appointed to take into consideration the state of the itinerancy, after mature deliberation on the several subjects referred to them, beg leave to report:—

1. That after availing themselves of such information as they could obtain, they are prepared to state that, for the most part, the annual conferences corroborate the wishes of the General Conference and bishops; but in some instances it was found that the young preachers have not been furnished with the course of study contemplated in the book of Discipline; and from the Journals of the Tennessee and Kentucky Conferences there appear to have been irregularities and errors in the proceedings on the case of Barnabas M'Henry.

2. That our circuits are, in general, well adapted to the convenience and moral improvement of our people. In some instances they may be too small, but frequently too large to admit of the full discharge of all our pastoral duties.

3. In regard to public worship and the administration of the ordinances, it appears there is great want of uniformity. The reading of the Scriptures, the Lord's prayer, and the apostolic benediction are frequently omitted; and in the administration of the ordinances some use the form in the Discipline, some mutilate it, and others wholly neglect it.

4. Though there does not appear any remarkable deficiency in the discharge of duty, as pastors and teachers, so far as relates to preaching and class-meetings, yet there is a partial inattention to class-meetings, and, in most places, a total neglect of the bands. Pastoral duties, also, in promoting family religion and instructing the children, have not been so constantly attended to as the interests of the Church require. It is the opinion of your committee that these omissions are owing sometimes to the great extent of the circuit and scattered state of the population; in some

cases to the want of system; but it is feared in others the want of that engagedness in the discharge of ministerial duties which becomes us as ministers of the gospel of Christ.

May 22.

5. Your committee further state that, with regard to raising the necessary supplies for the preachers, there is great deficiency. The table expenses are partially supplied in some places, and in others not at all. There are also great deficiencies in the collections for quarterage.

It appears that these deficiencies arise from the want of due attention to and proper application of the system made and provided by the General Conference on those subjects. But, as most of the subjects embraced in the general duties of this committee have been referred to other committees, they think it unnecessary to offer any resolution on those subjects and matters. Nevertheless they beg leave to recommend the following:—

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, 1. That the superintending preachers be instructed so to lay out their work that there may be sufficient time allowed each preacher for the faithful and extensive discharge of all his pastoral duties in promoting family religion and instructing the children.

Resolutions of  
Committee.

*Resolved, &c.*, 2. That all our preachers observe that order of public worship pointed out in the twenty-third section of our form of Discipline, and that in administering the ordinances, and in the service of the burial of the dead, they invariably use the form of Discipline, and in dismissing the congregation the apostolic benediction; and that they attend uniformly to the order pointed out in the first chapter, twenty-fourth section, of our form of Discipline, in regard to singing the praises of God in our congregations.

*Resolved, &c.*, 3. That the Lord's prayer be used upon all occasions of public worship, at the close of the first prayer, and that it be strongly recommended to all our people to introduce it into their private and family devotions.

*Resolved, &c.*, 4. That the preachers be particularly examined on these several subjects at each annual conference.

In reference to the motion referred to your committee to take into consideration the expediency of making it the duty of the annual conferences to give a travelling preacher, when dropped, a certificate of his moral character, &c., they are of opinion that it does not come within the range of their duty; they have therefore declined making or submitting any resolution on that subject. Also in reference to the motion on the subject of having class papers or books printed at the Book Room, your committee are of opinion that this subject is not of sufficient importance to be taken

May 28. up and acted upon by the General Conference. All of which is respectfully submitted.

S. MERWIN, *Chairman*.

Report of the  
Committee on  
Expenses.

S. LUCKEY, from the Committee on the Expenses of the Delegates, made the following report of disbursements, which was adopted:—

The moneys appropriated were apportioned as follows:—

Disbursements of expenses of Delegates.				Draft.		Cash.	
				Paid	\$224 00	...	...
	New-York Conference appropriation	\$224 00	Paid	\$224 00	...	...	...
	New-England " "	285 00	"	142 50	\$142 50	...	...
	Genesee " "	258 30	"	129 10	129 10	...	...
	Ohio " "	290 34	"	140 17	140 17	...	...
	Kentucky " "	208 48	"	104 24	104 24	...	...
	Missouri " "	180 00	"	120 00	60 00	...	...
	Tennessee " "	225 00	"	75 00	150 00	...	...
	Mississippi " "	97 50	"	65 00	32 50	...	...
	South Carolina " "	330 00	"	247 50	82 50	...	...
	Virginia " "	155 47	"	103 85	51 62	...	...
	Baltimore " "	70 00	"	70 00	...	...	...
	Philadelphia " "	94 25	"	94 25	...	...	...

On motion, the delegates of the General Conference were authorized to draw on the Book Concern for \$45 more, to correct a mistake made in the appropriation to them in the report.

Motion for the  
bishops to send  
pastoral letters  
to the people.

E. MUDGE offered the following resolution:—

*Resolved, &c.*, That the General Conference do request the bishops jointly to address a pastoral letter to our people at as early a day as may be convenient, and that they forward the same to the book-agents, who are hereby directed to publish eight thousand five hundred copies thereof and distribute them to the presiding elders throughout the connexion. Signed, Enoch Mudge, W. Capers.

On motion, the resolution offered by L. Myers, which had been sustained, was taken up.

Moved, that it be laid on the table. Lost.

The question was then taken on the resolution, and carried.

Change of Dis-  
cipline as to  
provision for  
preachers'  
wives.

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, That the following clause be added to the second paragraph of the fourth section (page one hundred and seventy-seven) of the second part of our Discipline: "But this provision shall not apply to the wives of those preachers who were single when admitted on trial and marry under four years, until after the expiration of said four years." Passed.

Vote of thanks  
to the bishops.

*Resolved, &c.*, That our thanks be presented to our beloved bishops for the patience they have exercised among us, and for the able and dignified manner in which they have presided in the conference. Unanimously adopted.

W. FISK offered the following resolution:—

Printing of res-  
olutions.

*Resolved, &c.*, That the resolutions of the General Con-

ference which are not printed in the Discipline, and which relate to the duties of preachers on their circuits, &c., be printed by our book-agents on loose sheets and sent to the several districts. Carried. Signed, W. Fisk, T. Merritt.

May 28.

Moved, that the report on the admission and trial of members be taken up. Lost.

Moved by Robert Payne, that this conference express their gratitude to our secretary, brother Emory, and his assistants, brothers Mason and Peyton, for the active and faithful discharge of their duties. Carried unanimously.

Vote of thanks to the secretary and his assistants.

A communication from Mr. Wm. Brown, corresponding secretary of the Baltimore Conference Missionary Society, was read.

The chair announced the following Committee of Revision to put the rules into the Discipline: Nathan Bangs, Daniel Ostrander, and Peter P. Sandford.

Committee of Revision.

On motion of E. Cooper, it was resolved that the bishops be authorized, if they judge it proper, to send a companion with the delegate to the British Conference in 1826; and that his expenses be paid, as in the case of the delegate.

Delegation to British Conference.

The Journal was read, and the conference adjourned *sine die*.

RESOLUTIONS OF THE REPORT ON THE EPISCOPACY, PASSED MAY 25, AND SHOULD HAVE BEEN RECORDED AT THAT TIME.

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, 1. That we approve generally of the conduct of the superintendents in the administration of the government for the last four years; and that their zeal and exertions to promote the cause of God and the interests of the Church, under the circumstances in which they have been placed, merit the grateful acknowledgment of the General Conference and of the whole Church.

Resolutions of the report on the episcopacy.

*Resolved*, &c., 2. That Bishop M'Kendree be, and hereby is respectfully requested to continue to afford what aid he can to the episcopacy consistently with his age and infirmities, when and where it may best suit his own convenience; and that the provisions of the last General Conference for meeting his contingent expenses be continued.

*Resolved*, &c., 3. That the episcopacy be strengthened by the election and ordination of two additional bishops at the present session of the General Conference.

*Resolved*, &c., 4. That it is highly expedient for the general superintendents, at every session of the General Conference, and as far as to them may appear practicable, in the intervals of the sessions, annually, to meet in council to form their plan of travelling through their charge, whether in a

May 28

circuit after each other or by dividing the connexion into several episcopal departments, with one bishop or more in each department, as to them may appear proper and most conducive to the general good, and the better to enable them fully to perform the great work of their administration in the general superintendency, and to exchange and unite their views upon all affairs connected with the general interests of the Church.

*Resolved, &c., 5.* That the book-agents and Book Committee in New-York shall be a committee to estimate the amount necessary to meet the family expenses of the bishops, which shall be annually paid by the book-agents out of the funds of the Book Concern; and that the above resolution be incorporated into our Discipline.

RESOLUTIONS OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE  
AFFAIRS OF CANADA, PASSED MAY 18.

Resolutions of  
the report of  
the Committee  
on Canada Af-  
fairs.

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, 1. That there shall be a Canada Conference under our superintendence, bounded by the boundary lines of Upper Canada.

*Resolved, &c., 2.* That a circular shall be addressed to our preachers and members included within the bounds of the Canada Conference, expressive of our zeal for their prosperity, and urging the importance of their maintaining union among themselves.

*Resolved, &c., 3.* That a respectful representation be made by the British Conference of those points in the late agreement between the two connexions which have not, on the part of their missionaries, been fulfilled.

R. B. ROBERTS.

J. EMOBY, *Secretary.*

# JOURNAL

OF THE

## GENERAL CONFERENCE, 1828.

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THURSDAY, MAY 1.

May 1.

Conference met in the new church, Pittsburgh, at nine o'clock. Present, Bishops M'Kendree, George, Roberts, Soule, and Hedding. Bishop M'Kendree took the chair, and opened the conference by reading, singing, and prayer.

Rev. John Emory was appointed secretary *pro tem*.

The delegates from the several annual conferences having given in their certificates, it appeared that a quorum was present.

Rev. Martin Ruter was then nominated and elected secretary of the conference.

Bishop M'Kendree addressed a few remarks to the conference on the spiritual prosperity of the Church, and retired.

Bishop George took the chair, and the conference proceeded to business.

Moved by S. G. Roszel, and seconded by D. Young, that a committee be appointed from the chair, consisting of one member from each annual conference, to prepare a system of rules for the government of this conference, who shall report, if practicable, to-morrow; and that the rules of the General Conference of 1824 be in force until others shall be adopted. The motion prevailed, and the following persons were appointed to constitute that committee, viz.: Daniel Ostrander, George Pickering, David Kilburn, Loring Grant, John Ryerson, Wm. Stevens, David Young, Andrew Monroe, Charles Holliday, William Adams, Thomas Wilkerson, William M'Mahon, Benjamin M. Drake, S. K. Hodges, John Early, Joshua Wells, and Lawrence M'Combs.

It was voted, on motion of J. Emory, that the conference shall meet at eight o'clock A. M., and adjourn at half-past twelve o'clock.

Conference assembled.

Bishop M'Kendree in the chair.

Secretary appointed. Delegates present their certificates.

M. Ruter appointed secretary. Address of Bishop M'Kendree.

Committee to prepare rules for conference.

Time of meeting and adjourning.

- May 1. It was moved by S. Martindale, that the presiding elder of Pittsburgh District, and the two preachers stationed in Pittsburgh, be a committee to superintend the appointments for public preaching. Carried.
- Committee to superintend appointments for public preaching. On motion of D. Ostrander, seconded by J. B. Finley, it was voted that a committee shall be appointed on the episcopacy, consisting of one member from each annual conference, to be selected by the delegates of the conferences respectively.
- Committee on Episcopacy. D. Ostrander moved, that a committee be appointed on the itinerancy, to consist of one member from each annual conference.
- Committee on Itinerancy. Jacob Young moved that this motion lie on the table; which motion did not prevail.
- The question was then taken on the motion for the Committee on the Itinerancy, and carried.
- J. B. Finley moved, seconded by A. Hemphill, that in the appointment of the Committee on the Itinerancy, the delegates from each annual conference be permitted to appoint one from their own number. The motion prevailed.
- Committee on Expenses. S. G. Roszel moved, seconded by J. Emory, that a committee be appointed to take an account of the expenses of the delegates, to receive the moneys collected therefor, and to report thereon to this conference; and the motion prevailed.
- Voted, on motion, that this committee consist of five, and be appointed by the chair.
- Committee on Division and Boundaries. Moved by Laban Clark, and seconded by J. B. Finley and D. Ostrander, that a committee be appointed on the division and boundaries of the annual conferences, consisting of one member from each delegation, to be selected by the delegates in their separate capacity. The motion prevailed.
- A motion was made by J. B. Finley for adjournment, which did not prevail.
- Committee on Book Concern. Lawrence M'Combs moved, and Laban Clark seconded, that there be a committee on the Book Concern, consisting of five members, to be appointed by the chair.
- Samuel Luckey called for a division of the question, and the first member of it, namely, that such a committee shall be appointed, was adopted.
- It was then moved to strike out the number five; and the motion was lost.
- The question was then taken on the last part of the original motion, and carried.
- Preaching. It was then voted, on motion, that there should be preaching in the new church at three o'clock P. M. and at half-past seven, and likewise at half-past seven in the old church.
- Conference adjourned.

FRIDAY, MAY 2.

May 2.

Conference met, according to adjournment, and was opened by Bishop George with the customary exercises. Bishop Roberts took the chair.

The Journal of yesterday was read and approved.

It was ordered that the rules adopted for the government of the General Conference of 1824 be read ; and they were read accordingly by the secretary.

Rules read.

A communication from the superintendents to the conference was likewise read, giving a general view of the state of the Church and the prospects before us, and recommending some important measures for consideration ; and, on motion of J. Emory, it was ordered that it be laid on the table.

Communication from superintendents.

On motion of Laban Clark, William Lambden was added to the committee for superintending the appointments for public preaching.

Communications laid on the table.

John Dew was nominated and elected as assistant secretary.

Assistant secretary.

The committee appointed to prepare rules for the government of the conference reported.

Report of the Committee on Rules.

S. G. Roszel moved that their report be recommitted. Lost.

William Lambden moved, that the rules reported by the committee be adopted in a mass. The motion did not prevail.

Lawrence M'Combs moved, seconded by Wm. Capers, that the conference now take up the report, and act upon each article separately in its order. The motion prevailed.

Report taken up.

The conference then went into the consideration of the rules, as reported by the committee, and, with some amendments and additions, adopted them for the government of the conference ; which rules are as follows, viz. :—

Rules of conference.

1. The conference shall meet at eight o'clock A. M. and adjourn at half-past twelve o'clock P. M., but may alter the times of meeting and adjournment at their discretion.

2. The president shall take the chair precisely at the hour to which the conference stood adjourned, and cause the same to be opened by reading the Scriptures, singing, and prayer ; and, on the appearance of a quorum, shall have the Journals of the preceding day read and approved, when the business of the conference shall proceed in the following order, viz. :—

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

(2.) Petitions, memorials, and appeals.

3. The president shall decide all questions of order, sub-



May 2.  
 Rules con-  
 tained.

ject to an appeal to the conference; but in case of such appeal, the question shall be taken without debate.

4. He shall appoint all the committees not otherwise specially ordered by the conference; but any member may decline serving on more than two committees at the same time.

5. All motions or resolutions introduced by any member shall be reduced to writing, if the president, secretary, or any two members request it.

6. When a motion or resolution is made and seconded, and is read by the secretary or stated by the president, it shall be deemed in the possession of the conference, but may be withdrawn by the mover at any time before decision or amendment.

7. No new motion or resolution shall be made until the one under consideration is disposed of; which may be done by its adoption, rejection, laying on the table, indefinite postponement, postponement to a certain day, or being referred to a committee.

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

9. When any member is about to speak in debate, or deliver any matter to the conference, he shall rise from his seat and respectfully address himself to the president.

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

11. When any motion or resolution shall have passed, it shall be in order for any member who voted in the majority to move for a reconsideration.

12. No member shall absent himself from the service of the conference without leave, unless he be sick or unable to attend.

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

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

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

William Capers moved, seconded by S. K. Hodges, that the following be adopted as an additional rule, namely:—

May 2.  
Additional rule proposed.

No resolution, altering or rescinding any rule of Discipline, shall be adopted until it shall have been at least three days in possession of the conference.

The time of adjournment being near, this motion was laid on the table.

The president then announced the appointment of the following committees, according to previous arrangement, namely:—

A Committee on the Expenses of the Delegates to this conference, consisting of five members, viz.: Marmaduke Pierce, Laban Clark, Lewis Pease, Marcus Lindsey, William M. Kennedy.

Committee on Expenses of Delegates.

The Committee on the Book Concern, consisting of five members, viz.: Wm. Winans, Beverly Waugh, Daniel Filmore, Peter Akers, John Early.

Committee on Book Concern.

Conference adjourned.

SATURDAY, MAY 3.

May 3.

Conference met, according to previous adjournment, and was opened by Bishop Roberts.

The Journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Journal read.

Bishop Soule then took the chair.

On motion of William Winans, it was resolved to designate a line or bar, within which the business of the conference should be done. Therefore it was determined that the bar should be fixed at the fourth pillar in the row proceeding from the pulpit.

Bar of Conference.

On motion of N. Bangs, the order of conference was so far dispensed with as to take up the additional rule proposed by Wm. Capers, and which was yesterday laid on the table, viz.:—

Additional rule taken up.

No resolution, altering or rescinding any rule of Discipline, shall be adopted until it shall have been at least three days in the possession of the conference.

The proposed rule was then taken up, and, after some discussion, it was, on motion of J. Emory, amended by striking out the words "three days" and inserting the words "one day."

D. Young moved to amend the amendment by striking out the words "one day" and inserting the words "two days;" which motion was pronounced out of order by the chair.

Jacob Sanborn moved that the rule be indefinitely postponed; which motion was lost.

D. Young moved to amend the proposed rule, as amended, by striking out the words "one day" and inserting "two days;" which motion was afterward withdrawn.

May 8.

The question was then taken on the passage of the rule, as amended by the motion of J. Emory, and carried in the affirmative.

David Young moved, and M. Lindsey seconded, that the following be a rule of this conference, viz. :—

Rule on previous question proposed.

The previous question shall be put in this form : Shall the main question now be put ? It shall only be admitted when demanded by a majority of the members present, and until it is decided shall preclude all amendments and further debate on the main question. On the previous question there shall be no debate.

D. Ostrander moved to amend the proposed rule by striking out the words "a majority" and inserting the words "any ten;" which amendment was admitted by the mover.

The question was then taken on the motion as amended, and decided in the negative.

L. M'Combs moved, and J. Emory seconded, that the rules just considered and adopted be now passed collectively as the by-laws of this conference. The motion prevailed.

Printing rules.

It was also ordered, on motion of L. M'Combs, that the rules shall be printed, together with the address of the bishops, and that the names and lodging-places of the members of the conference be printed with them, and that the printing of them be referred to a select committee of three persons, with instructions to procure the printing of two hundred copies.

Whereupon the book-agents from New-York and the book-agent from Cincinnati were appointed by the chair to be that committee.

Committee of Elections and Privileges.

J. Emory moved, seconded by S. K. Hodges, that a committee of \_\_\_\_\_ be appointed, entitled a committee of elections and privileges, whose duty it shall be to examine the certificates of the delegates of the several annual conferences, and also the Journals of said conferences, to ascertain whether all the delegates reported to this conference were duly and regularly elected, according to the ratio of representation allowed by the Discipline at the time of said elections; and whether no more than the said ratio allowed were elected at the time of said elections, and whether no names have been omitted of delegates who were then elected; and to report thereon as early as practicable to this conference.

R. Payne moved to amend the motion by inserting the following words, viz. : "and moreover, what has been the course of the previous General Conferences respecting admitting reserved delegates to a seat in said conference;" which amendment was accepted by the mover, and the motion as amended prevailed.

On motion of S. G. Roszel, it was resolved that this committee shall consist of one member from the delegation of each annual conference.

May 2.

The following persons were appointed, from the chair, that committee, viz.: John Potts, Stephen Martindale, Joseph A. Merrill, E. Wills, John Ryerson, Hqrace Agard, Daniel Limerick, John Collins, Jesse Haile, Samuel H. Thompson, Jonathan Stamper, Samuel Patton, Robert Paine, Robert L. Kennon, Samuel Dunwody, Lewis Skidmore, C. Frye.

Committee of Elections and Privileges.

Wm. Capers then moved, seconded by J. Emory, 1. That a committee, consisting of \_\_\_\_\_ members, be appointed on Sunday schools and tract societies; and that so much of the communication of the bishops as relates to these subjects be referred to said committee.

Committee on S. Schools and Tracts.

2. That a committee of \_\_\_\_\_ members be appointed on missions, and that so much of the bishops' communication as relates to missions be referred to that committee.

On Missions.

3. That so much of said communication as relates to the administration of the government of the Church be referred to the Committee on the Episcopacy.

On Episcopacy.

4. That so much of said communication as relates to the appointment of a representative to the British Conference be referred to the Committee on the Itinerary.

Delegate to British Conference.

These motions severally prevailed; and it was determined that the Committee on Sunday Schools and Tract Societies, and that on Missions, should consist each of seven members.

N. Bangs moved, seconded by Wm. Capers, that a committee on education be appointed; which motion prevailed, and, on motion, it was resolved that this committee consist of five members.

Committee on Education.

Laban Clark moved, and J. B. Finley seconded, that a committee be appointed on memorials and petitions; which motion prevailed, and it was resolved that this committee shall consist of seven members.

Committee on Memorials and Petitions.

On motion, it was resolved that the delegates of the several annual conferences now announce the committees by them elected. Whereupon the following committees were named, viz. :—

The Committee on the Episcopacy to consist of Peter P. Sandford, Timothy Merritt, David Kilburn, John Ryerson, Jonathan Huestis, Thornton Fleming, Jacob Young, Andrew Monroe, Charles Holliday, Thomas Wilkerson, Marcus Lindsey, Wm. M'Mahon, Wm. Winans, Wm. Capers, John Early, S. G. Roszel, Lawrence M'Combs.

Committee on Episcopacy.

Committee on the Boundaries of the Conferences: Laban Clark, John W. Hardy, Ephraim Wiley, Wm. Ryerson, George Peck, Wm. Lambden, James B. Finley, Jesse Haile, Peter Cartwright, Wm. S. Manson, Thomas A. Morris,

Committee on Boundaries.

- May 3.** James Gwinn, Thomas Griffin, S. K. Hodges, Lewis Skidmore, Marmaduke Pierce, Manning Force.
- Committee on Itinerancy. Committee on the Itinerancy: Daniel Ostrander, John Lindsey, Eleazer Wells, Samuel Belton, Israel Chamberlain, David Sharp, John Collins, Andrew Monroe, John Strange, Samuel Patton, Peter Akers, Robert Paine, Robert L. Kennon, James O. Andrew, H. G. Leigh, Joshua Wells, John Potts.
- Committee on Revisal. It was moved by John Early, and seconded by H. G. Leigh, that a committee of revisal and unfinished business, to consist of \_\_\_\_\_ members, be appointed, who shall ascertain, from the Journal of the last General Conference, what matters were unfinished and ought to be acted upon at the present session, and report to the conference; which motion prevailed.
- It was resolved, on motion, that this committee shall consist of five.
- The conference adjourned.

**May 5.**

### MONDAY, MAY 5.

- Conference convened, and was opened by Bishop Soule.
- Calling of the roll omitted. On motion of D. Ostrander, it was resolved that the calling of the list by the secretary shall be omitted, except at times when it may be necessary to ascertain whether there be a quorum.
- Journal read. The Journal of Saturday was read and amended. Bishop Hedding took the chair.
- The following committees were announced by the chair, according to provision made on Saturday for their appointment, viz. :—
- Committee on Education. Committee on Education, to consist of Wilbur Fisk, Peter Akers, Hezekiah G. Leigh, Wm. Capers, H. B. Bascom.
- Committee on Revisal and Unfinished Business. Committee on Revisal and Unfinished Business: John Early, Andrew Hemphill, John Smith, Benjamin M. Drake, and David Young.
- Committee on Sunday Schools and Tract Societies. Committee on Sunday Schools and Tract Societies: Laban Clark, George Pickering, Loring Grant, John F. Wright, George C. Light, James M. Hanson, Daniel Hall.
- Committee on Missions. Committee on Missions: N. Bangs, John Lindsey, Wm. M'Mahon, Samuel K. Hodges, John Ryerson, Watters Burrows, John Dow.
- Report of the chairman of the Committee on Printing. The chairman of the committee appointed to procure the printing of the rules reported that the printing was in process, and requested that the committee be permitted to have the rules of the conference and address of the superintendents printed without subjoining the names of the members; and it was, on motion, voted that the committee be allowed to procure the printing of the rules and address by themselves, and the list of the members and the places

of their lodging to be printed as soon as may be after-ward.

May 5.

Petitions and memorials being called for, N. Bangs presented an address from the Methodist Sunday-School Union of New-York, which was, on motion of J. Emory, referred to the Committee on Sunday Schools and Tract Societies.

Petitions called for. Address from the Methodist Sunday-School Union.

N. Bangs, with permission, made several remarks in relation to our Sunday schools, their importance, &c.

A memorial and resolutions from the American Sunday-School Union to the conference was then presented and read, accompanied with an address from their agent; and it was resolved, on motion, that this memorial and address be referred to the Committee on Sunday Schools and Tract Societies.

Memorial and resolutions from the American S. S. Union.

Petitions, memorials, &c., from Wayne Circuit, Ohio, from local preachers in Erie District, from members on Queen Ann's Circuit, Maryland, and from Norfolk District Conference, were severally referred to the Committee on Petitions and Memorials.

Petitions from Wayne Circuit, Ohio, from local preachers.

Petitions from sundry members in the bend of Cumberland River; from the Rev. T. L. Douglass, in behalf of the Tennessee Annual Conference; from members on Christian Circuit; from members from Fountainhead and Goose Creek Circuits, were severally referred to the Committee on the Boundaries of the Conferences.

Petitions referred.

A communication, accompanying the memorial of the local preachers of Erie District, signed by the travelling preachers of said district, was read, and D. Young moved that it be laid on the table; which motion was withdrawn, but was renewed by John Lindsey; and the question being put, it was decided in the affirmative.

A petition from the Canada Annual Conference was presented by William Ryerson, praying that they may be separated from the jurisdiction of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States; which was, on motion, referred to a special committee, to consist of seven members.

Petition from Canada Annual Conference.

J. Emory moved, that the rule on calling for petitions and memorials be so amended as to read that they shall be called for in the order of the conferences, beginning with the Pittsburgh Conference and proceeding in the order of the Minutes. The motion prevailed.

Amendment of Conference Rules.

T. Merritt notified the conference of an appeal from Joshua Randall, upon which Bishop Roberts presented two communications from him, having reference to his appeal from two different decisions: the one from a decision of the New-England Conference against him in 1824, and the other from a decision of the same conference in 1826, by which last decision he had been expelled from the Church;

Appeal from Joshua Randall.

May 5. in both of which communications he stated that he was ready to support his appeal at whatever time the conference might appoint.

J. Emory moved, that the time for trying his appeal from expulsion be fixed for Wednesday next. Carried.

Conference adjourned.

The conference adjourned.

May 6.

## TUESDAY, MAY 6.

Conference convened, and was opened by Bishop Hedding.

The Journal of yesterday was read and corrected.

Bishop George took the chair.

Committee on Canada Affairs.

The committee on the petition from Canada was announced by the chair, and consists of the following members, viz. : N. Bangs, Isaac Bonney, Charles Pitman, Zechariah Paddock, Russel Bigelow, and Caleb Leach.

R. Paine assistant secretary

Robert Paine was, on motion, appointed assistant secretary.

Reports of committees were called for.

Petitions and Memorials.

Petitions and memorials being called for, there were presented petitions, &c., from brethren in Steubenville and from brethren in Clarksburgh, and were referred to the Committee on Petitions and Memorials.

S. G. Roszel moved, that all petitions and memorials, purporting to be from any particular conference, shall be presented by a delegate of said conference. After some discussion the motion was withdrawn.

A petition was presented from brethren in Cincinnati, which was, on motion, referred to the Committee on the Itinerancy.

Petitions were also presented from other brethren in Cincinnati, from brethren in Marietta and Athens, and brethren in Jefferson Circuit, Virginia ; a committee of West Jersey District Conference, and some from other places not mentioned in said petitions ; and were severally referred to the Committee on Petitions and Memorials.

A petition from brethren in New-London District was presented, and referred to the same committee.

Memorials from brethren in Baltimore, in Sussex County, Va., and from brethren in Kent County, Md., were presented, and referred to the Committee on the Itinerancy.

A petition from members of the second congregation in New-Bedford, on the subject of spirituous liquors, was read, and, on motion, referred to a special committee, to consist of five members.

Wm. Capers moved, seconded by D. Ostrander, that after this day no more time than one hour and a half shall be occupied, on any one day, in receiving and disposing of memorials and petitions. The motion was carried.

An appeal of Wm. Houston to this conference was presented in writing; and, on motion, it was resolved that said appeal shall be taken up and considered on Thursday ensuing.

May 6.  
Houston's appeal.

Nathan Bangs moved, seconded by John Emory, that the Committee on the Book Concern be instructed to inquire into the expediency of taking measures for forming a Bible Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The motion prevailed.

Motion to form a Bible Society.

D. Ostrander moved, and Peter P. Sandford seconded, that the section in our Discipline on churches and parsonages, and the order to be observed therein, be referred to a committee, to whom all matters and papers on that subject may be referred; which motion prevailed. And it was ordered that said committee consist of five members.

Churches and Parsonages.

D. Ostrander moved, seconded by John W. Hardy, that a committee be appointed to inquire whether any, and if any what, alterations are necessary to be made in the third, fourth, and fifth sections of the second part (Temporal Economy) of our Discipline, and report thereon. The motion prevailed.

On motion, it was ordered that said committee should consist of five members.

D. Ostrander moved, seconded by P. P. Sandford, that a committee be appointed on the affairs of the local preachers, to whom memorials and petitions shall be referred, and all other matters relating to the local ministry, and report thereon, which prevailed; and, on motion, it was resolved that said committee shall consist of seventeen members.

Committee on Local Preachers.

N. Bangs moved, seconded by J. B. Finley, that the Committee on Revisal and Unfinished Business be instructed to take the Discipline into consideration, and report what alteration it may be expedient to make in its phraseology. The motion prevailed.

Revisal of Discipline.

D. Ostrander moved, seconded by G. C. Light, that the words, "and by the baptism of thy well-beloved Son, Jesus Christ, in the River Jordan," in the baptismal service, be struck out, and the words, "by the institution of thy well-beloved Son," be inserted in their place.

Baptismal service.

S. Luckey moved that this motion be laid on the table, which motion was withdrawn by the mover, but was renewed by John Dew; and the question being taken, it was decided in the negative.

While the subject was in debate, and M. Lindsey was speaking, the time of adjournment arrived, and it was, on motion, resolved that the time of sitting should be extended ten minutes. And, at the close of brother Lindsey's address, the conference adjourned.

Session extended.



May 7.

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 7.

Conference met at eight o'clock, according to adjournment, and was opened in the customary manner, Bishop George in the chair.

The Journal of yesterday was read and amended.

Bishop Roberts then took the chair.

P. Cartwright moved, that after this day we dispense with afternoon preaching; which motion was lost.

The chair announced the following committees, according to provision made yesterday, viz. :—

Committee on  
Local Preach-  
ers.

The Committee on Local Preachers, to consist of John B. Stratten, Moses Crume, John Tevis, John Strange, Jesse Hale, Wm. S. Manson, John M. Holland, Barnabas Pipkin, Robert Adams, Thomas Crowder, James M. Hanson, James Smith, Wm. Stevens, Edward Hyde, Elisha Streeter, Seth Mattison, William Slater.

Committee on  
Ardent Spirits.

Committee on petitions relating to the use of ardent spirits: Henry Holmes, Jacob Sanborn, Tobias Spicer, James Armstrong, Richard Tidings.

Sundry Com-  
mittees.

Committee on Churches and Parsonages: Joseph A. Merrill, Phineas Rice, Benjamin T. Crouch, Job Guest, Morgan Sherman.

Committee on Temporal Economy of our Church: Joshua Wells, John F. Adams, Henry Bass, Joshua Boucher, and David Dailey.

Reports from standing and select committees were called for.

Report on Itin-  
erancy.

The chairman of the Committee on the Itinerancy made a report of so much of the business referred to them as relates to the appointment of a representative to the British Conference; which report was, on motion, laid on the table.

The Committee on Elections and Privileges reported, and their report was, on motion, laid on the table.

D. Ostrander moved, that the rules and orders of the conference be so far dispensed with as to proceed in hearing the appeal of Joshua Randall; and the motion was decided in the affirmative.

N. Bangs moved, that during the time of hearing this appeal the conference sit with closed doors; and the motion was lost.

Appeal of J.  
Randall from  
the New-Eng-  
land Confer-  
ence, and trial.

The conference then proceeded on the appeal of Joshua Randall.

The part of the Journal of the New-England Conference relating to the decision from which Joshua Randall had appealed, was then read, from which it appeared that in June, 1826, he had been expelled from the Church, upon a charge of holding and disseminating doctrines contrary to our articles of religion; which charge contained the following specifications, viz. :—

1. In denying that the transgressions of the law, to which we are all personally responsible, have had any atonement made for them by Christ.

2. Maintaining that the infinite claims of justice upon the transgressor of the divine law may, upon the condition of mere acts of the transgressor himself, be relinquished, given up, and the transgressor pardoned without an atonement.

The proceedings of the New-England Conference upon his case were then read, and brother Randall, being present, was permitted to make his defence.

After having gone through with his defence, he was responded to by Wilbur Fisk; and then, on motion, it was resolved that the conference have a recess of ten minutes, after which the members were called to order.

Bishop Roberts being in the chair, T. Merritt stated that the subject had been brought so fully before the Conference by his colleague, that he should forbear to make some remarks which he had intended to make in relation to it.

J. Randall added a few remarks, in which he said he considered the case as having been fairly represented, and that he had nothing in particular to add. The pleadings on both sides being closed, the appellant retired, and the conference proceeded to make a decision.

N. Bangs moved, seconded by S. Luckey, that the decision of the New-England Conference in the case of Joshua Randall be, and the same is hereby affirmed.

John Dew and Wyatt Chamberlain requested to be, and were excused from voting.

The time for adjournment having nearly arrived, it was, on motion, resolved that the term of session be extended ten minutes longer. The question was then taken on the motion by a rising vote, and decided in the affirmative—one hundred and sixty-four voting in favour of the motion and one against it.

The conference adjourned.

**TUESDAY, MAY 8.**

Conference assembled, and was opened by reading, singing, and prayer, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

The Journal of yesterday was read and amended, after which Bishop Soule took the chair.

Reports called for.

N. Bangs stated that the book-agents were prepared to make a report, exhibiting a general view of the state of the Concern. Whereupon it was, on motion of D. Ostrander, resolved, that the agents be permitted now to make their report.

The report was then presented and read by J. Emory,

May 7.  
Randall's case  
continued.

May 8.

Bishop Soule in  
the chair.

Report of the  
Book-agents.

- May 3. and it was, on motion, referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.
- Report of the Book Committee. L. Clark, chairman of the Book Committee at New-York, informed the conference that he held a report of that committee on the subject of the Book Concern.
- It was, on motion, resolved that this report be read; which was read accordingly by R. Paine.
- This report was, on motion of L. M'Combs, referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.
- Petition from brethren in Pittsburgh. A petition from brethren in Pittsburgh was presented, and referred to the Committee on Petitions and Memorials.
- Petitions on Freemasonry. A petition was also presented from brethren on Lake Circuit, and another from the Chatauque Circuit, both on the subject of "Speculative Freemasonry," which were referred to the Committee on the Itinerancy.
- Sundry petitions referred. A petition from brethren in Fairfield was referred to the Committee on Petitions and Memorials.
- Petitions were also presented from brethren at Edwardsville, Ill., and Hillsborough, Ohio, and were referred to the Committee on Petitions and Memorials.
- A petition was also presented from local preachers in Fairfield Circuit, which was, on motion, referred to the Committee on Local Preachers.
- A petition was presented from Talbot Circuit, and referred to the Committee on Memorials and Petitions.
- Philadelphia petitions. Two other petitions were presented from Philadelphia, requesting that the next General Conference be appointed at that place; which were laid on the table.
- N. Bangs's memorial from the Missionary Society. N. Bangs presented a memorial from the Board of Managers of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church.
- It was moved by J. Emory, and seconded by N. Bangs, that the reading of said memorial be dispensed with, and that it be referred to the Committee on Missions; which motion prevailed.
- Memorial from the bounds of the New-England Conference. A memorial was presented from brethren within the bounds of the New-England Conference, on the subject of what the memorialists call "Speculative Freemasonry," which was referred to the Committee on the Itinerancy.
- Communication from Rochester Quarterly Conference. A communication from the Rochester Quarterly Conference, praying that the article in our Discipline prohibiting the renting of seats or pews in our meeting-houses be altered so as to grant this privilege. On motion, the same was referred to the Committee on Churches and Parsonages.
- Memorial on Freemasonry. A memorial was presented from members of our Church in Clarence Circuit, in the bounds of the Genesee Conference, on the subject of "Speculative Freemasonry."
- J. Early moved its reference to the Committee on Petitions and Memorials; which motion was subsequently withdrawn.

May 8.

J. Emory then moved, seconded by S. H. Thompson, that said petition be referred to a select committee, which motion prevailed; and, on motion, it was resolved that said committee should consist of five members.

Memorials on the same subject were presented from Warsaw, Elba, Aurora, and Lewiston Circuits, in the bounds of the conference; and, on motion, they were referred to the above committee.

Memorials and Petitions on Masonry.

On motion of D. Ostrander, it was ordered that memorials on this subject, which have been previously referred to the Committee on the Itinerancy, be now referred to the committee ordered for this purpose.

A communication from Bishop Hedding was referred to the Committee on the Episcopacy.

Bishop Hedding's communication.

Wm. Capers then moved, seconded by John Early, that the Committee on the Book Concern be, and is hereby instructed to inquire into and report upon the expediency of having a copy of the yearly Report of the committee at New-York forwarded to each one of the annual conferences; and also that the New-York Conference be requested to furnish to each one of the annual conferences yearly a statement of whatever transactions may be had by the conference on the subject of our Book Concern, or respecting the officers of that establishment; which motion prevailed.

Capers's motion as to the report of the Book Committee of New-York.

N. Bangs moved, S. Clark seconded, that the following amendments be made in the fourth section of our form of Discipline, line sixteen, page twenty-five: after the words "among Indians," insert the words "and those preachers who may be appointed to labour for the benefit of seamen, except in regard to such places as, in the judgment of any annual conference, may render a longer term necessary."

Proposed amendment of Discipline, section 4.

James Young moved, seconded by D. Ostrander, to amend the words "provided that those preachers labouring among seamen be allowed to form societies among the seamen, according to the Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and exercise said Discipline therein;" and, on motion, the original, together with the amendments, was laid on the table.

Young's motion as to the same.

Heman Bangs moved, and D. Kilburn seconded, that a committee be appointed to wait on brother Wilbur Fisk, and return him the thanks of this conference for the very able manner in which he illustrated the doctrine of atonement before this body yesterday, and request of him a copy of his address for publication; which, on motion, was laid on the table.

Wilbur Fisk's speech.

The orders of the day were then called for, and the appeal of Wm. Houston from the decision of the Baltimore Conference, by which he had been located against his will,

Trial and appeal of William Houston.

May 8.  
Trial and appeal  
of William  
Houston con-  
tinued.

which had been made the order of the day, was taken up, and the communication of brother Houston, containing the grounds of his appeal, was then read to the conference; and, agreeably to a request contained therein, brothers J. Emory and Asa Shinn consented to act as brother Houston's representatives, so far as to see that the appeal should be legally brought before the conference.

Bishop Soule then gave the opinion of the chair, that brother Houston was legally represented before this conference.

The extract of the Journal of the Baltimore Conference relating to this case was then read, and afterward the second reading of brother Houston's letter was called for; and it was read accordingly.

Brother J. Emory opened the case of the appeal by some remarks, and then brothers S. G. Roszel and Joshua Wells responded on the part of the Baltimore Conference. Brother Asa Shinn concluded by some remarks on the defence of the appellant.

Brother  
Bangs's  
motion.

N.  
mo-

Brother N. Bangs moved, and M. Lindsey seconded, that that part of the decision of the Baltimore Annual Conference by which Wm. Houston was located without his consent be, and the same is hereby reversed.

Brothers A. Shinn and J. Emory asked to be excused from voting on this question, which was granted.

The hour of adjournment having arrived, it was moved that the conference continue its session half an hour; which motion was withdrawn, and then the conference adjourned.

May 9.

## FRIDAY, MAY 9.

Conference assembled, and was opened in the customary manner, Bishop Soule in the chair.

Bishop Hedding  
in the chair.

The Journal of yesterday was read and amended, and Bishop Hedding took the chair.

Committee on  
the petition of  
J. Bailey.

The committee on the petition of James Bailey and others, provided for by a vote of yesterday, was announced from the chair, and consists of the following members, viz.: Wilbur Fisk, Eleazer Wells, Asa Shinn, Lovick Pierce, Thomas Wilkerson.

Committee on  
Education.

Reports, &c., were called for, and the chairman of the Committee on Education reported in part, requesting information concerning the number and condition of our seminaries of learning in the bounds of each annual conference.

It was, on motion, resolved that a committee of one from each annual conference be appointed to give the information requested.

Petitions and  
memorials.

Petitions and memorials were called for.

D. Young presented a memorial from brethren on Mad

River Circuit, Ohio Conference, which was, on motion, referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

May 9.

L. Skidmore presented a petition from brethren in Granville County, North Carolina, which was, on motion, referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

Granville petition.

A petition from brethren in Port Royal, Virginia Conference, was presented by S. G. Roszel, and, on his motion, was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

Port Royal petition.

A petition from brethren in Baltimore, inviting the General Conference to hold its next session in that city, was presented, and, on motion, was laid on the table.

Baltimore petition.

N. Bangs submitted a communication from the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, being their second quadrennial report, exhibiting a general view of the transactions of the society for the last four years; and it was, on motion of J. Emory, referred to the Committee on Missions.

Communication from Missionary Society.

J. Emory presented a communication from Rev. N. Snethen and Dr. H. D. Sellers, and a petition from brethren calling themselves the general convention of delegates of members and local preachers of the Methodist Episcopal Church, praying for a representation from each of their respective bodies in the General Conference, which was read, and, on motion, referred to the Committee on Petitions and Memorials.

Emory's communication.

S. Martindale presented a petition from brethren in Vermont, which was, on motion, referred to the Committee on the Itinerancy.

Vermont petition.

Notice was given that a periodical was presented here, published by E. Littell, of Philadelphia, of which the members were requested each to take a copy.

E. Littell's periodical.

N. Bangs moved that the person who gave the notice withdraw it, and the pamphlets. The motion did not prevail.

Appeals were then called for, according to order.

Greenbury R. Jones stated that two appeals had been noticed on the Journal of the Ohio Conference, from Wm. Cunningham and Charles Waddell; that the appellants were not present, and moved that the appeals be made the order of the day for next Thursday, the fifteenth instant; which motion was withdrawn.

Two appeals noticed.

A communication was made by Bishop Soule in relation to his expenses, &c., and the amount drawn by him for the missionary establishments in various conferences where he has laboured; which was, on motion, referred to the Committee on the Episcopacy.

Soule's communication concerning expenses.

William Capers moved, L. Skidmore seconded, that the final adjournment of the present session of the General Conference shall take place on or before the twenty-second day of May.

Wm. Capers's motion.

- May 9.  
N. Bangs's motion as to adjournment.  
Laban Clark's amendment.
- N. Bangs moved to lay the motion on the table, which was decided in the negative.
- L. Clark moved to amend the motion by striking out the words "twenty-second" and inserting the word "thirtieth."
- Nathan Bangs moved to amend the motion by striking out the words "twenty-second" and inserting the words "twenty-ninth." This motion was lost.
- Rozzel's motion.
- S. G. Rozzel then moved that the further consideration of the motion be postponed until Thursday next, the fifteenth; and the motion prevailed.
- Afternoon preaching.
- On motion of J. Emory, it was resolved that preaching in the afternoon in this house after this day shall be dispensed with.
- Inquiry as to locations.
- John Early moved, and Thomas Crowder seconded, that the Committee on the Itinerancy be instructed to inquire into the expediency of devising some remedy against the too common practice of locating, from at least seeming pecuniary necessity, among our experienced and useful preachers; and also to inquire whether some plan may not be devised by which travelling preachers who will not labour, and travelling preachers who it is ascertained have not competent ability, may be located at the discretion of an annual conference. The motion prevailed.
- Committee on Temporal Economy.
- N. Bangs moved, and John Smith seconded, that the Committee on Temporal Economy be instructed to inquire particularly whether any, and if any what, alterations may be made in the allowance of superannuated preachers and in the apportionment of the avails of the Book Concern and Charter Fund; which motion prevailed.
- Prices of books.
- Peter Cartwright moved that the committee be requested to inquire into the expediency of reducing the prices of some of our books, and report thereon. The motion being put, was carried in the affirmative.
- Charter Fund.
- On motion of J. Emory, the communication from the trustees of the Charter Fund was read, and referred to a special committee, to consist of three members to be appointed for that purpose.
- Houston's appeal.
- The motion of N. Bangs, which was offered yesterday and not acted on, in relation to the appeal of Wm. Houston, was called up and discussed.
- The time of adjournment being near, it was, on motion, resolved to extend the session ten minutes.
- The time of adjournment having come again, a motion was made to extend the session ten minutes longer. Lost.
- Committees announced from the chair.
- The following committees were then announced from the chair, in conformity to the provision made previously by the conference, viz. :—
- On the Charter Fund: George Pickering, William M. Kennedy, Lewis Pease.
- A committee to confer with, and answer the inquiries of

the Committee on Education: Henry B. Bascom, John Collins, Andrew Munroe, Samuel Paton, Peter Akers, Robert Payne, B. M. Drake, William Capers, H. G. Leitch, Beverly Waugh, John Dempster, Samuel Luckey, Wilbur Fisk, Stephen Lovell, Lawrence M'Combs.

May 9.

The conference adjourned.

SATURDAY, MAY 10.

May 10.

Conference assembled, and was opened with reading, singing, and prayer, Bishop Hedding in the chair.

The Journal of yesterday was read and corrected; after which Bishop George took the chair.

Bishop George in the chair.

Wm. Lambden moved that there be preaching at three o'clock next week in the old meeting-house; and the motion prevailed.

Reports of committees were called for.

N. Bangs, from the Committee on Canada Affairs, reported that information was wanted on the subject of a petition formerly sent from the Canada Conference to the annual conferences in the United States; and the inquiry was answered by some of the superintendents.

Canada report.

John Early, from the Committee on Unfinished Business, reported in part; and it was voted, on motion, that the report be made the order of the day for next Wednesday.

Report on unfinished business.

J. Emory, from the Committee on Petitions and Memorials, requested to be relieved from the further consideration of certain petitions from persons residing on the eastern shore of Maryland, and that they be referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

Petitions and Memorials.

Martin Ruter, book-agent at Cincinnati, informed the conference that he was ready to report, and J. Emory moved that he now have the liberty to make his report; which he did by a communication of the Book Concern at Cincinnati, and some remarks in reference to the Concern generally. The communication was, on motion, referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.

Book-agent's report from Cincinnati.

The chairman of the Book Committee of the Ohio Annual Conference presented the report of that committee on the Book Concern in the West, which was likewise referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.

Book Concern of the Ohio Annual Conference.

L. Davis, from the Committee on the Expenses of the Delegates, made a report in part.

Brother Wm. Winans moved, B. M. Drake seconded, that the Committee on the Book Concern be instructed to inquire into the expediency of discharging the estate of the Rev. Samuel Parker from the claims standing against him on the accounts of the Book Concern, and report thereon.

Motion of brother Winans as to Parker's account.

Petitions and memorials from Wm. Thorn and others, from within the bounds of the Pittsburgh Conference, were

Petitions and memorials.



May 10.

presented by brother Limerick, a part of which being read, it was moved to refer them to the Committee on Petitions and Memorials; which motion was lost.

It was then moved that the presenter of said memorial have liberty to withdraw it, which motion prevailed.

Memorial presented by S. G. Roszel.

Stephen G. Roszel presented a memorial from William Doughty and others, the object of which was explained by the presenter; and, on his motion, the reading was dispensed with, and it was referred to the Committee on Memorials and Petitions.

Appeals were called for.

Appeal of Dennis B. Dorsey.

Asa Shinn presented an appeal of Dennis B. Dorsey, in which the said Dorsey appeals from the decision of the Baltimore Annual Conference; and, on motion, the said appeal was made the order of the day for Tuesday next.

Decision against Wm. Houston taken up.

The motion of N. Bangs, to reverse the decision of the Baltimore Conference in the case of Wm. Houston, by which said Houston was located without his consent, was taken up and considered, one hundred and two members voting in the affirmative and fifty-three in the negative.

Brother W. Fisk moved, S. Luckey seconded, that the decision of the Baltimore Conference, so far as relates to depriving Wm. Houston of his claims upon the funds of the conference, be, and the same is hereby affirmed.

The Baltimore delegation requested to be excused from voting on this motion; and the conference excused them.

The vote was then taken on brother Fisk's motion, which was carried.

Conference then adjourned.

May 11.

## MONDAY, MAY 12.

Conference assembled.

Conference assembled, and was opened with reading, singing, and prayer, Bishop George in the chair.

The Journal of Saturday was read and amended, after which Bishop Roberts took the chair.

Reports of committees were called for.

Report on the Canada Conference by N. Bangs.

N. Bangs, from the Committee on the Canada Conference, reported; which report was, on motion, laid on the table and made the order of this day.

Petitions and memorials.

Petitions and memorials were called for.

E. Streeter presented an address from an individual in the bounds of Maine Conference, which was stated to be on the subject of missions, and was, on motion, referred to the Committee on Missions.

J. A. Merrill's motion.

J. A. Merrill moved, J. Lindsey seconded, that the Committee on Expenses be instructed to draw on the book-agents for a sum sufficient to make up the full amount of the expenses of the respective delegates, and that the book-agents be directed to pay the same.

Brother J. Emory moved so to amend the motion as to make it thus: That the Committee on Expenses be instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing further measures to meet the full amount of the expenses of the respective delegates. The amendment was accepted by the mover.

May 12.  
J. Emory's motion as to expenses of delegates.

The question was then taken on the motion, as amended, and decided in the affirmative.

G. R. Jones moved, S. Lovell seconded, that the Committee on Revisal and Unfinished Business be instructed to take into consideration so much of the communication of the bishops as relates to the privileges of the members of our Church of the right of trial and of appeal; to inquire particularly whether any, and if any what, change is necessary in the seventh section of the second chapter of our Discipline; and whether any, and if any what, alteration is necessary on the subject of admitting persons into full membership in our Church; and that said committee be instructed to obtain the report of the committee on the subject made to the last General Conference. The motion prevailed.

Motion of G. R. Jones as to change of Discipline.

It was then moved by J. B. Finley, seconded by J. Dew, that the Committee on the Itinerancy be instructed to examine the Journals of the annual conferences, to ascertain whether all the annual conferences have concurred in recommending a plan to this General Conference of reducing the ratio of representation, and if they have, to make a report of said plan, and if not, to report what conference or conferences have failed to do so. The motion prevailed.

Motion on the ratio of representation.

The orders of the day were then called for, and the report of the Committee on Canada was taken up.

Brother Wm. Winans moved, J. Hale seconded, that the report of said committee be adopted.

Report of the Canada Committee taken up.

After considerable discussion, Wm. Capers moved, R. Paine seconded, that the motion for adopting the report be laid on the table, and that the report be made the order of the day for Friday next. The motion was decided in the affirmative.

N. Bangs moved, that the motion that had been laid on the table in relation to the time a preacher may continue to labour among seamen, be now called up. The motion was carried.

Motion of N. Bangs as to preachers among seamen.

S. G. Roszel moved, N. Reed seconded, for a division of the motion, and that the question be taken on the first member, viz.: That the following amendment be made in the fourth section of our form of Discipline, line sixteen, page twenty-five: erase the words "among Indians" and insert "and those preachers who may be appointed to labour for the special benefit of seamen;" and the question

S. G. Roszel's motion on the same.

May 12 being taken on the first part of the motion, thus divided, was decided in the affirmative.

The question was afterward taken on the remaining part of the motion, and decided in the negative.

The conference adjourned.

May 12

TUESDAY, MAY 13.

Conference convened, and was opened in the customary manner, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

The Journal of yesterday was read, after which Bishop Soule took the chair.

Reports of committees were called for.

L. Clark's report on the Boundaries of the Annual Conferences.

L. Clark, from the Committee on the Boundaries of the Annual Conferences, reported, which report being under consideration, Robert Paine moved, and the motion was seconded, that the report be so amended as to make the line between the states of Kentucky and Tennessee, commonly called Walker's line, the line between it and Tennessee Conference.

M. Lindsey on the floor.

This motion being under discussion, and M. Lindsey having occupied the floor for the term of ten or fifteen minutes, he was, on motion of Wm. M'Mahon, permitted to proceed.

Question on amendment.

The question was afterward taken on the amendment offered by R. Paine, and decided in the affirmative.

Wm. Winans's motion.

Wm. Winans moved, S. K. Hodges seconded, that the report be amended by the following addition, viz.: *Provided* also that the bishops be, and hereby are, authorized, on the joint recommendation of the South Carolina and Mississippi Conferences, to form a new conference within the bounds of said conferences. This amendment also prevailed.

N. Bangs's motion.

N. Bangs moved, and it was seconded, that the provisos in the report be so amended as to read: *Provided* that the bishop or bishops attending said conference or conferences be, and hereby are, authorized, &c.

Report and motion laid on the table.

Before the question was taken on this amendment the report and motion were laid on the table, to give place to the orders of the day.

Dorsey's appeal.

The appeal of Dennis B. Dorsey from the decision of the Baltimore Annual Conference was stated to be the order of the day.

A. Shinn requested that the appeal be postponed to a future day.

L. Clark moved, that, in conformity to the request of brother Shinn, the appeal in question be postponed to next Tuesday, and made the order of the day. The motion was lost.

On motion of Wm. Capers, it was resolved that the

conference now adjourn, to meet at half-past two o'clock this afternoon. The motion was decided in the affirmative.

May 12.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON.

At half-past two o'clock P. M. conference assembled, and was opened by the usual exercises, Bishop Soule in the chair.

The Journal of the morning session was read, after which Bishop Hedding took the chair.

Bishop Hedding took the chair.

The appeal of D. B. Dorsey was stated by the chair to be in order.

Wm. Ryerson moved, and the motion was seconded, that the appeal of D. B. Dorsey be laid on the table, to give the chairman of the Committee on Itinerancy an opportunity to report. The motion was lost.

D. B. Dorsey's appeal.

The conference then proceeded to hear and consider the appeal of D. B. Dorsey. Whereupon the Journal of the Baltimore Annual Conference of 1827, and of the same in 1828, in relation to their decision on the case of D. B. Dorsey, was read, from which it appeared that he had been in 1827 charged with having been engaged in the circulation of an improper periodical work; that for so doing he had been, according to a vote of that conference, admonished by the president; that, on account of contumacy, in refusing to be governed by the authority of the conference, he was left for that year without an appointment; and that from the decision, by means of which he had been left without an appointment, he had appealed to this conference.

S. G. Roszel moved, seconded by brother George C. Light, that his appeal from the decision be not admitted.

On motion of David Young this motion was laid on the table, to prepare the way for hearing and considering the appeal of brother D. B. Dorsey from the decision of the Baltimore Annual Conference of 1828, by which he was expelled.

This last appeal of brother Dorsey was, on motion of Beverly Waugh, admitted, and the conference proceeded to consider it. His communications were read, and before the delegates had time to respond, the conference, on motion of J. Emory, adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14.

May 14.

Conference met, and was opened by reading, singing, and prayer, Bishop Hedding in the chair.

The Journal of yesterday afternoon was read and amended, after which Bishop George took the chair.

Bishop George in the chair.

Reports of committees were called for.

May 14  
Report of the  
Committee on  
Missions.

N. Bangs, from the Committee on Missions, reported that the committee requested to be discharged from the further consideration of the petition of James Gilruth, and that the petitioner have leave to withdraw his petition. The request of the committee was, on motion, granted.

Report on Itin-  
erancy, by D.  
Ostrander.

D. Ostrander, from the Committee on Itinerancy, made a report on so much of the business committed to that committee as relates to the too frequent locations of traveling preachers. The report was, on motion, laid on the table.

Report on Sun-  
day Schools  
and Tract So-  
cieties.

L. Clark, from the Committee on Sunday Schools and Tract Societies, reported.

It was moved and seconded that the report lie on the table. The motion prevailed.

Report on Local  
Preachers.

J. B. Stratton, from the Committee on Local Preachers, made a report, which was, on motion, laid on the table.

Report on  
Churches and  
Parsonages.

Joseph A. Merrill, from the Committee on Churches and Parsonages, made a report, and it was moved and carried that the report lie on the table.

Joseph Craw-  
ford's Appeal.

The appeal of Joseph Crawford from a decision of the New-York Conference was noticed by D. Ostrander; and it was voted, on motion of D. Ostrander, seconded by P. P. Sandford, that it be made the order of the day for next Tuesday.

Dew's motion.

John Dew moved, Wm. Capers seconded, that the rules of this conference be so amended that in future the hours of meeting and adjournment be as follows: Hours of meeting, eight o'clock A. M. and half-past two o'clock P. M.; and time of adjournment at twelve o'clock noon, and at half-past five P. M. The motion was decided in the affirmative.

Dorsey's appeal  
resumed.

It was voted, on motion, that the order of the day be dispensed with, and that the conference will now proceed in the consideration of D. B. Dorsey's appeal.

Proceedings of  
of the Balti-  
more Confer-  
ence read.

The Journal of the proceedings of the Baltimore Annual Conference for 1828, in the case of said Dennis B. Dorsey, was then read by the secretary of that conference, by which it appeared that in the report of a committee on his case he had been charged with having treated with contempt a resolution of the Baltimore Conference by continuing to circulate the "Mutual Rights" and the "History and Mystery of Methodist Episcopacy, by A. M'Caine," and also charged with having officiously interfered with the administration of the Discipline in the city of Baltimore, throwing out insinuations of a defamatory character against the preacher in charge in that place; that, being adjudged guilty on the charges alleged against him, he had been expelled from the Methodist Episcopal Church; and that from this decision, by which he had been expelled, he appealed to the conference.

The written communication on his case was read by his representative, with some accompanying remarks.

May 14.

The delegation of the Baltimore Annual Conference responded.

Response of the Baltimore delegates.

The representative of brother Dorsey commenced a reply, and made some preliminary remarks.

The conference at his request, on motion, adjourned.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

At half-past two o'clock conference assembled, and was opened in the usual manner, Bishop George in the chair.

The Journal of the morning was read and amended, after which Bishop Roberts took the chair.

Bishop Roberts in the chair.

The appeal of Dennis B. Dorsey being still under consideration, his representative proceeded to finish his reply, which he had commenced in the former part of the day. This being done, the pleadings were declared to be finished.

Dorsey's appeal.

John Early moved, and Samuel Hodges seconded, that the following resolution be adopted, viz. :—

Motion of J. Early.

*Resolved, &c.*, That the decision of the Baltimore Annual Conference of 1828, expelling Dennis B. Dorsey from the Methodist Episcopal Church, be, and the same is, hereby affirmed.

D. Ostrander moved, and the motion was seconded, that the resolution be laid on the table.

D. Ostrander's motion.

Before the question was taken on the motion for laying the resolution on the table, the conference adjourned.

THURSDAY, MAY 15.

May 15.

Conference assembled, and was opened by reading, singing, and prayer, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

The Journal of yesterday afternoon was read.

Reports of committees were called for.

N. Bangs, from the Committee on Missions, reported, and the report was, on motion, laid on the table.

N. Bangs's report on Missions.

J. Emory, from the Committee on Petitions and Memorials, requested that the committee might be discharged from the further consideration of so much of the communication referred to them as relates to the trial of members, and that so much of said papers be referred to the committee appointed for that purpose. This request was, on motion, granted.

Committee on Petitions and Memorials.

J. Emory, as chairman of said Committee on Petitions, &c., requested leave, after this morning's session, to be absent from the sittings of the conference at his discretion, in order to the better discharge of his duty on that committee, with the understanding that he will be present on any occasion when desired. This was, on motion, granted.

J. Emory's request.

May 15.  
Report of Com-  
mittee on Episc-  
opacy.

S. G. Roszel, from the Committee on Episcopacy, reported on so much of the business referred to them as relates to the communication of Bishop Hedding. The report was considered.

Report of J.  
Davis on Ex-  
penses.

J. Davis, from the Committee on Expenses of the Delegates, made a report, which was, on motion, laid on the table.

Petitions.

Petitions were called for.

A petition was presented from sundry preachers and brethren in Mercer Circuit, which was, on motion, referred to the committee on the petitions of James Bailey and others.

J. Emory moved, and the motion was seconded, that after to-morrow morning the call for petitions and memorials shall be dispensed with. The motion was adopted.

Wm. Capers's  
motion as to  
Expenses of  
Book-Agents.

Wm. Capers moved, L. Pierce seconded, 1. That the Committee on the Book Concern be instructed to obtain from the agents, if practicable, a statement of the sums which have been paid out of the Concern to defray the travelling expenses of the agents during the last four years, so as to show by whom the expense was incurred, in what particular year, and on what official business, and report thereon.

2. That said committee be instructed to ascertain, if practicable, what number of persons have been employed in the Concern yearly, and what have been the separate salaries of such persons so employed from year to year, and report thereon. The question being taken on this motion, it was decided in the negative.

Appeal of D. B.  
Dorsey re-  
sumed.

The appeal of Dennis B. Dorsey was then, on motion, called for, and the discussion on that subject was resumed.

W. Fisk on the  
floor.

W. Fisk having occupied the floor during fifteen minutes, leave was, on motion of B. M. Drake, granted him to proceed. The same liberty was granted to brother Fisk a second time, after which he finished his remarks.

J. Emory on the  
floor.

J. Emory, having occupied the floor for fifteen minutes, was, on motion, permitted to proceed.

N. Bangs's mo-  
tion.

N. Bangs moved, and the motion was seconded, to amend the resolution in question; but he subsequently withdrew his motion.

N. Bangs's re-  
quest.

N. Bangs requested to be excused from voting on the question; but his request, being voted on, was not granted. The question was then taken on the resolution as offered by John Early, and decided in the affirmative.

Session extend-  
ed.

A. Munroe moved, and it was seconded, that the session be extended half an hour beyond the usual time of adjournment. The motion was decided in the affirmative.

J. Emory's reso-  
lutions in the  
case of D. B.  
Dorsey.

J. Emory submitted for the consideration of the conference the following preamble and resolutions, which were read:—

*Whereas*, under a painful sense of official duty, the decision of the Baltimore Annual Conference in the case of Dennis B. Dorsey has been affirmed by this General Conference; *And whereas* an unhappy and pernicious excitement has been produced in some parts of our work by the representations contained in a certain periodical publication which the said Dennis B. Dorsey was engaged in circulating, and persisted in circulating, against the judgment of the conference of which he was a member, and in violation, as they conceive, of his obligations as a Christian minister, and of his associate obligations as a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in regard to the character of the matter contained in the said publication, and in others, circulated by the said D. B. Dorsey; *And whereas* this General Conference is desirous of guarding against any misunderstanding or misrepresentation of the grounds of this decision, and of affording at the same time a safe and equitable basis for the future peace and harmony of the Church, and of giving demonstration to the beloved people of our charge that, as affectionate pastors, who sincerely care for the flock, we desire not to extend the severities even of a just discipline beyond such examples as may have been judged necessary for its sound and salutary maintenance; therefore be it

May 15.  
J. Emory's resolutions continued.

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, 1. That no act or decision of this General Conference is intended, or can justly be so construed, as to deny to any minister or member of the Methodist Episcopal Church any liberty of speech or of the press which shall be consistent with our moral obligations as Christians, and with our own existing rules and associate obligations as Methodists and Methodist ministers; and that any representation or construction to the contrary will, in our judgment, be a violation of truth and righteousness.

First. Freedom of speech writing.

*Resolved*, &c., 2. That the rule in our discipline, chapter two, section seven, question first, and answer third, was not intended in any sense inconsistent with the above resolution, being designed solely to guard against any mischievous and false brethren who may ungratefully avail themselves of their place in the bosom of the Church to endeavour to sow dissensions by inveighing against our doctrines or discipline.

Second.

*Resolved*, &c., 3. That we do hereby most affectionately advise and exhort any of our brethren who may be concerned in this advice to desist in future from patronizing and circulating such publications; and also, by all the sacred and tender ties which bind us together as Christians and as Methodists, we entreat our friends to discountenance any one who will persist in such decisive and destructive practices.

Third. Mischievous publications.



May 15.  
J. Emory's reso-  
lutions con-  
tained.  
Fourth.

*Resolved, &c., 4.* That in view of the objects and principles stated in the preamble to these resolutions, and in the earnest hope that this evidence of lenity and forbearance will tend to heal existing wounds, and to prevent the continuance of publications of the offensive and inflammatory character, in our opinion, justly complained of, this General Conference affectionately advises that no further prosecutions may be instituted, in any part of our work, against any minister or member of the Methodist Episcopal Church on the ground of any past agency, or concern in any past publications of this description, with an earnest desire by this act of amnesty to throw a veil over the past, and to provoke our brethren to a generous reciprocation of brotherly love and better works.

Fifth.

*Resolved, &c., 5.* That, with the advice and consent of any quarterly meeting conference within the jurisdiction or bounds of which any expulsion of any minister or member of our Church may have taken place within months last passed, (on account in whole or in part of their agency and conduct in relation to any such publications as above described,) and also with the consent of the minister or preacher having charge of the circuit or station embracing such quarterly meeting conference, such minister or preacher shall be, and hereby is, officially authorized and empowered to restore to their former standing, in the ministry or in the membership of the Church, any such individual or individuals who shall make such concessions in writing, if required, with regard to their past proceedings, and give such assurances with regard to their future course in relation to the premises as shall be satisfactory to such minister or preacher, and also to such quarterly meeting conference; *Provided* that this shall be done within six months from the close of this General Conference; and *provided, also*, that such minister or preacher shall not be hereby considered bound in any case to reinstate any such individual or individuals, as leader of any class or classes, unless, in his own discretion, he shall judge it proper to do so.

J. EMORY,  
H. G. LEIGH.

Motions.

It was moved and seconded that the resolutions be laid on the table. The motion prevailed.

Motions on ad-  
journalment.

It was then moved and seconded that the conference adjourn until to-morrow morning at eight o'clock. The motion was lost.

It was then moved and seconded that the conference now adjourn. The motion prevailed.

Conference then adjourned.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

May 16.

At half-past two o'clock P. M. conference assembled, and was opened with reading, singing, and prayer, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

The Journal of the morning session was read and amended. Bishop Soule took the chair.

John Early moved, and the motion was seconded, that the report of the Committee on Episcopacy, in relation to a communication from Bishop Hedding, be spread on the Journal, and also, on the suggestion of S. G. Roszel, that it be published in the "Christian Advocate and Journal." The motion being divided, the question was taken on the first part, viz.: "That the report be spread on the Journal." Carried in the affirmative.

Report of Committee on Episcopacy.

The question was afterward taken on the last part of the motion, requiring that the report (see the report at the end of this day's Journal, No. 2) be published in the "Christian Advocate and Journal." This was also carried.

Reports were called for.

J. Wells, from the Committee on Temporal Economy, reported; which report was, on motion, laid on the table.

Report of J. Wells on Temporal Economy.

Brother George Pickering, from the Committee on the Communication from the Trustees of the Charter Fund, reported, and the report was accepted.

In conformity to a resolution in this report, the conference proceeded to fill a vacancy that had occurred in the board of trustees, and George Ireland was elected to fill the vacancy.

The order of the day was called, viz.: A motion for fixing the twenty-second instant for the final adjournment of this conference; whereupon, after some discussion, it was moved to strike out the words "twenty-second." The motion was carried.

Motion to adjourn.

It was then moved and seconded to fill up the blank with the words "twenty-fourth." This motion was also carried.

Amendment of motion for final adjournment.

Wilbur Fisk offered the following resolutions, viz.:—

*Resolved, &c.*, 1. That this General Conference respectfully suggest to the several annual conferences the propriety of recommending to the next General Conference so to alter and amend the rules of our Discipline, by which the General Conference is restricted and limited in its legislative powers, commonly called the Restrictive Rules, number six, as to read thus: *Provided*, nevertheless, that upon the joint recommendation of three-fourths of all of the annual conferences, then a majority of two-thirds of the General Conference succeeding shall suffice to alter any of the above restrictions; or whenever such alterations shall have been first recommended by two-thirds of the General Conference, then, so soon as three-fourths of said annual conferences

Resolutions to alter and amend the Discipline.

May 15.

Resolution second, in order to make the bishops carry address, &c., to the several conferences.

shall have concurred with such recommendations, such alteration or alterations shall take effect.

*Resolved, &c.*, 2. That it is hereby made the duty of the several bishops in their tours to the different annual conferences, to carry around and lay before any such annual conference which they may visit respectively any address or resolution, or other papers of a decent character, which this General Conference or any annual conference may request them so to carry around to obtain the opinion or decision of said annual conferences thereon. Signed, Wilbur Fisk, Joseph A. Merrill.

Resolutions laid on the table. Report on Itinerancy.

These resolutions were, on motion, laid on the table.

On motion of D. Ostrander, the report of the Committee on Itinerancy, (see at the end of the Journal for to-day, No. 1.) in relation to the subject of sending a delegate to the British Conference of Wesleyan Methodists, was taken up, and, after some amendments, the report was adopted.

Delegate to England.

Voted, on motion, that the election of a delegate to the British Conference, in conformity to said report, be made the order of the day for next Saturday.

Presiding-Elder Question.

John Early moved, and it was seconded, that the report of the Committee on Revisal and Unfinished Business, in relation to the suspended resolutions on the election of presiding elders, be taken up and considered. The motion prevailed.

Wm. Winans moved, Wm. Capers seconded, that the subject of the report be disposed of by adopting the following resolution, as a substitute for the resolution which was laid over as unfinished business, viz. :—

The "Suspended Resolutions" rescinded

*Resolved, &c.*, That the resolutions commonly called the suspended resolutions, rendering the presiding elders elective, &c., and which were referred to this conference by the last General Conference as unfinished business, and reported to us at this conference, be, and the same are hereby rescinded and made void. Carried. Signed, Wm. Winans, Wm. Capers.

B. M. Drake moved, Wm. Winans seconded, that the following additional exception be, and is hereby made in the Discipline, chapter first, section fourth, after the words "under our superintendence:" "and the preacher or preachers that may be stationed in the city of New-Orleans." Whereupon the motion was laid upon the table, and made the order of the day for next Monday.

Conference adjourned.

#### REPORTS.

No. 1. The report of the Committee on the Itinerancy, to whom was referred so much of the bishop's communication as refers to the appointment of the delegate to the British Conference, &c.

The committee report that they have had the subject referred to them under consideration, and, considering the advantages that have resulted and are likely to result from such a friendly intercourse, are of the opinion that it ought to be kept up, and therefore submit, for the adoption of the conference, the following resolutions, viz. :—

May 15.  
Report of Committee on Itinerancy.

*Resolved*, 1. That it is expedient to send a delegate or representative to the next ensuing British Conference of Wesleyan Methodists, and that this committee recommend that this conference elect such delegate at its present session.

Delegate to the British Conference.

*Resolved*, 2. That the expenses of such delegate be paid out of the profits of the Book Concern.

Resolution on the expenses of the delegate.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

D. OSTRANDER, *Chairman*.

AMENDMENT.

*Resolved*, 3. That in case the delegate elected should be prevented from going as a delegate from this to the British Conference, the superintendents be, and are hereby authorized and required to appoint one in his place; and also that if a delegation to the next British Conference should fail, that a representative be sent to the subsequent conference next ensuing.

Resolution in case the delegate be prevented from going.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY TO WHOM THE LETTER OF THE REV. E. HEDDING TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE WAS REFERRED.

The Committee on the Episcopacy to whom the letter of the Rev. E. Hedding to the General Conference was referred, submit the following :—

Case of Bishop Hedding in regard to slander.

An article having appeared in the "Mutual Rights," over the signature of "Timothy," purporting to be an address to the junior bishop, E. Hedding, in relation to an address delivered by the bishop to the members of the Pittsburgh Annual Conference, in August, 1826, which the bishop considered unjust, a misrepresentation throughout, and a base slander upon his character, as he declared in a note to the editor of said "Mutual Rights," which note was published in the periodical; and several anonymous certificates having also been published in said "Mutual Rights" justifying the representation of "Timothy," and of course contradicting the contents of the bishop's note.

These various circumstances the bishop conceived had already operated to his injury and might so operate in future, and he therefore thought himself called upon to lay the matter before the General Conference. This he did in a written communication, which, after being read before the conference, was referred to the Committee on Episcopacy.

May 15.

That committee, having taken the same into consideration, resolved to procure a meeting between the bishop and the delegates of the Pittsburgh Annual Conference in the presence of the committee and in presence of the writer of the article signed "Timothy," in order, as far as possible, to ascertain the character of the address delivered by the bishop to the Pittsburgh Conference.

Plan pursued by the committee on Bishop Hedding's case.

The plan pursued to obtain this object was, for the members of the said delegation severally, first to state their recollections of that address, then to answer the questions proposed to them on the subject.

After all these delegates had thus communicated to the committee their recollections, a paper was read containing an accurate outline of the address by the bishop as he had been able to make it out from his own recollection. The recollections of the delegation from Pittsburgh Annual Conference and of Bishop Hedding were not only substantially, but, in a remarkable degree, circumstantially concurrent.

Bishop Hedding's statement.

The bishop then pointed out the injustice, misrepresentation, and slander of his character which he considered as pervading the address signed "Timothy;" after which the author of that article, having been permitted to address the committee, acknowledged that in not properly distinguishing in two instances, he had done injustice, giving the general character of the bishop's address; that some of the inferences he had drawn were unjust, and that as his premises were incorrect, all the inferences drawn from them might be erroneous.

Acknowledgment of the author of "Timothy."

Declaration of the committee on Bishop Hedding's case.

Your committee beg leave therefore to declare, as the result of their investigation in this matter, that they consider the view presented in the bishop's note to the editor of the "Mutual Rights" of the article signed "Timothy" to have been strictly correct.

The committee would further declare that, in their opinion, the address of Bishop Hedding, as recollected by himself and the delegates of the Pittsburgh Annual Conference, not only was not deserving of censure, but was such as the circumstances of the case rendered it his official duty to deliver.

STEPHEN G. ROSZEL, *Chairman.*

PITTSBURGH, May 13, 1828.

May 16.

FRIDAY, MAY 16.

Conference assembled, and was opened by the customary exercises, Bishop Soule in the chair.

The Journal of yesterday was read and amended.

Bishop George took the chair.

Reports were called for.

D. Ostrander, from the Committee on the Itinerancy, made a verbal report respecting the decision of the annual conferences on the subject of reducing the ratio of representation to this body.

May 16.  
Report on the Itinerancy.

Petitions and memorials were called for.

Petitions and Memorials.

A. Shinn presented a petition from brethren in Pittsburgh, which was read, and, on motion, referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

Thomas A. Morris presented a memorial from sundry brethren in Louisville, Kentucky; which was, on motion, referred to the Committee on Petitions and Memorials.

Petition from Baltimore.

A. Shinn offered a petition from several persons in Baltimore who had been expelled from the Church. This petition was, on motion, referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

Phineas Rice asked and obtained leave of absence during the session, with liberty to depart at such time as he may find expedient.

Leave of absence granted to P. Rice.

Stephen G. Roszel moved, and it was seconded, that the appeal of Wm. Pool from the decision of the Baltimore Conference be made the order of the day for next Monday.

D. Ostrander, seconded by T. Merritt, offered the following resolution:—

*Resolved, &c.,* That the first question and answer in section five of our form of Discipline, relating to the appointment and duties of presiding elders, be altered so as to read as follows:—

Resolution to alter the Discipline in regard to the appointment and duties of presiding elders.

“*Quest.* How shall the presiding elders be chosen and stationed?”

“*Ans.* Each annual conference shall elect its own presiding elders for its respective districts, and the presiding elders when so chosen shall be an efficient council to assist the bishops in the appointments of the preachers to their several circuits and stations.”

This resolution was, on motion, laid on the table.

The order of the day, to wit: the report of the committee on petitions from the Canada Conference, was called for, and the conference proceeded to the consideration of that subject.

Canada Conference.

N. Bangs, having commenced some remarks on the question, it was voted that he be permitted to close his remarks without regard to time.

Wm. Capers moved and S. J. Hodges seconded the first resolution in the report by striking out the words “it is unconstitutional to grant,” and insert the words, “as well as that the expediency of the measure does not certainly appear, we decline granting.”

Wm. Capers's motion.

The time of adjournment being near, it was resolved, on motion of John Early, to extend the time of the session until half-past twelve o'clock.

The conference adjourned.

Adjournment.

May 16

## FRIDAY AFTERNOON.

At half-past two o'clock P. M. conference met, and was opened by reading the Scriptures, singing, and prayer, Bishop George in the chair.

The Journal of the morning session was also read and amended.

Bishop Hedding  
in the chair.  
Leave of ab-  
sence granted  
to brothers  
Limerick and  
Pearce.

Bishop Hedding took the chair.

Brother Limerick asked and obtained leave of absence until Monday next.

Brother Thomas C. Pearce asked and obtained leave of absence for the remainder of the session if he should judge it necessary.

Canada case re-  
sumed.

The subject of amending the report of the Committee on Canada Affairs, as proposed by William Capers, was resumed.

S. Luckey moved so to amend the motion of William Capers as to read, "it is expedient to grant, &c."

The president decided that the motion was a substitute, and of course could not be acted on.

The original resolution offered by the committee was then taken up.

D. Ostrander moved to strike out the first clause of the resolution, which says that the several annual conferences have not recommended it to the General Conference. Lost.

H. G. Leigh moved to amend the resolution by adding, after the word "unconstitutional," "and also, under the circumstances, inexpedient." The amendment was lost.

N. Bangs moved, and it was seconded, that the conference now act on the report; but the motion was afterward withdrawn.

The time of adjournment being near, it was resolved, on motion, to extend the session a half hour; but before the time had elapsed, the conference, on the motion of William Capers, adjourned.

May 17.

## SATURDAY, MAY 17.

Conference assembled, and was opened in the usual manner, Bishop Hedding in the chair.

The Journal of yesterday afternoon was read and approved.

Bishop Roberts  
in the chair.  
Bishop M'Ken-  
dree's address  
of the guardi-  
ans of the  
Church.

Bishop Roberts took the chair.

Bishop M'Kendree addressed a few remarks to the conference on the importance of the business devolving upon them as guardians of the Church.

Reports were called for.

Sundry reports.

Wm. Winans, from the Committee on the Book Concern, made a first report, which recommended the establishment

of a Bible society. The report was, on motion, laid on the table.

May 17.

A second report was then presented by the chairman of the same committee in relation to debt due the Concern from the estate of Samuel Parker. The report was, on motion, laid on the table.

The chairman of the said committee then made a full and final report on the general state of the Book Concern in New-York and Cincinnati. This report, was on motion, laid on the table.

A communication from the superintendents jointly, on the subject of appeals, was read, and, on motion, was referred to a special committee.

Communication on the subject of appeals by the superintendents.

Voted, on motion, that the committee consist of five members.

The report of the committee on the petition from Canada Conference was resumed as the unfinished business of yesterday; and, it having been stated by J. Early that the delegates from Canada had a communication to make on the subject of petitions, the conference resolved, on motion, that the report, for the present, lie on the table. While this communication was delayed,

Report on Canada resumed.

J. O. Andrew, seconded by S. K. Hodges, offered the following resolution, viz. :—

*Resolved*, That the following be added to the "N. B." at the close of the second section of the Temporal Economy: "and the board of trustees of every circuit or station shall be responsible to the quarterly-meeting conference of said circuit or station, and shall be required to present annually a report of its acts during the preceding year; and in case of a vacancy in such board of trustees, the vacancy so occurring shall be filled by nomination of the preacher in charge and the presiding elder of the district." Signed, J. O. Andrew, S. K. Hodges. This was, on motion, laid on the table.

Resolution of J. O. Andrew as to Boards of Trustees.

S. G. Roszel offered the following resolution, viz. :—

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, That in all cases when there is creditable testimony against any members showing that they treat their slave or slaves with inhumanity, either in not supplying them with comfortable and sufficient food or raiment, or in separating husbands and wives or parents or children by buying or selling them in an inhuman traffic of our fellow-creatures, the person or persons so offending shall be dealt with in the same manner as in the cases of immorality; and that this regulation be inserted in our form of Discipline. Signed, S. G. Roszel, P. W. Cartwright. This was, on motion, laid on the table.

Resolution against any member treating his slaves badly.

William Ryerson then offered the following resolutions, viz. :—



May 17.  
Resolutions to separate the Canada Conference as a separate church government from the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States.

Whereas the Canada Annual Conference, situated in the province of Upper Canada, under a foreign government, have, in their memorial, presented to this conference the difficulties under which they labour in consequence of their union with a foreign ecclesiastical government, and setting forth their desire to be set off as a separate Church establishment; and whereas this General Conference disclaims all right to exercise ecclesiastical jurisdiction under such circumstances except by mutual agreement; therefore

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, 1. That the compact existing between the Canada Annual Conference and the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States be, and hereby is dissolved by mutual consent, and that they are at liberty to form themselves into a separate Church establishment.

*Resolved*, &c., 2. That our superintendents or superintendent be, and hereby are respectively advised and requested to ordain such person as may be elected by the Canada Conference a superintendent for the Canada connexion.

*Resolved*, &c., 3. That we do hereby recommend to our brethren in Canada to adopt the form of government of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States, with such modifications as their particular relations shall render necessary.

*Resolved*, &c., 4. That we do hereby express to our Canada brethren our sincere desire that the most friendly feeling may exist between them and the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States.

*Resolved*, &c., 5. That the claims of the Canada Conference on our Book Concern and Charter Fund, and any other claims they may suppose they justly have, shall be left open for future negotiation and adjustment between the two connexions. Signed, G. R. Jones, Moses Crume.

Claims of the Canada Conference.

Resolution on Canada affairs.

The question on the first resolution was decided in the affirmative; one hundred and four for, and forty-three against it.

The other four resolutions were, on motion, referred to a special committee to consist of five members.

Election of delegate to the British Conference.

The order of the day, which was to elect a delegate to the British Conference, was called for; and the conference, on motion, proceeded to make an election by ballot, having first determined that a majority of the whole number of votes was necessary in order to a choice.

The names being called and the ballots given in, it appeared that several members were not present.

President's decision.

The president decided that the absentees who should be present and answer to a second call of their names might be permitted to vote.

An appeal was made from this decision to the conference, and the question being taken the decision was sustained.

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On counting the ballots it appeared that Wm. Capers had seventy-five, Wilbur Fisk sixty-seven, there being eleven scattering, and none having a majority there was no choice:

N. Bangs stated by permission that he was not and had not been by his own consent a candidate.

N. Bangs's statement.

On a second ballot it was found that the number of votes given was one hundred and thirty-eight, and that eighty were necessary for a choice.

It appeared on counting that there were four scattering votes, Wilbur Fisk had seventy-two, and William Capers having eighty-two was declared duly elected.

Wm. Capers's election.

A motion was made and seconded that when the conference adjourn it be until eight o'clock Monday morning ensuing; which was decided in the negative.

A motion was then made for adjournment as usual, and decided in the affirmative, and the conference adjourned.

Adjournment.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

At half-past two o'clock conference met according to adjournment, and was opened in the usual manner, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

The Journal of the preceding part of the day was read and corrected, and Bishop Soule took the chair.

D. Ostrander moved, and it was seconded, to take up the report of the Committee on the Expenses of the Delegates. Carried.

D. Ostrander's motion to take up the report of the Committee on Expenses, &c.

The report is as follows:—

The Committee to settle the Expenses of the Delegates beg leave to report the total amount of expenses, to and from the General Conference, as far as given in, \$7,671 26; moneys received from conferences, \$3,929 86; amount deficient, \$3,741 40; which will enable us to pay only fifty-one and a quarter per cent. of the whole amount of claims.

Report of the Committee on Expenses of Delegates.

Your committee therefore beg leave to offer the following resolution:—

*Resolved, &c.,* That the agents of the Book Concern be, and are hereby ordered to pay, by drafts or in moneys, to the delegates of the several annual conferences according to their several deficiencies, to be settled by their own annual conferences respectively, *provided* that the annual conferences shall place to the credit of said drafts any or all moneys that shall have been or may be collected for the purpose of paying said expenses.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. DAVIS, *Chairman.*

May 17.  
N. Bangs's motion to amend the resolution.

N. Bangs moved to amend the report by adding, after the word "collected," "and not yet accounted for;" which was admitted.

J. Dew's motion to amend the same.

S. K. Hodges moved to strike out all of the resolution after the word "respectively;" which prevailed.

J. Dew moved to strike out the latter clause of the resolution, from the word "deficiencies;" which was withdrawn, and the report, as amended, was then adopted.

Committee on Canada.

The president reported the names of the committee on the resolution concerning Canada, which were as follows: John Emory, Wilbur Fisk, G. R. Jones, B. Waugh, Robert Paine.

Committee on Appeals.

Also the names of the committee on the subject of appeals, viz: N. Bangs, Wm. Capers, Wm. Winans, Loring Grant, Joshua Wells.

R. Paine's motion as to expenses of delegates not being drawn from the Book Concern.

R. Paine moved that the Committee on the Expenses of the Delegates be directed to inquire into the practicability of forming a plan by which the expenses of the delegates may not in future be drawn from the book fund, and report thereon as early as practicable; but it was withdrawn.

The conference adjourned.

May 19.

## MONDAY, MAY 19.

Conference met, according to adjournment, and was opened by Bishop M'Kendree, by reading the Scriptures, singing, and prayer, Bishop Soule in the chair.

Reports of committees were called for.

S. G. Roszel's report from the Committee on Episcopacy.

S. G. Roszel, from the Committee on Episcopacy, reported. The report was, on motion, laid on the table.

J. Emory asked and obtained leave for the Committee on Petitions, &c., to sit this evening at four o'clock.

P. P. Sandford asked leave of absence, if necessary, during the session; which was not granted.

Wm. Capers asked leave of absence during the session, that he may have time to visit his family previously to his going to England; which request was granted.

Amendment of the resolution for allowing a preacher to stop in New-Orleans.

The resolution so amending the Discipline as to allow a preacher to stay in New-Orleans more than two years by appointment of a superintendent, was called up, and, on motion, decided in the affirmative.

Wm. C. Pool's appeal.

The appeal of Wm. C. Pool was taken up as the order of the day.

A. Shinn, as representative of Wm. C. Pool, asked the privilege of nominating a person to assist him, and the request was granted. He accordingly nominated W. Fisk.

The charges found against brother Pool in the Journal of the Baltimore Annual Conference.

The Journal of the Baltimore Annual Conference in relation to the charges against brother Pool was then read, from which it appeared that he was charged—

1. With having taken an active part in the formation of

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a Union Society on Harford Circuit, the acts of which society go far to defame and slander the government and administration of the Methodist Episcopal Church. (See brother Jacob R. Shepherd's Certificate, the Bond of Union, Vol. 8, No. 24, Letters A. C. and D.)

2. That instead of meeting the class after preaching on the Sabbath, he addressed the members on the subject of reform. (See Richard Bond's Certificate.)

3. That he has been actively engaged in circulating the "Mutual Rights," and defending the Baltimore Union Society in their defamation of this conference relative to the case of D. B. Dorsey, (see brother Jacob R. Shepherd's certificates, and "A reply to the male members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the Baltimore Conference." Page 20, letter to Vindex.)

4. That he delivered an address to the Union Society of Harford Circuit, and submitted the same for publication in the newspapers, in which a highly inflammatory attack was made both upon the preacher in charge, and upon the constituted authority of our Church in the city of Baltimore, (See Bond of Union, Vol. 8, No. 24, 25, 26, Letters E, F, D,) each of which we think untrue. (See Narrative and Defence, pages 104 and 112.)

Charges against W. C. Pool continued.

5. That he represented the authority of the Church in Baltimore as conspiring against the rights and characters of the citizens of that place, and indirectly advising an appeal to the laws of the country to settle the affairs of the Church. (See "Bond of Union," letter I.)

It was then, on motion, resolved, that the appeal of William C. Pool be admitted.

The journal of the proceedings against him, together with sundry papers were read.

The representatives of brother Pool then addressed some remarks, exhibiting the grounds of the appeal. While W. Fisk was engaged in this, the time of adjournment being near, it was resolved, on motion, to extend the sitting until half-past 12 o'clock.

Remarks of the representatives of brother Pool.

The remarks made by the representatives of brother Pool were responded to in a few remarks by S. G. Roszel. The pleadings being closed, Loring Grant moved, H. Bangs seconded, the following resolution, viz. :—

The above responded to by S. G. Roszel.

Whereas, William C. Pool refused, on his trial, to give the specifications which he said he could disprove; and the evidence in his case being clear and conclusive, therefore,

Grant's motion concerning the trial of brother Pool.

"Resolved, That the decision of the Baltimore Annual Conference, expelling him from the Methodist Episcopal Church, be and is hereby affirmed. L. Grant, H. Bangs."

The time of adjournment being again near, it was resolved, on motion, to extend the sitting for fifteen minutes,

Conference adjourned.

May 19.

and the question being taken on the resolution, it was decided in the affirmative, and the conference adjourned.

As a large number of the members did not appear at the first opening of the session, and several of them continued absent, the insertion of the names of the several delegates attending this General Conference has been omitted until this time that it may be the more complete.

*New-York Conference.*—Nathan Bangs, John Emory, Laban Clark, Peter P. Sandford, Phineas Rice, Stephen Martindale, Daniel Ostrander, John B. Stratton, Lewis Pease, Arnold Scholefield, Tobias Spicer, Heman Bangs, Marvin Richardson, Samuel Luckey, Thomas Burch, Buel Goodsell, Henry Stead, James Youngs.

*New-England Conference.*—George Pickering, Timothy Merritt, John Lindsay, Edward Hyde, Joseph A. Merrill, Benjamin R. Hoyt, Jacob Sanbourn, John M. Hardy, Daniel Dorchester, (absent,) Wilbur Fisk, Daniel Fillmore, Isaac Bonney, John F. Adams, Joseph B. White, (absent,) John Lord, Lewis Bates, Thomas C. Pierce.

*Maine Conference.*—Eleazer Wells, Ephraim Wiley, Elisha Streeter, Heman Nickerson, David Kilbourn, Stephen Lovel.

*Genesee Conference.*—Loring Grant, Horace Agard, George Peck, Josiah Keyes, Robert Parker, Morgan Sherman, Edmund O'Fling, Ralph Lanning, (absent,) Isaac Grant, Zachariah Paddock, James Hall, Manly Tooker, Gideon Lanning, Seth Mattison, Israel Chamberlain, George Harmon, (absent,) John Dempster, Jonathan Huestis.

*Canada Conference.*—William Ryerson, John Ryerson, Samuel Bolton, William Slater, Wyatt Chamberlain.

*Pittsburg Conference.*—William Stevens, Daniel Limerick, David Sharp, Henry Furlong, William Lambdin, James Moore, Asa Shinn, Henry B. Bascom, Thornton Flemming, Charles Elliott.

*Ohio Conference.*—Jacob Young, David Young, James B. Finley, John F. Wright, Russel Bigelow, Greenbury R. Jones, James Quinn, John Collins, Moses Crume, Leroy Swormstedt, John Brown.

*Missouri Conference.*—Andrew Munroe, Jesse Haile.

*Illinois Conference.*—Peter Cartwright, Samuel H. Thompson, John Dew, James Armstrong, John Strange, Charles Holliday.

*Kentucky Conference.*—Richard Tidings, Thomas A. Morris, Peter Akers, Benjamin T. Crouch, George C. Light, Marcus Lindsey, William Adams, Henry M'Daniel, Jonathan Stamper, George M'Nelly, John Tevis.

*Holstein Conference.*—Thomas Wilkerson, Samuel Patton, James Cumming, Elbert F. Sevier, William S. Manson, William Patton, Thomas Stringfield, (absent.)

*Tennessee Conference.*—James Gwin, William M'Mahon, James M'Ferrin, Robert Paine, Finch P. Scruggs, Francis A. Owen, Ashley B. Roszell, John M. Holland, Joshua Boucher.

*Mississippi Conference.*—Benjamin M. Drake, William Winans, Thomas Griffin, Robert L. Kennon, Barnabas Pipkin, John C. Burrus.

*South Carolina Conference.*—James O. Andrew, William Capers, William M. Kennedy, Lovick Pearce, Henry Bass; Samuel Dunwody, Samuel K. Hodges, George Hill, William Arnold, Andrew Hamill, Malcom M'Pherson, Robert Adams, Elijah Sinclair.

*Virginia Conference.*—Daniel Hall, Hezekiah G. Leigh, Lewis Skidmore, Caleb Leach, Joseph Carson, Moses Brock, Peter Doub, Henry Holmes, Thomas Crowder, John Early.

*Baltimore Conference.*—S. G. Roszel, Nelson Reed, Joshua Wells, Beverly Waugh, Andrew Hamphill, Joseph Fry, Henry Smith, John Davis, Job Guest, Marmaduke Pearce, Christopher Fry, James M. Hanson.

*Philadelphia Conference.*—Ezekiel Cooper, (absent,) Lawrence M'Combs, Manning Force, John Potts, Charles Pitman, James Smith, John Smith, David Dailey, William Leonard, Joseph Lybrand, (absent,) Lot Warfield, George Woolly, Thomas Neal, Waters Burrows, Solomon Higgins.

MONDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met at half-past two o'clock, and was opened by reading the Scriptures, singing, and prayer, Bishop George in the chair.

The Journal of the morning session was read and approved.

Bishop Roberts then took the chair.

William Wynans moved, and it was seconded, that we now take up the Report of the Committee on the state of the Book Concern. Carried.

The report was then read by the secretary.

It was resolved, on motion, to consider and act on the resolutions embraced in the report; and the first, second, third, fourth, sixth, and seventh resolutions, after some small amendments, were adopted. The fifth was stricken out.

While the eighth resolution was under consideration, a motion was made for adjournment. Lost.

It was then, on motion, resolved to extend the time of sitting until six o'clock.

S. G. Roszel moved, and it was seconded, that the further consideration of the report be postponed until to-morrow, and the motion was decided in the negative.

The conference adjourned.

May 19.

Report on the  
Book Concern.

May 20.

TUESDAY, MAY 20.

Conference met according to adjournment, and was opened by reading the Scriptures, singing, and prayer, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

The Journal of yesterday afternoon session was read and approved.

Reports were called for, and brother John Emory from the Committee on Petitions, &c., reported.

Disposition of the report of Committee on Petitions, &c.

Asa Shinn moved, and it was seconded, that the report be adopted, and that five thousand copies be printed.

The motion being divided, the first part, viz., that it be adopted, was decided in the affirmative. The latter part of the motion was so amended as to read, that the report be published, and in that form prevailed.

The report of the Committee on speculative Free Masonry.

Wilbur Fisk for the committee to whom was referred the petitions of James Baily and others, on the subject of speculative Free Masonry, reported.

It was moved and seconded to amend the report by striking out the preamble; and the motion prevailed.

The question was then taken on the adoption of the resolutions accompanying the report, and decided in the negative.

Proceedings on the Report of Committee on the subject of speculative Free Masonry.

L. Skidmore moved, J. Early seconded, for a reconsideration of the vote on preamble, and the motion prevailed.

It was then moved and seconded, that the preamble of the report be adopted. While this motion was under consideration, the conference, on motion, adjourned.

## TUESDAY AFTERNOON.

At half past two o'clock, P. M., conference met according to adjournment, and was opened by reading, singing, and prayer, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

The Journal of the morning session was read and amended, Bishop Soule in the chair.

The following resolution was offered by J. Early, L. Skidmore seconding, and adopted by the conference, viz.:

Resolution requiring instruction to Delegates to England.

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the several annual conferences in General Conference assembled, That the superintendents be, and they are hereby requested to prepare, and give to the Rev. William Capers, our delegate to the British Conference, the necessary commission and instructions to effect the important objects for which he is sent.

On motion of S. G. Roszel, the report of the Committee on Episcopacy was taken up and considered.

Bishop M'Kendree's extra expenses.

S. G. Roszel moved to amend the report, by striking out the word "two," and inserting the word "one" in reference to an appropriation made for Bishop M'Kendree's expenses, making the annual amount for his extra expenses \$150, and the motion prevailed.

J. Emory moved, and it was seconded, that the consideration of the Report on the Book Concern be resumed, and the motion prevailed.

May 20.

J. Emory moved a substitute for the 8th resolution, which was read, and, on motion, adopted as a substitute, subject, however, to amendment.

Further proceedings on the Book Concern.

The 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th resolutions contained in the report were, with some amendments, adopted.

The question was then taken on the adoption of the report in full as amended, and decided in the affirmative. It was then resolved, on motion, that the election of the Editors and Agents of the Book Concern shall be the order of the day for Thursday (afternoon) next.

S. G. Roszel moved, seconded by N. Bangs, that the following resolution be adopted, to wit :

*Resolved, &c.,* That the Book Agents be and are hereby instructed, to pay out of the Book Fund the sum of dollars for the support of the Rev. William Capers and family, during his absence as our representative to the British Conference. The question being taken on this resolution, it was decided in the affirmative.

Resolutions authorizing the Book Agents to pay the family expenses of Wm. Capers.

N. Bangs moved, and it was seconded, that the preachers in the Charleston city station be a committee to estimate the amount necessary to defray the family expenses of brother Capers, during his absence as delegate to the ensuing English Conference. Carried.

On motion of William Winans, the report of the Committee on the Book Concern, in relation to an amount due from Samuel Parker's estate, was taken up, and the question being put on the adoption of this report, it was decided in the negative.

Report of Committee on Book Concern relative to the debt of Rev. Samuel Parker.

Joseph A. Merrill moved, E. Hyde seconded, that the Book Agents be authorized and directed to relinquish to Charles Virgin the interest that has accrued on a note which he owes the Book Concern, provided he pays the principal in four years, and the motion prevailed.

C. Virgin's note.

It was moved and seconded that conference now adjourn. Carried.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21.

May 21.

Conference met at the usual hour, and was opened by reading the Scriptures, singing, and prayer, Bishop Soule in the chair.

The journal of yesterday afternoon was read and corrected.

Bishop George then took the chair.

Reports were called for ; and the chairman of the Committee to whom was referred the communication of the bishops on the subject of appeals, made his report; and the

Proceedings of the Conference on the Report of the Committee on the Subject of Appeals.



May 21.

Proceedings of  
Conference on  
the resolution  
of W. Fisk and  
W. Winans on  
the subject of  
altering the re-  
strictive regu-  
lations in our  
Discipline.

same, together with the resolutions appended thereto, was, on motion, laid on the table.

William Winans moved, and it was seconded, to call up the resolution offered by brother Fisk, recommending to the several annual conferences the propriety of so altering the restrictive regulations in our Discipline, as to allow a joint recommendation of three-fourths of all the annual conferences, and a majority of two-thirds of the General Conference, to be competent to change any of said regulations, which motion prevailed.

L. M'Combs moved to amend the resolution, by striking out the word "joint," and insert the word "concurrent," and the motion was lost.

A division of the resolution was called for. The first part of the resolution as divided was adopted, to wit:—

That this General Conference respectfully suggest to the several annual conferences, the propriety of recommending to the next General Conference so to alter and amend the rules of our Discipline, by which the General Conference is restricted and limited in its powers to make rules and regulations for our Church, commonly called the Restrictive Rules, as to make the proviso at the close of said Restrictive Rules, No. 6, read thus: *Provided*, nevertheless, that upon the joint recommendations of three fourths of all the annual conferences, then a majority of two-thirds of the General Conference succeeding shall suffice to alter any of the above restrictions except the first "article."

The vote by which this part of the resolution was adopted was, on motion of R. Bigelow, reconsidered. It was then resolved, on motion, that the resolution be referred to a select committee of three members.

Proceedings on  
Canada affairs.

It was, on motion, resolved, that the subject of the petition from the Canada Conference be resumed, whereupon the resolutions as reported by the last committee appointed on that subject were read.

It was then resolved that the subject shall now be considered and acted on.

Samuel H. Thompson moved, and it was seconded, that the resolution as reported by the committee be adopted. The question being taken, it was decided in the affirmative, one hundred and eight voting in favour of adoption, and twenty-two against it.

Canada affairs  
concluded.

N. Bangs moved, and it was seconded, that the following be referred to the consideration of the same committee:—

That if the Canada Conference should be set off, so as to become independent of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States, the General Conference be recommended to make such alteration in the Constitution of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church as shall authorize the Board of Managers to make an appropriation

to a certain amount, of the funds of that institution for the support of the Indian missions in Upper Canada, and the motion prevailed.

May 31.

It was then moved and seconded to take up and consider the report on churches and parsonages, and the motion was lost.

It was then resolved to take up and consider the report on Temporal Economy.

Proceedings on the report of the Committee on Temporal Economy.

J. H. Hodges moved, and it was seconded, to adopt the report *en masse*, which motion was afterward withdrawn.

The report was then, on motion, taken up and considered item by item. The first item was passed, and the second was struck out.

On motion of D. Ostrander, the third item in the report was amended by striking out the words, "a suitable age to be put to a trade or profession," and insert the words, "the age of fourteen years." The said article as amended was adopted. The fourth item was read and adopted.

Alteration of the resolution.

The whole report as amended was on motion adopted.

It was then moved and seconded that conference sit ten minutes beyond the usual hour of adjournment. Carried.

Bishop Soule then addressed the conference in relation to the instructions to be given to our delegate to the British Conference, and the propriety of addressing that body; and on motion of N. Bangs, a committee of three was appointed to prepare said address.

Appointment of Committee to prepare an Address to British Conference.

N. Bangs, John Early, Lovick Pierce, committee.

It was, on motion, resolved, that when conference meets this afternoon, it sit with closed doors.

Conference then adjourned.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

Wednesday afternoon, May 21st, at half past two o'clock, conference assembled, and was opened in the usual manner, Bishop George in the chair.

The Journal of the morning session was read and amended, and Bishop Roberts took the chair.

Reports were called for. D. Ostrander for the Committee on the Itinerancy reported, and the report was, on motion, laid on the table.

D. Ostrander called for the order of the day, to wit: the appeal of Joseph Crawford.

Order on Jos. Crawford's appeal.

After stating, from the Journal of the New-York Annual Conference, the circumstances of his expulsion,

D. Ostrander moved, and Lewis Skidmore seconded the following resolution, to wit: and the question being taken, it was decided in the affirmative:—

Whereas, Joseph Crawford was, in the year 1825, expelled from the Methodist Episcopal Church, by a decision of the New-York Annual Conference, and did thereupon enter

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his appeal from said decision to this General Conference, and whereas the said Joseph Crawford has not appeared, either in person or by his representative, to present said appeal, therefore,

*Resolved*, That the said decision of expulsion against him stands good and is affirmed.

Order on Wm. Cunningham's appeal from the decision of the Ohio Annual Conference.

The appeal of William Cunningham, from the Ohio Conference was called, and D. Young moved, and G. R. Jones seconded the following preamble and resolution, to wit:—

*Whereas*, William Cunningham has notified an appeal from the decision of the Ohio Annual Conference, by which he had been expelled from the Methodist Episcopal Church; and whereas, William Cunningham has not appeared, either personally or by a representative,

*Resolved*, therefore, That the appeal of William Cunningham shall not be admitted, and the motion was reported.

The appeal of Charles Waddell was also mentioned, and the following preamble and resolution in relation to his case were, on motion of D. Young, seconded by G. R. Jones, accepted, to wit:—

*Whereas*, Charles Waddell has notified an appeal from the decision of the Ohio Annual Conference, by which he had been expelled from the Methodist Episcopal Church; and whereas Charles Waddell has not appeared either personally or by a representative,

*Resolved*, therefore, that the appeal of Charles Waddell shall not be admitted.

L. M'Coombs, seconded by T. Merritt, offered the following resolution, to wit:—

Proceedings in relation to Bp. Soule's sermon preached before the South Carolina Conference.

*Whereas*, in the sermon of the Rev. Bishop Soule, preached before the South Carolina Conference, January 14th, 1827, there is in the opinion of some an apparent departure from several points of doctrine held by the Methodist Episcopal Church, that is to say,

1. It may be fairly inferred from the above-mentioned sermon, that Christians are not under moral obligation to keep the Sabbath holy, since the law which enjoins the observance of the Sabbath day is done away.

2. The law given to mankind in a state of innocency has, in virtue of atonement, relinquished its claims in such a sense as not to condemn even him who refuses compliance with the conditions of the new covenant.

3. That the atonement made by Jesus Christ was a satisfaction in such a sense as to render both repentance and pardon with respect to the sins atoned for, unnecessary.

4. That the atonement has no direct and immediate application to the transgressions of the law to which man is now personally responsible, called in the sermon the gospel or the law of liberty, therefore,

*Resolved*, That this General Conference now go into an investigation of the subject, and determine whether such doctrines are contained in said sermon. Signed L. M'Combs, T. Merritt.

May 21.  
Proceedings in relation to Bishop Soule's sermon continued.

S. G. Roszel moved, and it was seconded, that the preamble and resolution be indefinitely postponed, but the motion was afterward withdrawn.

J. Emory moved, and it was seconded, that it lie on the table for making inquiry and answering objections. This motion was also withdrawn.

W. Fisk renewed the motion for laying it on the table, and it was seconded by B. M. Drake, which motion was also withdrawn.

S. K. Hodges then moved, and it was seconded, to refer the whole subject under consideration to the Committee on Episcopacy, which motion prevailed.

The conference then adjourned.

THURSDAY, MAY 22.

May 22.

Conference assembled and was opened as usual, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

The Journal of yesterday afternoon was read and corrected.

Bishop Hedding took the chair.

Reports were called for, &c.

J. Emory offered the following resolutions on the subject of the Book Concern, seconded by William Adams, to wit :

J. Emory's resolutions on the subject of the Book Concern.

*Resolved*, That the Committee on the Book Concern be instructed to inquire and report to this conference, what more effectual measures can be adopted for the collection of the debts due for our periodical publications; and also the best plan for furnishing each preacher with a copy of the Christian Advocate and Journal, and also into the expediency of adopting the following resolutions, viz. :—

1. Of the books now in hand in any circuit or station, and charged to any presiding elder, on all sales which may be made between the time of receiving this information, and the next ensuing session of the annual conferences respectively, the preacher making such sales shall be allowed twenty-six and two-thirds per cent from the retail prices, and the presiding elder thirteen and one-third, being together equal to forty per cent.

The per centage allowed Preachers and Presiding Elders for selling books.

2. Where books have been accumulated in any circuit or station, more than are likely to be speedily sold, the presiding elders are hereby requested and directed, to cause the same to be distributed through the district, in such manner as may be most conducive to their speedy sale, and to charge the expenses of making such distribution to the Book Concern.

Books to be distributed.

3. With regard to the remittance of any book money

May 22.

which may be in hand, the presiding elders and preachers shall be governed by such instructions as may hereafter be issued by the agents. Signed, J. Emory, W. Adams.

On motion, conference then resolved to sit with closed doors.

S. G. Roszel reported for the Committee on Episcopacy to whom was referred the Preamble and Resolution concerning Bishop Soule's sermon.

S. G. Roszel for the Committee on the Episcopacy, to whom was referred the preamble and resolutions submitted yesterday, in relation to a sermon of Bishop Soule, reported, and the conference proceeded to consider it.

R. Tidings moyed, B. M. Drake seconded, that the report be adopted.

W. Fisk called for a division of the resolution, and that the items be voted on separately; and this course was admitted to be in order.

It was then moved that the report be indefinitely postponed, which motion was decided in the negative.

The question being taken on the adoption of the first item in the resolution contained in the report, it was decided in the affirmative, ninety-four in favour, and thirty against it. The question being taken on the second and third items, they were both adopted, after so amending the second as to make it read in the language of the resolutions offered by L. M'Combs.

Session extended.

The time of adjournment being near, it was resolved, on motion, to extend the session until half-past twelve. The question was then taken on the fourth item and adopted.

The time of adjournment being again near, it was resolved to extend the session ten minutes. The question was then taken on the last resolution and adopted.

It was then moved and seconded that the report, in the whole, be adopted; and the question was decided in the affirmative, which said report is as follows:—

Report of the Committee on Episcopacy, and also Resolutions of said Committee.

The Committee on the Episcopacy to whom was referred the preamble and resolution questioning the soundness of doctrine in a sermon preached by Bishop Soule before the South Carolina Conference, and requiring an investigation into the same, beg leave to report: That having had this matter thus submitted to them under careful examination, the committee have not seen reason to concur with any of the items contained in said preamble, and therefore submit the following resolutions:—

Resolution on the subject of the Sermon of Bishop Soule.

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, 1. That nothing in the sermon preached by Rev. Bishop Soule, before the South Carolina Conference, January 11th, 1827, and published at the request of said conference, warrants the inference "that Christians are released from moral obligations to keep the Sabbath holy;" or,

2. That "the law given to mankind in a state of innocence has, in virtue of atonement relinquished, its claims in

such a sense as not to concern even him who refuses compliance with the conditions of the new covenant;" or,

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3. That "the atonement made by Jesus Christ is a satisfaction in such a sense, as to render both repentance and pardon with respect to the sins atoned for unnecessary;" or

4. That "the atonement has no direct and immediate application to the transgressions of the law to which man is responsible, called in the sermon, the gospel or law of liberty."

And it is further resolved, in the judgment of this conference, that there is nothing in the sermon, fairly construed, inconsistent with our articles of religion, as illustrated in the writings of Messrs. Wesley and Fletcher. All of which is respectfully submitted.

STEPHEN G. ROSZEL, *Chairman.*

*Pittsburg, May 22, 1828.*

It was then moved and seconded, that the rules of the conference be so amended as to require each member to take his seat at the time the president appears and takes the chair.

Motion to amend the rules in respect to members taking their seats.

The conference adjourned.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE EPISCOPACY.

The Committee on the Episcopacy begs leave to report :

1. Your committee, after a particular and minute examination respecting the labours and administration of our government by the episcopacy, find nothing to condemn but much to applaud. Their labours during the last four years have been arduous, and their attention to duty such as meets the decided approbation of your committee.

Report of the Committee on Episcopacy.

2. In any arrangement that the bishops may think proper to make for their own convenience in the general oversight of the work, we would recommend that each of our bishops should, if practicable, be known in each of the annual conferences once in four years ; and that none of our preachers should be kept too long in city stations.

3. Your committee find that Bishops Roberts and Soule have not received the full amount of their salaries, not having charged the whole amount to those conferences over which they have presided, believing that the Discipline made it the duty of each annual conference to pay an equal proportion of their demand.

Your committee are of opinion, that the health of Bishop M'Kendree is such as to render it impracticable for him to do the work of an effective man, and recommend that he should use his own discretion in travelling through the connexion, and taking the oversight and superintendence as he may find it prudent and practicable for him to do so. And your committee would further remark that, in their opinion,

May 22.  
Report of Com-  
mittee on  
Episcopacy.

Bishop M'Kendree should receive a sum sufficient to pay his salary and expenses, and the salary and expenses of the brother who may travel with him.

Your committee beg leave to offer the following resolutions:—

*Resolved*, 1. That the last clause of section first, in part second of the forms of Discipline, be so amended as to read as follows:—Each annual conference shall pay its proportionate part toward the allowance of each one of the bishops.

*Resolved*, 2. That it shall be the duty of the Agents of the Book Concern to pay out of the Book Fund the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars per annum, in quarterly instalments, to Bishop M'Kendree, on his order, to meet his extra expenses. Signed,

STEPHEN G. ROSZEL, *Chairman*.

Pittsburg, May 19, 1828.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference assembled and was opened as usual, Bishop Hedding in the chair.

The journal of the morning session was read and approved.

Bishop Hedding  
addresses the  
Conference on  
the state of  
his health.

Bishop Hedding addressed a few remarks to the conference on the peculiar state of his health, and in regard to some bodily infirmities, which rendered it sometimes difficult, if not impracticable, for him to attend all the conferences even in four years.

Resolution on  
Bishop Hed-  
ding's case.

W. Fisk moved, and it was seconded, that this General Conference express by vote the sentiment that they do not wish Bishop Hedding should labour any more, nor visit any more of the annual conferences the next four years than he may judge shall comport with his health, and the motion prevailed.

Missions  
Canada. in

W. Fisk, for the Committee on the subject of so altering the Constitution of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church as to render it favourable to missions in Upper Canada, reported.

It was moved and seconded that the report be accepted, and the motion prevailed; whereupon it was, on motion, resolved, that the blank in the report be filled with the amount of \$700.

Election of Edit-  
ors and Agents  
of the Book  
Concern.

On motion of D. Ostrander, the conference proceeded to the election of Editors and Agents of the Book Concern and our periodicals, according to the order of the day.

The ballots being taken in for each officer separately and in succession, the result was as follows, viz.:

John Emory was elected Editor, Agent, and General Book Steward.

Beverly Waugh was elected Assistant Editor and Agent.

Charles Holliday was elected Book Agent for the Establishment at Cincinnati.

N. Bangs was elected Editor of the Christian Advocate and Journal, and such other periodicals as are assigned to that department, according to the report of the Committee on the Book Concern.

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The conference then proceeded to select the place for the sitting of the General Conference of 1832. It was moved and seconded that the selection be made by nomination and open vote. Carried.

Selection of a place for the General Conference for 1832.

Philadelphia and Baltimore were then put in nomination, and the question being taken, it was determined that the city of Philadelphia should be the seat of the next General Conference.

Philadelphia chosen as the place for the next General Conference.

W. Fisk from the Committee to which had been referred the subject of recommending to the annual conferences some alterations in the Restrictive Rules, reported.

Report on the Restrictive Rules.

The time of adjournment being near, it was moved and seconded to extend the session until six o'clock. Lost.

It was then resolved, on motion, to extend the session for fifteen minutes. During the discussion the time of adjournment having nearly arrived, it was resolved, on motion, to extend it ten minutes.

Session extended.

A division of the above report was called for, and the question being taken on the first part, it was carried.

Division of the Report called for.

The vote was taken on the second and last part. Carried also.

Conference adjourned.

The following is the report referred to above :—

The committee to whom was referred the subject embraced in a resolution suggesting the propriety of providing for the alteration of one of the rules, commonly called the Restrictive Rules, beg leave to report the following resolution :—

Report of Committee on alteration of Restrictive Rules.

*Resolved*, That this General Conference respectfully suggest to the several annual conferences the propriety of recommending to the next General Conference so to alter and amend the rules of our Discipline, by which the General Conference is restricted in its powers to make rules and regulations for the Church, commonly called the Restrictive Rules, as to make the proviso at the close of said Restrictive Rules, No. 6, read thus :—

*Provided*, nevertheless, that upon the concurrent recommendation of three-fourths of all the members of the several annual conferences who shall be present and vote on such recommendation, then a majority of two-thirds of the General Conference succeeding shall suffice to alter any of such regulations excepting the first article.

And, also, whenever such alteration or alterations shall have first been recommended by two-thirds of the General Conference, so soon as three-fourths of the members of the



May 22. annual conferences shall have concurred, as aforesaid, with such recommendation, such alteration or alterations shall take effect.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. FISK, *Chairman.*

May 23.

FRIDAY, MAY 23.

Conference assembled and was opened as usual. Bishop George took the chair.

Bishop M'Kendree's address to Conference in respect to instructions to be given to Delegate to British Conference.

J. Emory's motion on Canada affairs.

Bishop M'Kendree addressed the conference a few minutes, by way of inquiring what was expected of the superintendents in relation to instructions to be given to our delegate to the British Conference, &c.

J. Emory moved, and it was seconded, that the resolution first adopted on the subject of the separation of the Canada Conference from the connexion in the United States be reconsidered, and the motion prevailed.

It was then resolved, on motion, that this resolution be rescinded.

Reports were called for.

Report of the Committee on Book Concern, on the subject of adopting a plan for collecting debts for periodicals.

First six resolutions of above report postponed.

Four last adopted.

Report of Committee on Ardent Spirits laid on the table.

Report on Boundaries.

W. Winans, from the Committee on the Book Concern, to whom was referred the subject of devising a more effectual plan for collecting the amounts due for our periodicals, reported.

On motion, it was resolved, that the first resolution be referred to the Book Agents and Book Committee at New-York, with discretionary power to act in the premises as they may believe the interests of the Concern require. After some further discussion a motion was made and seconded, indefinitely to postpone the first six resolutions in the report. Carried.

It was moved and seconded that the conference now adopt the four last resolutions. Carried.

The Committee on Ardent Spirits reported, and it was moved and seconded that the report be laid on the table. Carried.

The report on the boundaries of annual conferences was called up and considered.

Jonathan Huestis moved the following amendment to the report, to wit: That the Genesee Conference be divided, &c. While this amendment was under consideration, brother W. Fisk asked and obtained leave of absence to attend to committee business.

The motion of D. Ostrander to amend brother Huestis's resolution.

D. Ostrander moved to amend the resolution of brother Huestis, by adding, "except so much of the state of New-York as is now included in the Pittsburg Conference," which amendment was admitted, and on the question being next put the resolution was lost.

D. Ostrander moved, and it was seconded, to strike out

all the provisos, with a view to introduce a general proviso. The motion was afterward withdrawn. L. Clark being seconded, renewed the motion, and it was decided in the negative.

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The report was then, after some further amendments, adopted.

Report adopted.

On motion of N. Bangs, the conference took up and resumed the consideration of the report on missions.

Further consideration of the report on missions.

The time of adjournment being near, it was resolved, on motion, to extend the session until half-past twelve o'clock.

The report was then read, and, with some amendments, adopted, together with an amended constitution of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, which had been recommended by the Board of Managers of said society.

Above report adopted after some amendments.

J. Emory moved the adoption of the following resolutions, to wit:—

J. Emory's resolution on "Union Societies."

Whereas, an unhappy excitement has existed in some parts of our work, in consequence of the organization of what have been called "Union Societies," for purposes and under regulations believed to be inconsistent with the harmony and peace of the Church, and in relation to the character of much of the matter contained in a certain periodical publication called the "Mutual Rights," in regard to which certain expulsions from the Church have taken place; and whereas, this General Conference indulges in a hope that a mutual desire may exist for conciliation and peace, and is desirous of leaving open a way for the accomplishment of so desirable an object on safe and equitable principles, therefore,

Resolved, 1. That in view of the premises, and in the earnest hope that this measure may tend to promote this object, this General Conference affectionately advises that no further proceedings may be had, in any part of our work, against any minister or member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, on account of any past agency or concern in relation to the above-named periodical, or in relation to any Union Society as above-mentioned.

Resolved, 2. If any persons expelled as aforesaid feel free to concede that publications have appeared in said "Mutual Rights," the nature and character of which were unjustifiably inflammatory, and do not admit of vindication, and that others, though for want of proper information, or unintentionally, have yet, in fact, misrepresented individuals and facts, and that they regret these things; if it be voluntarily agreed, also, that the union societies above alluded to shall be abolished, and the periodical called "Mutual Rights" be discontinued at the close of the current volume, which shall be completed with due respect to the conciliatory and pacific design of this arrangement, then this General Con-

May 22.

ference does hereby give authority for the restoration to their ministry or membership; respectively, in the Methodist Episcopal Church, of any person or persons so expelled as aforesaid, provided this arrangement shall be mutually assented to by any individual or individuals so expelled, and also by the quarterly meeting conference, and the minister or preacher having the charge in any circuit or station within which any expulsion may have taken place; and that no such minister or preacher shall be obliged, under this arrangement, to restore any such individual as leader of any class or classes, unless in his own discretion he shall judge it proper so to do; and provided, also, that it further be mutually agreed, that no other periodical publication to be devoted to the same controversy shall be established on either side, it being expressly understood at the same time, that this; if agreed to, will be on the ground, not of any assumption of rights to require this, but of mutual consent for the restoration of peace, and that no individual will be hereby precluded from issuing any publication which he may judge proper on his own responsibility. It is further understood that any individual or individuals who may have withdrawn from the Methodist Episcopal Church on account of any proceedings in relation to the premises, may also be restored by mutual consent under this arrangement, and the same principles as above stated. Signed, J. Emory, H. G. Leigh.

J. Emory's resolutions adopted.

The question was then taken on the adoption of the foregoing resolutions, and decided in the affirmative.

The conference then adjourned.

#### FRIDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference assembled and was opened as usual, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

The journal of the morning session was read and approved, and a call was made for reports.

W. Fisk's Report from the Committee on Education.

W. Fisk from the Committee on Education reported.

N. Bangs moved, and it was seconded, that the report be accepted and printed in the *Christian Advocate and Journal*. Carried.

N. Bangs's Report from the Committee to prepare an address to the British Conference.

N. Bangs, from the committee appointed to prepare an address to the British Conference, reported an address, which was on motion adopted.

On motion of James B. Finley, the report on local preachers was taken up, and with some amendments adopted.

Report on Itinerancy.

On motion of D. Ostrander the report of the Committee on Itinerancy was taken up, and, after some amendments, it was adopted.

Cincinnati Book Concern.

R. Payne moved, and John Dew seconded, that M. Ruter be, and hereby is, authorized and expected to attend to the affairs of the Book Concern at Cincinnati until the first

of July, or until the agent shall have arrived there with his family; and the motion prevailed.

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S. G. Roszel moved, P. Cartwright seconded, that the resolution concerning slavery be taken up and adopted; but the motion was afterward withdrawn.

Motion on the subject of slavery withdrawn.

B. Waugh moved, and it was seconded by W. Fisk, that the following resolutions be adopted, to wit:—

W. Fisk's resolutions on Colonization.

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, 1. That this conference highly approve of the objects proposed, and the measures taken by the American Colonization Society in reference to the colonization of the free people of colour on the coast of Africa.

*Resolved*, &c. 2. That this conference look to the settlement at Liberia as opening a door for the diffusion of all the benign influences of the Gospel over the continent of Africa, and therefore recommend it to our ministry and membership to aid by their exertions and influence in the formation, and support of auxiliary societies, and the making annual collections to aid in carrying into effect the benevolent designs of the parent institution.

*Resolved*, &c. 3. That the secretary be, and is hereby instructed to communicate the foregoing resolutions to the Board of Managers of the American Colonization Society, and the motion prevailed.

John Dew moved, S. H. Thompson seconded the following resolution, to wit:—

John Dew's motion on the subject of the Book Concern.

*Resolved*, That the interest which has already accrued, or may hereafter accrue on a debt due the Book Concern by the Rev. Jesse Walker, be and is hereby remitted, provided that he pay the principal by the next General Conference. This was adopted.

On motion of L. Clark, the conference resumed the consideration of the report on Sunday schools and tract societies, and the report was, on motion, adopted.

Report on Sunday School and Tract Societies.

N. Bangs moved, T. B. Finley seconded the adoption of the following, to wit:—

Transposition in the Discipline.

That a transposition be made in the Discipline, in section 7, page 90, so as to read thus: "If the accused person be found guilty, and the crime be such as is expressly forbidden by the word of God, sufficient to exclude a person from the kingdom of grace and glory, by the decision of a majority of the members before whom he is brought to trial." And it was, on motion, laid on the table.

On motion of S. K. Hodges, the following resolution was called up and considered, to wit:—

*Resolved*, That the following be added to the N. B. at the close of section 2 of the Temporal Economy: "And the board of trustees of every circuit or station shall be responsible to the quarterly meeting conference of said cir-

Resolution called up and considered on alteration of Discipline.

May 23.

cuit or station for its official acts, and shall be required to present annually a report of its acts during the preceding year, provided, that in all cases where a new board of trustees is to be created, it shall be done by the appointment of the preacher in charge, or the presiding elder of the district, except in those states and territories where the statutes provide differently.

Session extended.

The time of adjournment being near, it was, on motion, resolved, that the sitting be extended until six o'clock.

The question being taken on the resolution, after some amendments, it was decided in the affirmative.

John Early's motion on the subject of the Discipline.

John Early moved, C. Leach seconded, that the following be considered and adopted, to wit:—

Page 71, Form of Discipline, section 21, verse 2, instead of "receive a present," read, "we will on no account make a charge for administering baptism or for burying the dead;" and the motion was laid on the table.

Resolution of N. Bangs as to publication of Discipline adopted.

On motion of N. Bangs, the two following resolutions were adopted, to wit:—

*Resolved*, 1. That the Book Committee in New-York, and Book Agents, together with the bishop or bishops who may be present, be a committee to prepare the next edition of the Discipline for publication, in conformity to the amendments made at this General Conference.

N. Bangs's resolution to return the thanks of the conference to the citizens.

*Resolved*, 2. That the thanks of this conference be given to the people of this city and vicinity for the kind and hospitable manner in which they have entertained us during our stay among them, and that the preacher in charge be and is hereby requested to express our thanks to them in the public congregation.

On motion of N. Bangs, the report of the Committee on Appeals was taken up and considered.

Session extended.

The time for adjournment being near, it was resolved, on motion, to extend the time of the session fifteen minutes.

Motion laid on the table.

It was then moved and seconded that this report be laid again on the table, and the motion prevailed.

Conference adjourned until seven o'clock to-morrow.

May 24.

## SATURDAY, MAY 24.

The conference assembled according to adjournment, and was opened as usual, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

The journal of yesterday afternoon was read and corrected, and Bishop Hedding took the chair.

J. Emory's motion on the subject of forming a Bible Society.

J. Emory moved, and it was seconded, that the report of the Committee on the Book Concern, recommending the formation of a Bible Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, be taken up. Carried.

It was then moved and seconded that the report be adopted. Carried.

N. Bangs moved, and it was seconded, that the bishops be respectfully requested by such means as they may see fit, to prepare a biography of the late Bishop Asbury. Carried.

It was, on motion, resolved to take up and consider the report of the Committee on the Itinerancy, authorizing the annual conferences to locate preachers in certain cases. This report was, on motion of D. Ostrander, indefinitely postponed.

J. Early's resolution, offered yesterday, on the subject of receiving presents for administering baptism, &c., was called up and considered, and the alteration proposed was, on motion, adopted.

B. Pease moved, and it was seconded, that the secretary be directed to return to the president of the Chartered Fund, and through him to the trustees, the thanks of this conference, &c. Carried.

It was, on motion, resolved, that the thanks of this conference be returned to the secretary, and those who have acted as assistants.

On motion of W. Fisk, the following preamble and resolutions were adopted, to wit:—

Whereas, the rules and examples of the Wesleyan Methodists from the commencement of their existence as a people, both in Europe and America, were calculated to suppress intemperance, and to discountenance the needless use of ardent spirits; and whereas the public mind in our country, for a few years past, has been remarkably awakened to a sense of the importance of this subject, therefore,

Resolved, &c., 1. That we rejoice in all the laudable and proper efforts now making to promote this just object, so important to the interest both of the Church and nation.

Resolved, &c., 2. That all our preachers and people be expected, and they are hereby expected to adhere to their first principles as contained in their excellent rules on this subject, and as practised by our fathers, and to do all they prudently can, both by precept and example, to suppress intemperance throughout the land.

Resolved, &c., 3. That to bring about the reformation desired on this subject, it is important that we neither drink ourselves, (except medicinally,) nor give it to visitors or workmen.

It was then moved and seconded that the journal be now read, preparatory to a final adjournment. Carried.

The journal was then read, whereupon it was resolved that the conference now adjourn.

ENOCH GEORGE,  
ELIJAH HEDDING.

MARTIN RUTER, *Secretary.*

PITTSBURG, May 24, 1828.

May 24.  
N. Bangs's motion on the subject of preparing a biography of Bishop Asbury.

J. Early's resolution further considered.

Motion on returning thanks of this conference to President, &c.

Preamble and resolutions adopted.

Resolutions on the subject of quelling intemperance.



# JOURNAL

OF THE

## GENERAL CONFERENCE, 1832.

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TUESDAY, MAY 1.

May 1.

At a General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States of America, began and held in the city of Philadelphia, on Tuesday, May 1, 1832, the Rev. Joshua Soule, and the Rev. Elijah Hedding, two of the bishops of said Church being present, Bishop Soule opened the conference by reading a portion of the Holy Scriptures, singing, and prayer. Conference met.

The Rev. Martin Ruter, Secretary of the last General Conference, was then requested by the chair to call the list of the delegates present, which was done, and the following brethren presented the necessary vouchers of their election and took their seats, viz. :—

*New-York Conference.*—Nathan Bangs, Samuel Merwin, Peter P. Sandford, Daniel Ostrander, Laban Clark, Phineas Rice, Marvin Richardson, Tobias Spicer, Nicholas White, Buel Goodsell, Samuel D. Ferguson, Robert Seney, James Covel, John B. Stratton, John Clark, Fitch Reed. Delegates present.

*New-England Conference.*—George Pickering, Wilbur Fisk, Timothy Merritt, J. Stoddard, John Lindsay, Daniel Webb, Orange Scott, B. Otheman, Shipley W. Wilson, Benjamin F. Lambord, Daniel Fillmore, J. Steele, A. D. Merrill, F. Upham.

*Maine Conference.*—Oliver Beale, John Lord, B. Jones, J. Spalding, W. Marsh, S. Bray, P. Burgess, E. Robinson, C. Baker, D. Hutchinson, W. H. Norris.

*New-Hampshire and Vermont Conference.*—John W. Hardy, Eleazer Wells, Benjamin R. Hoyt, John T. Adams, C. D. Cahoon, Samuel Norris, Jared Perkins, George Storrs.

*Oncida Conference.*—Elias Bowen, George Harmon, Joseph Castle, Zachariah Paddock, John Dempster, Nathaniel Salisbury, Josiah Keyes.



May 1.

*Genesee Conference.*—Abner Chase, Israel Chamberlayne, Asa Abell, Edmund O'Fling, Robert Burch, John Cope-land.

*Pittsburg Conference.*—Wilder B. Mack, Charles Elliott, Joshua Munroe, John Waterman, Robert Hopkins, Ira Eddy, Alfred Brunson, Billings O. Plimpton, William Stevens, Daniel Limerick, David Sharp.

*Ohio Conference.*—David Young, Russell Bigelow, James Quinn, J. F. Wright, L. Swormstedt, W. H. Raper, A. W. Elliott, James B. Finley, Zachariah Connell, Curtis Goddard, John Collins, W. B. Chester, Charles Holliday, Greenbury R. Jones.

*Illinois Conference.*—Allen Wiley, G. Lock, James Armstrong, Samuel H. Thompson, Calvin W. Ruter, William Shanks, Thomas S. Hitt.

*Holstein Conference.*—T. K. Catlett, John Henninger, John Bowman, Thomas Stringfield, James Cumming, W. G. Brownlow, Samuel Patton, George Ekin.

*Kentucky Conference.*—Peter Akers, Martin Ruter, Jonathan Stamper, Benjamin T. Crouch, Marcus Lindsay, William Adams, H. H. Kavanaugh, G. W. Taylor, Richard Tidings, Henry B. Bascom, Joseph L. Tomlinson, John Tevis, George M'Nelly.

*Missouri Conference.*—Alexander M'Allister, Joseph Edmundson, Jesse Green.

*Tennessee Conference.*—Robert Paine, Greenville T. Henderson, Wilson L. M'Allister, Lewis Garrett, Francis A. Owen, Thomas L. Douglass, William M'Mahon, Lorenzo D. Overall, James M'Ferrin, Fountain E. Pitts, Alexander P. Green, J. M. Holland, G. W. D. Harris.

*Mississippi Conference.*—Wm. Winans, James M'Dowell, Thomas Griffin, Ebenezer Hearn, Robert L. Walker, Wm. M. Curtis.

*Georgia Conference.*—James O. Andrew, Samuel K. Hodges, William Arnold, Andrew Hamill, John Howard, Ignatius A. Few, Benjamin Pope, Elijah Sinclair, William J. Parks, Allen Turner.

*South Carolina Conference.*—William Capers, William M. Kennedy, Malcolm M'Pherson, Hartwell Spain, Samuel Dunwoody, Nicholas Talley, Charles Betts, Bond English.

*Virginia Conference.*—John Early, Lewis Skidmore, Henry G. Leigh, William Hammett, Benjamin Devany, William A. Smith, Bennett T. Blake, Caleb Leach, Moses Brush, Thomas Crowder, James Boyd, James Read, Peter Doub.

*Baltimore Conference.*—James M. Hanson, Norval Wilson, Alfred Griffith, William Hamilton, S. G. Roszel, David Steele, Henry Furlong, Gerard Morgan, Henry Slicer, Charles B. Tippett, John Davis, Henry Smith, Robert Cadden, Charles A. Davis, Andrew Hamphill, John Bear.

*Philadelphia Conference.*—Ezekiel Cooper, John Potts, Solomon Higgins, Thomas Ware, Lawrence M'Combs, Manning Force, George Banghart, Joseph Lybrand, Henry Boehm, Henry White, William Torbert, John Kenneday, David Dailey.

May 1.

The conference was informed that Bishop M'Kendree was in the city, but that in consequence of debility, he was unable to attend the conference room.

Bishop M'Kendree indisposed.

Having ascertained that a quorum was present, the conference proceeded to business.

Thomas L. Douglass was nominated and elected secretary, and Charles A. Davis was nominated and elected assistant secretary.

Secretaries appointed.

On motion it was resolved that the five pillars under the front gallery be considered the bar.

The Bar.

Our brethren, Rev. William Case, Rev. William Ryerson, and Rev. Franklin Metcalf, delegates from the conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, were introduced, and invited to take their seats within the bar as honorary members.

Delegates from Canada.

The Rev. J. Crafts, one of the brethren of the Wesleyan Methodist Connexion, being in this city on his way from the Bahamas to Bermuda, was introduced to the conference, and invited to take a seat within the bar as an honorary member.

J. Crafts of the British Connexion.

On motion it was resolved that the by-laws of the last General Conference be read, and after several amendments being made, were adopted.

By-Laws adopted.

On motion it was resolved, that a list of the names of the delegates to this conference be printed with the names of the places where they reside in this city, and that a committee of three members be appointed to attend to that business, whereupon, Manning Force, John Potts, and Solomon Higgins, were appointed by the President for that purpose.

Names of Delegates to be printed.

A list of resolutions was moved by brother Early and seconded by brother Hammett, which after being read, was ordered to be laid on the table until a communication be made from the bishops.

Resolutions submitted by brother Early.

On motion the conference voted to have an afternoon session, and that when we adjourn, we adjourn to meet at three o'clock, P. M.

Conference then adjourned to meet at three o'clock, P. M.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met pursuant to adjournment, Bishop Hedding in the chair.

The list of the names of the delegates being called over by the secretary, it was, on motion, resolved, that we dispense with calling it in future, unless it be doubted whether there is a quorum present.

Names of the Delegates not to be called.

May 1.  
Committee to  
appoint preachers to fill the pulpits.

On motion, it was resolved that M. Force, G. G. Cookman, and Joseph Holdich be a committee to select the preachers who shall fill the pulpit in the several stations in Philadelphia during the session of the conference in this city, and to make the appointments to the several houses of worship.

Bishops' Address.

An address from the bishops was presented and read, and, on motion, it was voted that there be three hundred copies of it printed in connexion with the by-laws, the names of the delegates, and the places where they reside during the session, and that the address, together with the by-laws, be placed in the hand of the committee already appointed on that business. It was also moved and carried that Nathan Bangs be added to that committee.

Resolutions taken up.

The resolutions moved by brother Early were called up and read, and the conference proceeded to take them under consideration, separately and in order, and after several amendments being offered, some of which were rejected and some admitted, the following were finally adopted, viz.:

Committee on the Episcopacy.

*Resolved*, 1. That a committee be appointed of one member from each annual conference, to be denominated "The Committee on Episcopacy," to whom shall be referred all matters relating to the general superintendency.

On the Itinerancy.

*Resolved*, 2. That a committee be appointed of one member from each annual conference, to be denominated "The Committee on Itinerancy," to whom shall be referred all matters relating to the itinerancy, to examine and report thereon.

On the Boundaries.

*Resolved*, 3. That a committee be appointed of one member from each annual conference, to be denominated "The Committee on Boundaries," to whom shall be referred all matters relating to the boundaries of the several annual conferences, to examine and report thereon.

On Privileges and Elections.

*Resolved*, 4. That a Committee of five members be appointed, to be denominated "The Committee on Privileges and Elections," to whom shall be referred all matters relating to the election of members to this General Conference, to examine and report thereon.

Delegates to choose, &c.

On motion, the conference determined that the committees specified in the first, second, and third resolutions, should be chosen by the delegates of the several conferences respectively.

Prayer meeting, &c.

On motion, it was resolved that the devotional exercises with which the conference is opened, shall, in addition to reading and singing, include four prayers, to be conducted in a conference capacity.

Conference adjourned until to-morrow morning at half-past eight o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 2.

May 2

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Hedding in the chair.

The conference was opened by reading the Holy Scriptures, singing, and prayer.

The journal was read and approved.

The following delegates presented their certificates of election and took their seats, viz. :

From the Georgia Conference, Thomas Samford and Lovick Pierce.

Delegates appear.

From the Oneida Conference, Horace Agard and John S. Mitchell.

From the South Carolina Conference, Henry Bass.

From the Mississippi Conference, Benjamin M. Drake.

From the Philadelphia Conference, Lott Warfield, William Leonard, Solomon Sharp.

From the New-York Conference, John Emory.

From the New-Hampshire and Vermont Conference, James Templeton, George Fairbank, and J. A. Scarritt.

From the Baltimore Conference, Joshua Wells.

On motion the conference voted to reconsider the motion of yesterday, directing that in addition to reading and singing, four prayers should be included in the devotional exercises of the morning, and on being taken up for consideration, it was withdrawn by the mover.

On motion, resolved, that a prayer meeting be held every morning in the conference room at eight o'clock, and that as many of the preachers as can make it convenient shall attend at that hour.

Prayer meeting.

A motion was made and carried, to reconsider the seventh article in the by-laws, which article was amended, and directed to be printed as amended.

The resolutions offered by brother Early, yesterday, not being finished, were called up, and after being read and amended, were adopted, as follows, viz. :—

*Resolved, 5.* That a committee of five be appointed, to be denominated "The Committee on Missions," to whom shall be referred all matters relating to missions, to examine and report thereon.

Committee on Missions.

*Resolved, 6.* That a committee of nineteen, one from each annual conference, who shall be chosen by the delegates of each conference respectively, be appointed, to be denominated "The Book Committee," to whom shall be referred all matters relating to the general Book Concern, to examine and report thereon.

Book Committee.

*Resolved, 7.* That a committee of nine be appointed, to be denominated "The Committee on Education," to whom

Resolution on the subject of a Committee on Education.

- May 1** shall be referred all matters relating to schools and colleges, to examine and report thereon.  
On motion of Ignatius A. Few,  
*Resolved*, That a committee of revision of the Discipline, consisting of nine, be appointed, to whom shall be referred so much of the superintendent's address as relates to that subject, to examine and report thereon.  
On motion of Nathan Bangs, seconded by Thomas L. Douglass,  
*Resolved*, That a committee of seven be appointed to take into consideration that part of the bishops' address which relates to Bible, Tract, and Sunday-school Societies, and report thereon.  
On motion of Benjamin F. Crouch, seconded by Nathan Bangs,  
*Resolved*, That the Committee on the Itinerancy be instructed to inquire into the manner of building and securing our churches and parsonages, to examine into the forms and customs observed by the several annual conferences, whether our rules are attended to, which require the men and women to sit apart, and the seats to be free, and whether or not the music and other devotional exercises in our churches are conducted as the Discipline directs, and report to this conference.  
The following resolution was offered by D. Ostrander, and seconded by S. H. Thompson:—  
*Resolved*, That the Committee on privileges and elections be instructed to inquire into the propriety of electing substitutes to take the place of the regular delegates who may fail. On motion the resolution was laid on the table to give time for appointing committees.  
The following brethren were announced, as directed by the resolution of yesterday:—  
On the Episcopacy.—P. P. Sandford, J. Lindsay, O. Beale, J. W. Hardy, Elias Bowen, Abner Chase, William Stephens, J. Quinn, S. H. Thompson, J. Bowman, Marcus Lindsay, A. M'Allister, W. M'Mahon, W. Winans, J. O. Andrew, W. M. Kennedy, J. Early, S. G. Roszel, and E. Cooper.  
The following brethren were announced, as directed by the resolution of yesterday:—  
On the Itinerancy.—L. Clark, D. Fillmore, W. H. Norris, Jared Perkins, G. Peck, N. Tooker, Joshua Munroe, J. B. Finley, C. W. Ruter, T. Stringfield, William Adams, Joseph Edmonston, Robert Paine, William M. Curtis, Andrew Hammill, Nicholas Talley, Henry G. Leigh, Joseph Wells and Thomas Ware.  
The following brethren were announced as directed by the resolution of yesterday:—  
On the Boundaries.—Samuel Merwin, Daniel Webb, J.
- Revision of Discipline.**
- Bible, Tract and Sunday-School Societies.**
- Committee to inquire concerning building houses, modes of worship, &c.**
- Election of substitutes.**
- Committee on the Episcopacy.**
- Committee on Itinerancy.**
- Committee on Boundaries.**

Lord, B. R. Hoyt, George Harmon, Glezen Fillmore, Charles Elliott, D. Young, James Armstrong, Thomas K. Catlett, Benjamin F. Crouch, Jesse Green, Lewis Garrett, Ebenezer Hearn, S. K. Hodges, William Capers, L. Skidmore, A. Griffith, and L. M'Combs.

May 2

It was, on motion, resolved, that when conference adjourns it shall meet again at three o'clock, P. M.

Brother John Emory, our Book Agent, gave some notices respecting books, &c., when adjournment was called for, and conference adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Notices given by J. Emory.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

At three o'clock, P. M. conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Soule in the chair.

The resolution offered by D. Ostrander and laid on the table in the morning, was called up and passed.

D. Ostrander's resolution passed.

On motion of J. B. Finley, and seconded by N. White,

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed as stewards of this conference, to inquire into the expenses of the delegates and report thereon.

Stewards appointed.

On motion of S. G. Roszel, seconded by W. Hammet,

*Resolved*, 1. That a committee of seven be appointed to take into consideration the conditions, privileges, and rights of our people of colour, and report to this conference.

Committee on rights of people of colour.

*Resolved*, 2. That the aforesaid committee take into consideration the section on the subject of slavery, and report what (if any) alterations ought to be made in the same.

On the subject of Slavery.

On motion of J. Bowman, seconded by T. K. Catlett,

*Resolved*, That the committee inquire into the expediency of the alteration of the section concerning slavery, shall be also instructed to inquire into the proper meaning of the clause in the General Rules concerning buying or selling of men, women, and children, with an intention to enslave them. While this motion was under consideration, it was moved that we adjourn, and conference adjourned until to-morrow morning at half-past eight o'clock.

Committee to inquire concerning buying and selling men, &c.

THURSDAY, MAY 3.

May 3

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Soule in the chair.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

The motion offered by brother Bowman, which was under consideration at the time of adjournment yesterday, was called up, and on motion of brother Fisk, seconded by brother Clark, the further consideration of the resolution was indefinitely postponed.

J. Bowman's resolution postponed.

It was moved by N. Bangs, seconded by William Capers, that the Committee on the revision of certain portions of the Discipline, be instructed to inquire whether any (and if

Equitable apportionments from Book Concern.

any what) method may be adopted for the more equitable apportionments of the avails of the Book Concern, and of the Chartered Fund among the several annual conferences, and also whether the allowance now made to the supernumerary and superannuated preachers and their widows, may not be adjusted upon a more equitable scale, according to the time such preachers shall have served the Church as effective labourers, and to their circumstances. Carried.

May 4.  
Allowances to superannuated preachers.

Committee of Revisal to inquire concerning supplies.

On motion of L. Clark, seconded by J. W. Hardy,—

*Resolved*, That the Committee on Revisal be instructed to take into consideration the fifth section of the second part of our Discipline, and inquire what alterations (if any) ought to be made in the manner of raising supplies for the travelling preachers and their families, and report the same to this conference.

On motion of W. Capers, seconded by N. Bangs, the following preamble and resolution were offered for adoption, viz. :—

Collections for worn-out preachers.

*Whereas*, the collections for making up the allowances of the preachers, and the widows and orphans of preachers, have annually fallen short of these objects, and it is believed that a succinct statement, in the printed minutes, of the deficiencies which occur, and the means furnished to supply them, would have a favourable tendency, therefore,

Amendment of Discipline on that subject.

*Resolved*, 1. That the fifteenth and sixteenth items of the answer to the sixth question of section three, chapter one of the form of Discipline, be so altered as to read as follows, to wit :—

“ 15. What amounts are necessary for superannuated preachers and the widows and orphans of preachers, and to make up the deficiencies of those who have not obtained their regular allowance on the circuits ?

“ 16. What has been collected on the foregoing accounts, and how has it been applied ?”

*Resolved*, 2. That in making out the minutes of the annual conferences for publication, the above question shall be inserted, and fully and distinctly answered so as to show,

Amendment of Discipline on finances.

1. Who are the superannuated preachers, and widows and orphans of preachers having claims on the conference, and the sum to which each one is entitled.

2. What preachers, and on what circuit, are deficient of their allowance, and the amount of each one's deficiency.

3. What has been collected on the circuits and stations, naming also those, if any such there be, from which nothing shall have been received or contributed by benevolent societies or individuals, or drawn from the Book Concern and Chartered Fund to meet the claims, and

4. The sums appropriated severally to the claimants, and the amount of each individual's final deficiency.

**Resolved, 3.** That the bishops be, and hereby are, requested, to cause a copy of the second of these resolutions to be entered on the journal or placed on the file of each of the annual conferences without delay. Laid on the table.

May 3.

On motion of John Emory, seconded by John Howard,

**Resolved,** That after to-morrow not more than one hour per day shall be allowed for the consideration of resolutions for the reference of subjects to committees.

Resolution on the subject of allowing one hour for resolutions.

On motion of D. Ostrander, seconded by H. Agard,

**Resolved,** That not more than one hour per day be allowed for receiving and reading petitions and memorials.

On motion of W. Fisk, seconded by Andrew Hamill,

**Resolved,** That when a resolution to instruct a committee be concisely stated by the mover, it be put without debate, except where the reference refers to constitutional questions.

Resolution to instruct committee without debate.

On motion of Peter P. Sandford, seconded by Henry Boehm,

**Resolved,** That the fourth paragraph of the twentieth section, first part of the Discipline, viz., on local preachers, be amended by adding the following after the words "local preachers," "or where local preachers cannot be obtained, exhorters or class leaders;" and also by striking out the word "exact," after the words "cause," and "minutes." Laid on the table.

Amendment on local preachers proposed.

On motion of S. G. Roszel, seconded by P. P. Sandford,

**Resolved,** That a committee of seven, to be denominated "The Committee on Temperance," be appointed, who shall take into consideration the section of our Discipline respecting the retailing of ardent spirits, and to whom memorials, petitions, and all matters respecting the manufacture and use of ardent spirits shall be referred, and that they report to this conference.

Committee on Temperance.

The Committee on the Book Concern was announced, as directed by a former resolution, viz. :—

D. Ostrander, W. Fisk, B. Jones, J. F. Adams, John Dempster, John Copeland, A. Brunson, G. R. Jones, Allen Wiley, S. Patton, M. Ruter, A. M'Allister, Robert Paine, B. M. Drake, L. Pierce, H. Bass, W. A. Smith, J. M. Hanson, and John Kennaday.

Committee on Book Concern.

On motion of W. Fisk, seconded by N. Bange, the conference voted to have an afternoon session, to meet at three o'clock.

On motion of George Peck, seconded by P. P. Sandford, resolved that the Committee on Revisals be instructed to take into consideration those parts of the Discipline which relate to the receiving and trying of members, and to the ordinances of baptism and the Lord's supper, and to inquire whether any, and if any, what alterations may be desirable touching these points, and to report thereon.

Committee of Revision to inquire concerning receiving and trying members.



May 2.

Committee to inquire concerning missions continuing.

On motion of Samuel K. Hodges, seconded by John Howard :—

*Resolved*, That the committee of revision be instructed to report such amendment to our rules as shall authorize the continuance of missionaries to the people of colour, and missionaries on foreign stations, for more than two years, and place them on the same footing as missionaries to the Indians.

Motion to adjourn on the 30th instant.

On motion of S. H. Thompson, seconded by C. Leach :

*Resolved*, That the 20th day of this month be the last day that this conference will sit.

On motion it was laid on the table to be called up by the mover at a future time.

Committee on the Itinerancy to inquire as to dress.

On motion of Thomas Griffin, seconded by S. Patton, the following preamble and resolution were presented for adoption, viz. :—

*Whereas*, there is a diversity of opinion among ourselves and our people, and it is to be feared there is a strong tendency among ourselves and our charges to a conformity to the world on the subject of dress, therefore,

*Resolved*, That the Committee on Itinerancy be requested to examine into the subject and report. Carried.

Committee on Revision to inquire concerning Article 9, Part 1 of our Discipline.

On motion of William Hammett, seconded by L. Pierce :

*Resolved*, That the Committee on Revision be instructed to inquire into the expediency of so amending section nine, article nine, part first of the Discipline, as to insert after the word "circuits" the following, viz., "and stations, keeping the names of all local elders, deacons, and preachers, properly distinguished, in a separate column," and report thereon.

Addition to the committee to appoint preaching within the bounds of Philadelphia.

On motion of E. Cooper, seconded by M. Force :—

*Resolved*, That Joseph Rusling, B. Weed, and H. G. King, preachers in charge at our several Churches within the liberties of Philadelphia, be added to the committee for appointing the preachers to fill the several pulpits which are open to have preaching by our brethren during the session of the General Conference.

The following communication was presented and read, viz :

Communication from Associated M. Church.

*To the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church.*

At a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the First Associated Church of the city of Philadelphia, held on the night of the 30th of April, 1832, —

*Resolved*, That the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church be respectfully requested to favour this Church with pulpit services on Sabbath days during the session of that body. Signed by order of the trustees,

JOHN SMITH, *Superintendent.*

I. WALTON, *President,*

S. P. CRUPPER, *Secretary.*

A motion was made to refer the communication to the committee appointed to superintend the pulpit exercises, and while under consideration an adjournment was called for, and conference adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

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THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

At three o'clock, P. M., conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Hedding in the chair.

The communication under consideration at the time of adjournment was called for, and the motion to refer it withdrawn.

A motion was then made that the petitioners be permitted to withdraw it. Carried.

A petition from the New-York Conference, requesting a division of their conference, &c., was presented, read, and referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

A communication from the managers of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, containing several resolutions, was presented, read, and referred to the Committee on Missions.

A report of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church was presented, read, and referred to the Committee on Missions.

The resolutions of the New-York Conference, respecting the restrictive regulations, together with the concurrence of the New-England, Maine, and New-Hampshire Conferences, were presented, read, and referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

A memorial and petition from the New-England Conference on the subject of building meeting-houses with pews, &c., was presented and read, and on motion referred to a committee of nineteen, one from each annual conference, to be denominated "The Committee on Building and Occupying Houses of Worship," to be chosen by the delegates of the conferences respectively.

A memorial from the Maine Annual Conference on the subject of building churches, &c., was presented and referred to the committee on building churches, &c.

The following memorials on spirituous liquors, temperance, &c., were presented to conference, with a short statement of their contents, showing that they were in favour of temperance, and opposed to the vice of intemperance, and on motion were severally referred to the Committee on Temperance, viz. :—A memorial from Hebron circuit; from Newtown circuit; from Somerset district; from Kent's Hill station; from the students of Bowdoin College; from Baltimore Society; from the officers and students of the Maine Wesleyan Seminary; from members within the Maine Annual Conference; from Frankford circuit; from the New-Hampshire and Vermont Conference; from

Decision on application from A. M. Church.

Petition of the New-York Conference on the subject of division.

Communication from the Managers of the Missionary Society.

Report of the Missionary Society.

Resolutions of New-York Conference on the Restrictive Regulations.

Petition from New-England Conference referred to Committee on Building, &c.

Memorial from Maine Conference referred to Committee on Building, &c.

Memorials on temperance referred.

May 3.

Onondaga ; from Penfield circuit ; from Lewistown circuit ; from Woodfield circuit ; from Canton circuit ; from Steubenville ; from Cross Creek circuit ; from New Lisbon circuit ; from Hamilton circuit ; from members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the state of Ohio ; from Jefferson circuit ; from the Lewistown circuit quarterly meeting ; from Annessex circuit ; from the Baltimore city station, and from New-York.

Conference to meet in St. George's.

On motion of William Capers, seconded by Thomas L. Douglass, resolved that the conference meet to-morrow, and hold their session in St. George's Church.

And conference adjourned until to-morrow morning at half-past eight o'clock.

May 4.

## FRIDAY, MAY 4.

Conference met in St. George's, according to adjournment, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

On motion of E. Cooper, it was resolved, that the side-pipes of the stove designate the line across the house, which shall be considered the bar of the conference.

Committee to select a place for sitting.

On motion of Joseph L. Tomlinson it was resolved that a committee of three be appointed to select a more suitable place for the conference to sit in, and Manning Force, John Potts, and John Lord were appointed for the purpose.

Objection to reading petitions, and taking without debate.

On motion of N. Bangs, seconded by S. G. Roszel, it was resolved, that whenever a petition or memorial is presented, and the reading is called for and objected to by any member, the question shall be taken without debate.

The following committees were announced by the president, namely :—

Committee on Elections and Privileges.

On Elections and Privileges.—G. Pickering, John Heustis, J. Stamper, C. Betts, and N. Wilson.

Committee on Education.

On Education.—J. Emory, R. Paine, C. Baker, Z. Pad-dock, J. Waterman, I. A. Few, W. Hammet, Willam Ham-ilton, and J. Potts.

Committee on Missions.

On Missions.—N. Bangs, J. F. Wright, F. A. Owen, G. Lock, and J. Howard.

Committee on Revision of Discipline.

On Revision of Discipline.—T. Merritt, T. Spicer, H. Agard, W. B. Mack, W. H. Raper, J. Cumming, C. Leach, J. Davis, and H. Boehm.

Memorial from Managers of Bible, Sunday-School, and Tract Societies referred, &c.

A memorial from the managers of the Bible, Sunday School, and Tract Society, was presented and referred to the Committee on Bible, Tract, and Sunday-School Societies.

Petition from Haverstraw referred to Committee on Boundaries.

Petitions from Haverstraw circuit and Duck Spring society were presented and referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

Resolution on boundaries referred.

On motion of George M'Nelly, seconded by M. Lindsay, it was resolved, that the following proviso be appended to the section on boundaries of the annual conferences, viz. :—*Provided*, nevertheless, where any society shall be found

to be inconveniently situated with reference to the conference, within the bounds of which it may be embraced, such society may, by mutual agreement of the preachers immediately concerned in such arrangement, be attached to that conference to which it is most convenient, if it be the wish of a majority of the members thereof. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

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The Committee on Building and Occupying Houses was announced by the president, viz.:—P. Rice, W. Fisk, J. Lord, E. Wells, Z. Paddock, J. Heustis, J. Waterman, T. A. Morris, G. Locke, G. Ekin, P. Akers, J. Green, J. W. Holland, T. Griffin, E. Sinclair, S. Dunwoody, Thomas Crowder, David Steele and Henry White.

Committee on building, &c.

David Hutchinson to supply the place of J. Lord on the Committee on Boundaries.

An address from the delegates of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Canada was presented and read, and on motion, that part of it relating to the Book Concern was referred to the Committee on the Book Concern, and that part of it relating to missions referred to the Committee on Missions.

Address of Delegates from Canada.

An address from sundry members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Philadelphia was presented, and referred to the Committee on Building and Occupying Houses of Worship.

An address of members of the M. E. Church referred.

On motion of H. G. Leigh, seconded by N. Bangs, it was resolved, that the second section of the second chapter of the Discipline be so amended as to read, "indulging sinful tempers, words, buying or selling lottery tickets, or disobedience to the order and discipline of the Church, &c. Ordered to lie on the table.

Motion to amend Discipline laid on the table.

On motion of W. A. Smith, seconded by William Winans, it was resolved, that the following question and answer be inserted before the seventh question in the third section of the Discipline concerning annual conferences, viz.:—

Motion to amend Discipline on Annual Conferences.

*Question.*—What shall be the duty and authority of the annual conferences in granting locations to their members?

*Answer.*—They shall have authority to grant a location to a member by giving a certificate thereof, signed by the president of the conference, when the conferences are persuaded that the necessity for such a one to cease travelling under their direction is sufficiently clear to absolve him from his obligation to devote himself wholly to the work, given in his vows of ordination. Ordered to lie on the table.

Motion to give the whole Discipline to the Committee to examine, &c., laid on the table.

On motion of H. Slicer, seconded by H. B. Bascom, it was resolved, that the whole Discipline be committed to the Committee on Revision, to examine and report what

May 4.

changes (if any) are necessary to be made. Ordered to lie on the table.

Motion on the subject of appending to Smith's resolution laid on the table.

On motion of J. Clarke, seconded by A. Brunson, it was resolved, that the following be appended to the resolution offered by W. A. Smith, on locations, &c. : " And second, to locate any member when, in the judgment of a majority of two-thirds of the conference the interests of the Church require such a location. Ordered to lie on the table.

Committee on Revisal to inquire concerning amendment.

On motion of G. R. Jones, seconded by R. Bigelow, it was resolved, that the Committee on the Revisal of the Discipline be instructed to inquire into the propriety of adding, at the close of the eighteenth section of our Discipline, the following clause : " And in such forms of trial and expulsion, the person expelled shall have no privileges of society or sacraments in our churches without confession, contrition, on proper trial.

Committee on Revisal to consider the rules on the subject of excluding members.

On motion of L. Swormstedt, seconded by G. F. Wright, it was resolved, that the Committee on Revisal be instructed to take into consideration the rules on the subject of excluding members for the neglect of class-meetings, (see Discipline, page 80, question 5,) and report what amendments (if any) be necessary in the above rules.

Committee on Revisal to inquire on the subject of preserving the Church records.

On motion of W. H. Norris, seconded by C. Baker, it was resolved, that the Committee on Revisal be instructed to inquire whether any, and if any, what additional provision is necessary for the procuring, keeping and preserving of permanent Church records in all our circuits and stations, and report to this conference.

An address on the subject of the Discipline referred to the Committee on Revisal.

An address from several brethren, requesting an explanation on certain parts of our Discipline was presented, read in part, and referred to the Committee on Revisal.

An addition to Committee on Education.

On motion, resolved, that an addition of four members be added to the Committee on Education.

Delegates appeared, &c.

The following delegates appeared, duly accredited as members, and took their seats, viz. : Benjamin Griffen, Coles Carpenter, Jonathan Heustis, Joseph Lybrand, Martin P. Parks, G. Gary, Dan Barnes, Lewis Pease.

Memorials on temperance, &c., referred to Committee on Temperance.

The following memorials on spirituous liquors, temperance, &c., were presented and referred to the Committee on Temperance, viz. :—

From the official members of New-York district ; from official members of Middlebury district ; from official members of Providence district ; from Boston district ; from members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Maine Conference ; from Orrington circuit ; from Danville station ; from Craftsbury circuit ; from the Ithaca station, from Hartford circuit ; from Warfield circuit ; from Newark station ; from Lyon's circuit ; from Crooked Lake circuit ; from Somerset circuit ; from Lancaster district ; from Athens Greek Circuit ; from Mount Vernon circuit ; from Columbus

station ; from Cincinnati ; from Wayne circuit ; from Sandusky circuit ; from Wyandott and Fort Finley missions ; from Brunswick ; from Illery circuit ; from Norway circuit ; from Mansfield circuit ; from Wayne circuit, Illinois Conference ; from Madison district ; from Grove circuit ; from Christiansburg circuit ; from members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the city of New-York and its vicinity ; from Waynesborough ; seven petitions from Philadelphia district ; two memorials from Patterson and its vicinity ; one from Rochester ; from Buffalo ; from Lima and its vicinity ; from Brockport ; from the Pittsburg Conference, and from Youngville circuit.

May 4

On motion of J. F. Wright, seconded by W. H. Roper, it was resolved, that so much of the bishop's address as relates to schools and colleges, be referred to the Committee on Education.

Bishop's Address referred to the Committee on Education.

On motion of J. Emory, seconded by J. B. Finley, it was resolved, that the Committee on the Book Concern be instructed to inquire into the expediency of authorizing the delegates of each of those annual conferences remote from the seat of the Book Concern, to select one or two of their own body whose likenesses may be sketched for the purpose of being engraved for the Methodist Magazine and Quarterly Review, and that said committee, if they deem such a matter expedient, designate such conferences, and the number of likenesses from each recommended to be taken.

On the subject of selecting likenesses for the Methodist Magazine and Quarterly Review.

The committee to select a more suitable place for this conference to sit, reported that they could not obtain any better place than St. George's or the Union ; and on motion it was resolved, that when we adjourn we adjourn to meet in the Union Church.

Conference to meet in the Union after adjournment.

On motion of S. G. Roszel, seconded by N. Bangs, it was resolved, that this General Conference request Bishop Roberts to sit for his likeness, to be taken for the Methodist Magazine and Quarterly Review.

Bishop Roberts requested to sit for his likeness to be taken.

Brother Hamilton informed the conference, that in consequence of affliction in his family, he wished leave of absence until Monday, which was granted.

Brother Hamilton asks leave of absence.

Conference adjourned until to-morrow morning at half-past eight o'clock.

SATURDAY, MAY 5.

May 5.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Hedding in the chair.

The Journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Bishop M'Kendree appeared in conference this morning, and delivered a short verbal congratulatory address to the preachers, but from indisposition and weakness of body, not

Bishop M'Kendree's address to the conference.

- May 5.** being able to sit in the conference room he soon retired to his lodgings.
- Lewis Pease, a delegate from the New-York Conference, appeared and took his seat.
- Committee on Education.** M. Ruter, W. Fisk, T. Stringfield, and B. N. Drake were announced as additional members on the Committee on Education.
- Committee on Temperance.** The president announced the Committee on Temperance, viz. : J. B. Stratton, J. Early, S. W. Wilson, H. B. Bascom, H. Smith, A. W. Elliott, and R. Burch.
- Committee on Bible, Sunday-School and Tract Societies.** The president announced the Committee on the Bible, Sunday School, and Tract Societies, viz. :—N. Bangs, J. O. Andrew, W. Capers, B. F. Lambord, J. Collins, G. Morgan, and C. Pitman.
- Committee on Rights and Privileges.** The president announced the Committee on the Rights and Privileges of the People of Colour, viz. :—S. G. Roszel, R. Tidings, J. Lybrand, B. Duvany, J. M'Ferrin, J. Henninger, and J. Samford.
- Committee of Stewards.** The president announced the Committee on the Expenses of the Delegates, viz. :—W. Torbert, W. H. Norris, J. S. Tomlinson, W. M. Curtis, and G. Gray.
- Preamble and resolutions on the subject of class collections.** A paper containing a preamble and resolutions on the subject of weekly class collections, signed by John Clark, was presented, read, and referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.
- Appeal of Ignatius Tackett.** Ignatius H. Tackett having appealed from the decision of the Pittsburg Conference, the papers relating to the subject were presented to conference, and on motion, resolved, that the business be made the order of the day for next Tuesday, and that the conference then sit with closed doors.
- Plan concerning Methodist Almanac.** A plan suggested by Samuel Williams, of Cincinnati, for publishing a Methodist Almanac, and respectfully submitted to the consideration of this General Conference, was presented and read, and on motion, referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.
- Motion to amend Discipline, 5th paragraph, sec. 20, chap. 1, on local preachers.** On motion of A. Brunson, seconded by A. Griffith, it was resolved, that the fifth paragraph, section twenty of chapter one of our form of Discipline, relating to the preachers, shall be so amended as to add after the word "expelled," the words, "or shall withdraw from our Church;" and after the words "president of the," be added the words, "district or quarterly conference, or the preacher in charge of the circuit or station." The rule will then read as follows, viz. :—"When a local elder or deacon shall be expelled, or shall withdraw from our Church, the president of the district or quarterly conference, the preacher in charge of the circuit or station shall require of him the credentials of his ordination, &c." Ordered to lie on the table.
- Motion concerning printing.** On motion of S. Merwin, seconded by Richard Tidings,

it was resolved, that part second, section seven of the form of Discipline, pages 182, 183, on the subject of printing and circulation of books, be amended by expunging the clause, "No General Book-Steward or Editor in the Book Concern shall serve in that department for more than eight years successively." Ordered to lie on the table.

May 6

On motion of J. Waterman, seconded by D. Young, it was resolved, that the Committee on the Discipline be instructed to alter that part of the Discipline by which appeals are regulated, (if any alteration be necessary,) so that no member or preacher be allowed an appeal, except in cases of expulsion. Ordered to lie on the table.

Motion concerning appeals.

The resolution offered by P. P. Sandford, on Wednesday, 2d, and laid on the table, was called up and taken under consideration. William Capers proposed the following amendment, which was admitted by the mover of the resolution, viz., amend the resolution so as to put it at the discretion of the preacher in charge, where the full number of local preachers cannot be obtained, for the committee to nominate exhorters or leaders, and upon the acceptance of such nomination by the accused person, and not otherwise, such exhorters or leaders shall be put on the committee.

P. P. Sandford's resolution considered.

The discussion of this subject continued until time to adjourn, when, on motion, it was resolved to continue the session until a communication from the bishops to the conference could be read, and notices given concerning the labours of the approaching Sabbath.

A communication from the bishops was presented and read, and on motion, referred to the Committee on the Itinerancy.

Communication from the Bishops.

The appointments for the Sabbath were then published, giving work to seventy preachers through the day and night.

Conference adjourned until Monday morning at half-past eight o'clock.

MONDAY, MAY 7.

May 7.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Hedding in the chair.

The Journal of Saturday was read and approved.

The Committee on Itinerancy reported, that on examination of the journals of all the annual conferences, respecting the alteration of the restrictive regulations, as recommended by the General Conference of 1828, we find that the subject was taken up by the New-York Annual Conference, and concurred in by seventy-two votes against two—once resolutions were passed inviting the several annual conferences to concur in the same—which resolutions have passed all the annual conferences in full and due form, with the

Committee on Itinerancy's report.



May 7.

exception of the Illinois, where we find some want in the formality, not sufficient, however, in the judgment of your committee, to alter or set aside the principle. And we have the assurance of the delegates from that conference that the informality rose from the want of information, and not with any intention to embarrass the true design of the said resolution. Your committee therefore offer the following resolution to the conference, viz. :—

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, That the proviso at the close of the article numbered six of the Restrictive Rules, (see Discipline, chap. i, sec. 3, page 21,) be altered so as to read, "Provided, nevertheless, that upon the concurrent recommendation of three-fourths of all the members of the several annual conferences who shall be present and vote on such a recommendation, then a majority of two-thirds of the General Conference succeeding, shall suffice to alter any of the above restrictions, excepting the first article; and also whenever such alteration or alterations shall have been first recommended by two-thirds of the General Conference, so soon as three-fourths of the members of all the annual conferences shall have concurred as aforesaid, such alteration or alterations shall take effect." Signed, L. Clark, Chairman.

Further report of Committee on Itinerary, on the alteration of the Restrictive Rules.

The Committee on Itinerary, &c., recommended the following :—

*Resolved*, That the article number two in the Restrictive Rules be so altered as to read, "They shall not allow of more than one representative for every fourteen members of the annual conference, nor allow of a less number than one for every thirty." Signed, L. Clark, Chairman.

Laid on the table and made the order of the day for Wednesday next, 9th instant.

Petitions on the subject of temperance referred to the Committee on Temperance.

Petitions from St. Albans station; from Beekmantown circuit; from Norridgewock circuit; from Adelphi circuit; from Chillicothe station; from Phillipsburg circuit; from Granville circuit, and from Putnam circuit, on the subject of spirituous liquors and temperance, were presented and referred to the Committee on Temperance.

The following resolution of the New-York Conference was presented and read, viz. :—

Resolution of the New-York Conference.

*Resolved*, That this conference, the New-England, and the New-Hampshire and Vermont Conferences concurring herein, request the General Conference to take the Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut, under their patronage, and appoint the board of visitors for said University, according to the provisions of the Church; and the delegates to the General Conference aforesaid are hereby directed and endued with discretionary power to negotiate the arrangement with said General Conference.

The above resolution was adopted by the New-York Annual Conference, at its session in Middletown, Conn., May 13th, 1831.

May 7.

S. LUCKY, *Secretary of Conference.*

On motion referred to the Committee on Education.

On motion of C. W. Ruter, seconded by G. Locke, it was resolved, that whereas the Illinois Annual Conference, at its late session, instructed its delegates to the then ensuing General Conference to use their influence to obtain a division of said conference, the boundary line between the states of Illinois and Indiana to be made the line between the Illinois and Indiana Conferences; that the Committee on Boundaries be instructed to inquire into the expediency of dividing the Illinois Conference according to the above suggestion, and report to this conference.

Committee on Boundaries instructed, &c.

The resolution, together, with the amendment, which was under consideration at the time of adjournment, was called up, the amendment was withdrawn, and the original resolution was then taken up, and after considerable debate, brother Steele moved an indefinite postponement. Carried.

P. P. Sandford's resolution rejected.

On motion of J. Early, seconded by S. K. Hodges, it was resolved, that the form of Discipline be amended, page 66, chapter i, section 20, verse 4, by striking out "within the station, circuit, or district." Ordered to lie on the table.

Motion to amend the Discipline.

The resolution offered by W. A. Smith, on granting locations, was called up, and after being debated, was lost.

W. A. Smith's resolution on the subject of locations lost. Assistant Agent of the Book Concern invited to take a seat within the bar.

On motion of J. Emory, seconded by H. G. Leigh, it was resolved, that the Assistant Agent of the General Book Concern be, and hereby is invited to take a seat within the bar and express his views whenever he may wish to do so on any question which may be before the conference having relation to the Book Concern.

On motion of N. Bangs, seconded by B. M. Drake, it was resolved, that the Committee on the Itinerancy be instructed to consider whether any, and if any, what modifications may be adopted in the trial of travelling preachers, so as to prevent appeal from being brought before the General Conference.

Committee on Itinerancy on the subject of modification.

On motion of W. Capers, seconded by J. Clark, it was resolved, that at any time during a debate it shall be in order for a member to move to take the vote on the resolution or motion under debate; and if he have a second, the question shall be immediately put by the chair thus, "As many as are of opinion that the vote on the main question should now be taken, raise your hands;" and if a majority of two-thirds appear in favour of taking the vote on the main question it shall be put without further debate. Lost.

Motion of Bro. Capers on the order, &c., lost.

After publishing notices, &c., the conference adjourned until to-morrow morning at half past eight o'clock.

May 8.

TUESDAY, MAY 8.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

The journal of yesterday was read and amended.

Memorials on the subject of temperance.

Memorials from Fairfield and Piqua on spirituous liquors, and in favour of temperance, were presented and referred to the Committee on Temperance.

An address from the trustees of Augusta College.

An address from the trustees of the Augusta College was presented, and referred to the Committee on Education.

B. M. Drake's resolutions to amend Discipline.

On motion of B. M. Drake, seconded by N. Bangs, it was resolved, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, that the eighth section of the Discipline, answer first, figure three, be so changed as to read, "It shall be the duty of the bishop or a committee appointed by him in each annual conference to recommend a suitable course of reading and study to be pursued by candidates for elder's orders in our Church. And the annual conference shall cause such course of study to be placed in the hands of each preacher concerned; said course of reading and study shall be divided into four parts, suitable to the four years' probation required by the Discipline.

At each annual conference the bishop shall appoint a committee or committees to examine all who have not been ordained elders on the studies of the past year; and no one shall be ordained deacon until he give the conference satisfactory knowledge of the subject recommended to him; nor shall any one be ordained elder until he satisfy the conference that he has made himself acquainted with the subjects recommended to him. Nevertheless, this rule shall not prevent the ordination of a man for missionary purposes. Laid on the table.

Continuation of I. H. Tackett's appeal.

The appeal of Ignatius H. Tackett was called up as the order of the day.

On motion of E. Cooper, resolved, that the door-keeper be instructed to close the door of the conference room, and to keep charge of it on the outside, and admit none but members or those permitted by them to have access and recess during the investigation of the appeal now before us.

The journal of the Pittsburg Conference, and the documents containing the testimony were then read.

The appellant, by his representative, (S. G. Roszel,) stated the ground of the appeal. Several of the delegates from Pittsburg Conference then spoke in support of the decision, and the time for adjournment being come, it was moved that we sit half an hour longer. Carried.

Brother Roszel then replied to the Pittsburg delegation,

and the time for adjournment being announced, the necessary notices were published, and conference adjourned until to-morrow morning at 8 o'clock.

May 8

WEDNESDAY, MAY 9.

May 9.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Soule in the chair.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

The Committee on the Book Concern to whom was referred the resolution concerning the procuring of likenesses for publication in the Quarterly Review reported the following, viz. :—

Report of Committee on Book Concern concerning likenesses.

*Resolved, &c.*, That inasmuch as any preachers who shall supply the Book Concern with sketches of their likenesses, for the purpose of having them engraved, are expected to obtain the sketches at their own expense, it is expedient that the whole business be submitted to the management of the Book Agents, leaving them to select such as are willing to bear the expenses, and, at the same time, having some respect to the age of the preachers and the time they have been in the ministry. On motion, the report was accepted.

The Committee on Itinerancy reported the following resolutions, viz. :—

Report of Committee on Itinerancy.

*Resolved, 1.* By the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, That with a view more effectually to preserve the purity and give greater efficiency to our itinerant and ministerial labours, this conference recommend to the several annual conferences, that in the examination of characters, whenever the name of a member is called, he shall be questioned respecting his faithfulness to the general duties of a travelling preacher, particularly his attention to meeting classes, pastoral visits, instruction of children, Sabbath schools, and Bible classes, and how far he has laboured to promote the benevolent institutions of our Church which are under the direction and patronage of the General Conference.

*Resolved, 2, &c.*, That the delegates from each annual conference be furnished with a copy of the above resolution, signed by the secretary of the conference, and that they cause the same to be presented to their respective conferences. Laid on the table.

The report of the Agents of the General Book Concern, together with an exhibit of its pecuniary affairs, were presented, read, and referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.

General Book Agents' report.

The Book Agent from Cincinnati presented an exhibit of the book establishment under his care, which was read and referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.

Book Agent's (from Cincinnati) report.

May 9.

I. H. Tackett's  
case continued.

The report in part of the Committee on Revisal was presented, read, and laid on the table.

The appeal of Ignatius H. Tackett, which was under consideration at the time of adjournment yesterday, was called up.

Brother Roszel made a few additional remarks by way of reply to the delegation from Pittsburg Conference, after which the evidence was again read, and a motion made to affirm the decision of the Pittsburg Conference. Lost.

Conference adjourned until to-morrow morning at half-past 8 o'clock.

May 10.

## THURSDAY, MAY 10.

Conference met pursuant to adjournment, Bishop Hedding in the chair.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Report of Book  
Committee on  
printing.

The Committee on the Book Concern reported that they had considered the subject of printing the report of the Book Agents, which was referred to them, and are of opinion that it is not expedient to print or publish the same, and on motion, the report was accepted.

Report of the  
Committee on  
Episcopacy on  
the subject of  
funeral dis-  
course on Bish-  
op George.

The Committee on the Episcopacy reported the following resolution, viz. :—

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the several annual conferences of the Methodist Episcopal Church in General Conference assembled, That we respectfully request our superintendents that one of themselves deliver a funeral discourse on our venerable brother the late Bishop George, at such time as may suit their convenience, during the present session of the conference, which was adopted.

Report of the  
Standing Book  
Committee.

The report of the standing Book Committee of the Ohio Conference was presented, read, and referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.

Communication  
concerning  
pews, &c.

A communication on the subject of pews, enclosing a five dollar bank note, from an unknown friend, was presented and read, and on motion, it was resolved that the communication lie on the table indefinitely, and that the money be put into the hands of the Committee on the Expenses of the Delegates.

Report of the  
Editor of the  
Christian Ad-  
vocate, &c.  
I. H. Tackett's  
case laid over.

A report from N. Bangs, Editor of the Christian Advocate and Journal, &c., was presented, read, and referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.

The business of the appeal of Ignatius H. Tackett was called up as the unfinished business of yesterday, and on motion, laid over, and made the order of the day for to-morrow morning.

Report of the  
Committee on  
Itinerary act-  
ed on.

The report of the Committee on the Itinerary, presented on Monday morning last, and laid on the table, was

called up and read, after which the delegates from Illinois gave the following assurances in writing, viz. :—

May 14.

We the delegates from the Illinois Annual Conference, do hereby certify that we do all cordially concur in the above assurance.

SAMUEL H. THOMPSON,  
C. W. RUTER,  
JAMES ARMSTRONG,  
ALLEN WILEY,  
GEORGE LOCK,  
WILLIAM SHANK,  
THOMAS S. HITT.

The conference then proceeded to act upon the report, and on putting the question the preamble was adopted unanimously. The first resolution was adopted unanimously. And on considering the second resolution, it was moved and carried that it be recommitted to the committee with instructions which were given by some of the preachers verbally to consider and report.

On motion of W. Capers, seconded by J. Clark, it was resolved, that we add the following to the rules of this conference:—"During debate it shall be in order for any member to move for the decision of the question; and if such motion be seconded, the president shall forthwith take the mind of the conference upon it. If a majority appear in favour of closing the discussion, the question under discussion shall immediately be put." Carried.

Motion on the amendment of rules of Conference. Previous question.

N. Bangs moved, I. A. Few seconded, that the Discipline in chapter 1, section 18, page 63, be so amended as to read as follows: "After which the conference from whose decision the appeal is made, shall be permitted to respond without interruption by one or more, not exceeding three of its delegates, who shall have been appointed by said conference to manage the defence of its proceedings in the case, in the presence of the appellant or his representative, who shall have the privilege of replying to such delegate or delegates, which shall close the pleadings on both sides. This being done, both the appellant or his representative, and the delegates from the conference concerned shall withdraw, and the General Conference shall decide." Laid on the table.

Motion to amend Discipline on appeal.

On motion of John Lord, seconded by Charles Baker, it was resolved, that the Committee on Revision be instructed to inquire whether any, and if any, what alterations are necessary to be made in part first, chapter two, section seven of the Discipline, "of bringing to trial, finding guilty, and reproof, suspending, and excluding disorderly persons from society and Church privileges," (see page 87.) and report thereon. Referred to the Committee on Revision.

Motion on the subject of instructing the Committee on Revision.

On motion of H. Slicer, seconded by A. Hemphill, it was resolved, that the word "retail" in the close of the twentieth

Motion to amend Discipline.

- May 10. section of the Discipline be stricken out, and the word "sell" be inserted in its stead. Referred to the Committee on Temperance.
- Amendment of Discipline concerning election to office. On motion of L. Pearce, seconded by E. Sinclair, it was resolved, that the third question in the seventh section of part first in our Discipline be so enlarged as to read thus: "Provided, always, that when a preacher shall have passed his examination, and been admitted into full connexion, and elected to deacon's office, but fails of his ordination through the absence of the bishops, his eligibility to the office of elder shall run from the time of his election to the office of deacon." Laid on the table.
- Sermon on Intemperance. On motion of N. Levings, seconded by F. Reed, it was resolved, that the Rev. Dr. Fisk, of New-England, be respectfully requested to deliver a sermon on Tuesday evening next, on the subject of Temperance. Carried.
- W. Capers' resolution called up and passed. The motion made by William Capers, and seconded by N. Bangs, which was laid on the table, on Thursday, May 3d, was called up and read, and after due investigation, was adopted.
- Conference adjourned until to-morrow morning at eight o'clock.

• May 11.

## FRIDAY, MAY 11.

- Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Roberts in the chair.
- The journal of yesterday was read and approved.
- On the leave of absence. Joshua Wells, Henry Smith, and Henry Boehm, obtained leave of absence until Monday.
- On motion, the case of I. H. Tackett was called up.
- Brother Edmonston moved that the vote to affirm the decision of the Pittsburg Conference be reconsidered, and after several brethren had spoken on the subject, it was moved and seconded that the question to reconsider now be put. Carried.
- The main question was then taken up, shall it be reconsidered? Lost, sixty-nine to one hundred and twenty-two.
- The following resolution was then read by M. Ruter, seconded by L. M'Combs:—
- Resolved*, That the case of Ignatius H. Tackett, be referred back to the Pittsburg Conference for a new trial, with a view to an opportunity for producing additional testimony. Carried, eighty-four to seventy-five.
- On motion, resolved that the secretary inform him of the decision of this conference in his case.
- The Committee on the Bible, Tract, and Sunday-School societies presented a report, which was read, and laid on the table.
- Report of Committee on Itinerancy. The Committee on Itinerancy presented a report on the subject recommitted to them, which was read and taken

under consideration. On taking the question upon the first resolution, a division of the subject was called for. The question was then taken on the first part, as far as the proviso, and carried unanimously. The question on the proviso was then taken, yeas one hundred and twenty-two, nays seventy-two; consequently as there was not a majority of two-thirds in the affirmative the question on the proviso was lost.

May 11.  
Ratio of delegation.

W. Fisk then moved to amend the report by inserting the following resolution, viz. :—

*Resolved*, That in any case where there is a fraction of two-thirds of the number fixed on, according to the rules for the ratio of delegation, then, and in every such case, the conference having such fraction shall be entitled to a delegate for such fraction, provided, however, that no conference shall be denied the privilege of one delegate for such fraction.

It was moved and seconded to amend this resolution by striking out the word "one," and inserting the word "two." Carried.

When the question on the resolution as amended was called for, and before the question was put, L. Clark moved to strike out that part of the resolution relating to the fractions, which motion was subsequently withdrawn, and the question was put on the resolution as amended and carried by a majority of considerably more than two-thirds.

The second resolution in the report was then called up. The question was put on it as far as the proviso, and carried.

The time for adjournment being announced, the notices for committees to meet, and the appointments for the Sabbath, giving work to sixty-seven preachers, were read out, and conference adjourned until to-morrow morning at half-past eight o'clock.

SATURDAY, MAY 12.

May 12.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Soule in the chair.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

The conference was informed that brother P. P. Sandford had been under the necessity of leaving the city this morning in consequence of affliction in his family.

Brother Sandford leaves on account of affliction in his family.

The Committee on Missions presented and read a report, which, on motion, was laid on the table.

Report of Committee on Missions.

The Committee on Boundaries presented and read a report which was ordered to lie on the table.

Report of Committee on Boundaries.

A further report of the Committee on Revisals was presented, read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Report of Committee on Revisals.

Brother Blake informed the conference that he had re-



May 12

Report of the  
Committee on  
Building, &c.Memorial on the  
subject of spir-  
ituous liquors.Report of Com-  
mittee on Elec-  
tion.

ceived information that there was serious affliction in his family, and begged leave of absence, which was granted.

The report of the Committee on Building and Occupying Houses of Worship was presented, read and laid on the table, to be made the order of the day for next Tuesday.

A memorial from Brush Creek circuit, and one from Hallowell, in Maine Conference, on the subject of spirituous liquors, were presented and referred to the Committee on Temperance.

The following report was presented and read, viz. :—

The Committee on Elections beg leave to report, that whereas there has not been anything particularly referred to them, that they have barely inquired into the legality of the delegation composing this General Conference, and find nothing incorrect. Your committee find, however, that some of the annual conferences have been, and still are, in the habit of choosing supernumeraries or delegates in reserve, so as to have their proper ratio; but as usage has established the principle, we do not deem it expedient to make any rule on the subject. Signed in behalf of the committee,

GEORGE PICKERING, *Chairman*.

And on motion, the conference voted to concur therein.

An exhibit, containing an account of the Chartered Fund, was presented and read, and on motion, referred to a select committee of three members to examine and report thereon.

An extract from the minutes of the annual meeting of the Trustees of the Chartered Fund was presented and read, viz. :—

Extract from  
the Minutes of  
an annual  
meeting of  
the Trustees  
of Chartered  
Fund.

EXTRACT FROM THE MINUTES OF AN ANNUAL MEETING OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE CHARTERED FUND, &C., HELD ON THE 4TH OF JANUARY, 1832.

*Whereas*, some difficulty has arisen to the trustees in the management of the fund under their charge, in consequence of two items in the present act of incorporation, to wit :—

1. In its title, which is, "The Trustees of the Fund for the relief and support of the Itinerant, Superannuated, worn-out Ministers and Preachers of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States of America, their Wives and Children, Widows and Orphans," the same being so long that cases have occurred where legacies have been left, misnaming the fund, and that in consequence of which lawsuits have occurred.

2. The annual income being limited to five hundred pounds in the original Act of Assembly, April 6th, 1791, it has been argued before court, that inasmuch as the income has exceeded the legal limit the charter is legally void. Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That application be made by the president and

secretary to the General Conference, that if the trustees shall deem it expedient to apply to the legislature of Pennsylvania to remedy these cases, that they may be authorized so to do, and to change the name of the Fund to "The Chartered Fund of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States of America," and to enlarge the income as they may deem expedient.

May 12.

Submitted by order in behalf of the trustees.

THOMAS SARGENT, *President.*

JOSEPH L. INGLIS, *Secretary.*

On motion, conference voted to concur with the foregoing resolution.

A communication from the trustees of the Chartered Fund was presented and read, certifying that at an annual meeting of said trustees, held on Wednesday, 4th of January, 1832, the following nomination was made, agreeably to the act of incorporation, to fill the vacancy in the Board of Trustees occasioned by the decease of their beloved and respected brother, the Rev. Lemuel Green, 1. Aquila A. Browne. 2. Samuel Sappington.

Communication of Chartered Fund.

The subject was taken under consideration, and the conference voted to concur in the nomination of Aquila A. Browne; he is therefore declared elected to fill the vacancy.

On motion, resolved, that the secretary be instructed to inform the trustees of the foregoing decision.

A memorial from a number of persons in Needham circuit, Providence district, on the subject of "secret societies," was presented, and referred to the Committee on the Itinerancy.

Petition on Secret Societies.

On motion, the report of the Committee on Revisal was called up as the unfinished business of yesterday, and on motion, was recommitted.

Report of Committee on Revisal.

On motion, the report of the Committee on Revisal, which was made the order of the day for yesterday, was called up, and taken under consideration, and the first item, recommended an amendment by striking out the words "give tickets to none," and inserting "let none be received into the Church," was acted upon.

W. Fisk moved to amend the article by adding "and have been baptized." Several brethren spoke on the amendment until adjournment was called for.

Conference adjourned until Monday morning at half-past eight o'clock.

MONDAY, MAY 14.

May 14.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Hedding in the chair.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Melville B. Cox, from the Virginia Conference, presented

May 14.

a certificate of his election as a sub-delegate, and is admitted to a seat to fill the vacancy of brother Blake, who is absent.

Petition on the subject of spirituous liquors referred to the Committee on Temperance.  
Report of the Committee on Boundaries.

A memorial from Pittsfield on the subject of spirituous liquors was presented, and referred to the Committee on Temperance.

On motion, the unfinished business of Saturday was laid on the table, and the report of the Committee on Boundaries was called up for consideration. The whole of the report was then read. The several parts were acted on separately. A number of motions and amendments were offered, some of which were out of order, some withdrawn, some rejected, and some adopted, after which the whole of the report as amended was adopted. The section in our Discipline on the boundaries of the conferences will now stand thus.

## SECTION I.

Boundaries.

*Of the Boundaries of the Annual Conferences, &c.*

There shall be twenty-two annual conferences.

New-York.

1. New-York Conference shall include the New-York, New-Haven, Rhinebeck, and Hudson River Districts, Hudson station, and Ghent and Lee circuits.

New-England.

2. New-England Conference shall include all the state of Massachusetts lying east of the Green Mountains, not included in the New-Hampshire Conference, and that part of Connecticut lying east of the Connecticut River, and all the state of Rhode Island.

Maine.

3. Maine Conference shall include all the state of Maine, and that part of New-Hampshire lying east of the White Hills, and north of the waters of the Ossipie Lake.

New-Hampshire.

4. New-Hampshire Conference shall include all the state of New-Hampshire not included in the Maine Conference, that part of the state of Vermont east of the Green Mountains, and that part of the state of Massachusetts northwest of the Merrimack River.

Troy.

5. Troy Conference shall include the Saratoga, Middlebury, and Plattsburg districts, and that part of the Troy district not included in the New-York Conference.

Oneida.

6. Oneida Conference shall include that part of the state of New-York east of Cayuga Lake, not included in the New-York and Troy Conferences, and the Susquehanna district in the state of Pennsylvania.

Genesee.

7. Genesee Conference shall include that part of the state of New-York, west of Cayuga Lake, not included in the Pittsburg Conference, and the Tioga, Loyalsock, and Wellsborough circuits in the state of Pennsylvania.

Pittsburg.

8. Pittsburg Conference shall commence at the mouth of Cattaraugus Creek on Lake Erie, thence to Olean Point on Alleghany River, thence eastward to the top of the Alle-

ghany Mountains; thence along said mountains southward to the head of Tygart's Valley; thence to the Ohio River so as to include the Middletown circuit; thence to the mouth of the Little Muskingum; thence to the mouth of White Woman River so as to include Woodfield, Summerfield, and Freeport circuits; thence northwestward between the waters of Tuscarawas and Mohicken to Lake Erie, near the mouth of Cuyahoga, so as to include Teesbury and Canton circuits; thence down the lake to the mouth of Cataraugus.

May 14.  
Boundaries.

9. The Ohio Conference shall include the remainder of the state of Ohio, (except Elizabethtown,) and that part of Virginia contained in the Kenhawa district, and the territory of Michigan, except St. Joseph's and Kalamazoo missions.

Ohio.

10. Indiana Conference shall include the state of Indiana, (except so much as is included in the Illinois Conference,) Elizabethtown in the state of Ohio, and the St. Joseph's and Kalamazoo missions in Michigan Territory.

Indiana.

11. Illinois Conference shall include the state of Illinois, and Paris and Eugene circuits in the state of Indiana, and the Northwestern Territory.

Illinois.

12. Missouri Conference shall include the state of Missouri, the Indian Mission and Arkansas Territory.

Missouri.

13. Kentucky Conference shall include the state of Kentucky, except so much of said state as is west of the Tennessee River.

Kentucky.

14. Tennessee Conference shall include West Tennessee, and that part of Kentucky lying west of Tennessee River and North Alabama.

Tennessee.

15. Holston Conference shall include East Tennessee, and that part of the state of Georgia lying north of the Blue Ridge, and also what is now embraced in the Tugulo and Pickens circuits, and those parts of South Carolina, North Carolina, and Virginia included in the Ashville and Abington districts.

Holston.

16. Mississippi Conference shall include the state of Louisiana, and that part of Mississippi lying west of the dividing ridge between Pearl and Half Rivers, and thence with the said ridge between Mississippi and Tombebee on the Tennessee River.

Mississippi.

17. Alabama Conference shall include South Alabama, that part of Mississippi not included in the Mississippi Conference, and West Florida.

Alabama.

18. Georgia Conference shall include the state of Georgia, (except what is embraced in the Holston Conference,) East and Middle Florida.

Georgia.

19. South Carolina Conference shall include the state of South Carolina, (except so much as is included in the Tugulo, Greenville, and Pickens circuits,) and that part of North Carolina not included in the Virginia and Holston Conferences.

South Carolina.

May 14  
Boundaries.  
Virginia.

20. Virginia Conference shall include the circuits situated on the Yadkin River, and that part of North Carolina lying north of Cape Fear River, except the town of Wilmington, and that part of Virginia lying south of the Rappahannock River, and east of the Blue Ridge, except Fredericksburgh and Port Royal.

Baltimore.

21. Baltimore Conference shall include the part of Virginia not included in the Virginia, Holston, Ohio, Pittsburgh, and Philadelphia Conferences, the western shore of Maryland, except a small portion included in the Pittsburgh Conference, and that part of Pennsylvania lying east of the Alleghany Mountains and west of Susquehanna River, including Northumberland district.

Philadelphia.

22. Philadelphia Conference shall include the eastern shores of Maryland and Virginia, the whole of the state of Delaware, and that part of Pennsylvania lying between the Susquehanna and Delaware Rivers, except so much as is included in the Baltimore and Oneida Conferences, and all the state of New-Jersey, Staten Island, and so much of the state of New-York as now is, or at any time may be, included in the Haverstraw and Hamburg circuits.

Resolution to  
amend Discipline  
respecting the allow-  
ance of the  
wives of Trav-  
elling Preach-  
ers.

On motion of G. Fillmore, seconded by Z. Paddock, it was resolved, that the proviso which respects the allowance of the wives of travelling preachers, found on page 167, part 2, section 4, number 2, be stricken from the form of Discipline. Laid on the table.

Resolution on  
the subject of  
petitions, &c.

On motion of W. Fisk, it was resolved, that we will receive no new matter in the form of petitions, memorials, or resolutions to instruct a committee after Tuesday the 15th instant. Laid on the table.

Resolution on  
the subject of  
amending Dis-  
cipline.

On motion of A. Brunson, seconded by Ira Eddy, it was resolved, that the following proviso be added to the sixth paragraph of section twenty, chapter first, of our form of Discipline, relating to local preachers, viz.: "Provided, that the annual conference may admit a local preacher to ordination, who may have been a regularly ordained minister of some other branch of the Christian Church previously to his becoming a member of our Church, when they see a sufficient cause for so doing."

Resolution to  
amend Dis-  
cipline.

On motion of S. Luckey, seconded by A. Chase, it was resolved, that to the section of Discipline, part two, section three, answer to question second, page 160, be added, "which shall be done annually at the last quarterly meeting conference of each circuit and station in the conference year." Laid on the table.

Conference adjourned until to morrow morning at half past eight o'clock.

TUESDAY, MAY 15.

May 15.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

The journal of yesterday was read and corrected.

The Committee on the Itinerancy presented a further report on the subject recommitted to them, which was read, and on motion, laid on the table.

Report of the Committee on Itinerancy.

The committee to whom the subject of weekly class collections was referred, presented a report, which was read and adopted.

Report on the subject of weekly class collections.

The Committee on the Episcopacy presented and read their report, which, on motion, was laid on the table, and made the order of the day for to-morrow.

Committee on Episcopacy reports.

The Committee on Revisal presented a further report, which was read, and on motion, laid on the table.

Report of Committee on Revisal.

A memorial from Alexandria on the subject of spirituous liquors was read and presented, and referred to the Committee on Temperance.

Memorial on spirituous liquors from Alexandria.

On motion, the report of the Committee on Building and Occupying Houses of Worship, was called up as the order of the day and read.

Report of the Committee on Building and Occupying Houses of Worship called up.

The resolution to alter the Discipline on page one hundred and fifty-six, section two, part two, under question one, by adding the words, "as far as practicable," was taken under consideration, when a lengthy debate occupied the balance of the session.

The following is the report of the committee to whom was referred the subject of weekly class collections, referred to above, and adopted by the conference:—

The committee to whom was referred the subject of weekly class collections, have taken the subject under consideration, and beg leave to report the following resolutions:

Report of Committee on weekly class collections.

*Resolved*, 1. That this General Conference most heartily approve of the efforts which have been made in some places to carry into effect the excellent rule of our Discipline concerning weekly class collections, and we consider it the most feasible as well as the most efficient mode of raising funds for the subject of our itinerancy.

*Resolved*, 2. That we recommend to the annual conferences to take this subject into consideration, and pass resolutions to recommend the subject to the people of their charge, and to use their influence to introduce the practice of weekly class collections, as far as practicable, throughout their respective bounds, especially in cities, villages, and popular parts of their work.

Conference adjourned to meet to-morrow at half-past eight o'clock.

May 16.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Soule in the chair.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Report of Committee on Itinerancy.

The Committee on Itinerancy presented a further report, which was read, and on motion laid on the table, to be taken up in connexion with the report of the Committee on the Episcopacy.

Report of the Committee on the Rights and Privileges of People of Colour.

The Committee on the Rights and Privileges of the People of Colour presented a report, which was read and laid on the table.

Report of the Committee on the Book Concern.

The Committee on the Book Concern presented a report in part, which was read, and on motion, laid on the table, to be made the order of the day for next Friday.

Report on Revisal laid on the table.

The Committee on Revisal presented a further report, which was read, and on motion, laid on the table.

Report of Committee on Temperance.

The Committee on Temperance presented a report, which was read.

On motion of W. Fisk, seconded by L. Clark, it was resolved, that so much of the report as relates to our addressing our Church at large on the subject of temperance be accepted, and that the same committee be requested to prepare such address, and report to the conference. Carried.

Report of Committee on Temperance laid on the table.

A motion was then made and carried to lay the report on the table.

Petitions concerning pews laid on the table.

A memorial on the subject of building meeting-houses with pews, from Baltimore, was presented and read, and laid on the table.

On Secret Societies.

A memorial on the subject of secret societies from Philadelphia, and one from Dorchester, were presented, and on motion, referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

Committee to address the people.

The Committee of Address was announced by the president, viz., William Winans, Samuel Luckey, and William Capers.

Committee on Chartered Fund.

The Committee of the Chartered Fund was announced by the president, viz. Samuel Merwin, Alfred Griffith, and Manley Tooker.

Letter from the British Conference, &c.

A letter from the British Conference to the bishops was read to the conference, by which it is understood that it was not convenient for them to send delegates to visit us at this General Conference.

On the subject of unfinished business.

On motion, the unfinished business of yesterday was called up, and the first resolution made the subject of debate until the time of adjournment.

Conference adjourned until to-morrow morning at half-past eight o'clock.

THURSDAY, MAY 17.

May 17.

Conference met according to the adjournment, Bishop Soule in the chair.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved, after which Bishop Hedding took the chair.

Bishop M'Kendree presented the letter from the British Conference which was read yesterday, and informed the conference that he considered the superintendents the organ of communication from the British Connexion to the conference, and that the letter was, therefore, presented to us, and that he considered it the business of the conference to answer it.

Letter from British Conference presented again.

Samuel Merwin addressed the conference in behalf of a meeting-house in Clarkville, Oneida Conference, which he informed us was subject to be taken on account of a debt amounting to \$235. On motion, a contribution was made in the conference room to meet said debt, amounting to \$118.

Address of Samuel Merwin on the subject of a meeting-house in Clarkville, Oneida Conference, and contribution raised in its behalf.

The Committee on Itinerancy presented and read a report in part, viz. :—

The Committee on the Itinerancy beg leave to report that they are of the opinion that the General Conference cannot adopt any possible measure that would give relief to the memorialists from Needham circuit, and from other places, on the subject of secret societies, and the very attempt might involve serious difficulties. The Committee, therefore, beg leave to be discharged from further consideration of the subject. The resolutions on dress, on building and occupying churches, have been taken up by other committees; we therefore beg to be discharged from the consideration of these subjects. Respectfully submitted,

Report of Committee on Itinerancy.

L. CLARK, *Chairman.*

On motion the report was accepted.

A further report of the Committee on the Itinerancy was presented and read.

An amendment was moved to strike out all that part which relates to the Baltimore and Pittsburg Conferences. Withdrawn.

On motion the report was then adopted, viz. :—

The Committee on Itinerancy, after a patient and laborious investigation of the various subjects which were committed unto them, have the satisfaction of reporting, that the general state of the itinerant connexion is not only favourable, but its future prospects exceedingly flattering. The great Head of the Church has crowned the labours of our ministry with almost unparalleled success for the last four years; and while our numbers in the membership and in the ministry have been greatly increased, there has also

Report of the Committee on Itinerancy.



May 17.  
Report of Com-  
mittee on Itin-  
erancy.

been an evident advancement in Scriptural holiness, which is professedly the great object of our itinerant system.

Your committee have made special inquiry concerning the modes of administration within the several conferences, and examined the records of the same, and considering the vast extent of country, the variety of customs and circumstances, the very complicated and conflicting interests embraced in our field of labour, it is truly a matter of surprise, as well as solemn thankfulness to God, that the whole body of the Church has been preserved, not only in unity of doctrine, but such uniformity of administration, manner of conducting public worship, and other usages in which the distinctive features of Methodism have been maintained.

Your committee are happy to say they find no deterioration from the spirit of Methodism in the annual examination of character in our conferences, but that great care has been taken to preserve the whole body of the itinerant ministry pure in faith and practice, in spirit, in Christian simplicity, and in moral and ministerial integrity; nor do we discover any abatement of that laudable zeal and missionary enterprise which is so important to the existence of our itinerancy, and which seems emphatically to say, "We must take the world and subdue it to the cross of Christ." Indeed, your committee have found very little of which they can complain, and nothing to censure.

The reading of the Scriptures in the morning and afternoon services, and the public use of the Lord's prayer is generally practised, though not as uniformly as could be wished, and in some instances the sacraments are administered without using our prescribed and excellent forms; but in these things there has been an evident improvement the last four years, and we are confident that a proper attention to this subject in the annual conferences will shortly do away all irregularity, and our public administrations will become uniform, Scriptural, and edifying.

Improvements have been made also in the matter and manner of singing in our congregations; but this part of devotional service requires the fostering care of the respective conferences, enjoining it on their own members to supply our people with our standard Hymn Book and the Methodist Harmonist, and no others.

While in the older parts of our country the work is increasing on our hands by cultivating new fields of labour, and occupying important towns and villages which heretofore were either inaccessible or neglected for want of men and means, our frontier and newly-settled countries have equal claims on our attention, and call loudly on our Church for a supply of efficient labourers in those part of our Lord's common vineyard. In the opinion of your committee, particular regard should be had to the real wants of every

part of our Church, and in the formation of districts, circuits, and stations, the labour should be equalized as much as possible, not only within the bounds of the same conference, but, as far as practicable, among the several conferences.

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Report of the  
Committee on  
Itinerancy.

In our temporal economy there has been a gradual advance in the annual supplies ; yet much remains to be done before the system of finance will be either uniform or acceptable ; and as yet it is painfully unequal. Resolutions have been presented to this conference which it is hoped will be happy in their effects.

The distribution of our conference funds, small as they have been, has generally been equitable, though we regret to say that the Baltimore and Pittsburg Conferences have continued to make their dividend on the amount of deficiency, and not on the amount of claims as directed by the last General Conference.

In concluding the report your committee would say, that it has been with no common degree of delight they have surveyed the general state of our work, as well as the minute and complicated parts of our great and most advisable system of itinerancy, which is so efficient in its free and external operations of publishing the Gospel to the poor, taking for its motto, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature." We can but view its adaptation to the grand enterprise of Christian benevolence, which is to evangelize the whole world ; and it is gratifying to learn that many of our annual conferences have officially taken an interest in our Missionary, Bible, Tract, and Sunday-school societies.

Our itinerant system is not only missionary in its character, exploring the dark and dismal wastes of human wretchedness, penetrating the habitations of the poor, and tracing out the abodes of misery, but it possesses in itself the ample means of developing the resources of Christian charity, and carrying into complete success all those benevolent institutions of our Church which are of such vital importance to her best interests.

The subjects of special reference to your committee are reported, with such resolutions as were deemed proper in the case. Respectfully submitted.

L. CLARK, *Chairman.*

On motion of S. G. Roszel, seconded by A. Griffith, it was resolved, that the secretary be instructed to furnish each annual conference with a copy of the journals of the last General Conference on the subject of dividing the funds among the preachers at the annual conferences.

On motion of S. G. Roszel, seconded by T. L. Douglass :  
*Resolved*, 1. That a special committee of three be appointed to consider the propriety of adopting a rule to be

On the subject of instructing the secretary to furnish each Annual Conference with a journal of last General Conference.  
Special committee to inquire concerning superannuated preachers.

- May 17 inserted in the Discipline, the better to provide for the support of our superannuated brethren; and also how they shall represent themselves annually to the conferences to which they belong, should they remove out of the limits of their respective conferences.
- Form of license. *Resolved*, 2. That the same committee be instructed to prepare a form of license for exhorters and preachers, to be approved by this conference, and to be printed in our Discipline, in the section stating the duty of those who have charge of circuits. Carried.
- Resolutions on the subject of appointing trustees. Resolutions moved by William Capers, seconded by H. Bass, concerning the appointment of trustees, were offered, and, on motion, laid on the table.
- Report considered. On motion, the unfinished business of yesterday was called up and read. After some debate, the motion to take the question was made and lost, ninety-four to ninety-four. The debate then continued.
- A motion for an indefinite postponement was then made. A motion was then made to take the question. Carried. The question on the indefinite postponement was then taken and carried.
- On motion, the balance of the report was laid on the table, for the purpose of calling up the report on the episcopacy.
- The report on the episcopacy was called up and read.
- Report of the Committee on Episcopacy. On motion, the first article was adopted. The second article was taken up, and a motion was made to lay it on the table until the fifth article could be acted on. Withdrawn.
- It was then moved to strike out the number three with an intention of moving to insert the number two.
- It was then moved, that when we adjourn we adjourn to meet at three o'clock, P. M.
- The motion to prevent further debate was then made and carried.
- The question was then taken, "Shall the number three be stricken out." Carried.
- Another motion was then made to fill the blank with the number one.
- On motion, the conference adjourned to meet at three o'clock, P. M.

## THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

The motion to fill the blank in the second article of the report with the number one was taken up. Lost.

It was then moved to fill the blank with the number two. Carried.

The resolution, as amended, was then adopted.

It was then moved to reconsider the subject we have just acted on so far as relates to the number. Withdrawn.

May 17.  
Report of the  
Committee on  
Episcopacy.

The third resolution in the report was then taken up. It was moved to amend it by striking out the words, "deemed suitable for such appointment." Lost.

The vote was then taken to adopt the third resolution. Carried.

The fourth resolution was then called up and read, and the report of the Committee on the Itinerancy, presented yesterday, was called up, in connexion with this resolution, and read. After which it was moved and carried, to lay the report of the Committee on Itinerancy on the table, and that we proceed with the report on the episcopacy.

The fourth resolution was then declared to be in order, which was read. A motion was made to strike out all that pertains to the Colonization Society. Lost.

On motion, the resolution was then adopted.

The fifth resolution was called up and read, and after debating the subject, it was moved and carried to lay it on the table until the report on missions is considered.

The sixth resolution was called up and read. A motion was made to amend it by adding the words "one hundred dollars as the annual allowance of his travelling companion." Carried.

On motion, the resolution as amended was then adopted.

A motion was then made that the report be laid on the table. Carried.

On motion of T. Merritt, seconded by T. Ware,

*Resolved*, That we will observe Friday, the 18th instant, as a day of fasting and prayer, with a view to invoke the divine direction in the choice of our superintendents provided for in the foregoing report.

Resolution on  
day of fasting,  
&c.

On motion of N. Bangs, seconded by W. S. M'Alister,

*Resolved*, 1. That the thanks of this conference are due to the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church within the bounds of the Philadelphia Conference, for its liberal and efficient exertions in promoting the cause of missions. And as it is desirable to concentrate as far as practicable the energies of the Church in this great work, this General Conference renews its request that the society become auxiliary to the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Resolutions on  
the Missionary  
Society of the  
Philadelphia  
Conference.

*Resolved*, 2. That the secretary of this conference be directed to communicate this resolution to the corresponding secretary of the above-mentioned missionary society within the bounds of the Philadelphia Conference, with a request that he lay it before the Board of Managers. Carried.

Conference adjourned until to-morrow morning at half-past eight o'clock.

May 18.

FRIDAY, MAY 18.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

The journal was read and approved.

Bishop Soule then took the chair.

The Committee on the Chartered Fund presented the following report, viz. :—

Report of the  
Committee on  
Chartered  
Fund.

The committee to whom was referred the report of the Trustees of the Chartered Fund, beg leave to state, that after a careful examination of the accounts of the trustees of the Chartered Fund, they find no error. Adopted.

On motion, resolved, by this General Conference, that a vote of thanks be given to the trustees of the Chartered Fund for their unremitting attention to the interests of the institution.

Report on Episcopacy further considered.

The report on the Episcopacy was called up.

The seventh resolution was read, and on calling for the question a division of the resolutions was required.

The question was then taken on the first part, as far as the words "Book Concern," and it was adopted.

The second part of the resolution was then taken up, and a motion was made to strike out the whole article. Withdrawn.

It was moved to amend the resolution under consideration by inserting after the words "sum of" one hundred and twenty-five dollars. Adopted.

The eighth resolution was adopted.

The ninth resolution was taken up, and an indefinite postponement was moved. Withdrawn.

A motion was then made to strike out all between the words "committee" and "recommend;" and after debating the matter, a motion was made that the question on the amendment be taken. Carried.

The question was then put and the amendment was lost.

The question was then taken on the resolution. Carried.

Leave of absence.

In consequence of information received of the severe indisposition of their families, the following brethren asked and obtained leave of absence, viz., brother Merrill, brother Levings, and brother Paddock.

Rules rescinded.

On motion of I. A. Few, resolved, that the rule of this conference by which the vote may be called for, and thereby stop debate, be rescinded.

Moved that we take the question without debate. Carried.

The motion to rescind was then taken up and lost.

It was then moved to amend the rule by striking out the last member of it. Carried.

It was then moved and seconded that when we adjourn

we adjourn to meet at three o'clock, P. M., with the special object of acting on the Canada business.

May 18.

Conference adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON.

At three o'clock, P. M., conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Hedding in the chair.

On motion, the Report of the Committee on the Book Concern respecting the Canada business was called up. Our brethren, the Rev. Messrs. William Chase, Franklin Metcalf, and William Ryerson, were present, and produced a certificate of their election as delegates to represent the Canada Conference at this place. They were, accordingly, introduced, and requested to take seats.

Delegates of Canada Conference.

The report of the committee was then read.

Report of the Book Committee on the Canada affairs.

A motion was made and seconded that it be adopted.

William Winans moved to amend the report by adding the following resolution, viz. :—

Resolved, 4. That the Canada Conference shall give to this General Conference satisfactory assurance that that part of the produce of the Book Concern which they shall receive, shall not be appropriated to any other purpose than for the benefit of the travelling, supernumerary, superannuated and worn-out preachers, their wives, widows, and children. Withdrawn.

The afternoon was then spent in investigating the subject until time to adjourn.

The appointments for the Sabbath, giving work to sixty-three preachers, were then read out.

Conference adjourned until to-morrow morning at half-past eight o'clock.

SATURDAY, MAY 19.

May 19.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Soule in the chair.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved, Bishop Roberts then took the chair.

A memorial from a number of brethren in Philadelphia, on the subject of our preachers receiving the honorary title of Doctor of Divinity, was presented and read. On motion it was referred to a special committee of five to examine and report. Several other memorials and petitions from other places, on the same subject, were presented, and referred to the same committee.

Petitions concerning honorary titles, &c.

The motion to fix on the day for final adjournment was called up and amended by the mover :—

Time of adjournment fixed.

Resolved, That this conference determine to adjourn on Friday the 25th instant.

May 19.  
Resolution on  
the day fixed  
to appoint the  
bishops.

Canada business  
considered.

Several broth-  
ers address the  
conference.

On motion of W. Hammett, seconded by L. Pierce :—  
*Resolved*, That we will proceed on Tuesday morning next  
to elect two additional bishops for our Church, as provided  
for by a previous resolution of this conference.

The report on the Canada business was called up, and  
after some remarks on the subject, D. Ostrander moved an  
amendment, which was withdrawn.

Brothers Emory, Ryerson, and others addressed the con-  
ference on the subject until the hour of adjournment.

Conference then adjourned until Monday morning at half-  
past eight o'clock.

May 21.

## MONDAY, MAY 21.

Conférencé met according to adjournment, Bishop Ro-  
berts in the chair.

The journal of Saturday was read and approved.

Bishop Soule then took the chair.

Report of the  
Committee on  
Book Concern.

The Committee on the Book Concern presented a report,  
which was read, and, on motion, ordered to lie on the  
table.

Report of the  
Canada busi-  
ness resumed.

Brother Fisk  
addressed the  
conference in  
place of brother  
Case.

On motion, the consideration of the report on Canada  
business was resumed. The report was read.

Brother Case, one of the delegates from Canada, request-  
ed that brother Fisk might be permitted to address the  
conference for him, and in his place to give his views on the  
subject, which was granted. Brother Fisk then spoke  
forty-five minutes, and was followed in turn by brothers  
Few, Ryerson, Emory, Waterman, Capers, and Roszel.

It was moved and seconded that we take the vote with-  
out further debate. Carried.

The question on  
the first reso-  
lution lost 75  
to 130.

Amendment,  
&c., of report  
referred to se-  
lect committee.

The question on the first resolution in the report was  
read. Lost, seventy-five to one hundred and thirty.

A motion was then made by J. Emory, seconded by Wil-  
liam Capers, to amend the report, which amendment, to-  
gether with the remaining items in the report, were refer-  
red to a select committee of five to examine and report  
thereon.

Conference adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

## MONDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Hed-  
ding in the chair.

Select commit-  
tee on Can-  
ada business.

The select committee on the Canada business was an-  
nounced by the president, viz., D. Ostrander, G. Pickering,  
J. Emory, L. Clark, and Abner Chase.

Committee to  
whom was re-  
ferred the sub-  
ject of receiv-  
ing honorary  
title of Doctor  
of Divinity.

The committee to whom was referred the memorials on  
the subject of our preachers receiving the honorary title  
of Doctor of Divinity was announced by the president, viz.,  
J. Wells, T. Merritt, S. G. Roszel, I. A. Few, and M. Force.

The committee to whom was referred the claims of superannuated preachers was announced, viz., P. P. Sandford, J. B. Finley, and J. Early.

It was moved and seconded to reconsider the motion by which the conference had determined to adjourn finally on Friday, the 25th instant. Carried.

The motion to fix on the time for final adjournment was then considered, and on motion, it was ordered to lie on the table.

It was moved and seconded that we take up the report of the Book Committee. Lost, seventy-nine to ninety-seven.

It was moved and seconded that we reconsider the vote by which we have resolved to elect two more bishops at this conference. It was moved that we take the question without further debate. Carried.

The question to reconsider was then taken and lost, ninety-six to ninety-nine.

On motion, the report of the Committee on the Book Concern was called up and read. It was moved that we take up the resolution, item by item. Carried.

The first item was amended and adopted.

The second item was read. Brother Early moved an amendment, which was withdrawn.

Conference adjourned until to-morrow morning at eight o'clock.

TUESDAY, MAY 22.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Hedding in the chair.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved Bishop Roberts then took the chair.

On motion, it was resolved that a committee of five be appointed to draft an answer to the letter from the British Conference, which was presented to us by Bishop M'Kendree.

On motion, the election of two additional bishops was called up as the order of the day. Brothers Merwin and Skidmore were appointed by the chair to receive and call out the tickets.

Two hundred and twenty-three votes were present, and on counting the ballots, James Osgood Andrew had one hundred and forty, and John Emory had one hundred and thirty-five votes, each of whom having a majority of the whole number of votes the first balloting, were declared duly elected.

On motion, the report of the Committee on Itinerancy was called up.

S. K. Hodges moved to reconsider the vote by which a fraction of two-thirds should be entitled to a representative. Lost.

May 21.  
Committee on claims of superannuated preachers.  
The motion on the subject of final adjournment reconsidered.

Motion to take up the report of the Book Committee.  
Lost, 79 to 97.

Vote on the subject of electing two more bishops to be reconsidered.  
Lost 96 to 99.  
Report of the Committee on Book Concern called up.

May 22.

Motion on the subject of appointing a committee to draft an answer to the letter from the British Conference.  
Election of the two additional bishops. J. O. Andrew, 140.  
J. Emory, 135.



May 22.  
Amendment of  
second resolu-  
tion of report.

The second resolution in the report was then taken up. It was moved to amend it by striking out the part relating to fractions. Lost. The question on the adoption of the resolution was then taken. Carried, one hundred and seventy-eight to three.

The third resolution was then read and adopted.

The fourth resolution was read and adopted.

Whole report  
adopted as  
amended.  
Report of Com-  
mittee on Itin-  
erancy, on the  
subject of a-  
mending Re-  
strictive Rules  
for sending rep-  
resentatives to  
General Con-  
ference

The whole report, as amended, was then adopted by a unanimous vote, viz. :—

The Committee on the Itinerancy beg leave to report the following as the result of their deliberations on the subject recommitted to them, viz. :—

*Resolved*, 1. That this General Conference recommend to the several annual conferences for their concurrence and adoption, as provided in the sixth article of the Restrictive Rules, the following resolution to amend the second article of the said Restrictive Rules :—

*Resolved*, 2. That the second article of the Restrictive Rules be so altered as to read : "They shall not allow of more than one representative for every fourteen members of the annual conference, nor allow of a less number than one for every thirty ; provided, nevertheless, that when there shall be, in any annual conference, a fraction of two-thirds of the number which shall be fixed for the ratio of representation, such annual conference shall be entitled to an additional delegate for such fraction : and provided, also, that no conference shall be deprived of the privilege of two delegates."

Secretary to fur-  
nish the bish-  
ops with a  
copy of the re-  
solutions.

*Resolved*, 3. That the secretary furnish each of the bishops with a copy of those resolutions, and they are hereby respectfully requested to present the same to their several annual conferences, or cause them to be presented at their next session for their concurrence, and when the bishops or any two of the bishops shall have ascertained that three-fourths of all the members of the several annual conferences, voting in the case, have concurred with this General Conference, they shall certify the same, and cause such certificate to be printed in the Minutes, and published three successive weeks in the Christian Advocate and Journal.

The representa-  
tion of the next  
General Con-  
ference to be  
1 for 14.

*Resolved*, 4. That the ratio of representation for the next General Conference be one for every fourteen, provided the annual conferences concur in the alteration as above recommended by this conference, and that the Discipline in section three, answer one, to question two, on page nineteen, shall thereupon be so altered as to read, "The General Conference shall be composed of one member for every fourteen members of each annual conference," &c.

Report of the  
Committee on  
the Book Con-  
cern taken up,  
and the several  
articles were  
read, amended,  
and adopted.

On motion, the report of the Committee on the Book Concern was taken up for consideration.

The second article in the first resolution was adopted.

The third article was read, and after some small amendments were made, the article was adopted as amended.

The fourth article was read, amended, and adopted.

The fifth article was read and adopted.

The sixth article was read and an amendment was proposed by brother Finley.

Conference was informed that brother Templeton requested leave of absence, in consequence of affliction in his family. Conference adjourned to meet again at three o'clock.

May 22.

Brother Templeton requests leave of absence.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Soule in the chair.

A letter from Thomas Davis was presented and read, in which he declares an intention to appeal from the decision of the Philadelphia Conference, but could not get the papers on which his appeal was grounded.

Letter from Thomas Davis was presented concerning the decision of the Philadelphia Conference.

On motion, the conference voted that he be at liberty to withdraw his letter.

On motion, resolved, that the appeal of Thomas Davis be made the order of the day for Friday next.

A communication from John M. Keagy, on the subject of infant and early education, was presented, read, and referred to the Committee on Education.

Communication from J.M. Keagy on infant and early education.

On motion, the unfinished business of the forenoon was resumed.

The sixth article being under consideration, brother Finley's motion to amend was in order.

Amendment of the report of the Committee on the Book Concern continued.

Brother Drake moved to lay the amendment and that article of the report on the table for the purpose of considering some subsequent parts of the report. Carried.

The seventh article was read and adopted.

The eighth article as in the Discipline. . .

The tenth article as in the Discipline.

The eleventh article as in the Discipline

The second resolution was read and adopted.

The third resolution was read, amended and adopted.

The fourth resolution was read, amended and adopted.

The fifth resolution was read and acted on item by item, the first item adopted, the second amended and adopted, the third adopted.

It was moved that we adjourn to meet at eight o'clock to-morrow morning. Carried.

And conference adjourned until to-morrow morning at eight o'clock.

May 23.

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 23.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Soule in the chair.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Bishop Hedding then took the chair.

Report of the  
Committee on  
Revisal laid on  
the table.

A further report of the Committee on Revisal was presented, read and laid on the table.

The committee to whom the Canada business was referred, presented and read a report.

Brother Early moved, that in future, when a report is presented, the secretary shall read it instead of the chairman of the committee. Carried.

Report of Com-  
mittee on Ca-  
nada business  
taken under  
consideration.

The report on the Canada business was then read by the secretary.

The first resolution was taken up for consideration.

Brothers Case, Ostrander, Cox, Winans, Ryerson, Emory and others spoke on the subject.

The previous question was called for.

Bishop Soule requested leave and stated some points.

Brother Ostrander moved an amendment, which was adopted.

The vote on the previous question was then taken and carried.

Resolution of  
the above re-  
port amended  
and adopted.

It was then moved to adopt the resolution as amended. Carried, one hundred and fifty-three to thirty-four. It was then moved to adopt the preamble to the report.

An amendment was moved and withdrawn.

N. Bangs moved to take the previous question. Carried.

The question on the adoption of the preamble was then taken and carried, one hundred and three to sixty-three.

On motion of A. Brunson, seconded by W. Arnold, an amendment was proposed, which was adopted.

The whole report as amended reads thus, viz. :—

The whole re-  
port as amend-  
ed.

The committee to whom was referred the business of the negotiation with the delegates of the Canada Conference on the subject of our Book Concern, having had the same under their serious consideration, are of opinion that in consideration of their former relation to us, and the friendly feelings and brotherly affections which now exist between the two connexions, as well as in view of the liberal and efficient support they have formerly given the Concern, an apportionment of the property of the Concern ought to be made to them. But as constitutional difficulties are believed to be in the way of such appropriation by this conference, because they have not been instructed on the subject by their constituents, according to the proviso at the end of the restrictive regulations, they beg leave to submit for the adoption of the conference the following resolutions :

**Resolved, &c., 1.** That if three-fourths of all the members of the several annual conferences, who shall be present and vote on the subject, shall concur herein, and as soon as the fact of such concurrence shall be certified by the secretaries of the several annual conferences, then the Book Agents and Book Committee in New-York shall be, and they are hereby authorized and directed to settle with the agents of the Canada Conference, on the following principles and preliminaries, viz. :—

May 23.  
Report as amended on Canada affairs.

1. The dividend shall be made according to the proportion that the number of travelling preachers in the Canada Conference bears to the number of travelling preachers in the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States, including in both estimates the superannuated preachers and those on trial.

2. The amount of property to be divided shall be reckoned according to the first and largest estimate of stock in the late exhibit of the Book Agents, namely, \$448,745 70½, deducting therefrom debts due from the Concern, annuities, &c., estimated at \$15,728 18, and the whole amount of the publishing fund, amounting to \$16,928 28, making a total deduction (including credits to be allowed to M. Ruter and C. Holliday) of \$35,178 77, and leaving an amount to be divided of about \$413,566 93½.

3. That the Canada Conference shall receive a full proportion of the unsaleable and saleable stock, and of the bad as well as good debts, considering the stock and debts in Canada that belong to the Book Concern as so much of the dividend already paid, but to be estimated as forming a part of the General Book Concern, according to the manner of estimating the whole amount.

4. When the adjustment shall have been made according to the foregoing preliminaries, it shall be deemed a final settlement of all claims which the Canada Conference may be supposed to have on the Book Concern, or any other funds or property of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States, in virtue of their former relation to us.

**Resolved, 2.** That our superintendents be, and they are hereby respectfully requested to present the foregoing preamble and resolution to the several annual conferences for their concurrence, as contemplated in the premises.

Superintendents requested to present the foregoing resolution to the annual conferences.

The Committee on the Canada business presented the following report, viz. :—

The committee beg leave also to submit the following resolution, viz. :—

Report of Committee on Canada affairs concerning Book Concern, &c.

**Resolved,** That until the will of the annual conferences shall be ascertained, and a final settlement made, the Canada Conference shall receive the same equal annual dividend of the profits of the Book Concern as heretofore.

May 23.

A motion for the adoption of this resolution was made. Carried.

On motion of P. Akers, seconded by —

*Resolved*, That a copy of the resolution of the last General Conference, by which the Canada Conference was allowed to dissolve connexion with the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States, and also a copy of the acts of this General Conference on Canada affairs, accompany the resolution about to be presented to the annual conferences.

On motion of S. G. Roszel, resolved, that the report of the Committee on the General Conference at Pittsburg, May, 1828, on the Canada business, be entered on the journals of this conference.

The report was read, viz. :—

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conference in General Conference assembled, that whereas the jurisdiction of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States of America has heretofore been extended over the ministers and members in connexion with said Church in the province of Upper Canada, by mutual agreement, and by the consent and desire of our brethren in that province; and whereas this General Conference is satisfactorily assured that our brethren in the said province, under peculiar and pressing circumstances, do now desire to organize themselves into a distinct Methodist Episcopal Church, in friendly relations with the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States, therefore be it resolved, and it is hereby resolved by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled,

1. If the annual conference in Upper Canada at its ensuing session or any succeeding session previously to the next General Conference, shall definitely determine on this course, and elect a general superintendent of the Methodist Episcopal Church in that province, this General Conference do hereby authorize any one or more of the general superintendents of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States, with the assistance of any two or more elders, to ordain such general superintendent for the said Church in Upper Canada, provided always, that nothing herein contained be contrary to or inconsistent with the laws existing in the said province; and provided that no such general superintendent of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Upper Canada, or any of his successors in office, shall at any time exercise any ecclesiastical jurisdiction whatever in any part of the United States, or of the territories thereof; and provided also, that this article shall be expressly ratified and agreed to by the said Canada Annual Conference, before any such ordination shall take place.

2. That the delegate who has been selected at this

Motion on the subject of a copy of the resolution by which the dissolution of the Canada Conference from the M. E. Church in the United States was effected.

Motion on the subject of entering report of Committee on General Conference at Pittsburg on the journals of this conference. The report referred to above.

General Conference to attend the ensuing annual conference of the British Wesleyan Methodist Connexion be, and hereby is, instructed to express to that body the earnest and affectionate desire of this General Conference that the arrangement made with that connexion in relation to the labours of their missionaries in Upper Canada may still be maintained and observed.

May 28.  
The same report continued.

3. That our brethren and friends, ministers or others in Upper Canada shall, at all times, at their request, be furnished with any of our books and periodical publications on the same terms with those by which our agents are regulated in furnishing them in the United States, and until there shall be an adjustment of any claims which the Canada Church may name. On this connexion the Book Agents shall divide to the said Church an equal proportion of any annual dividend which may be made from the Book Concern to the several annual conferences respectively; provided that however the aforesaid dividend shall be apportioned to the Canada Church only as long as they may continue to support and patronize our Book Concern as in the past. Respectfully submitted as agreed.

W. Fisk, *Chairman.*

PITTSBURG, May 26, 1828.

On motion, the secretary is hereby directed to furnish the delegates from Canada with a copy of the decision of this conference on that business.

Motion to instruct the secretary to furnish a copy of the decision of this conference to the delegates from Canada.

The Committee on the Book Concern presented a supplement to their report, which was read and laid on the table.

The report of the Committee on the Expenses of the Delegates was presented and read, from which it appears that the expenses of the delegates amounted to \$12,713 56½, the amount of receipts \$7,426 73, (to be added to Philadelphia Conference \$32, and from Virginia Conference \$13.) Deficiency \$5,222 17½. The Committee do recommend that the above deficiency be provided for, as heretofore, out of the Book Concern.

Report of Committee on Expenses of Delegates, stating the amount of expenses, &c.

Conference adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Soule in the chair.

The report on the episcopacy was called up and read.

Report on episcopacy called up, &c.

The fifth resolution was then taken under consideration, and it was moved to strike out the whole resolution. Carried.

A motion was then made to adopt the report in the aggregate. Carried.

As amended it reads thus:—

May 23.  
Report of the  
Committee on  
Episcopacy as  
amended.

The Committee on the Episcopacy beg leave to report :

1. That they have examined the administration in the several annual conferences for the last four years, and find that it has been correct and highly satisfactory, and therefore is entitled to the support and approbation of the General Conference.

2. In consequence of the lamented death of our beloved Bishop George, the extension of the work under our care and oversight, and the increase of the annual conferences, it is recommended that we elect two additional bishops at the present conference.

3. As it is considered by the committee an evil of no small magnitude for the same preachers to be continued from year to year in town and city stations, the superintendents are respectfully requested to diversify appointments of this sort as much as possible among preachers deemed suitable for such appointments.

4. As our charitable institutions, colleges, and seminaries of learning are continually increasing, and as the American Colonization Society is rising in its claims on the American community, it is considered proper for our bishops, whenever in their judgment, and in the judgment of an annual conference, it shall be found expedient, to appoint any preacher as an agent to promote the interest of either or all of these institutions

5. In consequence of the age and increased infirmities of our venerable and beloved Bishop M'Kendree, it is recommended that his present relation be continued, and that the sum of \$250 be allowed him annually for extra expenses, and to defray the expenses of a travelling companion \$100 for the allowance of said travelling companion, and that he be authorized to draw this amount from the Book Concern.

6. On examination it has been ascertained, that although the allowance for the family expenses of the bishops has been ample, yet it is found that Bishop Roberts is deficient in his travelling expenses about \$100, Bishop Hedding about \$50, and Bishop Soule about \$200, therefore it is recommended that these deficiencies be paid them out of the avails of the Book Concern, and that \$125 be paid each of them annually in part of their travelling expenses, and the deficiency, if any, be ascertained and paid at the ensuing General Conference.

7. It is recommended that the rule to estimate the allowance of the bishops for family expenses be so altered as to make it the duty of the annual conference within whose bounds the family or families of the bishop or bishops may reside to estimate the amount necessary to meet such expense.

8. Considering the great extent of the work throughout

this vast continent, committed to the oversight of the episcopacy, the committee deem it inexpedient to require each of our bishops to travel throughout the whole of their extensive charges during the recess of the General Conference, and therefore recommend to the episcopacy to make such an apportionment of the work among themselves as shall best suit, in their judgment, most effectually to promote the general good.

May 23.  
Report of Committee on Episcopacy continued.

Caleb Leach, having received information of the indisposition of his family, requested leave of absence, which was granted.

Leave of absence granted to Caleb Leach.

The report of the Committee on the Book Concern was called up.

Report of Committee on Book Concern called up, &c.

The sixth resolution was read, and a motion made to amend it. Carried.

On motion, the resolution as amended was then adopted.

Different portions of the above considered and amended, &c.

The seventh resolution was then called up and read.

On motion, an amendment was proposed. Carried.

It was then moved, by N. Bangs, to lay this resolution on the table, in order to take up the subsequent resolutions. Withdrawn.

The blank was then filled with \$2,000.

Blank filled with \$2,000. The question was then taken and carried on the resolution as amended.

The resolution as amended was then read.

The question on its adoption was then taken and carried.

Conference adjourned until to-morrow morning at eight o'clock.

THURSDAY, MAY 24.

May 24.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Hedding in the chair.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Bishop Roberts then took the chair.

On motion, resolved, that the secretary be authorized to call on the brethren for assistance in his work as far as he may think proper.

Motion on the subject of authorizing the secretary to call on the brethren for assistance.

The Committee on the Claims of Superannuated Ministers presented a report, which was read and laid on the table.

Report of Committee on Superannuated Ministers laid on the table.

A letter from Andrew D. Smith, stating the circumstances of a loss he has sustained, by books ordered from Cincinnati, but which he never received, and requesting relief, was presented and read, and on motion, resolved, that the case be referred to the Book Agents and Book Committee in Cincinnati, with discretionary powers to settle with him.

Letter from A.D. Smith concerning loss he has sustained by books ordered which he never received.

A motion was made and seconded to reconsider the resolution providing for depositories of books in annual conferences, and after considerable debate the vote to reconsider was taken and carried.

Motion on the subject of reconsidering the resolution providing for depositories for books in the annual conferences.

It was then moved to recommit the resolution to the same committee. Carried.



May 24.  
Motion to take up the succeeding resolutions in the report of the Book Concern. The parts of the above report recommitted to same committee.

Motion to reconsider the resolution in the report concerning three editors in the Book Concern.

Report of Committee on Bible, Tract, and Sunday-school Societies called up and considered.

Resolutions recommended by the aforesaid committee.

It was then moved that we take up the succeeding resolutions in the report on the Book Concern. Carried.

The resolution was then called up and read.

On motion, resolved, that this resolution, together with those parts of the report which have relation to the depositories be recommitted to the same committee, to examine and report. It was moved that we reconsider the resolution in the report, by which we determined to have three editors in our Book Concern. Lost.

On motion, the report of the Committee on Bible, Tract, and Sunday-school Societies was called up and read.

It was then considered, item by item, and adopted, viz. :

The Committee on Bible, Tract, and Sunday-school Societies, having had the subjects committed to them under consideration, beg leave to present the following report :—

The support of the Bible, Sunday-school and Tract Societies we regard as vitally connected with the interests and prosperity of the Church of Christ, and therefore must be attended to in all the departments of our work with zeal and energy, in order to extend the kingdom of Christ as much as may be among men; and although considerable has been done in these departments of religious charity and Christian benevolence, yet it is thought that by a harmonious and simultaneous action of all engaged in the itinerant field much more may be effected. That this may be done to the best possible advantage, the committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions :—

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the several annual conferences in General Conference assembled, 1. That we regard the establishment of Bible, Sunday-school and Tract Societies under our control, separate and distinct from similar associations denominated national or American, as highly expedient, necessary, and salutary, and demanding the united support and hearty coöperation of all our preachers, travelling and local, as well as all the members and friends of our Church.

*Resolved*, &c., 2. That it be made the special duty of all the annual conferences to adopt such measures respectively as they shall see fit, to bring the objects of these societies fully and permanently before the people of their charges, so as to enlist the greatest possible numbers in this work of charity, and to raise pecuniary means for its support.

*Resolved*, &c., 3. That the following amendments be inserted in our form of Discipline, viz. :—

In section five, of chapter one, page twenty-eight, to the sixth answer to question two, let there be added the following words, "and to promote by all proper means the cause of missions and Sunday-schools, and the publication, by our own press, of Bibles, tracts, and Sunday-school books."

In section nine, page 39, between the fourteenth and fifteenth answers, let there be inserted the following: "15. To encourage the support of missions and Sunday schools, and the publication and distribution of Bibles, tracts, and Sunday-school books, by forming societies and making collections for these objects in such way and manner as the annual conference to which he belongs, shall from time to time direct. 16. To lay before the quarterly conference at its last meeting annually, to be entered on its journal, a written statement of the number and state of the Sunday school in the circuit or station, and to report the same, together with the amount raised for the support of missions, and for the publication of Bibles, tracts, and Sunday-school books to his annual conference."

May 24.  
Resolutions of  
Committee on  
Bible, Tract,  
and Sunday-  
school Socie-  
ties continued.

In section three, page 33, of chapter 1, after the sixteenth answer to the sixth question, let there be added the following: "What has been contributed for the support of missions, and what for the publication of Bibles, tracts, and Sunday-school books?"

In section seven, page one hundred and eighty-three, part two, let the third item be so amended as to make it the duty of the Book Committee in New-York to cooperate with the general editors of the Book Concern in the selection of Sunday-school books and tracts.

Resolved, &c., 4. That there shall be a book, and the Book Agents and Editors in New-York are hereby requested to prepare such book as soon as convenient, in which shall be laid down, in the most simple form, the best entire system of Sunday-school teaching.

Brother Furlong requested leave of absence, which was granted.

Leave of absence granted to brother Furlong.  
Report of Committee on Missions called up, &c.

On motion, the report of the Committee on Missions was called up and read.

The first item was adopted.

The second item was adopted.

On motion the report was laid on the table.

On motion of S. Merwin:—

Resolved, That the committee appointed to prepare an address to the people of our charge, be instructed to introduce into the address an item, stating clearly and explicitly the fact that the Methodist Episcopal Church as a Church is in no wise connected with those societies of benevolence, known by the name or denomination of National or American.

Committee appointed to prepare an address for the people of our charge, to be instructed to introduce in their address an item concerning societies by the denomination of National or American.

On motion, resolved, that we proceed this afternoon to fix on the place where we shall hold our next General Conference.

On motion of W. Fisk, seconded by A. Hemphill:—

Resolved, That the bishops be and hereby are respectfully requested to attend to the ordinations of the bishops

Bishops requested to attend to the ordination of the bishops elect.

May 24.

elect to-morrow, the 25th instant, at the close of the funeral discourse to be delivered by Bishop M'Kendree, as already notified, on the death of Bishop George.

Conference adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

## THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Soule in the chair.

On motion the order of the afternoon was called for.

The places nominated, and from which petitions were sent, requesting the appointment of the next General Conference to be with them, were Philadelphia, New-York, Baltimore, Cincinnati, Louisville, and Rochester, New-York.

Brothers J. Early and M. Ruter were appointed to receive and call the tickets. Two hundred and eleven votes were present, and on counting the votes Cincinnati had 116; it was therefore declared that Cincinnati was the place chosen for the session of the General Conference in 1836.

On motion, the report on missions was called up and read, and beginning with the third resolution it was acted on item by item and adopted.

On motion of N. Bangs:—

*Resolved*, That the Discipline, page twenty-five, section four, in the answer to question one, be amended so as to include in the exceptions after the words, "missionaries among the Indians," "missionaries to our people of colour and on foreign stations." Adopted.

Conference adjourned until to-morrow morning at eight o'clock.

The places requesting the appointment of the next General Conference.

J. Early and M. Ruter appointed to collect tickets. 211 votes present. Cincinnati 116, &c.

Report on missions called up, &c.

N. Bangs moved an amendment of Discipline. Adopted.

May 25.

## FRIDAY, MAY 25.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Soule in the chair.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Bishop Hedding then took the chair.

The Committee on Education presented and read a report.

A motion was made that so much of the report as relates to the appointment of a committee be adopted. Carried.

It was then moved that it be referred to the same committee. Carried.

On motion, the balance of the report was laid on the table.

The committee to whom was referred the subject of our preachers accepting the honorary title of D. D., presented a report, which was read. The subject was then discussed. An indefinite postponement was moved. The debate was continued. The previous question was called for. Carried.

Report of committee on the subject of the preachers accepting the title of D. D.

The question on the indefinite postponement was taken and lost.

May 25.

It was then moved to lay it on the table.

The previous question was called for. Carried.

The motion to lay on the table was taken and carried.

The committee appointed to prepare a pastoral address to the members of our Church, presented one, which was read and laid on the table.

Brother Curtis requested leave of absence in consequence of the affliction of his family. Granted.

A memorial from several persons in Norfolk, purporting to be an appeal was presented and referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

A memorial from a number of persons in Virginia, and an address from the coloured people in Philadelphia were presented, with information that they were on the subject of the condition of the people of colour. They were, therefore referred to the Committee on the Rights and Privileges of our People of Colour.

Conference adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

The committee appointed to prepare a pastoral address presented one. Leave of absence was granted brother Curtis. Memorials from Norfolk referred to Committee on Itinerancy. Memorial from Virginia, and an address from the people of colour in Philadelphia were referred to the Committee on Rights and Privileges of People of Colour.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

The chairman of the Committee on the Rights and Privileges of our People of Colour asked leave to withdraw the report which they had laid on the table. Granted.

On motion of Samuel Merwin, resolved, that a committee of three be appointed to examine the journals of this conference, and select those parts designed for insertion in the Discipline, and to determine what parts shall be published in our periodicals, and those parts to be spread in the journals of the annual conferences.

Motion on the subject of appointing a committee of three to examine the journals to select the parts for insertion in Discipline, &c.

On motion of D. Ostrander, seconded by W. Winans:—

Whereas great inconveniences have been experienced, and always must be experienced when the General Conference commences its session on the first day of May, on account of many of the delegates, especially from the North and East, having to start in a season when the winter is just breaking up, and the roads very bad, and when the navigation is still obstructed by ice; and whereas it is believed that it is perfectly within the province of this conference to vary the time of its meeting, therefore,

Resolution on changing the time of opening General Conference from 1st of May to 1st of June, laid on the table.

Resolved, That the next General Conference will commence its session on the first day of June instead of the first day of May. Laid on the table.

The case of Thomas Davis, which was made the order for this day, was called up. He was not present. It was understood that the secretary had written him a notice

Case of T. Davis called up, and on his not being present it was laid on the table.

May 25.

Leave of absence granted to H. G. Leigh. Motion to elect the officers of the Book Concern in New-York and Cincinnati to-morrow.

Report of Committee on Book Concern presented. Motion to amend it lost.

Proceedings on the report of the Committee on Book Concern.

Appointments of the Sabbath read out.

that his appeal would be attended to to-day, but as he was not present, on motion, it was ordered to lie on the table.

Hezekiah G. Leigh requested leave of absence in consequence of affliction in his family. Granted.

On motion, resolved, that we proceed to-morrow to elect the officers of the Book Concern for New-York and Cincinnati.

The Committee on the Book Concern presented a report, which was read, and taken up in order.

A motion was made to amend it by inserting the words "Sunday schools." Lost.

It was then moved to strike out the sum of \$2000 and insert \$400. Lost.

It was then moved to lay it on the table. Lost.

It was then moved that we take the question on the resolution, and a division was called for.

The first was read for adoption. Lost.

The second part was voted for and lost.

The resolution in favour of an establishment at Nashville and New-Orleans was taken up and read.

It was moved to strike out New-Orleans. Carried.

It was moved to insert Charleston in the place of New-Orleans. Lost.

A debate then ensued, and several motions were made and withdrawn until the time of adjournment.

The appointments for the Sabbath were then read out, giving work to fifty-six preachers.

Conference adjourned until to-morrow morning at eight o'clock.

May 26.

## SATURDAY, MAY 26.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Hedding in the chair.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Bishop Soule then took the chair.

Leave of absence granted to several brethren.

Brothers Howard, Few, Richardson, Pease, and Arnold requested leave of absence after to-day. Granted.

The Committee on the Itinerancy presented a report, which was read and adopted, viz. :—

Report of Committee on Itinerancy to whom was referred papers complaining of administration of Thomas Crowder.

The Committee on the Itinerancy to whom were referred certain papers complaining of the administration of brother Thomas Crowder and the acts of the Virginia Annual Conference, by which the administration of the said Thomas Crowder was sustained, beg leave to report the following as the result of their deliberations, viz. :—

*Resolved*, 1. That the appellants, being the minority of a quarterly conference, can have no appeal in the case, nor should they have carried their protest beyond the limits of their own journals.

*Resolved*, 2. That the person or persons who may enter

a complaint against a member of an annual conference, and not sustain such complaint, cannot be admitted to appeal; and the General Conference can have no appellate jurisdiction in such case.

May 24.

Whereas the acts and administration of our annual conferences do come under the supervision of the General Conference, therefore,

Resolved, 3. That in the opinion of your committee, the decision of the Virginia Conference, sustaining the administration of brother Thomas Crowder, was correct.

The chairman of the Committee on the Rights and Privileges of our People of Colour, begged leave to return the papers referred to Committee, with a verbal statement that it was inexpedient to act upon them at this time. He at the same time returned the report which he had withdrawn, which was, on motion, laid on the table.

Committee on Rights and Privileges of People of Colour return the papers referred to them, &c.

A letter from Thomas Davis was presented, read, and on motion, laid on the table, to be taken up with his appeal, and made the order of the day for Monday.

Letter from T. Davis laid on the table.

On motion of T. L. Douglass, seconded by S. G. Roszel:

Resolved, That the delegates from the Canada Conference be respectfully requested to furnish a statement of their claims, for the purpose of laying it, with the decision of this conference, before the several annual conferences, that they may be the more fully prepared to act understandingly on the business referred to them.

Delegates of Canada Conference requested to furnish a statement of their claims, &c.

On motion, the unfinished business of yesterday was resumed, and the item relating to Cincinnati was taken up. The report of the Book Committee on that part was then read, and after several motions were made and disposed of, the following resolution was adopted, viz.:

Unfinished business of yesterday resumed.

Resolved, That there shall be a Book Agent and an Assistant Agent, who shall reside at Cincinnati, and manage the Concern in the Western country, under the direction of the Editors and Book Steward at New-York, both of whom shall be chosen from the travelling preachers, and who, by virtue of their appointment, shall be members of the Ohio Annual Conference, under the same regulations by which the Book Steward and Editors at New-York are members of the New-York Annual Conference; and the Ohio Annual Conference shall appoint a standing book committee, to consist of five members, whose duty it shall be to examine the accounts of said agents, and report to the said conference annually, and to the General Conference at its session, and to give advice in any matters in reference to the branch in the West; and in case of the removal, death, or resignation of the agent or assistant, the Ohio Conference shall have authority to appoint a successor until the ensuing General Conference.

Resolution on the subject of officers in the Book Concern at Cincinnati.

May 26.

Motion to go into the election of men to manage Book Concern, &c.

Nathan Bangs elected Editor of the Quarterly Review.

John P. Durbin elected Editor of the Christian Advocate, &c.

Peter Akers elected Assistant Editor of Christian Advocate, &c.

Beverly Waugh elected Principal Agent and Book Steward.

On motion, it was resolved that we now go into the election of the men to manage the Book Concern and Editorial departments in New-York and Cincinnati, and the following was the result of the balloting, viz. :—

Nathan Bangs was elected Editor of the Quarterly Review, and of our books generally.

John P. Durbin was elected Editor of the Christian Advocate and Journal and Zion's Herald, Youth's Instructor, Child's Magazine, and Tracts and Sunday-school books.

Peter Akers was elected Assistant Editor in the department of the Christian Advocate, &c.

Beverly Waugh was elected Principal Agent and Book Steward.

Conference adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

#### SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Hedding in the chair.

The journal of the forenoon was read and approved.

The unfinished business of the forenoon was called up, and proceeding to ballot for an Assistant Book Agent to the Concern in New-York, Thomas Mason had a majority of the whole, and was declared duly elected.

Brother Bowen requested leave of absence the balance of the conference. Granted.

On balloting for the Book Agents at Cincinnati, Charles Holliday was duly elected Principal, and John F. Wright Assistant Book Agent for the Concern established in that place.

The following communication was presented to conference by brother Emory, viz. :—

Whereas, J. Emory and B. Waugh, as Agents for the Methodist General Book Concern, did, on the fifth day of October, in the year 1830, enter into an agreement, in behalf of the said Book Concern, with a certain itinerant minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, for the payment of an annuity of three hundred and fifty dollars in half-yearly payments of one hundred and seventy-five dollars each, commencing on the first day of April, 1831, and thenceforward on the first days of October and April in each and every year, during the joint lives of the said itinerant minister and of his wife in said agreement named, and the life of the survivor of them, in consideration of the sum of five thousand dollars in cash paid into the said Concern by the said itinerant minister, and of a covenant on his part, that the said sum of five thousand dollars, in the event of the ratification of this agreement by this General Conference, should be vested and merged in the said Book Concern, as its absolute property, free from any claim whatever on the part of the said itinerant minister, or of

T. Mason elected Assistant Agent.

Leave of absence granted brother Bowen.

Charles Holliday elected Principal and John F. Wright Assistant Book Agents at Cincinnati.

Communication presented to conference by J. Emory.

his wife, or of his or their representative, in case of the death of either or both of them, as by the said agreement, bearing date the day and year first above written, signed and sealed by the said J. Emory and B. Waugh, agents as aforesaid, and by the said itinerant minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and attested by Samuel Luckey, reference being thereto had, may more fully and at large appear. Now; therefore,

May 27.

*Resolved*, That this General Conference does hereby ratify and confirm the said above in part recited and specified agreement, and does also, hereby, to the extent of its powers, pledge the guarantee of the General Conference for the faithful performance on the part of the general Book Concern, of the said above in part recited and specified agreement, during the joint lives of the said itinerant minister and his wife, and during the life of the survivor of them, according to the tenor and true intent and meaning of the said agreement concurred in, and the secretary of this conference is hereby instructed to furnish a copy of this decision to the parties concerned.

On motion, resolved, that the several editors of the Book Concern in New-York, including the Assistant Editor, be members of the Book Committee to superintend that Concern.

Motion on the subject of the Editors of the Book Concern in New-York, being members of the Book Committee. Committee appointed to answer the letter from British Conference. Committee to examine and select parts of the Journal, &c.

The president announced the committee appointed to answer the letter from the British Conference, presented to us by Bishop M'Kendree, viz., W. Fisk, W. Capers, M. Buter, W. M'Mahon, and F. Reed.

The president announced the committee to examine the journal of this conference, and to make the proper selections for the Discipline, the annual conferences and the Advocates, viz., Daniel Ostrander, Nathan Bangs, and Beverly Waugh.

Conference then adjourned until Monday morning at eight o'clock.

MONDAY, MAY 28.

May 28.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Hedding in the chair.

The journal of Saturday afternoon was read and approved. Bishop Roberts then took the chair.

The Committee on the Expenses of the Delegates presented a corrected report, which was read and accepted; and it was moved and seconded that the report already recorded be corrected according to the present report.

Corrected report of the Committee on the expenses of delegates.

A communication from the Canadian delegates, inviting the attention of this conference to the subject of ordaining ministers in that conference was presented and read, and on motion of N. Bangs, seconded by A. Brunson :—

Communication from the Canada delegates on the subject of ordaining ministers.



May 28.

On the subject  
of a bishop in  
Upper Canada.

*Resolved*, 1. That if the conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the province of Upper Canada shall, previously to the next General Conference, elect a bishop for the said Church, and request any one or more of the bishops, together with any two or more of the elders of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States, to ordain him, such bishop or bishops shall be at liberty to do so, provided the expediency and propriety of a compliance with such request be in accordance with the judgment of such bishop or bishops; and provided also, that nothing herein contained be contrary to or inconsistent with any law or laws of the said province.

*Resolved*, 2. That until a bishop shall have been elected and ordained for the M. E. Church in Canada, any bishop or bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States, on the request of the conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Upper Canada, shall be at liberty to ordain any elders or deacons for the said Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, subject to the province and limitations specified in the foregoing resolution.

On motion,

On the subject  
of a general de-  
pository of our  
books, Sunday-  
school books  
and tracts at  
New-Orleans,  
&c.

*Resolved*, That there shall be a general depository of our General Catalogue, Sunday-school books and tracts at New-Orleans, under the charge of an agent selected by the General Conference, which shall bear the same relation, and be under the same responsibility to the general agency in New-York as the branch establishment at Cincinnati; and the same to the Mississippi Conference which that at Cincinnati does to the Ohio Conference.

On motion of L. Pierce, seconded by E. Sinclair:—

Motion on the  
subject of en-  
larging three  
questions in the  
seventh section  
of the Disci-  
pline.

*Resolved*, That the three questions in the seventh section of part first, in our Discipline, be so enlarged as to read thus:—"Provided always, that when a preacher shall have passed his examination, and been admitted into full connexion, and elected to deacon's office, but fails of his ordination through the absence of the bishop, his eligibility to the office of elder shall run from the time of his election to the office of a deacon.

Report of the  
Book Commit-  
tee called up.

On motion, the report of the Book Committee was called up.

The preamble was read and adopted.

The supplemental report of the Book Committee was called up.

The first resolution was indefinitely postponed.

Resolution on  
the subject of  
an establish-  
ment of the  
Book Concern  
at Nashville  
was taken up  
and indefinite-  
ly postponed

The resolution fixing an establishment of the Book Concern at Nashville was taken up and indefinitely postponed.

The seventh resolution was adopted and the balance indefinitely postponed.

The report was adopted.

[The several reports on the Book Concern are on file with the conference papers, to which reference is made.]

May 23.

On motion of R. Paine :—

*Resolved*, That the literary institutions under the patronage of our Church shall be entitled to have any books published at our press for cost.

Literary Institutions to be entitled to have any books published at our press at cost.

On motion of W. Hammet :—

*Resolved*, That in making out his quadrennial report for the next General Conference, the general Book Steward at New-York, with the assistance of the principal Agent at Cincinnati and New-Orleans, be required to state explicitly and clearly the amount of books and periodicals that shall have been sold within the limits of each annual conference during the interim of General Conference.

Quadrennial report of Book Agent to state the number of books and periodicals sold within the limits of each annual conference, &c.

On motion of W. Winans :—

*Resolved*, That we now go into an election of the agent for New-Orleans, by nomination and voting in the ordinary mode.

Election of the agent for New-Orleans. Wm. M. Curtis elected.

Brother William M. Curtis, having been nominated was duly elected agent at New-Orleans.

On motion, the report of the Committee on Temperance was called up.

Report of Committee on Temperance called up, &c.

The first resolution was read and an amendment was proposed, when it was moved and seconded that we adjourn. Carried.

Conference adjourned to meet this afternoon at three o'clock.

MONDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Soule in the chair.

The journal of the forenoon was read and approved.

The president presented the following written address :—

The bishops being desirous of understanding with clearness and certainty the resolution passed by the General Conference at its present session in relation to the Episcopal visitations of the annual conferences, in the course of the ensuing four years, beg the favour of a vote of the conference, without debate, in answer to the following questions, viz. :—

Address presented by the president on the subject of the bishops being desirous of understanding certain questions, &c.

Was it the intention of the General Conference, by the resolution above alluded to, simply to relieve the bishops from the influence of the resolution passed at the last General Conference on the same subject, and to leave them now at liberty on their joint and several responsibility to make such arrangements among themselves for the entire administration, and for the visitation of the annual conferences as they shall judge most conducive to the general good ; and without designing to give any direction or advice whether

Questions above referred to.

May 28.

it be or be not expedient for each of the bishops, in the course of the four years, to visit each of the annual conferences, should they themselves find it convenient and practicable, and judge it for the general good so to do?

The conference voted an answer to the above in the affirmative.

Motion to go in to the election of Assistant Editor. Timothy Merritt elected.

On motion, it was resolved, that we now go into the election of an Assistant Editor to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of P. Akers, and on counting the tickets, Timothy Merritt had one hundred and one votes out of one hundred and ninety-six; he was, therefore, declared duly elected.

Leave of absence granted to Wm. Capers.

W. Capers asked leave of absence the balance of the session, Granted.

The appeal of T. Davis taken up.

On motion, resolved, that we now take up the appeal of Thomas Davis, of the Philadelphia Conference, as the order of the day.

T. Davis stated the grounds of his appeal.

Thomas Davis then came into conference, and after stating the grounds of his appeal, the papers were called for which it is said cannot be found.

The journals of the Philadelphia Conference were then read.

On motion of D. Ostrander, seconded by B. Griffen, it was resolved, that whereas the journals of the Philadelphia Conference are materially deficient, and do not present the case in any tangible form, so that this conference can act understandingly on the subject, therefore,

The case of T. Davis referred back to the Philadelphia Conference.

*Resolved*, That the case of Thomas Davis be referred back to the Philadelphia Conference for a new investigation and decision.

Report of Committee on Education called up.

On motion, the report of the Committee on Education was called up and read, after which the conference adjourned to meet at half-past seven o'clock this evening.

#### MONDAY EVENING.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Emory in the chair.

Consideration of the report of Committee on Education resumed.

The consideration of the report of the Committee on Education was resumed, and M. Ruter moved an amendment.

Amendment made in the report.

On motion, the last clause in the report was struck out, and the amendment was adopted.

It was then moved that the report as amended be adopted.

It was then moved to take the question without debate. Carried.

Report adopted as amended.

The question on the adoption of the report was taken and carried. (See report filed with the journal.)

Motion to suspend the operation of the 16th rule of this conference.

On motion, it was resolved, that we suspend the operation of the sixteenth rule of this conference, for the purpose of introducing the following resolution:—

On motion of M. Ruter, second by N. Bangs :—

*Resolved, &c.*, That the superintendents be authorized, when requested by an annual conference to do it, to appoint a preacher to a college not under our direction, and to continue him in the same manner as at the institutions which we patronize.

It was then voted to take the question on the adoption of this resolution without debate. Carried.

The question on the adoption of the resolution was then taken and carried.

On motion, the report of the Committee on providing for the Superannuated Preachers was called up and read, as follows :

The committee to whom was referred the resolutions relating to superannuated ministers, &c., beg leave to report the following resolutions, viz. :—

*Resolved, &c.* 1. That the following be inserted in the Discipline, part two, section six, page one hundred and seventy-three : “ It shall be the duty of each annual conference to take measures from year to year to raise moneys in every circuit and station within their bounds for the relief of its necessitous, superannuated and supernumerary ministers, widows and orphans. And the conference shall annually appoint a committee to estimate the several sums necessary to be allowed for the extra expenses of such necessitous claimants, who shall be paid in proportion to the estimate made and the moneys on hand.”

*Resolved, &c.*, 2. That the following be inserted in part one, chapter one, section three, page twenty-three, after question nine : “ Every superannuated preacher who may reside without the bounds of the conference of which he is a member, shall annually forward to his conference a certificate of his Christian and ministerial conduct, together with an account of the number and circumstances of his family, signed by the presiding elder of the district, or the preacher in charge of the circuit or station within whose bounds he may reside, without which the conference shall not be required to call on his claim.

The first resolution was adopted.

The second resolution was adopted.

It was then moved to adopt the whole report. Carried.

On motion, the report of the Committee on Itinerancy was called up and read.

A motion was then made that we adopt it.

A division was called for.

The first resolution was adopted.

The second resolution was acted on and indefinitely postponed.

The third resolution was adopted.

The question on the adoption of the report as amended was then taken, and carried.

May 28.

Superintendents, when requested, to appoint a preacher to a college not under our direction, &c.

The report of the Committee on providing for Superannuated preachers called up.

The Committee on superannuated ministers present two resolutions.

Report of the Committee on Itinerancy called up.

Second resolution indefinitely postponed. Third adopted. Whole report as amended adopted.

May 28.  
Report as  
mended.

Amended and adopted, the report is as follows :—

The Committee on the Itinerancy having duly considered the communication from the episcopacy which was referred to them, beg leave to offer the following resolutions, viz. :

*Resolved*, 1. That it is inconsistent with the spirit and interest of the itinerant system to leave effective men without appointments at their own request.

*Resolved*, 2. That in all cases where agents are appointed, their names shall be attached to some district, and in case of any complaint, they shall be held responsible to the presiding elders of said district.

Report on temperance called up.

On motion, the report on temperance was called up, and on motion, ordered to lie on the table until the address on the subject can be read.

Address on temperance read, and directed to be published in the *Advocate* and *Journal*, and as a tract.

The address was then read.

It was then moved that the address be adopted, and directed to be published in the *Advocate* and *Journal*, and be printed in pamphlet form as a tract. The question was then taken and carried unanimously by a rising vote.

Letter in answer to the one from the British Conference presented.

The committee appointed to write an answer to the letter from the British Conference presented and read the letter drafted, and on motion it was adopted by the conference.

Pastoral address called up.

The pastoral address was called up.

It was moved that we strike out the paragraph relating to national societies. Withdrawn.

Referred to the Editors and Book Committee to be revised, &c.

It was moved that we concur in it as to substance, and that it be referred to the Editors and Book Committee to be revised and printed. Carried.

Book Committee in New-York to make temporary provision for the editing of the *Advocate*, &c.

On motion of N. Bangs :—

*Resolved*, That the Book Committee in New-York be authorized to make temporary provision for editing the *Christian Advocate* and *Journal*, namely, until the Editor and his assistant, appointed by this General Conference, are prepared to enter upon their duties.

Motion to return thanks of conference to the secretaries.

On motion of J. Early :—

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this conference be given to the secretaries for their faithful attention to the duties of their office during this conference. Taken by a rising vote, unanimously.

Thanks for the kindness of the citizens, &c.

On motion of R. Paine, seconded by John Early :—

*Resolved*, unanimously, That the General Conference do highly appreciate the kindness and hospitality of the citizens of Philadelphia and its vicinity, who have entertained the members of this General Conference during the present session, and do hereby express their gratitude by a rising vote.

Request that the preachers return thanks from the pulpit, &c.

It is hereby requested that the ministers of our Church in the various charges in this city and its vicinity shall make known from the pulpit, on the next Sabbath, the expression of their gratitude.

On motion of D. Ostrander, seconded by M. Ruter:—

May 28

*Resolved*, That there be added to the second answer of the second question of section nine, of chapter first, the following words: "including an account of the subscribers for our periodicals."

On motion:—

*Resolved*, That the report on revision, relative to insolvent debtors, be taken up.

Report on revision relative to insolvent debtors to be taken up.

The first part was adopted.

The second part was taken under consideration, and on motion, laid on the table.

On motion of A. Chase:—

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this conference be returned to the inhabitants of the several places, who have invited this General Conference to hold its next session with them.

Thanks to the several places that have invited the next General Conference to hold its next session with them.

The journals having been read up, the conference adjourned, *sine die*.

WM. M'KENDREE,  
R. R. ROBERTS,  
JOSHUA SOULE,  
ELIJAH HEDDING,  
J. EMORY.

THOMAS L. DOUGLASS, *Secretary*.

C. A. DAVIS, *Assistant Secretary*.



# JOURNAL

OF THE

## GENERAL CONFERENCE, 1836.

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MONDAY, MAY 2.

May 2.

At a General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, held in the city of Cincinnati, on Monday, May 2, 1836, Rev. Robert R. Roberts, Joshua Soule, Elijah Hedding, and James O. Andrew, Bishops of said Church being present, Bishop Roberts opened the conference by reading a portion of the Holy Scriptures, singing, and prayer.

The secretary of the last General Conference was then requested by the president to call the list of the delegates present, which was done, and the following brethren presented the necessary vouchers of their election, and took their seats, viz. :—

*New-York Conference.*—Daniel Ostrander, Nathan Bangs, Beverly Waugh, Peter P. Sandford, Stephen Martindale, Marvin Richardson, Laban Clark, William Jewett, John B. Stratton, Phineas Rice.

*New-England Conference.*—Orange Scott, Isaac Bonney, Phineas Crandall, Charles Virgin, Joseph A. Merrill, Daniel Fillmore, Daniel Webb.

*Maine Conference.*—Heman Nickerson, Ezekiel Robinson, Charles Baker, William H. Norris, George Webber, John B. Husted, Moses Hill.

*New-Hampshire Conference.*—Charles D. Cahoon, John F. Adams, Samuel Kelley, Schuyler Chamberlain, Jared Perkins, Elisha I. Scott, George Storrs, Samuel Norris.

*Troy Conference.*—Buel Goodsell, Charles Sherman, Sherman Minor, Noah Levings, Tobias Spicer, Samuel D. Ferguson, Peter C. Oakley.

*Oneida Conference.*—Horace Agard, George Gary, George Lane, George Peck, Zechariah Paddock, Elias Bowen, Silas Comfort.



May 2  
Delegates  
General  
Conference to

*Genesee Conference.*—Samuel Luckey, Loring Grant, Gleason Fillmore, James Hemmingway, Manly Tooker, Wilbur Hoag, Asa Abell.

*Pittsburg Conference.*—Charles Elliott, Martin Ruter, Thomas M. Hudson, Wesley Browning, Joseph S. Barris, Robert Hopkins, Joshua Monroe.

*Ohio Conference.*—Thomas A. Morris, Jacob Young, David Young, William H. Raper, Leroy Swormstedt, John Ferree, James B. Finley, William B. Christie, James Quinn, John F. Wright, Augustus Eddy, John H. Power.

*Missouri Conference.*—George C. Light, Andrew Munroe, Thomas Johnson, Jesse Green.

*Kentucky Conference.*—Jonathan Stamper, Benjamin F. Crouch, Henry B. Bascom, Edward Stevenson, H. H. Kavanaugh, G. W. Taylor.

*Illinois Conference.*—Peter Cartwright, Hooper Crews, Simon Peter.

*Mississippi Conference.*—William Winans, John Lane, Benjamin M. Drake.

*Indiana Conference.*—Allen Wiley, James L. Thompson, C. W. Buter, James Havens.

*Holston Conference.*—Samuel Patton, William Patton, Thomas K. Catlett, David Flemming.

*Tennessee Conference.*—Robert Paine, John M. Holland, G. T. Henderson, T. L. Douglass, G. W. D. Harris, John B. M'Ferrin, Alexander L. P. Green.

*Alabama Conference.*—Robert L. Keenan, F. H. Jones, W. Wyer, W. Murrah.

*Georgia Conference.*—Samuel K. Hodges, Lovick Pierce, John Howard, Elijah Sinclair.

*South Carolina Conference.*—William Capers, Samuel Dunwoody, W. M. Kennedy, N. Talley, Charles Betts, Malcolm M'Pherson.

*Virginia Conference.*—Moses Brock, Thomas Crowder, H. G. Leigh, Lewis Skidmore, James M'Aden, Abram Penn, John Early, William A. Smith.

*Baltimore Conference.*—S. G. Roszel, N. Wilson, A. Griffith, D. Steele, W. Hamilton, John Davis, William Prettyman, Robert Cadden, John A. Collins, John Bear, Samuel Brison.

*Philadelphia Conference.*—Joseph Lybrand, R. W. Petherbridge, Levi Scott, Solomon Higgins, Charles Pitman, Manning Force, Matthew Sorin, Henry White, James Smith, Jr., David Daily, William A. Wiggins.

The conference then proceeded to organize and prepare for business.

Secretaries.

Thomas L. Douglass was chosen and appointed secretary, and Thomas B. Sargent was chosen and appointed assistant secretary.

On motion of S. G. Roszel :—

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, That the bishops be, and they are hereby requested, respectfully and affectionately, at their convenience during the session, to deliver discourses on the death of our late venerable and respected bishops, M'Kendree and Emory.

May 2.  
Funeral ser-  
mons.

This resolution was carried by a rising and unanimous vote.

On motion of S. Luckey :—

*Resolved*, by the members of this conference, That Friday next be observed as a day of fasting and prayer, and that one of the bishops be respectfully requested, as they shall agree among themselves, to address the conference on the state of the work in the Church, and the missions under its care during the four years past, together with such other matters as they may deem suited to the occasion.

On the subject  
of fasting and  
prayer.

Bishop Soule introduced to the members of this conference our beloved friends and brethren, the Rev. William Lord, the delegate from the Wesleyan Methodist Conference, and president of the Canada Conference, and the Rev. Wm. Case, the delegate from the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Upper Canada, each of whom addressed the conference.

Delegates from  
the British  
and  
Canada  
Conferences.

On motion of John Early :—

*Resolved*, That when the conference adjourns it adjourns to meet at three o'clock this afternoon.

On motion, the conference then adjourned to meet at three o'clock, P. M.

MONDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met pursuant to adjournment, Bishop Soule in the chair.

On motion of J. Early :—

*Resolved*, That the rules of order for the last General Conference be adopted for the government of this General Conference.

Rules of Con-  
ference.

The rules were then read and adopted.

On motion of N. Bangs :—

*Resolved*, That the above rules be referred to the Editor and publishers of the Western Christian Advocate, with instructions to have two hundred copies in pamphlet form printed, together with the names of the members of conference, in connexion with the places where they board.

On the subject  
of printing  
rules.

On motion of David Young :—

*Resolved*, That the presiding elder of the Cincinnati district, preachers in charge of the city of Cincinnati, and J. B. Finley, be a committee to assign the preachers their work in our several houses of worship during the session of this conference

On the subject  
of committees  
to fill the pul-  
pits.

On motion of John Early, a set of resolutions were presented, and after considerable discussion and amendment, they were adopted in the following form, viz. :—

Standing com-  
mittees.

May 2.  
Committee on  
Episcopacy.

*Resolved*, 1. That a committee be appointed to be called the Committee on the Episcopacy, to whom all matters relating to the bishops shall be referred, and that the said committee consist of one member from each annual conference, to be selected by the delegates from each conference.

Committee on  
Itinerancy.

*Resolved* 2. That a committee be appointed to be called the Committee on the Itinerancy, to whom all matters relating to the several annual conferences shall be referred; that said committee consist of one member from each annual conference, to be chosen as provided in the preceding resolution.

Committee on  
Boundaries.

*Resolved*, 3. That a committee be appointed, to be called a Committee on Boundaries, to whom all matters relating to the boundaries of the several annual conferences shall be referred, and that said committee consist of one member from each annual conference, to be chosen as provided above.

Committee on  
Book Concern.

*Resolved*, 4. That a committee be appointed to be called a Committee on the Book Concern, to whom all matters relating to that interest shall be referred; and the said committee shall consist of one member from each annual conference, to be chosen according to the first resolution.

Committee on  
Education.

*Resolved*, 5. That a committee be appointed to be called a Committee on Education, to whom all matters relating to schools and colleges shall be referred.

Committee on  
Missions.

*Resolved*, 6. That a committee be appointed to be called a Committee on Missions, to whom all matters relating to that subject shall be referred.

On motion, the conference adjourned until to-morrow morning at half-past eight o'clock.

May 3.

## TUESDAY, MAY 3.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Hedding in the chair.

The following committees were announced, according to the resolutions of yesterday, viz. :

Names of Com-  
mittee on Epi-  
scopacy.

Committee on Episcopacy.—P. P. Sandford, Isaac Bonney, Charles Baker, C. D. Cahoon, Buel Goodsell, Elias Bowen, Manly Tooker, Charles Elliott, James Quinn, George C. Light, Jonathan Stamper, Simon Peter, James Havens, T. K. Catlett, T. L. Douglass, William Winans, Robert L. Kennon, Lovick Pierce, W. M. Kennedy, John Early, John Davis, Henry White.

Names of Com-  
mittee on Iti-  
nerancy.

Committee on Itinerancy.—Daniel Ostrander, Daniel Webb, Ezekiel Robinson, Jared Perkins, Tobias Spicer, Horace Agard, Asa Abel, T. M. Hudson, Jacob Young, Thomas Johnson, B. T. Grouch, Hooper Crews, James L. Thompson, D. Flemming, Robert Paine, B. M. Drake, W. Murrah, Samuel K. Hodges, Samuel Dunwoody, H. G. Leigh, S. G. Roszel, Joseph Lybrand.

**Committee on Boundaries.**—Phineas Rice, Orange Scott, Heman Nickerson, Samuel Norris, S. D. Ferguson, Silas Comfort, Glason Fillmore, Joshua Munroe, H. H. Kavanaugh, P. Cartwright, C. W. Ruter, John M. Holland, John Lane, William Wier, S. K. Hodges, Charles Betts, Moses Brock, Alfred Griffith, Solomon Higgins.

May 8.  
Committee on Boundaries.

**Committee on Book Concern.**—Laban Clark, Joseph A. Merrill, William H. Norris, Samuel Kelly, Noah Levings, George Lane, Loring Grant, Martin Ruter, James B. Finley, George C. Light, Edward Stephenson, P. Cartwright, Allen Wiley, William Patton, A. L. P. Green, B. M. Drake, Francis H. Jones, John Howard, William Capers, William A. Smith, David Steele, Charles Pitman.

Committee on Book Concern.

The president called for papers, memorials, &c., as the rules required, and on motion of N. Bangs :—

*Resolved*, That every one presenting petitions or memorials, be requested to state, as far as he can, the design and contents of the paper he offers, and whether, in his opinion, it ought to be read.

Resolution on mode of presenting papers.

A letter from John Brodhead was read and referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

Letter from John Brodhead.

A memorial from a number of persons on Herkimer circuit, Oneida Conference, was presented, and on motion, referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

Memorial from Herkimer circuit.

A letter from William Heath was presented and read, and on motion ordered to lie on the table for the present, subject to be called up at a proper time.

Letter from W. Heath.

A communication on the subject of our Book Concern, containing a five dollar bill from an unknown friend, was presented, and referred to the Committee on Book Concern.

Five dollar bill for Book Concern.

On motion of N. Bangs :—

*Resolved*, That the Rev. Messrs. Lord and Chase be and they are hereby invited to an honorary seat in this conference, and that they feel themselves at liberty to speak on all questions that may come before us.

English and Canada delegates.

On motion of T. Spicer :—

*Resolved*, That a committee of seven be appointed, called the Committee of Revisal and Unfinished Business, to whom shall be referred all matters not otherwise disposed of, pertaining to the revisal of our rules of Discipline, and who shall bring forward the unfinished business of last General Conference on that subject.

Committee of Revisal.

On motion of Laban Clark :—

*Resolved*, That the six committees ordered on Monday afternoon, be considered and denominated standing committees, and that the names be published.

Standing Committees to be published.

On motion of N. Bangs :—

*Resolved*, That a select committee of five be appointed to take into consideration the section of Discipline relating to the allowance of ministers, preachers, their wives, widows,

Committee on the Allowance of Preachers.

- May 3. and children, and of raising annual supplies, and to report any, and if any, what alteration may be made in reference to the amount of support of our ministry, and the manner of raising it.
- On motion of N. Bangs :—  
**Addresses of bro. Lord and Case desired for publication.** *Resolved*, That brothers Lord and Case be requested to furnish for publication in our official journals, copies of their addresses to this conference.
- On motion of S. G. Roszel :—  
**Committee on Slavery.** *Resolved*, That a committee be appointed on the subject of slavery, to whom all papers, petitions, and memorials on that subject shall be referred. Laid on the table.
- On motion of Orange Scott :—  
**Finance.** *Resolved*, That the Committee on Itinerancy be instructed to inquire into the administration of the Discipline in the several annual conferences, on the subject of finance, and report thereon.
- On motion of D. Ostrander :—  
**Stewards of conference ordered.** *Resolved*, That a committee be appointed on the subject of the expenses of the delegates to this conference, whose duty it shall be to ascertain the annual expenses, the amount of moneys collected to meet those expenses, and to recommend some plan by which the deficiency may be met.
- On motion this was amended by inserting twenty-two as the number of the committee, and providing for their appointment by the delegation of each annual conference.
- On motion of P. P. Sandford :—  
**On instruction to Committee on allowance of preachers.** *Resolved*, That the Committee on Revisal of the financial rules of our Discipline be instructed to inquire into the expediency of rescinding the rule restricting the allowance of those preachers for their wives who have married within the first four years of their itinerant labours.
- On motion of J. B. Finley :—  
**Discipline on district conferences referred to Committee on Revisal.** *Resolved*, That the twentieth section of the Discipline, respecting district conferences be referred to the Committee on Revisal and Unfinished Business.
- On motion of M. Ruter :—  
**Number of Committee on Education.** *Resolved*, That the Committee on Education consist of seven.
- On motion of P. P. Sandford :—  
**Committee on Temperance.** *Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed, to be denominated the Committee on Temperance, to whom shall be referred all petitions and memorials on that subject.
- On motion of S. Luckey :—  
**Number of Committee on Missions.** *Resolved*, That the Committee on Missions consist of seven.
- On motion of R. W. Petherbridge :—  
**Probation of preachers referred to Committee on Revisal.** *Resolved*, That the Committee on Revisal of Discipline be specially instructed to take into consideration that part

of the Discipline which limits the probation of travelling preachers to two years, and whether or not a longer period of time would not be preferable.

On motion of L. Grant :—

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed on parsonages and churches.

On motion of N. Bangs :—

*Resolved*, That a committee of seven be appointed on Bible, Sunday School and Tract Societies, to whom all matters relating to those institutions shall be referred.

On motion of N. Bangs :—

*Resolved*, That a select committee of three be appointed to inquire, where a superannuated preacher living out of the bounds of his conference is to be tried, whether in the conference in which he lives, or where he has his membership.

An address from the Wesleyan Methodist Conference was presented and read, and on motion of N. Bangs :—

*Resolved*, That the address just read be referred to a special committee of three, and that they be required to prepare an answer as speedily as practicable, and to provide for the appointment of a delegate to represent us to the Wesleyan Methodist Conference.

A motion was offered by O. Scott, respecting the publication of the above address in our official journals, and while the subject was under discussion, on motion of S. G. Roszel, it was resolved that the further consideration of the motion to print the address be postponed until the committee appointed to answer it report to the conference.

On motion of T. Spicer :—

*Resolved*, That the Secretary of this conference be directed to furnish the chairman of each committee with a copy of those resolutions which refer any business to a committee; and also that he furnish the Committee on Revision with the reports of a similar committee of last General Conference.

On motion of J. F. Wright :—

*Whereas* brother Pitts has recently returned from South America, to which country he was sent on a mission of exploration; and as the interests of our missions generally, and the one to South America in particular, might be greatly subserved by the personal presence of brother Pitts at this General Conference, therefore,

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the several annual conferences in General Conference assembled, that brother F. E. Pitts be invited to attend at this place as soon as it may be convenient for him to do so.

On motion of G. C. Light :—

*Resolved*, That all the committees appointed by the delegates of the several annual conferences be authorized to appoint their own chairman.

May 8.

Committee on Parsonages and Churches.

Committee on Bible, Sunday-school and Tract Societies.

Special Committee to ascertain tribunal of non-resident superannuated preachers.

English address.

Motion respecting the publication of the address from the Wesleyan Methodist Conference.

Resolution on the subject of directions to the secretary.

Motion on the subject of inviting brother Pitts to this conference.

Standing committees to appoint their own chairmen.

May 3.  
Committee on  
Education.

The president appointed the following brethren a Committee on Education, viz., Martin Ruter, John Early, Samuel Luckey, Robert Paine, Laban Clark, Henry B. Bascom, and George Peck.

Committee on  
address from  
England.

The president appointed the following brethren a committee on the address from the Wesleyan Methodist Conference, viz., Nathan Bangs, William Capers, and Thomas A. Morris.

Conference adjourned until to-morrow morning at half-past eight o'clock.

May 4.

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 4.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Andrew in the chair.

Reply to ad-  
dress from  
the Wesleyan  
Methodist Con-  
ference recom-  
mitted.

The president called for reports, memorials, &c., and the special committee appointed to answer the address from the Wesleyan Methodist Conference, presented and read the answer they had prepared, and on motion of B. Waugh, the conference voted that it be recommitted, as the committee desires to have it transcribed.

Letter of A.  
Lummas.

A communication from Aaron Lummas, of Lowell, Massachusetts, was presented through the secretary of conference and read, and on motion of S. Luckey, the conference voted that the author have liberty to withdraw his paper, in consideration that the conference have no cognizance of the subject.

Leave to with-  
draw it.

A memorial from the Missouri Conference was presented and referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

Memorial from  
Missouri Con-  
ference.

A memorial from the Pittsburg Conference was presented and referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

Memorial from  
Pittsburg Con-  
ference.

A memorial from the Philadelphia Conference was presented and referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

Memorial from  
Philadelphia  
Conference.

A memorial from the Virginia Conference was presented and referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

Memorial from  
Virginia Con-  
ference.

Two memorials from the Cherokee country were presented and referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

Two memorials  
from Cherokee  
country.

A memorial from Illinois Conference was presented and referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

Memorial from  
Illinois Con-  
ference.

A memorial from the Pittsburg Conference was presented and referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.

Memorial from  
Pittsburg Con-  
ference.

A memorial from the Illinois Conference was presented and referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.

Memorial from  
Illinois Con-  
ference.

A memorial from John M. Keagy, William Blanding, and Josiah Holbrook, was presented and referred to the Committee on Education.

Memorial from  
Dr. Keagy and  
others.

An address from the Canada Conference was presented and read, and on motion, referred to a select committee of five.

Address from  
Canada refer-  
red to a select  
committee.

A memorial from Union charge, Philadelphia, was presented and referred to the Committee on Temperance.

Memorial from  
Union charge.

A set of resolutions by the quarterly meeting conference of Louisburg, Virginia, was presented and referred to the Committee on Temperance.

A memorial from the Philadelphia Conference was presented and referred to the Committee on Temperance.

A resolution adopted in the Illinois Conference was presented and referred to the Committee on Temperance.

A memorial from the Pittsburg Conference was presented and referred to the Committee on Temperance.

A memorial from the quarterly meeting conference of New-Richmond was presented and referred to the Committee on Temperance.

A memorial from the quarterly meeting conference of Milford circuit was presented and referred to the Committee on Temperance.

On motion of N. Bangs:—

*Resolved*, That a committee of five, to be called the Judiciary Committee, be appointed, to whom may be referred all appeals or complaints of any character against the acts and doings of an annual conference, and that it shall be the duty of this committee to examine all documents committed to them, and to report whether, in their opinion, the complainants are legally entitled to be heard before this conference, and if not, what disposition should be made of their case or cases.

The appeal of Samuel Helms, of the Kentucky Conference, was presented, read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The appeal of Jonas Westerland, of the Mississippi Conference, was presented and ordered to lie on the table.

An address from the Board of Trustees of the Chartered Fund was presented, read, and on motion, referred to the Judiciary Committee.

On motion of William Winans:—

*Resolved*, That the appeal of Jonas Westerland be taken up and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

In the debate it was inquired if the president suggested that such a reference would legalize the right of appeal in such a case, and the president decided that a reference of an appeal of a preacher located by an annual conference to the Judiciary Committee, did not legalize his right to appeal. On taking the vote the appeal was referred.

On motion of A. Griffith:—

*Resolved*, That the Committee on the Book Concern be requested to inquire into the justice and propriety of establishing independent, sectional periodical papers by annual conferences, with a view (in part at least) to their own private emolument; and their claim to share alike with the other annual conferences in the profits arising from the publication of those periodical papers published by authority of the General Conference.

May 4.  
Resolutions from the quarterly meeting conference of Louisburg, Va.  
Memorial from Philadelphia Conference.  
Resolution from Illinois Conference.  
Memorial from Pittsburg Conference.  
Memorial from New-Richmond quarterly meeting conference.  
Memorial from Milford circuit.

Judiciary Committee.

Appeal of Samuel Helms laid on the table.  
Appeal of Jonas Westerland laid on the table.  
Address from Chartered Fund referred to a select committee.  
Westerland's appeal referred to Judiciary Committee.

On the subject of requesting the Committee on Book Concern to inquire into the propriety of establishing independent papers, &c.



May 4.  
Helmès' appeal  
referred to Ju-  
diary Com-  
mittee.

On motion of J. Stamper:—

*Resolved*, That the appeal of S. Helmès be now taken up and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Motion to erase  
"catholic"  
from the creed.

On motion of S. Norris:—

*Resolved*, That the Committee on Revisal be and they are hereby instructed to take into consideration that part of the Discipline on page one hundred and nine, question two, in the Apostle's Creed, so called, and inquire whether the word "catholic" should not be erased, and some other more easily understood by the candidates for the ordinance of baptism, as well as our people generally, be inserted. On taking the vote the motion was lost.

Heath's appeal  
referred to Ju-  
diary Com-  
mittee.

On motion of G. C. Light, the case of William Heath was referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Names of Com-  
mittees to be  
given to print-  
ers.

On motion of J. B. Finley:—

*Resolved*, That the chairman of each standing committee shall report to the Book Agents, this afternoon, the names of the committee of which he is the chairman.

Committee on  
Expenses of  
Delegates.

The names of the Committee on the Expenses of the Delegates were announced as directed by the resolutions appointing the committee, viz., William Jewett, Phineas Crandall, Moses Hill, L. Chamberlain, G. Gary, Sherman Nixon, James Hemmingway, W. Browning, W. H. Raper, A. Munroe, John Lane, Micah S. Taylor, C. W. Ruter, G. W. Taylor, T. K. Catlett, G. W. D. Harris, E. Sinclair, N. Talley, T. Crowder, Robert Cadden, Manning Force, William Murrah.

The president announced the names of those appointed on the following committees, viz.:—

Names of Com-  
mittee on Mis-  
sions.

The Committee on Missions.—N. Bangs, William Winans, George Gary, John B. Husted, N. Talley, W. H. Raper, Thomas Johnson.

Committee on  
Revisal and  
Unfinished  
Business.

The Committee on Revisal and Unfinished Business.—Tobias Spicer, Malcom M'Pherson, Daniel Fillmore, John B. Stratton, William Hamilton, Allen Wiley, John M. Holland.

Conference adjourned until to-morrow morning at half-past eight o'clock.

May 5

THURSDAY, MAY 5.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

Answer to Ad-  
dress from  
England adopted  
and forwarded  
to Rev. Dr.  
Fisk.

The president called for reports, &c., and the chairman of the committee appointed to draft an answer to the address from the Wesleyan Methodist Conference presented the reply which they had prepared, which was read, and after considerable investigation and a small amendment made, on motion the reply was adopted, and on motion of Dr. Bangs, it was further resolved, that the reply be

signed by the bishops and secretary, and immediately forwarded in an envelope to Dr. Fisk, with a request that he present it to the Wesleyan Methodist Conference, which is to assemble in July next, accompanied by such remarks as he may see fit to make.

On motion of J. Early :—

*Resolved*, That if, in any event, the Rev. Dr. Fisk shall find it impracticable to attend the Wesleyan Methodist Conference in July next, the Rev. Bishop Soule be requested to visit that conference as our representative in the Wesleyan Methodist Conference of 1887.

On motion, laid on the table.

A memorial from the Board of Managers of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, together with a revised constitution, was presented, the former read, and both referred to the Committee on Missions.

Memorials from the quarterly meeting conferences of Albany district, Troy Conference, were presented and referred to the Committee on Temperance.

A memorial from the official members of Pittstown circuit was presented and referred to the Committee on Temperance.

The resolutions of the Indiana Conference were presented and referred to the Committee on Temperance.

A communication from L. Garrett was presented, read, and referred to the Committee on Revisal.

An appeal from S. Julian was presented and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

A memorial from the Union station, Philadelphia, was presented and referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.

On motion of N. Bangs :—

*Resolved*, That the Committee on the Allowance of Preachers be instructed to inquire whether further provision should not be made for the support of our bishops, their widows and children.

On motion of D. Ostrander :—

*Resolved*, That the Committee on the Book Concern be instructed to inquire into the expediency of rescinding or suspending for the present session the rule by which the services of the Book Agents are limited to eight years, and that they report thereon, by a resolution or otherwise, as practicable.

A report of the Book Committee at Cincinnati was presented and referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.

On motion of L. Skidmore :—

*Resolved*, That the Committee on Revisal and Unfinished Business be instructed to report on any part of the Discipline, so soon as they are prepared.

On motion of Henry White :—

May 5.

Resolution to the effect that if Dr. Fisk cannot attend conference in 1887, Bishop Soule be requested to do so.

Memorial and Constitution of Missionary Society.

Memorials from quarterly meeting conferences Albany District. Memorial from Pittstown Circuit.

Resolutions of Indiana Conference. Letter from L. Garrett.

S. Julian's appeal.

Memorial of Union station, Philadelphia.

Further provision for bishops and families.

Expediency of extending term of service of Agents.

Report of Book Committee at Cincinnati.

Committee on Revisal to be instructed to report when ready on any part of Discipline.

**May 5.**  
Whether a person refusing to arbitrate a dispute, is to be expelled without trial.

*Resolved*, That the Committee on Revisal be directed to take into consideration that part of the Discipline, pages 42, 43, which relates to the settlements of disputes concerning the payment of debts, &c., and report whether the person refusing to comply with the decision of the arbiters, or the person refusing to refer a matter to arbitration when recommended so to do by him who has the charge of the circuit, shall be expelled without a trial by committee; and if not, whether the phraseology of the Discipline should not be altered.

On motion of H. B. Bascom:—

Mission of Inquiry to France.

*Resolved*, That the Committee on Missions be instructed to inquire into the expediency of deputing at no distant date, and sending to France some suitable person, upon a special mission of inquiry and exploration, whose duty it shall be to visit that country in its most important divisions, and especially Paris, and other principal cities, and attempt to ascertain, by all means in his power, the fitness and practicability of establishing regular missions there under the authority and subject to the direction of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

On motion of R. L. Kennon:—

Resolution on change in the form of certificate.

*Resolved*, That the Committee on Revisal be instructed to inquire if a change of the language of the certificate to be given to a person removing from one society to another be not requisite, so as to make him responsible for his moral conduct to the society from which he removes, until the certificate is given up to another society.

The president announced the names of those appointed to act on the following Committees, viz:—

Committee on Allowance of Ministers.

The Committee on the Allowance of Ministers: Leroy Swormstedt, Elias Bowen, Edward Stevenson, Charles Betts, Charles Virgin.

Committee on Temperance.

The Committee on Temperance: S. Martindale, Abram Penn, Moses Hill, Phineas Crandall, and John H. Power.

Committee on Parsonages.

The Committee on Parsonages and Churches: Beverley Waugh, William B. Christie, George Webber, William A. Wiggins, and Greenville T. Henderson.

Committee on Bible, Sunday-school, and Tract Societies.

The Committee on Bible, Sunday-School, and Tract Societies: John Ferree, Samuel Brison, George Storrs, John B. M'Ferrin, Jos. S. Barris, Sherman Minor, and W. Hoag.

Committee on Superannuated Preachers.

The Committee on Superannuated Preachers, who reside out of the bounds of their own conference: William Prettyman, Augustus Eddy, and Robert Hopkins.

Committee on Canada Affairs.

The Committee on Canada Affairs: Robert Paine, Thomas A. Morris, Alfred Griffith, Marvin Richardson, and Charles Sherman.

Supernumerary preacher, without appointment, claim on the funds of the conference.

On motion of S. Martindale:—

*Resolved*, That the Committee on Revisal be instructed to inquire whether a supernumerary, who is without an

appointment, at his own request, shall have a claim on the funds of the conference for his support, and report thereon.

May 5.

Conference adjourned to meet to-morrow morning at half-past eight o'clock.

FRIDAY, MAY 6.

May 6.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Soule in the chair.

Bishops Hedding and Roberts addressed the conference on several points respecting the state of the work generally, especially as to the prospects of progress of vital religion in the ministry and membership, the uniformity of the administration of discipline, and our missionary operations, &c.

Addresses of Bishops Hedding and Roberts.

The president called for reports, &c., according to order.

A memorial from the Bible, Sunday-school, and Tract Societies in New-York, was presented and referred to the Committee on Bible, Sunday-school, and Tract Societies.

Memorial from Bible, Sunday-school, and Tract Societies.

The certificate of a memorial from the official members in Western Africa was presented, read, and referred to the Committee on the Episcopacy.

Certificate of a Memorial from West. Africa.

The chairman on the Committee on Revisal presented and read a report, in part, which was ordered to lie on the table.

Partial report of the Committee on Revisal.

A memorial from Lodi Circuit was presented, and referred to the Committee on Temperance.

Memorial from Lodi Circuit.

A memorial from Ellicottsville Circuit was presented, and referred to the Committee on Temperance.

Memorial from Ellicottsville.

A memorial from Buffalo was presented, and referred to the Committee on Temperance.

Memorial from Buffalo.

A petition from Steubenville District was presented, and referred to the Committee on Temperance.

Petition from Steubenville District.

A petition from Pittsburgh Conference was presented, and referred to the Committee on Temperance.

Petition from Pittsburgh Conference.

The resolution of the Kentucky Conference was presented, and referred to the Committee on Temperance.

Resolution of the Kentucky Conference.

A resolution of the Kentucky Conference was presented, and referred to the Committee on Revisal.

J. Littlejohn's letter.

An address from the Rev. John Littlejohn was presented, read, and referred to the Committee on Revisal.

A resolution of the Missouri Conference was presented, and referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.

Resolution of the Missouri Conference.

The resolutions of a quarterly meeting for Mount Pleasant and Franklin Circuits, and Pulaski Station, were presented and referred to the Committee on Temperance.

Resolutions of Mount Pleasant, Franklin, and Pulaski.

A memorial from Fredericksburgh was presented, and referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

A memorial from Baltimore was presented, read, and referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.

The preamble and resolutions on a Theological Library

- May 6. Fund were presented, read, and referred to a select committee of seven.
- On motion of P. P. Sandford :—  
*Resolved*, That the Committee on Missions be instructed to inquire into the expediency of constituting the Liberia District Conference in Western Africa into an Annual Conference.
- On the expediency of making Liberia District Conference an Annual Conference.
- On motion of Allen Wiley :—  
*Resolved*, That the Discipline, chapter one, section nine, answer five, question two, be amended by adding the words, "if they desire it." Referred to the Committee on Revisal.
- On the subject of amending the Discipline.
- On motion of R. Hopkins :—  
*Resolved*, That the Committee on Revisal be, and are hereby instructed, to inquire whether or not there is too much ambiguity in the word "Society," Discipline, chapter two, section seven, in the first answer to the question, "How shall an accused member be brought to trial?" to produce uniformity among us in the mode of administration, and if so, how it can be supplied or defined to remove the evil.
- On the same as above.
- On the motion of Elias Bowen :—  
*Resolved*, That the Committee on Revisal be instructed to inquire who shall determine whether an accused member shall be tried by a select number, or the society of which he is a member, and who shall appoint such select number agreeable to Discipline, chapter two, section seven.
- Reports of Book Agents in New-York.
- The reports of the Book Agents in the city of New-York were presented, read, and referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.
- Report of Editors.
- The report of our Editors in the Book Concern in the city of New-York was presented, read, and referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.
- T. Spicer excused from serving on Committee. Peter C. Oakley appointed.
- Tobias Spicer, of the Troy Conference, was excused from serving on the Committee on the Itinerancy, and Peter C. Oakley was appointed in his place.
- Wesleyan Methodist Conference Address.
- N. Bangs moved to take up the motion to print the Address from the Wesleyan Methodist Conference, together with our Answer, which motion was lost.
- Leave of absence granted to J. Quinn.
- James Quinn requested leave of absence after to-day, to return on Monday. Granted.
- Leave of absence to those who preach at a distance.
- On motion, resolved that those brethren who may preach in the country or other places on Sabbath, have leave of absence for that purpose, to return on Monday.
- W. Winans excused and J. F. Wright put on Missionary Committee.
- William Winans requested to be excused from serving on the Missionary Committee, which was granted, and John F. Wright was appointed to supply his place.
- Committee on Theological Library Funds.
- The following brethren were appointed by the president the Committee on the Theological Library Fund, viz :— Benjamin M. Drake, N. Bangs, H. B. Bascom, Lovick

Pearce, Charles Elliott, Robert Paine, and Robert L. Kennon.

May 6.

The following brethren were appointed by the president to constitute the Judiciary Committee, viz. :—David Young, S. G. Roszel, G. Luckey, G. Pearce, and M. Force.

Conference adjourned until to-morrow morning at half-past eight o'clock.

SATURDAY, MAY 7.

May 7.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Hedding in the chair.

The president appointed the Committee on the Chartered Fund, to consist of the following brethren, viz. :—Lewis Skidmore, James Smith, E. J. Scott, J. M'Aden, and John A. Collins.

Committee on Chartered Fund.

The regular business was taken up, and the president called for reports, &c.

The chairman of the Committee on the Book Concern presented and read a report on the rule restricting the term of the Book Agent to eight years, which, according to rule, lies on the table one day.

Committee on Book Concern report in part.

The Committee on Revisal presented and read a second report, which, according to rule, lies on the table one day.

Second report of Committee on Revisal.

A petition from the Pittsburgh Conference was presented, and referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.

Petition from Pittsburgh Conference.

A statistical review of the receipts and disbursements of the Missionary Society for the four years was presented, and referred to the Committee on Missions.

Report of Treasurer of Missionary Society.

On motion of D. Ostrander, the report of the Committee on Revisal was taken up and read. It was then taken under consideration, in order, item by item. The first, second, third, and fourth items were read, amended, and adopted. (See the report.)

Yesterday's report of the Committee on Revisal taken up.

While the fifth item was under consideration, the time of adjournment was announced.

The appointments for preaching in the several meeting-houses to-morrow were read, and conference adjourned until Monday morning at half-past eight o'clock.

MONDAY, MAY 9.

May 9.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Andrew in the chair.

The conference was informed this morning by brother Paddock, that Josiah Keyes, of the Oneida Conference, and by brother Husted, that Richard E. Schermerhorn, of the Maine Conference, had finished their work in the

The death of two members announced.

- May 9.** Church militant, and gone to reap their reward with their heavenly Master.
- Our deceased brethren were both presiding elders, and delegates to this General Conference.
- Third report of Committee on Revisal. On taking up the regular business, the president called for reports, &c., when the Committee on Revisal presented and read a third report, which was ordered to lie on the table.
- Petition from the New-York Conference. A petition from the New-York Conference was presented, read, and referred to the Committee on Temperance.
- Address from brethren in the New-England and New-Hampshire Conferences. An address from a number of brethren in the bounds of the New-England and New-Hampshire Conferences was presented, read, and referred to a select committee of seven, with instructions to report thereon as early as possible.
- Petition from Bangor. A petition from the city of Bangor was presented, and referred to the Committee on Temperance.
- Resolution from Holston Conference. The resolutions of the Holston Conference were presented, and referred to the Committee on Bible, Sunday school, and Tract Societies.
- Petition from Harper's Ferry. A memorial from Harper's Ferry Station was presented, and referred to the Committee on Temperance.
- On the motion of S. G. Roszel:—
- Pastoral Address. *Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to draft and report a pastoral address to our members and friends throughout our extensive work on this continent.
- On motion of S. Luckey:—
- On the subject of Mr. Wesley's rules on Temperance. *Resolved*, That so much of the journals of the Annual Conferences as relates to their doings on the subject of restoring Mr. Wesley's rules on temperance be referred to the Committee on Temperance, that the delegates of the several conferences be instructed to furnish said committee with such portion of their journals.
- Address of the M. E. Church in Canada. An address from the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada was presented and read, and on motion of N. Bangs, it was resolved, that the communication from the Methodist Episcopal Church, so called, in the province of Canada, be referred to a committee of five, to consider and report thereon.
- On motion of W. Winans:—
- Time of Bishop M'Kendree's funeral sermon. *Resolved*, That the bishops be requested, if convenient to themselves, to preach the funeral sermon of our venerable father Bishop M'Kendree, in this (the Wesley) Church, on Wednesday next at eleven o'clock, A. M.
- On motion of P. C. Oakley:—
- Restoring credentials to an expelled preacher. *Resolved*, That the Committee on Revisal be instructed to take into consideration the propriety of framing a rule to provide for the restoration of the credentials of a travelling preacher who may be deprived of them by expulsion.

or otherwise, when such restoration shall be deemed proper, and if proper to report accordingly.

May 9.

On motion of J. B. Finley :—

Resolved, That the Committee on Itinerancy be requested to inquire whether the Baltimore and Pittsburg Conferences have complied with the instructions of the last General Conference respecting the mode of making their dividends.

Dividend of Pittsburg and Baltimore Conferences.

On motion of G. Gray :—

Resolved, That the Committee on Itinerancy be, and they are hereby instructed to inquire whether the directions in the book of Discipline, chapter one, section twenty-three, respecting uniformity in conducting public worship, especially that part requiring the reading of the Holy Scriptures, and the use of the Lord's prayer, be generally observed among us, and report thereon.

Mode of public worship.

On motion of Phineas Crandall :—

Resolved, That the Committee on the Book Concern be instructed to inquire into the expediency of establishing a book depository in the city of Boston, Massachusetts.

Book depository in Boston.

On motion of J. A. Collins :—

Resolved, That the following rule shall come in after the eleventh rule in the by-laws, viz., "It shall be in order at any time pending the discussion of any subject or motion before the conference, to move that the question be taken without debate, and if it be seconded and sustained by a majority of two-thirds of the members present, the question under consideration shall be put immediately." After considerable discussion, the question was taken and the motion lost.

Proposed addition to rules.

On motion of J. H. Power :—

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisal be instructed to inquire into the expediency of introducing a rule into the Discipline by which to receive a minister of another denomination, who may wish to join the Methodist Episcopal Church, and if such minister is ordained, whether his ordination will be considered valid, especially those who hold to Presbyterian ordination.

Validity of ordination of other ministers joining us.

On motion of William Capers :—

Resolved, That we instruct the Committee on Revisal to inquire into the expediency of inserting in the Discipline a rule requiring that travelling preachers, expelled for immorality, give satisfaction to the conference by whom they were expelled, before they can be received into full connexion in any other conference.

Preachers expelled to give satisfaction before readmission.

On motion of B. Goodsell :—

Resolved, That the Judiciary Committee be instructed to inquire whether it be just and right, when an annual conference is divided, for that conference to retain all the property and legacies from the new, which belonged to them jointly when

Property and legacies to divided conferences.



May 9.

together, and whether when the principal may not be divided, the proceeds of such property or legacies should not be divided in proportion to the numbers composing each conference.

Revisal report taken up.

On motion of D. Ostrander, the report of the Committee on Revisal was called up.

The second answer to the fifth question, which is the fifth item in said report, was read, amended, and adopted.

Conference adjourned until to-morrow morning at half-past eight o'clock.

May 10.

## TUESDAY, MAY 10.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

J. Dempster's arrival.

John Dempster, a delegate from the Oneida Conference, presented his certificate of election and took his seat.

The regular business of conference was taken up, and the president called for reports, &c.

Report, in part, of Committee on Book Concern.

The chairman of the Committee on the Book Concern presented a report in part, which was read and taken under consideration, and after a lengthy discussion, it was moved that the further consideration of the subject be postponed for the present and made the order of the day for to-morrow; and the debate on that motion continued until the time of adjournment arrived.

The president announced the appointment of the following committees, viz. :—

Committee on Address on slavery from New-England and New-Hampshire Conferences.  
Committee on Pastoral Address.  
Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada.

The Committee on the Address from the New-England and New-Hampshire Conferences on the subject of Slavery.—John Davis, J. A. Merrill, John F. Adams, William A. Smith, Lovick Pierce, David Daily, and G. L. Holmes.

Committee to draft a Pastoral Address.—N Bangs, William Capers, and Thomas A. Morris.

Committee to consider the Address of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada.—D. Ostrander, A. Griffith, Charles Elliott, Levi Scott, and Z. Paddock.

Conference adjourned until to-morrow morning at half-past eight o'clock.

May 11.

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 11.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Hedding in the chair.

Partial report of Committee on Missions.

The regular business was taken up, and the president called for reports, &c., when the chairman of the Committee on Missions presented and read a report in part, which, on motion, was laid on the table.

Fourth report of Committee on Revisal.

The Chairman of the Committee on Revisal presented and read a fourth report, which on motion, was laid on the table.

William J. Parks, a delegate from the Georgia Conference, presented his certificate of election and took his seat.

The chairman of the Committee on the Chartered Fund presented a report, which was read, and on motion, laid on the table.

The chairman of the committee appointed to determine on the tribunal of the non-resident superannuated preachers, presented a report, which was read and ordered to lie on the table one day.

The report of the Book Agent at New-Orleans was presented, read, and referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.

The report of the Book Committee of the Mississippi Conference was presented, read, and referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.

The report of the Book Agent in Cincinnati was presented, read, and referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.

A petition from a number of persons on the subject of slavery was presented, and referred to the committee on that business.

A memorial from Granville circuit was presented, read, and referred to the Committee on Boundaries

A petition from Auburn station was presented and referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

A communication from B. C. Wood was presented, read, and referred to the Committee on Book Concern.

Proposals from L. Garrett, proprietor and publisher of the "Western Methodist," were presented, and referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.

A letter from William Spry to M. Sorin was presented, read, and referred to the Committee on the Book Concern.

On motion of S. G. Roszel :—

*Resolved*, That the committee appointed to draft a pastoral letter to our preachers, members, and friends be, and they are hereby instructed to take notice of the subject of modern abolition, that has so seriously agitated the different parts of our country, and that they let our preachers, members, and friends know that the General Conference are opposed to the agitation of that subject, and will use all prudent means to put it down.

On motion of William Winans, it was resolved, that the present session continue fifteen minutes after the public services of the day.

On motion of J. Early, it was resolved, that the conference shall meet hereafter at eight o'clock, A. M.

Elijah Sinclair, a delegate from the Georgia Conference, presented his certificate of election and took his seat.

On motion of R. Hopkins :

*Resolved*, That the Committee on the Book Concern be,

May 11.

Arrival of W. J. Parks.  
Report of Committee on Chartered Fund.  
Report of Committee on Superannuated preachers.

Report of the Book Agent at New-Orleans.

Report of the Book Committee of Mississippi Conference.  
Report of the Book Agent in Cincinnati.

Petition on slavery.

Memorial from Granville circuit.

Petition from Auburn station.

Letter from R. C. Wood.

Proposals from L. Garrett.

Letter from W. Spry.

Committee on Pastoral Address instructed to notice abolition.

Continuance of the session.

Alteration of time of assembling.

Appearance of E. Sinclair.

Pittsburg Conference Journal.

May 11.

and are hereby instructed to inquire into the expediency of having the "Pittsburg Conference Journal" transferred to the General Conference, provided its publication in the city of Pittsburg be continued at least four years longer, and provided, also, that the Pittsburg Annual Conference agree to such transfer, after which its disposition shall be left to the wisdom of the General Conference.

On motion of N. Bangs:—

Recess of fifteen minutes.

*Resolved*, That a recess of fifteen minutes be allowed before the funeral services now ready to commence.

Bishop M'Kendree's funeral sermon.

The members of the conference having resumed their places, the funeral services of our late venerable Bishop M'Kendree were introduced by singing and prayer, by Bishop Hedding. Bishop Soule then preached from Hebrews xiii, 7, 8, and Bishop Andrew closed the services by prayer.

On motion of W. Winans, the following preamble and resolution were adopted by a unanimous, rising vote, viz. :—

A copy of Bishop M'Kendree's funeral sermon asked for publication.

*Whereas*, the funeral sermon on the death of Bishop M'Kendree, just delivered by Bishop Soule, embraces many important facts and incidents connected with the history of our Church, and whereas its publication, on many accounts, is very desirable, especially as a means of perpetuating the memory of our eminently distinguished, useful and lamented Bishop M'Kendree; therefore,

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the several annual conferences, in General Conference assembled, that Bishop Soule be, and he hereby is respectfully requested to furnish a copy of the sermon for publication as soon as it may be practicable.

Sermon furnished by Bishop Soule.

Bishop Soule having consented to comply with the above request, and informed the conference that there were parts in the sermon which he had not delivered for want of strength and time; on motion, it was resolved that they also be included in the publication, on being read to a committee and approved by them, and the three other superintendents were requested to act as that committee.

Conference adjourned until to-morrow morning at eight o'clock.

May 12.

## THURSDAY, MAY 12.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Andrew in the chair.

Appearance of Rev. S. R. Brockunier.

The Rev. Samuel R. Brockunier presented a certificate of his election as a delegate from Pittsburg Conference, instead of C. Cooke, and took his seat.

Report of Committee on Book Concern.

A motion was made by William Winans, that we dispense with the regular business of the day for the purpose of taking up the report on the Book Concern, which motion

May 12.

prevailed. The report was accordingly taken up, and, after considerable investigation, the question to adopt was taken up and carried in the affirmative, ninety-four in favour and thirty-eight against.

The report is as follows, viz. :—

The Committee on the Book Concern take leave to report for the consideration of this conference the following resolution, to wit :—

*Resolved, &c.,* That the Book Concern shall be continued in the city of New-York.

Respectfully submitted,

M. RUTER, *Chairman.*

Bishop Roberts reported to conference that Bishop Soule had submitted those parts of his funeral sermon not delivered in public to the inspection of the episcopacy, and he was prepared to report favourably thereon.

On motion of William Winans :—

*Resolved,* That the Book Agents in Cincinnati be, and are hereby instructed to publish an edition of Bishop Soule's funeral sermon of Bishop M'Kendree of five thousand copies, the profits of which, after defraying the expenses of publication, shall be applied to Bishop Soule's benefit.

Publication of Bishop Soule's funeral sermon on Bp. M'Kendree.

Bishop Soule expressed his obligation to the conference for the kindness and liberality which they had just expressed, but requested that it should be understood, his wish and desire are, that all the pecuniary advantages allotted to him shall be placed to the benefit of the Book Concern, in resuscitating that establishment.

Bishop Andrew retired, and Bishop Soule took the chair.

On motion of S. G. Roszel, a preamble and resolutions on the case of two members lecturing on the subject of abolition in this city was taken up, which produced considerable excitement and discussion until the time for adjournment had arrived.

Abolitionism.

On motion of B. M. Drake :—

*Resolved,* That the session be lengthened ten minutes.

On motion of S. G. Roszel :—

*Resolved,* That Thomas B. Sargent, the assistant secretary, have leave of absence until Monday, and that John A. Collins be appointed to supply his place.

Absence granted to T. B. Sargent.

On motion of S. G. Roszel :—

*Resolved,* That when we adjourn, we adjourn to meet at three o'clock P. M.

The conference then adjourned, to meet at three o'clock P. M.

May 12.

## THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Andrew in the chair.

Discussion on  
Abolitionism.

The motion of S. G. Roszel, containing a preamble and resolutions on the subject of abolition, together with the amendment offered by L. Grant, was taken up, and after considerable discussion, the vote was taken on the amendment and lost. The original motion was then read and discussed on its own merits, until a call for adjournment was made.

On motion, conference adjourned until eight o'clock to-morrow morning.

May 13.

## FRIDAY, MAY 13.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Soule in the chair.

Alteration of the  
Discipline.

A motion was presented by P. P. Sandford and read, proposing some alterations in the Discipline, as therein stated, which, according to rule, lies on the table one day.

Regular business  
suspended.

On motion of John Early, the regular course of business was dispensed with, for the purpose of taking up the unfinished business of yesterday.

Abolitionism.

The motion of S. G. Roszel, proposing a preamble and resolutions on the subject of abolition, was then called up, and debated until the hour for adjournment was announced.

On motion of John Early, resolved, that when we adjourn, we adjourn to meet at three o'clock P. M.

Conference adjourned until three o'clock P. M.

## FRIDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

The consideration of the motion of S. G. Roszel was resumed, and, after a few remarks, the question was taken on the first resolution, which was adopted, one hundred and twenty-two voting in favour, and eleven against it.

The second resolution was then read. An amendment was moved by A. Scott, and after considerable debate, on taking the question, the motion to amend was lost, one hundred and twenty-three against, and fourteen in favour of it. The resolution was then read, and a division of it called for. The first member of the resolution was then read, and on taking the question it was adopted, one hundred and twenty in favour, and fourteen against it. The remaining part of the resolution was then read, and on taking the question, one hundred and thirty-seven voted in favour of it, and none in the opposition.

The preamble was then read and adopted.

The third resolution was also read and adopted.

The whole of the motion as adopted is as follows, viz. :—

Whereas great excitement has prevailed in this country on the subject of modern abolitionism, which is reported to have been increased in this city recently by the unjustifiable conduct of two members of the General Conference, in lecturing upon and in favour of that agitating topic; and whereas such a course on the part of any of its members is calculated to bring upon this body the suspicions and distrust of the community, and misrepresent its sentiments in regard to the point at issue; and whereas in this aspect of the case, a due regard for its own character, as well as a just concern for the interests of the Church confided to its care, demand a full, decided, and unequivocal expression of the views of the General Conference in the premises, therefore :—

May 13.  
Preamble and resolutions on the subject of Abolitionism.

Resolved, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, 1. That they disapprove in the most unqualified sense the conduct of two members of the General Conference, who are reported to have lectured in this city recently upon and in favour of modern abolitionism.

Resolved, 2. That they are decidedly opposed to modern abolitionism, and wholly disclaim any right, wish, or intention to interfere in the civil and political relation between master and slave as it exists in the slave-holding states of this Union.

Resolutions against Abolitionism.

Resolved, 3. That the foregoing preamble and resolutions be published in our periodicals.

Adjourned until to-morrow morning at eight o'clock.

SATURDAY, MAY 14.

May 14.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Hedding in the chair.

The Rev. Dr. Edwards, corresponding secretary of the American Temperance Society, was introduced to the conference by the president, and delivered an address on the subject and advantages of the temperance reformation, in which he stated that the said society had collected and published some of the most important facts, which go to show the blessed results of temperance efforts.

Address on the subject of Temperance.

On motion of N. Bangs :—

Resolved, That the thanks of this conference be presented to Dr. Edwards for his very interesting address, and that it be recommended to the members of this conference to furnish themselves with a copy of the volume above alluded to.

Thanks of the conference to Dr. Edwards.

The chairman of the Committee on Revisal, &c., presented and read a fifth report, which, according to rule, was ordered to lie on the table one day.

Report of Committee on Revisal, &c.

May 14.  
Report of Com-  
mittee on Epis-  
copacy.

The chairman of the Committee on the Episcopacy presented and read their report, which, on motion, was ordered to lie on the table.

Report of Com-  
mittee on Can-  
ada Claims.

The chairman of the Committee on the Canada Claims presented and read a report, which, on motion, was ordered to lie on the table one day, and that the secretary be requested to furnish the brethren from Canada with a copy.

Report of Com-  
mittee on Tem-  
perance.

The Chairman of the Committee on Temperance presented and read a report, which, according to rule, was ordered to lie on the table one day.

Report of Com-  
mittee on Al-  
lowance for  
Preachers.

The chairman of the Committee on the Allowance for Preachers presented and read their report, which, according to rule, was ordered to lie on the table one day.

Petition from  
New-England  
Conference.

A petition from a number of persons within the bounds of the New-England Conference on the subject of slavery was presented by O. Scott, and on motion referred to the Committee on Slavery.

On motion of N. Bangs:—

No memorial  
received with-  
out proper sig-  
nature.

*Resolved*, That it is the sense of this conference that no memorial should be received, unless subscribed by the memorialists in their own proper signatures. After some debate, a motion was made to amend, by striking out the word "proper" and inserting the word "authorized." Lost. The motion was then withdrawn by the mover, and renewed by S. G. Roszel, and after the subject had been debated by several members, the question was taken and the motion lost.

Petition from  
Lancaster Cir-  
cuit.

A petition of the official members of the Lancaster Circuit was presented, and on motion referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Revisal Com-  
mittee Report,  
&c.

The first report of the Committee on Revisals, &c., was called. The fourth item was read and reported. The fifth item was read, and the first part of it adopted.

Adjournment.

The time of adjournment was announced, and conference adjourned until Monday morning at eight o'clock.

May 16.

MONDAY, MAY 16.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Andrew in the chair.

Sixth Report on  
Revisal.

The chairman of the Committee on Revisal, &c., presented and read a sixth report, which, on motion, was ordered to lie on the table.

Report of Select  
Committee on  
Address from  
persons in  
Canada.

The chairman of the Select Committee, to whom was referred the address of sundry persons in Upper Canada, claiming to be the Methodist Episcopal Church in that province, presented and read a report, which, on motion, was ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of L. Pierce:—

*Resolved*, That the funeral sermon of Bishop Emory, provided for by a former resolution, be, if it suit the convenience of the bishops, delivered in this house (Wesley Chapel) on Wednesday next, at eleven o'clock A. M.

On motion of D. Ostrander :—

*Resolved*, 1. That this conference will close its present session, and finally adjourn on Saturday, 28th instant.

*Resolved*, 2. That we will hereafter suspend the regular order of business, and respectfully request the superintendents and secretary, or, if preferred by the superintendents, a committee they may appoint, to present the business to the conference in such order as to consider such reports, resolutions, and other matters most important, and the conference consider and decide on these as so presented.

A petition from sundry persons in the bounds of the New-Hampshire Conference was presented, and referred to the Committee on Slavery.

A petition from sundry persons in the bounds of the Troy Conference was presented, and referred to the Committee on Slavery.

Two petitions from sundry persons in the bounds of the Oneida Conference were presented, and referred to the Committee on Slavery.

A petition from Plattsburg district, Troy Conference, was presented and referred to the Committee on Slavery.

A communication from the quarterly conference of Westmoreland circuit was presented, and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

On motion of A. Wiley :—

*Resolved*, That the marriage ceremony be altered or amended, 1. By striking out all that part which requires the persons to be married to repeat after the minister, which part is found on the latter part of the one hundred and fourteenth page, and the first part of the one hundred and fifteenth page. 2. By transposing the first prayer so as to place it after the parties are pronounced "man and wife." 3. That "man" in the upper part of page one hundred and sixteen be stricken out, and the word "husband" be inserted. 4. That all that part which comes after the blessing which the minister is required to add be stricken out. Laid on the table.

On motion of N. Bangs :—

*Resolved*, That the words, "United States of America," which occur in the form of a deed of settlement, be stricken out. Laid on the table one day.

On motion of N. Bangs, the report of the Committee on Canada affairs was called up and recommitted, for the purpose of hearing a proposition from the brethren from Canada.

On motion of G. C. Light :—

May 18.  
Funeral sermon  
of Bp. Emory.  
Time fixed.

Proposal to fix  
the time of  
final adjournment.

Proposal to suspend the regular order of business.

Petition from persons in New-Hampshire Conference.

Petition from Troy Conference.

Two petitions from Oneida Conference.

Petition from Plattsburg district.

Communication from Westmoreland, circuit.

Proposal to alter the marriage ceremony.

Proposal to strike out the words "United States of America" from deed.

Report on Canada affairs recommitted.



May 16.  
Insertion of the  
names of local  
deacons and  
elders in Min-  
utes of confer-  
ence.

*Resolved*, That the Committee on the Itinerancy be instructed to consider and report on the expediency of directing the annual conference to insert in the Minutes annually the names of all the ordained local preachers within their several bounds.

On motion of L. Norris :—

Explaining by  
note the word  
"catholic."

*Resolved*, That the Committee on Revisal be, and they are hereby instructed to inquire into the expediency of appending an explanatory note to the word "catholic," on page one hundred and four of the Discipline, and report thereon.

On motion of W. Winans :—

Time when no  
petition, &c.,  
shall be called  
for.

*Resolved*, That after Wednesday next, it shall not be in order to call for petitions, memorials and appeals.

On motion of N. Bangs, the report of the Committee on Missions was taken up.

Partial action on  
Report of Com-  
mittee on Mis-  
sions.

The first article in the constitution of the Missionary Society, as recommended by the Board of Managers, was read and adopted.

The second article, with an amendment, was read and rejected, seventy-eight against and forty-seven in favour.

The third article was read, which remains as formerly.

The fourth article was read, and after considerable debate, William A. Smith moved to recommit so much of the report as relates to the appointment of a president or secretary and general agent of the Missionary Society, with instructions to the committee to prepare a precise statement of the duties and responsibilities of the proposed secretary, and the mode of his subsistence, to be printed in the Discipline. Carried.

The fifth article was then read with a proposed amendment, and adopted.

The eleventh article was then read, with a proposed amendment, and adopted.

The twelfth article was then read, and adopted.

The first resolution in the report was then read, extending to the words "Chartered Fund," and a division called for. The vote for adoption was taken and carried.

The remainder of the resolution was then read, and on motion, ordered to lie on the table until the report of the Committee on the Episcopacy can be acted on.

The second resolution was then read and adopted.

The third resolution was read, and before any action was taken on it the time for adjournment was announced.

Conference adjourned until to-morrow morning at eight o'clock.

TUESDAY, MAY 17.

May 17.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Soule in the chair.

The chairman of the Committee on Missions presented and read a report on the point referred to them yesterday, which was laid on the table.

Further report on Missions.

The Chairman of the Committee on Revisal presented and read a seventh report, which was ordered to lie on the table.

Seventh report on revisal.

The chairman of the Committee on Bible, Sunday-school and Tract Societies presented and read a report, which was ordered to lie on the table.

Report on Bible, Sunday-school, and Tract Societies laid on the table.

The chairman of the Committee on the Book Concern presented and read a report, which was ordered to lie on the table.

Report on Book Concern.

The chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary presented and read a report on the appeal of Jonas Westerland, which, on motion, was laid on the table, and made the order of the day for Thursday next. Also, on the appeal of William Heath, which, on motion, was laid on the table, and made the order of the day for Monday next.

Report of Committee on Judiciary on appeals of bro. Heath and Westerland.

A memorial from Poughkeepsie and Rushville circuits ; one from Windsor and Hampden, Maine ; one from Strong, Baldwin, and Castine circuits ; one from Ritna and Fulton, Oswego county, on the subject of slavery, were presented, and on motion, referred to the Committee on Slavery.

Memorials on slavery.

A memorial from the New-Hampshire Conference, on the subject of slavery, was presented, and referred to the Committee on Slavery.

A communication from L. Garrett was presented and read, and, on motion, referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

Communication from L. Garrett.

A communication from a number of friends in Portsmouth, Virginia, was presented, and on motion ordered to lie on the table.

Communication from Portsmouth, Va.

On motion of L. Clark, the report of the Committee on the communication from certain brethren claiming to be the Methodist Episcopal Church in Upper Canada, was called up for consideration.

On motion of S. G. Roszel :—

*Resolved*, That the brethren from Canada, Messrs. Powley and Bailey, be permitted to be heard in support of their cause. They were accordingly introduced to the conference by the President, after which they addressed us on the business they came to represent. Some desultory debate then ensued, and John Early moved that the rules of the conference be amended by adding "that it is not in order to debate a motion to lay on the table." Carried.

Proceedings with respect to communication from M. E. Church Canada.

May 17.  
Canada Affairs.

A motion was then made to lay the report on the table, and lost.

The report was then pronounced to be before the conference, and W. Winans moved to amend it by striking out the words, "They say they have had additions," and inserting, "It appears there have been additions." The brethren who represent the Wesleyan Methodists in Canada made a few remarks, and S. G. Roszel moved that the further consideration of the subject now before the conference be postponed, and made the order of the day for Thursday next. On this motion, the debate continued until the time of adjournment was announced.

On motion of John Early :—

Adjournment.

*Resolved*, That when we adjourn, we adjourn to meet at three o'clock P. M.

Conference adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

#### TUESDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

Canada communication.

The conference resumed the consideration of the unfinished business of the forenoon, and S. G. Roszel withdrew his motion for postponement. The report was then taken up, and the amendment offered by William Winans, and carried.

The report, as amended, was then read and adopted, viz :

Report of the Committee on the above communication.

The committee to whom was referred the address of sundry persons in Upper Canada, claiming to be the Methodist Episcopal Church in that province, beg leave to report that they have had an interview with the individuals appointed by those persons who were the bearers of the address, and have availed themselves of such other sources of information as were within their reach. And they find that in June, 1835, certain persons, to the number of five, only one of whom was a travelling preacher, the others being local elders, met and resolved themselves into what they called a General Conference, and elected one of their number to the office of a bishop, and the remaining four proceeded to ordain and set him apart to that office, and immediately held an annual conference, from the Minutes of which it appears that they then numbered twenty-one stationed or travelling preachers, twenty local preachers, and one thousand two hundred and forty-three members of society. It appears there have been additions since, both of preachers and members. In view of all the circumstances, as far as your committee has been able to ascertain and understand them, they are unanimously of opinion that the case requires no interference of this General Conference. All of which is respectfully submitted.

On motion of Martin Ruter :—

*Resolved*, That the secretary be requested to furnish the brethren from Canada with a copy of the report.

On motion of N. Bangs, the report of the Committee on Missions was called up, together with the proposed amendments to the constitution, for the action of conference. The constitution as amended by this conference, on the recommendation of the Board of Managers, is as follows, viz. :—

ARTICLE I. This association, denominated The Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, is established for the express purpose of enabling the several annual conferences more effectually to extend their missionary labours throughout the United States and elsewhere; and also to assist in the support and promotion of Missionary schools and missions in our own and in foreign countries.

ARTICLE II. The payment of two dollars annually shall constitute a member; the payment of twenty dollars at one time a member for life.

ARTICLE III. The officers of this society shall consist of a president, vice-president, recording secretary, treasurer, and assistant treasurer, who, together with thirty-two managers, shall form a Board for the transaction of business. They shall all be members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and be annually elected by the society. Each annual conference shall have also the privilege of appointing one vice-president from its own body.

ARTICLE IV. There shall also be a resident corresponding secretary appointed by the General Conference, whose salary shall be fixed and paid by the Board of Managers, who shall be exclusively employed in conducting the correspondence of the society, and, under the direction of the Board, in promoting its general interests by travelling or otherwise. With the approbation of the managers, he may employ such assistance from time to time as may be judged necessary for the interests of the cause, the compensation for which shall be fixed by the Board. He shall be *ex-officio* a member of the Board of Managers. Should his office become vacant by death, resignation or otherwise, the Board shall have power to provide for the duties of the office until the next session of the New-York Conference, which, with the concurrence of the presiding bishop, shall fill the vacancy until the ensuing General Conference.

ARTICLE V. The Board shall have authority to make by-laws for regulating its own proceedings, to appropriate money to defray incidental expenses, and to print books at our own press for the benefit of the Indian and other foreign missions, fill vacancies that may occur during the year, and shall present a statement of its transactions and funds to the society at its annual meeting; and also shall lay before the General Conference a report of its transactions for the four preceding years, and the state of its funds.

May 17.

Copy of above communication to be given to brethren in Canada.  
Committee on Missions.

Revised Constitution of the Missionary Society.

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Revised Consti-  
tution of Mis-  
sionary So-  
ciety.

ARTICLE VI. Ordained ministers of the Methodist Episcopal Church, whether travelling or local, being members of this society, shall be *ex-officio* members of the Board of Managers.

ARTICLE VII. The annual meeting for the election of officers and managers shall be held on the third Monday in April, in the city of New-York.

ARTICLE VIII. At all meetings of the society and of the Board, the president, or in his absence the vice-president first on the list then present, and in the absence of all the vice-presidents a member appointed by the meeting for that purpose shall preside.

ARTICLE IX. Twenty-five members at all meetings of the society, and thirteen at all meetings of the Board of Managers, shall be a quorum.

ARTICLE X. The Minutes of each meeting shall be signed by the chairman.

ARTICLE XI. Same as in former constitution, with the exception of the following words, inserted in the second sentence between the words "conference" and "society," viz., "or other auxiliary," so as to read, "Each conference or other auxiliary society," &c.

ARTICLE XII. Any auxiliary or branch society may appropriate any part or the whole of its funds to any one individual mission or more under the care of this society, which special appropriation shall be publicly acknowledged by the Board; but in the event that more funds be raised for any individual mission than is necessary for its support, the surplus shall go into the general treasury of the parent society, to be appropriated as the constitution directs.

ARTICLE XIII. As in the former constitution.

ARTICLE XIV. As in the former constitution.

ARTICLE XV. As in the former constitution.

ARTICLE XVI. As in the former constitution.

The report itself and the amendments offered this morning were then read, and after considerable debate and some other amendments, the following is the report as finally adopted, to wit:—

Report of the  
Committee on  
Missions.

The Committee on Missions beg leave to report (in part) that in respect to the cause of missions, it is now too firmly fixed in the affections of our ministers and people, too closely identified with our plan of spreading the Gospel, and has received too many tokens of the divine approbation to need arguments in its defence. Commencing as it did with small beginnings, it has gradually increased in its resources, both pecuniary and otherwise, of doing good, until it has attained that permanence and elevation of character which puts it beyond the reach of successful opposition, while it presents itself to our consideration as a cause to be cherished, supported, and enlarged by all the means within our power.

From the reports of the society for the last four years, it appears that during that time there have been received into the treasury one hundred and forty-four thousand six hundred and twenty-seven dollars and twenty-two cents, and paid for the same period one hundred and fifty-five thousand six hundred and ninety-five dollars and ninety-nine cents, leaving a balance against the society of one thousand sixty-eight dollars and seventy-seven cents.

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Report of Com-  
mittee on Mis-  
sions.

This, together with the facts respecting the success of those men of God who have been actively engaged in the missionary work which have been spread before the community in the annual reports of the society and through our periodicals, is evidence of the growing interest which is felt in this holy cause, and of a full belief that this society is a powerful auxiliary in extending the Redeemer's kingdom among men. While, therefore, we express our gratitude to God for what he hath wrought by this means, we would devoutly invoke his blessing upon our future efforts.

In taking a view of the missionary field, and considering the means to be used to occupy and cultivate it more effectually, and with greater success, we recommend to the conference the adoption of the following resolutions:—

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, 1. That to the section in the Discipline on the boundaries of the annual conferences, the following clause be added:—"There shall be an annual conference on the western coast of Africa, to be denominated the *Liberia Mission Annual Conference*, possessing all the rights, powers, and privileges of other annual conferences, except that of sending delegates to the General Conference, and of drawing its annual dividends from the avails of the Book Concern, and of the Chartered Fund."

2. That it be, and hereby is recommended to the bishops, as soon as practicable, to select one missionary or more for Africa, to labour in the interior, under the direction of the president of the Liberia Mission Annual Conference.

3. That as considerable sums of money have been already contributed for the establishment of a mission in China, it is recommended to the bishops, as soon as it shall appear to them safe and practicable, to select and send some suitable person or persons to that country, whose duty it shall be to visit as many of the principal places as he may find accessible, and as may be in his power, and report from time to time the state of things there, in respect to the feasibility of establishing missions under our direction in that empire.

4. At the end of the answer to question four, chapter one, section eight, part one of the Discipline, let there be inserted the following words: "N. B. Whenever a preacher on trial is selected by the bishops for a mission, he may, if elected by an annual conference, ordain him a deacon

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Report of the  
Committee on  
Missions con-  
tinued.

before his probation ends, and a missionary employed on a foreign mission may be admitted into full connexion, if recommended by the superintendents of the mission where he labours, without being present at the annual conference for examination."

5. That at each annual conference, those who are received on trial or admitted into full connexion shall be asked whether they are willing to devote themselves to the missionary work, and a list of the names of all those who are willing to do so, shall be taken and reported to the Corresponding Secretary of the Missionary Society; and all such shall be considered as ready and willing to be employed as missionaries whenever called for by either of the bishops.

6. That it shall be the duty of all of our missionaries, except those who are appointed to labour for the benefit of the slaves, to form their circuits into auxiliary missionary societies, and to make regular quarterly and class collections wherever practicable, and report the amount collected every three months, either by endorsing it on their drafts, or by transmitting the money to the treasurer of the parent society.

7. It shall be the duty of each annual conference to examine strictly into the state of the domestic missions within its bounds, and to allow none to remain on the list of its missions, which, in the judgment of the conference, is able to support itself.

The Committee on Missions report that they have considered the fourth article of the revised constitution of the Missionary Society, and beg leave to recommend that there be inserted in the Discipline, part two, section seven, at the close of the section, the following words: "The resident Corresponding Secretary shall, by virtue of his office, be a member of the New-York Conference, to which, in the interval of the General Conference, he shall be held responsible for his conduct; and the New-York Conference shall have power, by and with the advice of the managers of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and consent of the bishop presiding, to remove him from office; and in case of removal, death, or resignation, the New-York Conference, with the concurrence of the presiding bishop, shall fill the vacancy until the next ensuing General Conference.

As to the duties of said secretary, and the mode of his receiving his support, the committee think them sufficiently defined in the article itself, which they again recommend for adoption. (See fourth article, revised constitution.) They however recommend the words, "resident Corresponding Secretary" to be inserted in the Discipline, chapter one, section three, between the words "journal" and "the." The committee recommend, also, the adoption of the following:

*Resolved*, That it shall be the duty of the bishops to instruct all our foreign missionaries, that whenever they come in contact with any of the missionaries belonging to the Wesleyan Methodist Conference, they shall not interfere in their respective charges, any further than to help them in their work when requested, but shall, on all occasions, cultivate a spirit of friendship and brotherly affection as brethren engaged in the same common cause, namely, the salvation of the world through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

May 17.  
Report of Committee on Missions continued.

*Resolved*, That our representative to the Wesleyan Methodist Conference be instructed by the bishops to present this subject to said conference, and to communicate to them the sentiments contained in the above resolution, and to assure them of our cordial coöperation with them in striving to extend the Redeemer's kingdom among men by means of missionary enterprises.

*Resolved*, That it be respectfully suggested to the Board of Managers of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, the expediency of recommending to the next General Conference, the adoption of the following as a substitute for the last article of the constitution of the Missionary Society, viz. :—

This constitution shall not be altered but by the General Conference, upon the recommendation of the Board of Managers or by the society at an annual meeting upon the recommendation of the General Conference.

Conference adjourned until to-morrow morning at eight o'clock.

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 18.

May 18.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Hedding in the chair.

The chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary presented and read a report on the division of property, &c., which, on motion, was adopted, to wit :—

Report of Committee on Judiciary on division of property and legacies.

The Judiciary Committee were instructed by a resolution of the conference to inquire whether it be just and right, when an annual conference is divided, for that conference to retain all property and legacies from the new which belonged to them jointly when together; and whether, when the principal may not be divided, the proceeds of such property or legacies should not be divided in proportion to the numbers composing each conference.

On the subject, the committee report the following resolutions, viz. :—

*Resolved*, 1. By the delegates of the several annual conferences in General Conference assembled, that it is recommended to every annual conference contemplating a divi-



May 18.

sion, to provide, where it can be done legally, for an equitable division of the property belonging to said conference, so as to give each of those made out of it its proportion according to the number of its members, as nearly as may be.

*Resolved*, 2. That when a conference is divided without having made such previous arrangement for a division of property, such arrangement shall be made as soon thereafter as may be; in which case, the property should be divided according to the number of members composing each: and if the principal of any property or legacies belonging to said conference may not be divided, the proceeds thereof should be annually divided between them in the same ratio. All of which is respectfully submitted,

DAVID YOUNG, *Chairman*.

Petitions from  
Baltimore,  
Md., and Alex-  
andria, D. C.  
Report on Epis-  
copacy partial-  
ly acted on

A petition from Baltimore city was presented, read, and ordered to lie on the table. Also, from Alexandria, D. C., which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of J. Early, the report of the Committee on Episcopacy was called up.

The first resolution was read and adopted.

The second was read and rejected.

The third was read, and on motion ordered to lie on the table until the report from the Committee on Boundaries can be acted on. A second motion was then made to lay the whole report on the table. Carried.

On motion of N. Bangs:—

On addressing  
Wesleyan  
Methodist Con-  
ference on tem-  
perance.

*Resolved*, That the suggestion submitted to this conference, on the propriety of addressing our Wesleyan Methodist brethren on the subject of temperance, be referred to a committee to consider and report thereon.

On motion of M. Ruter:—

Instructions to  
Revisal Com-  
mittee.

*Resolved*, &c., That the Committee on Revisal be directed so to amend the fourth section in the form of Discipline, on the duties of a bishop, as to render it consistent with the regulations that have been established in relation to the Book Concern.

Report of Com-  
mittee on  
Boundaries  
partially acted  
on.

The chairman of the Committee on Boundaries presented and read a report, and on motion of J. Early, the regular order was suspended for the purpose of taking up this report. It was accordingly taken up article by article.

The first article was read and adopted.

The second was read and adopted.

The third was read and adopted.

The fourth was read and adopted.

The conference declined a further consideration of the report, as the time for adjournment was announced.

Afternoon ses-  
sion.

A motion was made and carried that when we adjourn we adjourn to meet at three o'clock, P. M.

The secretary, T. L. Douglass, requested leave of absence during the afternoon session. Granted.

On motion, John A. Collins was appointed an additional assistant secretary.

The president announced the names of the brethren appointed a committee to address our British brethren on the subject of temperance, viz., N. Bangs, W. Capers, and T. A. Morris.

H. B. Bascom announced, on the floor of Conference, that he had just received a letter containing the intelligence of the death of our venerable and much respected brother, John Littlejohn, of the Kentucky Conference, and offered the following resolution, viz. :—

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the several annual conferences in General Conference assembled, That they have heard of the death of the Rev. J. Littlejohn, of the Kentucky Conference, with emotions of the deepest regret, and that they appreciate his character, his virtues, and his usefulness as a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church for more than sixty years, as worthy of all commendation.

Bishop Soule addressed the conference, remarking that our late venerable Bishop M'Kendree, by his will, had left in his care his MSS., and suggested the propriety of the conference taking some order in relation to them, and if they saw proper, to direct that a memoir of his life, &c., be published, and an inscription prepared to be placed on his tombstone.

On motion of S. G. Roszel :—

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conference, &c., That Bishop Soule be, and hereby is respectfully requested to furnish, as early as possible, a history of the life of our late Bishop M'Kendree for publication ; and that he prepare a suitable epitaph for his tombstone.

On motion of J. Early :—

*Resolved*, That the bishops be requested to select some suitable and competent person to prepare for publication, a vindication of our Episcopal ordination. On motion, ordered to lie on the table.

Conference then adjourned until three o'clock P. M.

#### WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Andrew in the chair.

On motion of L. Skidmore, the resolutions offered by Daniel Ostrander some days since, and then laid on the table, fixing the time of final adjournment, were taken up. A motion to amend the first resolution, by substituting Thursday 26th, in place of Saturday 28th, prevailed, and the motion, as amended, was adopted.

May 18.  
Secretary excused.  
Another assistant secretary.

Committee to address English brethren on temperance.

Death of brother Littlejohn.

Bishop Soule executor of Bishop M'Kendree.

Bishop Soule requested to become Bishop M'Kendree's biographer.

Episcopal Ordination, defence of. Laid on the table.

Time of final adjournment fixed.

May 18.  
 Second resolution laid on the table.  
 Report on Boundaries resumed.  
 Report of North Carolina and Virginia Conferences laid on the table.  
 Motion on Baltimore Conference bounds laid on the table.  
 Motion to alter Philadelphia Conference bounds.

The second resolution was again laid on the table.

The unfinished business of the morning was resumed, and the greater part of the report of the Committee on Boundaries was adopted, with a few verbal amendments.

On a motion by H. G. Leigh, to amend the report on the North Carolina Conference, the parts of it relating to that and the Virginia Conference were laid on the table, on motion of J. Early.

On motion of J. A. Collins, that portion of the report which fixes the bounds of the Baltimore Conference was also laid on the table.

When the bounds of the Philadelphia Conference were read, and a motion for adoption offered, R. W. Petherbridge moved to alter these boundaries, by adding the North Philadelphia District to the New-Jersey Conference. While this motion was under consideration, and before the question was taken, the conference adjourned to meet again tomorrow morning at eight o'clock.

## THURSDAY, MAY 19.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Soule in the chair.

Eighth report on Revisal laid on the table.

The chairman of the Committee on Revisal, presented and read an eighth report, which was ordered to lie on the table.

Report of Committee on Canada Affairs.

The chairman of the Committee on Canada affairs, to whom their former report was re-committed, presented and read their report, which, after considerable debate, and a fair and full discussion, was adopted, as follows:—

### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CANADA AFFAIRS, ADOPTED MAY 19TH, 1836.

The committee to whom was referred the communication from the Conference of the Wesleyan Methodist Church in British North America, beg leave to report:—

Your committee have given a serious, and, they trust, a candid attention to the document referred to them. They have invited before them the president of the Canada Conference, the Rev. William Lord, and the delegate from Canada, the Rev. William Case, and have listened with pleasure to their remarks, and perused with close attention a communication purporting to set forth the grounds of these claims. But inasmuch as the last General Conference did distinctly avow that constitutional restrictions prohibited their action, and proceeded to lay the question before the several annual conferences, in order to obtain the decision of these primary bodies upon the subject, your committee were admonished that the task devolving upon them is limited to this single consideration, viz., Have the annual con

ferences determined against the claims of the Canada Conference?

This point is determined by the votes of all the annual conferences, which, being properly authenticated, and having been carefully considered and examined, stand as follows:— In favour of concurring with the General Conference of 1832, five hundred and ninety-nine; against concurring, seven hundred and fifty-eight. Whole number of votes taken, one thousand three hundred and fifty-seven. This statement shows that instead of three-fourths of the votes being in favour of obviating the constitutional restriction, as the Discipline in such cases requires, a large majority have decided against it. And this decision your committee regard as final and conclusive against these claims.

But inasmuch as the General Conference have ever claimed and exercised the right to regulate the discount at which wholesale purchasers may buy our books, and with a view to an amicable and final arrangement of all the difficulties which have existed on this subject, and especially with a sincere desire to go as far as justice to the Methodist Episcopal Church will authorize, to encourage and perpetuate the friendly and fraternal feelings which should ever exist between the different members of the great Methodist family, the committee submit to the consideration, and for the adoption of the General Conference, the following arrangement, mutually agreed to by the delegates from Canada and the Book Agents, and which we are assured will be satisfactory to our Canadian brethren, if sanctioned by their conference:—

*Whereas*, the Canada Conference, now in connexion with the Wesleyan Methodists of Great Britain, was formerly united to, and formed part of, the Methodist Episcopal Church; and whereas the union which, by mutual consent, then subsisted, was dissolved at the earnest and repeated solicitation of the ministers and members of the Church in Canada, which was definitely determined upon by an act of the Canada Conference, who thereupon and subsequently did form a union with, and became a part of the Wesleyan Methodist connexion; and whereas there has been a difference of opinion between the Methodist Episcopal Church and the Canada Conference in regard to the claim which has been urged by the Canada Conference, of an interest in, and a portion of the Methodist Book Concern; and whereas the decision of the several annual conferences to whom the subject was referred by the General Conference of 1832 has been adverse to the claim of the Canada Conference, and has thereby precluded any further action of the General Conference, on the ground of claim, as made by the Canada Conference; but whereas this General Conference cherishes an affectionate remembrance of the Canada

May 19.  
Report of Committee on  
Canada Affairs  
continued.

May 19.  
Report of Com-  
mittee on  
Canada Affairs  
continued.

brethren, and is desirous to manifest its fraternal regard in every suitable way; and whereas the Canada Conference did, at its last session, appoint its president the Rev. William Lord, and the Rev. Egerton Ryerson, delegates to this General Conference, to negotiate its claims on the Book Concern, and the Rev. William Case having been duly appointed to take the place of Rev. E. Ryerson in the negotiation; and whereas the said Rev. William Lord, president of the Canada Conference, and the Rev. William Case, have full powers to bring to an amicable termination the question pending between the two connexions, therefore, it is hereby declared to be mutually understood and agreed that the following plan shall be considered as an arrangement for the full and final adjustment and settlement of the matter at issue between the Canada Conference and the Methodist Episcopal Church, to wit: The Agents of the Methodist Book Concern shall furnish to the Book steward of the Canada Conference, any of the books which may be issued from its press at the following rates, subject to the conditions and provisos hereinafter named:—

1. The general Alphabetical Catalogue books, whether in sheets or bound, shall be sold at forty per cent discount from the retail prices, as long as the present discount of one-third shall be made to wholesale purchasers; but should this discount be hereafter changed to one-quarter, and in that case the books sold to the Book Steward of the Canada Conference shall be charged at a discount of one-third from the retail prices which shall from time to time be affixed to them respectively, provided that this discount shall not apply to such books as may be reduced below the usual prices on account of rival publishers; and provided, also, that the Canada Conference shall give satisfactory security in regard to the payment of any debt which may be contracted with the Methodist Book Concern, within one year from the time such debt may be created. And it is also expressly understood and agreed, that no interest shall be demanded or paid on any such debt, unless payment should be delayed beyond the period of credit before named, in which event interest shall be charged and paid, from and after the expiration of said credit term. It is also provided, that all books which may be ordered by the Book Steward of the Canada Conference shall be at the risk and expense of the said conference from the time they shall be forwarded from the Methodist Book Concern.

2. Sunday-school books and tracts shall be furnished to the Book Steward of the Canada Conference at a premium of eighteen per cent, to be paid in General Catalogue books, at retail prices, and it is hereby declared to be understood and agreed, that the same provisions and conditions are to be

adjudged applicable to Sunday-school books and tracts as have been specified above in regard to books generally.

3. It is understood and agreed that the privileges herein secured to the Canada Conference, shall be binding on the Methodist Book Concern until the first day of May, 1852, next ensuing the present date; *Provided*, also, that the said Conference shall regularly and truly make an annual settlement to the satisfaction of the Agents of the Methodist Book Concern, and not otherwise.

4. Finally, it is hereby mutually understood and agreed that the foregoing arrangement is considered as a full, definite, and satisfactory adjustment of the question which has arisen between the Canada Conference and the Methodist Episcopal Church on the subject of the Methodist Book Concern.

In testimony whereof, the Agents of the Methodist Book Concern, and the delegates of the Canada Conference, have mutually affixed their respective signatures, this 18th day of May, 1836, in the city of Cincinnati, Ohio.

(Signed,)

B. WAUGH, } Agents.  
T. MASON, }

WILLIAM LORD, } Delegates from  
WILLIAM CASE, } Canada.

A duplicate of this report, signed as the original, was given to the brethren from Canada.

THOMAS L. DOUGLASS, *Secretary.*

All which is respectfully submitted.

ROBERT PAINE, *Chairman.*

The above papers were signed in presence of the General Conference, and the originals filed among the conference papers.

On motion of N. Bangs:—

*Resolved*, That the adjustment of the debts now due from the Canada Conference to the Book Concern, be referred to the Book Agents and Book Committee at New-York for final settlement at their discretion.

Adjustment of debts to Book Concern from Canada.

On motion of N. Bangs:—

*Resolved*, That the secretary be requested to furnish the brethren from Canada with a copy of all the papers respecting the Canada claim which have been presented to the Conference.

Copy of Canada papers ordered for Canada delegates.

On motion of N. Levings:—

*Resolved*, That the words, "and Zion's Herald," found in the Discipline, article two, section eight, on page one hundred and eighty-five, be stricken from the Discipline. Ordered to lie on the table one day, according to rule.

Motion to erase from Discipline "and Zion's Herald."

On motion of R. Paine:—

*Resolved*, That a copy of the report of the Committee on Canada affairs, including the arrangement between the

Canada papers for Book Agents.

May 19.  
Report of Committee on Canada affairs continued.

May 19.

General Conference and Canada, be furnished for the Book Agents at New-York.

On motion of D. Ostrander, the second report of the Committee on the Book Concern was taken up, read, and adopted, as follows:—

The Committee on the Book Concern, having duly considered that part of the Discipline referred to them, contained in section eight, part two, and having reference to the time of service of editors, agents, and others, take leave to report the following resolution for adoption by this conference, viz. :—

Report on Book Concern, rescinding the limitation of time of service, adopted.

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the several annual conferences in General Conference assembled, That the clause in our Discipline which says, "No book-steward, agent, or editor shall be continued in office for a longer time than eight years successively, and the regulation shall apply to those who are appointed as assistants," be, and the same is hereby rescinded. Respectfully submitted.

M. BUTER, *Chairman*.

CINCINNATI, May 6, 1836.

Afternoon session.

On motion of N. Bangs :—

*Resolved*, That when we adjourn we adjourn to meet at three o'clock, P. M.

Report on Bible, Sunday-school and Tract Societies in part adopted. Balance laid on the table.

On motion of S. Luckey, the report of the Committee on Bible, Sunday-school, and Tract Societies was called up, and so much of the report as related to a pastoral address was referred to the committee appointed to write said address. On motion the remainder of the report was laid on the table.

Funeral sermon of Bishop Emory.

The time for the funeral services of our late respected and beloved Bishop Emory having been announced, it was moved and carried that a recess of ten minutes be allowed. At eleven o'clock the religious services commenced. Bishop Andrew read, sung, and prayed. Bishop Roberts preached from Revelations xiv, 13. The services were concluded with prayer by S. G. Roszel.

On motion of B. Waugh :—

A copy requested for publication.

*Resolved*, unanimously, by a rising vote, that Bishop Roberts be requested to furnish a copy of the discourse just delivered for publication.

Note from J. G. Birney.

A communication from James G. Birney was presented, read, and ordered to lie on the table.

J. L. Bromwell's appeal.

An appeal from Jacob L. Bromwell was presented and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Conference adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Hedding in the chair.

On motion of W. Browning, the report of the Committee on Boundaries was called up for adoption.

May 19.  
Action on the report of the Committee on Boundaries.

On motion of T. Crowder, the resolution to alter the bounds of the Philadelphia Conference was laid on the table.

A motion was then made by L. Grant, that the petition of the Philadelphia Conference, as contained in their conference journal, to divide themselves into two conferences, in the course of the ensuing four years, be granted. Lost.

The report, with the amendments, was then pronounced to be before the conference for consideration.

On motion, the amendment was laid on the table, and the report of the Committee adopted.

The article forming the New-Jersey Conference was then read and adopted.

On motion, the article forming the North Carolina Conference was read and adopted.

The article forming the Virginia Conference was then read, and an amendment was offered to add Westmoreland and Lancaster circuits to it.

A motion was then made to read the petitions from those places, but as they were in the hands of the Judiciary Committee, and not in conference, they could not be read.

On motion of E. Robinson :—

*Resolved*, That the motion for amendment be laid on the table.

The motion for the adoption of the article was then carried.

The article forming the Baltimore Conference was then read and adopted.

A motion was made by D. Ostrander, that Loyalsock circuit be added to the exception in describing the boundaries of the Genesee Conference, and after some debate, it was moved that we adjourn.

Conference adjourned until to-morrow morning at eight o'clock.

FRIDAY, MAY 20.

May 20.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

The chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary reported that the petition of J. L. Bromwell, which had been referred to them, did not properly belong to them, and on motion, it was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

Bromwell's petition referred to Committee on Itinerancy.

The chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary presented and read a report on the petitions from the Westmoreland and Lancaster circuit, which was adopted, as follows :—



May 20.  
Report of the  
Committee on  
the Judiciary  
on Slavery  
continued.

The Judiciary Committee, to whom was referred the petition of the official members of the Methodist Episcopal Church on Lancaster circuit, Baltimore Conference, report, that the petition referred to them is an able document, drawn up in the most respectful language, and signed by twenty-nine individuals, who claim to be official members of the Methodist Episcopal Church on Lancaster circuit.

The petitioners first invite the attention of the General Conference to the section of the Discipline which states that "no slave-holder shall be eligible to any official station in our Church hereafter, when the laws of the state in which he lives will admit of emancipation and permit the liberated slave to enjoy freedom," &c. They then produce an extract of the laws from the commonwealth of Virginia, showing their extreme rigour in this matter,— "that any emancipated slave (with exceptions too rare to be looked for in one case out of many) remaining in the commonwealth more than twelve months after his or her right to freedom shall have arrived, contrary to the provisions of this act, shall be sold by the overseers of the poor, in any county in which he or she may be found, for the benefit of the literary fund." In view of this "Act," they claim that they, as official members, are protected by the Discipline of the Church, as they deem it to be precisely one of the exceptions to the general rule provided for in the Discipline: and especially as under the existing laws of the commonwealth to emancipate their slaves would, in many cases, be an act of cruelty to their slaves themselves.

The matter of complaint by the petitioners is, that the construction put upon this rule by the Baltimore Annual Conference, in certain acts, respecting individuals connected with this section of the work, is subversive of their rights and oppressive in its bearings; that they require the same submission to the rule of persons in that state, as of those in sections where the legal disability to comply with it does not exist, regardless of the exceptions. And they respectfully solicit the interference of the General Conference, either to revise the rule, or give it such construction as to afford them relief in the premises, or finally, if neither be done, to cause them to be set off to the Virginia Conference.

It is due to the Baltimore Conference to say, that the cases referred to as evidence of their improper application of their rule, are stated in terms too vague and indefinite to authorize the inference drawn by the petitioners. It is represented that a young man applying to be received into the itinerancy is prevented by application of this rule,— that it is in vain for him to urge upon a majority of the conference the impracticability of his complying with the

rule, in consequence of the laws under which he lives, or any other consideration in favour of his being received; because he will not comply with the rule, he must be rejected. The same, it is assumed by the petitioners, is done with respect to those who apply for ordination. And it is inferred by them, that if the conference act consistently, stewards and leaders may be expected soon to be called upon to comply with the rule, or forfeit their official standing in the Church.

May 20.  
Report of the  
Committee on  
the Judiciary  
continued.

Your committee view this subject in a very different light. In admitting a preacher to travel, or electing one to orders, a conference must have the right to act freely; and in cases which are not successful, it is wholly an assumption, on the part of the applicants or their friends, to say what particular considerations dictated the vote, unless such considerations be distinctly avowed by a majority of the conference. And it is known to all conversant with the transactions of an annual conference, that no person applying to be received or ordained ever enters as a party before the conference, pleading his own cause, and hearing and answering the objections which may be urged against his application. Any act of a conference, then, in these cases, cannot be justly urged as evidence that the conference denies the party concerned the benefit of the special provision in the rule. A conference, or other deliberative bodies, possesses, and in the nature of the case must possess, the right to determine its own course, and vote freely in all such individual cases. Your committee, therefore, cannot see that the privileges claimed by the petitioners have been contravened by an act of the Baltimore Conference.

Having said this much respecting the alleged grounds of grievance, your committee agree in the opinion that the exceptions to the general rule in the Discipline, referred to by the petitioners, clearly apply to official members of the Church in Virginia, according to the laws of the commonwealth, and do therefore protect them against a forfeiture of their official standing on account of said rule.

In addition to the petition of the official members of Lancaster Circuit, a resolution of a quarterly conference of Westmoreland Circuit has been referred to your committee, by which it appears that the members of said conference concurred in said petition.

Should the General Conference agree in the opinions stated by the committee in the report, it is respectfully recommended that after adopting it, they cause a copy of it to be forwarded to the official members in each of the above-named circuits. All which is respectfully submitted.

DAVID YOUNG, *Chairman.*

May 20.  
Ninth Report  
on Revisal.

The chairman of the Committee on Revisal presented and read a ninth report, which, on motion, was laid on the table.

Report of Com-  
mittee on ex-  
penses of dele-  
gates.

The chairman of the Committee on the Expenses of Delegates presented and read a report, which, after being investigated and discussed, on motion was adopted, to wit:—

The Committee on the Expenses of Delegates have attended to the business referred to them, and beg leave to report as follows:—

Conferences.	Expenses.	Collections.	Deficiency.	Surplus.
New-York	\$697 62	\$726 13	... ..	\$28 51
New-England	558 17	328 66	\$229 51	... ..
Maine	786 63½	414 80	322 33½	... ..
New-Hampshire	802 71	286 53	516 18	... ..
Troy	469 55	377 88	188 67	... ..
Oneida	646 80	453 95	192 85	... ..
Genesee	447 00	350 02	96 98	... ..
Pittsburg	291 66½	437 57½	... ..	145 91
Ohio	112 00	562 99	... ..	450 99
Missouri	226 50	165 50	60 94	... ..
Kentucky	90 93½	132 45½	... ..	41 53½
Illinois	144 75	137 06½	7 68½	... ..
Indiana	87 50	84 13½	... ..	46 28½
Holston	207 00	171 59	35 41	... ..
Tennessee	430 00	439 79	... ..	9 75
Mississippi	295 00	422 25	... ..	127 25
Alabama	594 44	428 16	166 28	... ..
Georgia	638 00	503 16	134 84	... ..
South Carolina	789 50	533 88½	225 61½	... ..
Virginia	692 97	782 15	... ..	89 19
Baltimore	634 87	541 36	94 61½	... ..
Philadelphia	719 24	797 50	... ..	78 26
	\$10,859 85½	9,077 16		
	9,077 16			
Deficiency	\$1,282 69½			

Your committee were instructed to recommend some plan by which the deficiencies in the amount collected to meet the expenses of the delegates should be raised. They have taken the subject into consideration, and in view of the fact, that many of the delegates are far from home, and have not the means of returning, and also that your committee have it not in their power to furnish the means, they would respectfully request the General Conference to authorize them to draw on the Book Concern for \$1282 69½, that being the sum necessary to pay said expense. Your committee would further recommend the adoption of the following resolution:—

*Resolved*, That all moneys which have been or may hereafter be collected on the several circuits or stations, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the delegates to this General Conference, and which have not come to hand, be

forwarded to the Agents of the Book Concern to aid the funds of that institution.

May 30.

All which is respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM H. RAPER, *Chairman.*

On motion of John Early, the report of the Committee on Boundaries was called up.

The motion made by D. Ostrander was carried.

The report as amended, and finally adopted, is as follows:—

SECTION I.

*Of the Boundaries of the Annual Conferences, &c.*

1. The New-York Conference shall embrace all that territory now included in the New-York, Whiteplains, New-Haven, Poughkeepsie, Rhinebeck, Delaware, and Newburg districts.

Boundaries of the several annual conferences.

New-York.

2. New-England Conference shall include all the state of Massachusetts, lying east of the Green Mountains, not included in the New-Hampshire Conference, and that part of Connecticut lying east of Connecticut River, and all the state of Rhode Island.

New-England.

3. The Maine Conference shall include all the state of Maine, and that part of the state of New-Hampshire lying east of the White Hills, and north of the waters of Assi-pee Lake.

Maine.

4. The New-Hampshire Conference shall include all the state of New-Hampshire not included in the Maine Conference, that part of the state of Vermont east of the Green Mountains, and that part of the state of Massachusetts northeast of the Merrimack River.

New-Hampshire.

5. The Troy Conference shall include the Albany, Middlebury, Plattsburg, and Troy districts.

Troy.

6. Black River Conference shall include that part of the state of New-York west of the Troy Conference not included in the Genesee Conference, as far south as the Erie Canal, and all the societies on the immediate banks of said canal except Utica.

Black River.

7. The Oneida Conference shall include that part of the state of New-York, east of Cayuga Lake, not included in the New-York, Troy, and Black River Conferences, and the Susquehanna district in the state of Pennsylvania.

Oneida.

8. The Genesee Conference shall include that part of the state of New-York west of Cayuga Lake, not included in the Erie Conference, and so much of Pennsylvania as is included by the Sugar Creek, Wellsborough, Smithsport, and Loyalsook circuits.

Genesee.

9. The Erie Conference shall be bounded on the north by Lake Erie, on the east by a line commencing at the mouth of Cattaraugus Creek, thence to the Alleghany River,

Erie.

May 30.  
Boundaries of  
the several an-  
nual confer-  
ences continu-  
ed.

at the mouth of Tunesquant Creek, thence up said creek eastward, to the ridge dividing between the waters of Clarion and Sinnamahoning Creeks; thence eastward to the head of Mahoning Creek; thence down said creek to the Alleghany River; thence across said river in a northwesterly direction to the Western Reserve line, including the north part of Butler and New Castle circuits, west to the Ohio Canal, thence along said canal to Lake Erie, including Ohio city.

10. Pittsburg Conference shall be bounded on the north by the Erie Conference, on the east by the Alleghany Mountains, on the south by a line stretching from the head of Tygert's Valley to the Ohio River at the mouth of the Little Muskingum, embracing Middleburn Circuits and Hughes River Mission, thence to the Muskingum River, embracing Woodfield and M'Connellsville Circuits, thence on the west to the mouth of White Woman Creek, embracing Summerfield and Freeport Circuits, thence north-east to the Ohio Canal, embracing Dover Circuit, and thence to the line of Erie Conference.

11. Michigan Conference shall embrace all that part of the state of Ohio not included in the Pittsburg, Erie, Ohio, and Indiana Conferences, and all the territory of Michigan, except so much as is included in the Laporte District, Indiana Conference.

12. Ohio Conference shall commence at the mouth of the Great Miami River, thence running north with the state line as far as the north line of Drake county, excluding Elizabethtown, thence eastwardly, so as to include Lebanon, Urbana, Columbus, and Zanesville Districts, thence down the Muskingum River so as to include Marietta Circuit and Kanahwa District in Virginia, thence down the Ohio River to the place of beginning.

13. Indiana Conference shall include the state of Indiana, except so much as is included in the Illinois Conference, Elizabethtown in the state of Ohio, and that part of Michigan territory now included in the Laporte District.

14. Illinois Conference shall include the state of Illinois, and that part of Indiana included in the Danville and Eugene Circuits, the Wisconsin territory north of the state and west of Lake Michigan, and also that part of said territory west of the Mississippi, commonly called the Black Hawk Purchase.

15. Missouri Conference shall include the state of Missouri, and that part of Missouri territory which lies north of the Cherokee line.

16. Arkansas Conference shall include the Arkansas territory, that part of Missouri territory lying south of the Cherokee line, also so much of the state of Louisiana as is now included in the Louisiana District.

17. Kentucky Conference shall include the state of Kentucky, except so much of the said state as lies west of the Tennessee River.

18. Tennessee Conference shall include West Tennessee, and that part of Kentucky lying west of Tennessee River and North Alabama.

19. Holston Conference shall include East Tennessee, and that part of the state of Georgia now embraced in the Newtown District, and also what is now included in the Tugaloo and Pickens Circuits, and those parts of South Carolina and Virginia which are included in the Ashville and Abingdon Districts.

20. Mississippi Conference shall include all the state of Mississippi, except what is embraced in the range of counties on the east boundary of the state, viz., Jackson, Greene, Wayne, Clark, Lauderdale, Kemper, Noxaber, Lounds, and Monroe, and that part of the state of Louisiana not included in the Arkansas Conference.

21. Alabama Conference shall include South Alabama, and that part of the Mississippi not included in the Mississippi Conference and West Florida.

22. Georgia Conference shall include the state of Georgia, except what is embraced in the Holston Conference, East and Middle Florida.

23. South Carolina Conference shall include the state of South Carolina, except so much as is included in the Tugaloo, Greenville, and Pickens Circuits, and that part of North Carolina now included in the Wilmington and Lincolnton Districts.

24. North Carolina Conference shall be bounded on the east by the Atlantic Ocean, on the north by Albemarle Sound, Roanoke and Staunton Rivers, on the west by the top of the Blue Ridge, including the counties of Wilks and Iredell, on the south by the south lines of Iredell, Rowan, Davidson, Randolph, and Chatham, thence by Cape Fear River, except those appointments now included in the Wilmington and Lincolnton Districts.

25. Virginia Conference shall be bounded on the east by Chesapeake Bay and the Atlantic Ocean, on the south by Albemarle Sound, Roanoke and Staunton Rivers, on the west by the Blue Ridge, on the north by the Rappahannock River, except Fredericksburg and Port Royal.

26. Baltimore Conference shall include the remaining part of Virginia, Holston, Ohio, Pittsburg, and Philadelphia Conferences, the western shore of Maryland, except a small portion included in the Pittsburgh Conference, and that part of Pennsylvania lying east of the Alleghany Mountains and west of Susquehannah River, including Northumberland District.

27. Philadelphia Conference shall include the Eastern

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nual confer-  
ences conclud-  
ed.

Shore of Maryland and Virginia, the state of Delaware, and all that part of Pennsylvania lying between Susquehanna and Delaware Rivers, except so much as is included in the Baltimore, Oneida, and New-Jersey Conferences.

28. New-Jersey Conference shall include the whole state of New-Jersey, Staten Island, and so much of the states of New-York and Pennsylvania as is now included in the Asbury District.

29. There shall be an annual conference on the western coast of Africa, to be denominated *The Liberia Mission Annual Conference*, possessing all the rights, powers, and privileges of other annual conferences, except that of sending delegates to the General Conference, and of drawing its annual dividend from the avails of the Book Concern, and of the Chartered Fund.

On motion of John Early :—

Resolution re-  
specting North  
Carolina and  
Virginia Con-  
ferences.

*Resolved*, That nothing contained in the report, fixing the boundaries of the Virginia and North Carolina Conferences shall be so construed as to prevent members from meeting at Petersburg in February next, where and when a division of the preachers between the said conferences shall take place.

Appeal of J.  
Westerland  
taken up.

On motion of William Winans, the report on the appeal of Jonas Westerland was called up and read. Inquiry was made of the president if it was not necessary that conference should sit with closed doors, when the general conclusion was, that as the charges had been read, the present case should be investigated without closing the doors.

On motion of John Early :—

Doors to be  
closed in cer-  
tain cases when  
appeals are  
tried.

*Resolved*, That all appeals hereafter shall be tried with open doors, except the appellant or his representative, or the delegates from the conference immediately concerned, shall desire them to be closed, and in such case the president shall have the house cleared and the doors closed.

Decision of the  
Mississippi  
Conference in  
this confirmed.

The consideration of the report was resumed, and on the recommendation of the Committee on the Judiciary the appeal was admitted, and the charges being read, the subject was discussed by S. G. Roszel in favour of the appellant, and by B. M. Drake in behalf of the Mississippi Conference. Several motions were made, and after having been debated were withdrawn. A motion to affirm the decision was lost, and a motion to re-consider carried, when a motion was made by E. Robinson, that the decision of the Mississippi Conference, in the case of Jonas Westerland, by which he was expelled from the Church, be affirmed. Carried.

Conference then adjourned to meet at three o'clock, P. M.

May 30.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Andrew in the chair.

On motion of S. Martindale, the report of the Committee on the Episcopacy was called up, and on motion, the fourth resolution was amended by striking out the word "three," and inserting the word "two." The resolution recommending a visit to Africa was adopted. The preamble to the report was then amended and adopted. A motion to reconsider the fourth resolution was voted and carried, and the word "two" was stricken out, and the word "three" again inserted. The whole report, as amended, was then adopted, as follows:—

Episcopal report called up and acted upon.

The Committee on the Episcopacy beg leave to report.

Report of the Committee on Episcopacy.

After a minute and particular examination of the labours and administration of our government by the episcopacy, your committee find nothing to condemn, but much to approve. Their labours during the last four years have been both arduous and difficult, and their attention to duty such as merits the decided approbation of your committee.

Your committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:—

*Resolved*, 1. That it is a violation of a rule of discipline for a bishop to continue a preacher in a station or circuit for more than two years, notwithstanding the station may be divided into two or more stations or circuits.

*Resolved*, 2. That it is inconsistent with the genius of Methodism to continue a preacher for many years in succession in the same part of the work, and, therefore, the bishops are advised not to continue any preacher for many years in succession in the same city, town, or district.

*Resolved*, 3. That it is expedient at this time to strengthen the episcopacy, by electing and ordaining three additional bishops.

Your committee have had under consideration the resolutions of the managers of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, submitting the memorial of the official members of our Church in Western Africa, in which they ask the appointment of a bishop to reside in that country, and recommend the adoption of the following resolutions, viz. :—

*Resolved*, 1. That it is inexpedient, at present, to appoint a bishop for Western Africa.

*Resolved*, 2. That it be recommended to our episcopacy to select one of their number to visit our work in Western Africa, in the course of the ensuing four years, if they judge proper and convenient: and in the event of such visitation to Africa, the Treasurer of the Missionary Society of the



May 20.

Methodist Episcopal Church is hereby authorized to pay the expenses of such visitation.

All which is respectfully submitted,

JOHN EARLY, *Chairman.*

CINCINNATI, May 13, 1836.

On motion of John Early:—

Release of Bishop Soule from effective service for four years to come.

*Resolved,* That whereas Bishop Soule has assured this conference, and we are fully convinced that his want of health, and the infirm state of his constitution, will not justify an attempt in him to do effective service in the episcopacy, therefore resolved, that he be at full liberty to pursue such a course as he may think best during the ensuing four years, for the improvement of his health, and to prolong his useful life, affording, in the mean time, all the service he can, as a joint superintendent or bishop in our Church.

On motion of William Winans:—

Release of Bishop Roberts for the same length of time.

*Resolved,* That whereas Bishop Roberts has assured this conference, and we are fully convinced that his want of health, and the infirm state of his constitution will not justify an attempt in him to do effective service in the episcopacy, therefore resolved, that he be at full liberty to pursue such a course as he may think best during the ensuing four years, for the improvement of his health, and to prolong his useful life, affording, in the mean time, all the service he can, as a joint superintendent or bishop in our Church:

On motion of S. Martindale, the report of the Committee on Temperance was called up. The first resolution was then read, and the subject debated until an adjournment was called for.

Conference then adjourned until to-morrow at eight o'clock, A. M.

May 21.

### SATURDAY, MAY 21.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Soule in the chair.

Report on the Book Concern.

The chairman of the Committee on the Book Concern presented a report, which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

Report of the Committee on Education.

The chairman of the Committee on Education presented and read a report.

D. Young moved to amend the first resolution by inserting the words "preacher in charge."

A motion to lay the amendment on the table was carried.

The resolution was then before the conference, and was read and adopted.

The second resolution was read and adopted.

The third resolution was also read and adopted.

On motion the report was adopted with the understand-

ing that the name and location of any other literary institutions which may be handed to the committee shall be inserted therein, and by them be reported to the conference.

May 21.

On motion of J. F. Wright, the secretary was instructed to prepare the above report for publication in our periodicals.

Ordered for publication.

A memorial from Lockport was presented, and on motion referred to the Committee on Slavery.

Memorial from Lockport.

A memorial from the Church in Alexandria, D. C., was presented, read, and referred to the conference, when the report on temperance shall be taken up.

Memorial from Alexandria.

The chairman of the committee on the subject of slavery presented a report, which was read and adopted, as follows:—

Report of Committee on Slavery.

The committee to whom were referred sundry memorials from the north, praying that certain rules on the subject of slavery, which formerly existed in our book of Discipline, should be restored, and that the General Conference take such measures as they may deem proper to free the Church from the evil of slavery, beg leave to report:

That they have had the subject under serious consideration, and are of opinion that the prayers of the memorialists cannot be granted, believing that it would be highly improper for the General Conference to take any action that would alter or change our rules on the subject of slavery. Your committee, therefore, respectfully submit the following resolution:—

*Resolved, &c.* That it is inexpedient to make any change in our book of Discipline respecting slavery, and that we deem it improper further to agitate the subject in the General Conference at present. All which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN DAVIS, *Chairman.*

On motion of S. Chamberlain, the conference resolved to reconsider the vote by which they fixed on Thursday the 26th as the day of final adjournment. It was then moved to strike out the words, "Thursday, 26th," with a view of fixing on Monday, 30th, which was carried, and on motion, the whole matter was laid on the table.

Time of final adjournment indefinite.

On motion of S. G. Roszel:—

*Resolved,* That our assistant secretary, Thomas B. Sargent, receive the same sum for his expenses that a delegate to this conference, coming from the city of Baltimore, in which city brother Sargent resides, receives: and that the chairman of the Committee on the Expenses of Delegates be, and hereby is, authorized to draw upon the Book Agents for the amount of such expenses.

Expenses of assistant secretary to be paid.

On motion of Allen Wiley:—

*Resolved,* That next Thursday be the day on which we

Day of election of officers.

May 21.

will enter into the elections of such officers as the General Conference shall have provided for.

On motion of T. Spicer:—

Revisal reports  
to be taken up  
Monday, 3 P.  
M.

*Resolved*, That this conference hold a session on next Monday at three o'clock, P. M., for the purpose of taking up and acting on the reports of the Committee on Revisal.

✓ Motion to re-  
commit the re-  
port on tem-  
perance.

The report of the Committee on Temperance was called up as the unfinished business of yesterday, and D. Ostrander moved that the report of the Committee on Temperance be recommitted, with instructions to report a resolution submitting the question of restoring Mr. Wesley's original rule on spirituous liquors to our General Rules to the several annual conferences for their concurrence.

Several speeches were delivered, and the debate continued until the time for adjournment.

Conference then adjourned until Monday morning at eight o'clock.

May 22.

### MONDAY, MAY 23.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Hedding in the chair.

(The following resolution passed yesterday, but omitted in the journal of that day, is here inserted.)

On motion of A. Griffith:—

Resolution ex-  
cusing Bishop  
Hedding for  
the next four  
years.

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the several annual conferences in General Conference assembled, That in view of the increasing infirmities of Bishop Hedding, that he be at liberty to exercise his own discretion in labouring at those times, and in those places, which he shall judge most convenient and practicable in the discharge of the duties of his office for the four years to come. This resolution was adopted unanimously.

Report on Book  
Concern.

On motion of T. Crowder, the report on the Book Concern was called up and read. The resolutions were then separately read.

Action on the  
report of the  
Committee on  
Book Concern.

The first, second, and third were read and adopted. The fourth was amended, as the report will show, and then adopted. The fifth, sixth, and seventh were read and adopted. The eighth resolution was read, and on motion re-committed. The ninth resolution was read, an amendment offered, and the debate continued until the hour of adjournment was announced.

Conference adjourned until three o'clock P. M.

### MONDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

The consideration of the report on the Book Concern was resumed. The committee reported an amendment to the

eight resolution, which on motion was rejected. The question was then taken on the original resolution and carried. The ninth resolution was then read and adopted. On motion, resolved, that the remaining part of the report lie on the table, and be made the order of the day for Wednesday.

May 28.

On motion of T. Spicer, the first report of the Committee on Revisal was called up, and the concluding paragraph in the fifth article was read, and on motion laid on the table. An amendment was then offered to the eighth article, and lost. The article was then read and adopted. The ninth article was then read, an amendment offered, and after considerable discussion, a motion was made to lay both the article and the amendment on the table. Carried. The tenth article was then read, and on motion laid on the table. The eleventh article was read, and an amendment offered. The amendment was lost. The article was then read and adopted. The twelfth article was read and adopted. The whole report being acted on, it was re-committed with instructions to transcribe and prepare it for insertion on the journals and for the Discipline.

Committee on Revisal, &c.

Recommitment of Revisal Report.

On motion of John Early :—

*Resolved*, That we take up the appeals which were laid on the table, and made the order of this day; and on motion they were then laid over and made the order of the day for next Thursday.

Appeals taken up.

On motion of John Early, the second report of the Committee on Revisal was called up. The first, second, third, fourth, and fifth articles were concurred in. The balance of the report was concurred in, and the whole report being adopted, was re-committed to be transcribed and prepared for the Journal and Discipline.

Second report of Committee on Revisal.

The sixth report of the Committee on Revisal was read and concurred in, and re-committed to be prepared for the Journal and Discipline.

Sixth report of Committee on Revisal.

The seventh report of the Committee on Revisal was called up. The first resolution was read, and adopted—re-committed to be prepared for the Journal and Discipline.

Seventh report of Committee on Revisal.

Conference adjourned until to-morrow morning at eight o'clock.

TUESDAY, MAY 24.

May 24.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Andrew in the chair.

The Chairman of the Committee on Itinerancy presented a report, which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

Itinerancy report.

On motion of L. Swormstedt, the report on the allowance of the preachers was called up, and made the order of the day for this afternoon.

Report on allowance of preachers.

May 24.  
Election of  
Bishop.

On motion, the order of the day was called for, and the conference resolved to go into the election of three additional superintendents. The list was called and the votes taken, one hundred and fifty-three voters being present. On counting the tickets, Beverly Waugh obtained eighty-five, and Wilbur Fisk obtained seventy-eight votes, which, being a majority of the voters, they were declared duly elected. The conference then proceeded in the election, and after balloting the sixth time, Thomas A. Morris obtained eighty-six votes, which, being a majority, he was declared duly elected.

Election of a  
resident Corresponding  
Secretary of Mis-  
sionary So-  
ciety.

On motion, the conference resolved to go into the election of a resident missionary secretary; and, on balloting, Nathan Bangs obtained ninety-four votes, which being a majority of the voters, he was declared duly elected.

Election of prin-  
cipal editor at  
New-York.

On motion, the conference resolved to go into the election of the principal editor at New-York, and on the second balloting Samuel Luckey obtained eighty-three votes, and was declared duly elected.

On motion of J. Early:—

*Resolved*, That whenever we adjourn, we adjourn to meet at three o'clock P. M.

Election of as-  
sistant editor  
at New-York.

On motion, the conference resolved to go into the election of assistant editor in New-York, and on the second balloting John A. Collins obtained eighty-nine votes, and was declared duly elected.

Conference adjourned until three o'clock P. M.

#### TUESDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Soule in the chair.

Principal Book  
Agent at New-  
York.

On motion, the conference resolved to go into the election of a principal Agent of the Book Concern at New-York, and on counting the tickets, Thomas Mason obtained one hundred and three votes, and was declared duly elected.

Assistant Book  
Agent at New-  
York.

On motion, the conference resolved to go into the election of an Assistant Book Agent at New-York, and on counting the tickets George Lane obtained eighty-three votes, and was declared duly elected.

Principal editor  
of Western  
Christian Ad-  
vocate.

On motion, the conference resolved to go into the election of a principal editor of the Western Christian Advocate, and on balloting Charles Elliott obtained seventy-nine votes, which was a majority, and was declared duly elected.

Assistant editor.

On motion, the conference resolved to go into the election of an assistant editor of the Western Christian Advocate, and on motion the conference determined to elect by nomination. William Phillips was nominated, and, on taking the vote, declared to be duly elected.

Principal Book  
Agent in Cin-  
cinnati.

On motion, the conference resolved to elect the principal Book Agent in Cincinnati by nomination and election.

John F. Wright was nominated, and on taking the vote was declared to be duly elected.

May 24.

On motion, the conference resolved to go into the election of Assistant Book Agent in Cincinnati, and on the second balloting Leroy Swormstedt obtained ninety votes, and was declared to be duly elected.

Assistant Book Agent.

On motion of N. Bangs :—

Resolved, That the Book Committee and Book Agents at New-York shall have authority to employ additional help in the editorial department until the editors are ready to enter upon their work.

Authority to Book Agents to obtain help until editors arrive in New-York.

On motion, resolved that a pamphlet, circulated among the members of this conference, purporting to be an "Address to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, by a member of that body," containing reports of the discussion on modern abolitionism, palpably false, and calculated to make an impression to the injury of the character of some of the members engaged in the aforesaid discussion, is an outrage on the dignity of this body, and meriting unqualified reprehension.

Resolution respecting a publication.

WM. WINANS,  
J. STAMPER.

It was moved and carried, that the above resolution be laid over until to-morrow.

Laid over until to-morrow.

Orange Scott avowed himself to be the author of the pamphlet above alluded to, and as he considered himself under obligations to defend himself, requested a copy of the above resolution, which, on motion, was granted.

Author of publication.

Conference then adjourned until to-morrow morning at eight o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25.

May 25.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Hedding in the chair.

The chairman of the Committee on Revisal presented and read a report, which, on motion, was adopted, as follows :—

Your committee were directed to prepare a note explanatory of the word "catholic," as found in our baptismal service on page one hundred and nine, chapter three, section two. They offer the following, to be appended in a note on the bottom of the page where the said word occurs, viz. :—"By holy catholic Church, is meant, The Church of God in general."

Report of Committee on Revisal as adopted.

Your committee were also required to so amend the proviso which permits a bishop to appoint a preacher for more than two years in one place, as to include in its provisions the Book Concern at Cincinnati. Accordingly they recom-

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mend that the words "Book Agents and Editors at Cincinnati" be introduced into said proviso, (chapter one, section four, in the second answer to third question,) immediately after the word "Journal."

Respectfully submitted,

T. SPICER, *Chairman.*

MAY 25th, 1836.

The reports recommitted for the purpose of being transcribed were returned to the secretary, and are as follows, viz. :—

The Committee on Revision who were directed to report to the secretary such amendments as the conference had adopted, as recommended in their former reports, do now report as follows :—

CHAPTER I, SECTION IX.

The ninth answer to question one shall be so amended as to read thus :—

9. To take an exact account of the members in society in their respective circuits and stations, keeping the names of all local elders, deacons, and preachers properly distinguished, and deliver in such accounts to the annual conference, that their number may be printed in the Minutes.

CHAPTER I, SECTION XV.

The seventh answer is amended so as to read, after the words, "as his other duties will allow," "the course of instruction shall not only embrace the nature of experimental religion, but also the nature, design, privileges, and obligations of their baptism."

"8. To appoint a suitable leader for each class, who shall instruct them in his absence, and recommend to the preacher such among them as he may think suitable to be received among us on trial. The preacher shall leave his successor a correct account of each class thus formed, with the name of its leader."

"9. To preach expressly on education. 'But I have no gift for this.' Pray earnestly for the gift, and use every other means to obtain it."

CHAPTER I, SECTION XX.

*Question 1.* What directions shall be given concerning local preachers?

*Answer 1.* The quarterly meeting conference shall take cognizance of all local preachers in the circuit or station, and shall inquire into the gift to labours and usefulness of each preacher by name.

2. The quarterly conference shall have authority to license proper persons to preach, and renew their license

annually, whenever, in the judgment of said conference, their gifts, grace, and usefulness will warrant such renewal; to recommend suitable candidates to the annual conference for deacon's or elder's orders in the local connexion for admission on trial in the travelling connexion, and to try, suspend, expel, or acquit any local preacher in the circuit or station against whom charges may be brought; provided that no person shall be licensed to preach without the recommendation of the society of which he is a member, or of a leader's meeting. Nor shall any one be licensed to preach, or recommended to the annual conference to travel, or for ordination, without first being examined in the quarterly conference on the subject of doctrines and discipline.

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3. A licensed local preacher shall be eligible to the office of a deacon, after he has preached four years from the time he received a regular license, and has obtained a testimonial from the quarterly conference, after proper examination, signed by the president, and countersigned by the secretary; and after his character has passed in examination before, and he has obtained the approbation of the annual conference.

4. A local deacon shall be eligible to the office of elder after he has preached four years from the time he was ordained a deacon, and has obtained a recommendation from the quarterly conference of which he is member certifying his qualifications in doctrine, discipline, talents, and usefulness, signed by the president and countersigned by the secretary. He shall, if he cannot attend, send to the annual conference such recommendation, and a note certifying his belief in the doctrine and discipline of our Church, the whole being examined by the annual conference, and if approved he may be ordained: provided, nevertheless, that no slaveholder shall be eligible to the office of an elder or deacon where the law will admit of emancipation, and permit the liberated slave to enjoy freedom.

5. Every local elder, deacon, and preacher shall have his name recorded on the journal of the quarterly conference of which he is a member, and also enrolled on a class paper, and meet in class if the distance of his place of residence from any class be not too great; or in neglect thereof, the quarterly conference, if they judge it proper, may deprive him of his ministerial office.

Whenever any elder, deacon, or preacher shall remove from one circuit or station to another, he shall procure from the presiding elder of the district, or from the preacher having charge, a certificate of his official standing in the Church at the time of his removal, without which he shall not be received as a local preacher in other places.

No elder, deacon, or preacher among us shall distil or vend spirituous liquors without forfeiting his official standing.



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ued.

*Question 2.* What shall be done when a local elder deacon, or preacher is reported to be guilty of some crime expressly forbidden in the word of God, sufficient to exclude a person from the kingdom of grace and glory?

*Answer 1.* The preacher having charge shall call a committee, consisting of three or more local preachers, before whom it shall be the duty of the accused to appear, and by whom he shall be acquitted, or if found guilty, suspended until the next quarterly conference; and the preacher in charge shall cause exact minutes of the charges, testimony, and examination, together with the decision of the committee, to be laid before the quarterly conference, where it shall be the duty of the accused to appear; and the president shall, at the commencement of the trial, appoint a secretary, who shall take down regular minutes, and when read and approved shall be signed by the president, and also by the members of the conference who are present, or a majority of them. And in case of condemnation, the local preacher, deacon, or elder shall be allowed to appeal to the next annual conference, provided that he signify to the said quarterly conference his determination to appeal, in which case the said president shall lay the minutes of the trial above mentioned before the said annual conference at which the local preacher, deacon, or elder, so appealing, may appear; and the said annual conference shall judge and finally determine from the minutes of the said trial so laid before them.

2. When a local elder or deacon shall be expelled, the presiding elder shall require of him the credentials of his ordination, to be filed with the papers of the annual conference within the limits of which the expulsion has taken place; and should he at any future time produce to the annual conference a certificate of his restoration, signed by the president, and countersigned by the secretary of the quarterly conference, his credentials may be restored to him.

*Question 3.* What shall be done in case of improper tempers, words, or actions?

*Answer.* The person so offending shall be reprimanded by the preacher having charge. Should a second transgression take place, one, two, or three faithful friends are to be taken as witnesses. If he be not then cured, he shall be tried at the next quarterly conference, and if found guilty and impenitent he shall be expelled from the Church.

#### CHAPTER II, SECTION VI.

The answer shall be so amended as to read,—

*Answer.* By all means. This is no time to give encouragement to superfluity of apparel; therefore, receive none into the Church till they have left off superfluous ornaments. In order to this, 1. Let every one who has charge of a cir-

quit or station read Mr. Wesley's Thoughts upon Dress, at least once a year in every society. 2. In visiting the classes be very mild, but very strict. 3. Allow of no exempt case. Better one suffer than many. 4. Give no tickets to any that wear high heads, enormous bonnets, ruffles, or rings.

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ed.

CHAPTER II, SECTION II.

Answers one and two are so amended as to read thus :—

*Answer 1.* Let none be received into the Church until they are recommended by a leader with whom they have met at least six months on trial, and have been baptized.

*Answer 2.* Let none be admitted on trial except they are well recommended by one you know, or until they have met twice or thrice in a class.

In the same section the answer to the fourth question is so amended as to read thus :—

*Answer.* The official minister or preacher shall, at every quarterly meeting, read the names of those that are received into the Church, and also those that are excluded therefrom.

In the same section the second answer to question five is so amended as to read thus :—

2. If they do not amend, let him who has the charge of the circuit or station bring their case before the society or a select number, before whom they shall have been cited to appear; and if they be found guilty of wilful neglect, by the decision of a majority of the members before whom their case is brought, let them be laid aside; and let the preacher show that they are excluded for a breach of our rules, and not for immoral conduct.

CHAPTER II, SECTION V.

The following were ordered to be stricken out of second and third answer to question two.

2. Let him declare whoever does this will be put back on trial.

3. When any such is put back on trial, let a suitable exhortation be subjoined. And the figure 4 which follows be changed to figure 2. And also the words with which the section closes be stricken out, viz. :—

“And even in a doubtful case the member shall be put back on trial.”

CHAPTER I, SECTION XVIII,

Is amended by adding at its close as follows :—

And after such form of trial and expulsion, the person so expelled shall have no privileges of society or sacraments in our Church without confession, contrition, and proper trial.

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ed.

A preacher on trial who may be accused of crime shall be accountable to the quarterly conference of the circuit on which he travels. The presiding elder shall call a committee of three local preachers, who may suspend him, and the quarterly conference may expel him. Nevertheless, he shall have a right to an appeal to the next annual conference.

When any travelling elder or deacon is deprived of his credentials by expulsion or otherwise, they shall be filed with the papers of the annual conference of which he was a member. And should he at any future time give satisfactory evidence to said conference of his amendment, and procure a certificate of the quarterly conference of the circuit or station where he resides, or of an annual conference, who may have admitted him on trial, recommending to the annual conference of which he was a member formerly the restoration of his credentials, the said conference may restore them.

On motion, the report of the Committee on the Chartered Fund was called up and read, and on motion

Adoption of re-  
port of Com-  
mittee on the  
Chartered  
Fund.

*Resolved*, That we now fill the vacancies in the Board of Trustees.

Vacancies in  
Board filled.

The conference accordingly proceeded to act on the nominations of the Board, and elected Philip Eisenbrey to fill the place of the Rev. Thomas F. Sargeant, deceased; Michael S. Johns to supply the place of Joseph L. Inglis, deceased; and John F. Walker to supply the place of William Lowber, resigned.

On motion, the report was then adopted, one hundred in favour and one against. Several members of conference present did not vote.

Resolutions of  
report adopted.

The committee respectfully recommend to the General Conference the adoption of the following resolutions:—

*Resolved*, 1. By the delegates of the annual conferences of the Methodist Episcopal Church in General Conference assembled, two-thirds concurring, That the trustees of the Chartered Fund of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States of America be, and they are hereby authorized and directed to sell and transfer all the stock held by said corporation in the Philadelphia and Lancaster Turnpike Company, and that they invest the moneys arising from such sale in such manner and way as they shall believe will be most for the interest of said corporation.

*Resolved*, &c., 2, two-thirds concurring, That the Trustees of the Chartered Fund of the M. E. Church be, and they are hereby directed to apply to the legislature of Pennsylvania for an amendment to the charter of said corporation, so as to strike out the whole of the fifth article in the original charter, and insert in lieu thereof, "that it shall and may be lawful for the said trustees, or a majority of them at any time when they shall deem it expedient, to sell and convey any real estate which now is, or hereafter may

become vested in said corporation, and to sell and transfer any personal estate of which the said corporation is or may hereafter become possessed, and that they invest the moneys arising from such sale or sales in such manner and way as they shall consider most beneficial for the said corporation.

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Resolutions of  
report adopted.

*Resolved, &c.*, 3. That in view of the small amount of capital of the Chartered Fund, and of the importance of increasing it, the General and annual conferences be recommended to adopt immediate and efficient measures for its enlargement.

On motion of N. Bangs :—

*Resolved*, That a copy of the third resolution in the above report be sent by the secretary to each annual conference, to be entered upon its journal.

Direction  
Secretary.

On motion, the report on the allowance of preachers was called up and read.

On motion, the second resolution was laid on the table.

On motion, the third and fourth resolutions were read and adopted.

Alteration and  
adoption of  
the report of  
the Committee  
on Allowance of Ministers.

A motion was then made and carried to take up the resolution. Laid on the table.

On motion of John Early :—

*Resolved*, That when we adjourn, we adjourn to meet again at three o'clock P. M.

The consideration of the report was then resumed, and an amendment offered, which was lost; and after several remarks, it was moved and carried to postpone the resolution indefinitely. The report as adopted is as follows :—

Your Committee on the Allowance of Ministers, having had the various subjects presented to their attention by your order under consideration, would beg leave to report in part as follows, that in their opinion it would be inexpedient at the present time to make any alteration as to the amount of allowance as now set forth in the Discipline. They would, however, respectfully present to your consideration the propriety of striking out in part two, section four, the first, second, fourth, and fifth rules, and the insertion of the following, viz. : 1. The annual allowance of the married travelling, supernumerary, and superannuated preachers and bishops shall be two hundred dollars and their travelling expenses. 2. The annual allowance of the unmarried travelling, supernumerary, and superannuated preachers and bishops shall be one hundred dollars and their travelling expenses.

They would also recommend that rule third, same section, be amended by adding "or bishop," after the word preacher; that rule six, same section, be amended by adding "and the bishops" after the word preachers; and that rule seven, same section, be amended by adding "and the bishops" after the word preachers; and that the sixth paragraph of same section, page one hundred and seventy-

May 25.  
Report of Committee on Allowance of Ministers continued.

eight, be amended by adding at its conclusion the following words: "and to apportion his entire claim among the different circuits and stations in the district, according to their several ability."

Your committee would also recommend the following as a new rule, to be added after the sixth rule, part second, section five:—

"Each annual conference in which a bishop or bishops may reside shall annually appoint a committee of three or more, whose duty it shall be to estimate the annual amount necessary to furnish a house, fuel, and table expenses for said bishop or bishops, and that they be authorized to draw on the funds of the Book Concern for said amount."

Your committee would further report that the following may be added at the close of part second, section one, page one hundred and fifty-eight, to wit: "their widows and orphans."

Discussion on Wm. Winans' resolution.

On motion of John Early, the resolution offered by William Winans, and laid over yesterday, was called up and read. Orange Scott addressed the conference in a speech of considerable length, and William Winans made a few remarks in explanation.

Conference then adjourned until three o'clock P. M.

#### WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

On motion, the resolution under discussion at the time of adjournment in the forenoon was called up.

A motion was made to refer the resolution to a select committee, and after considerable debate; a motion was made to lay the motion to refer on the table, which was carried.

Passage of W. Winans' resolution.

The resolution was then open to the action of conference.

On motion, the resolution was read and adopted by ninety-seven in favour and nineteen in opposition. (For the resolution, see journal of yesterday.)

W. Winans' resolution ordered to be published.

On motion:—

*Resolved*, That the above resolution be published in the Christian Advocate and Journal and in the Western Christian Advocate.

S. G. ROSZEL,  
T. L. DOUGLASS.

Report of Committee on Book Concern taken up.

On motion, the report of the Committee on the Book Concern was called up.

The ninth resolution was read, and an amendment offered and adopted, and the resolution was then adopted.

The tenth was then read, and several motions to amend were offered and rejected, and the debate continued until the time of adjournment.

Conference then adjourned until to-morrow morning at eight o'clock.

May 25.

THURSDAY, MAY 26.

May 26.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Andrew in the chair.

The chairman of the Committee on Parsonages and Churches presented and read a report, which, on motion, was adopted, to wit:—

The Committee on Churches and Parsonages beg leave respectfully to report, that they have not had anything referred to them for consideration since their appointment, and believing that no improvement would be likely to follow any action of the General Conference on this subject at its present session, they will only recommend the following resolution, to wit:—

Report on Parsonages and Churches.

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the several annual conferences in General Conference assembled, That it be recommended to our ministers and members to adhere to our existing regulations on the subject of churches and parsonages. And your committee respectfully request that they may be discharged from the further consideration of the subject.

B. WAUGH, *Chairman*.

Robert Paine and William Weir requested and obtained leave of absence during the balance of the session.

Paine and Weir obtain leave of absence. Pastoral letter.

The chairman of the committee appointed to draft a pastoral address presented the letter they had prepared, which was read, and with some small amendments adopted. On motion, the conference ordered the pastoral letter to be published in the Christian Advocate and Journal and Western Christian Advocate, and also in pamphlet form.

To be published.

On motion of John Early:—

*Resolved*, That the Committee on Revisal be instructed to inquire into the expediency of striking out, "from among the presiding elders," chapter one, section five, answer four, page twenty-four.

Motion to strike out a resolution.

On motion of N. Bangs:—

*Resolved*, If it suit the convenience of the bishops, that the two bishops elect, the Rev. Beverly Waugh and Rev. Thomas A. Morris, be consecrated to their office on Friday, 27th instant, at eleven o'clock, A. M.; and that either of the bishops be requested, whenever, or as soon thereafter as practicable, when it is ascertained that Dr. Fisk accepts his appointment, to consecrate him to his office of a bishop in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Time for consecrating bishops elect.

Dr. Fisk ✓

On motion of N. Bangs, the report on the Book Concern was taken up. The several resolutions were read in their order, commencing with the tenth. Several amendments

Report on Book Concern.

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tinued.

were proposed and adopted, and the several resolutions, as amended, were adopted, all of which the report will show. The twenty-third article in the report, relating to, and authorizing and directing our Book Agents to obtain an act of incorporation for our Book Concern, was, on motion, referred to a select committee of three to examine and report thereon. The concluding article was then read and adopted. The whole report, as amended and adopted, is as follows. (The resolutions are appended, and the report will be found among the conference papers.)

In view of the several subjects already mentioned, and of others which we have found too numerous to be conveniently placed in the body of this report, your committee recommend for adoption by this conference the following resolutions:—

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the several annual conferences in General Conference assembled, 1. That the first and second divisions in the eighth section of the Discipline, part second, be stricken out, and the following paragraphs inserted in their place:—

1st. The principal establishment of the Book Concern shall be in the city of New-York; and there shall be such other establishments as the General Conference may deem expedient.

2d. There shall be one editor and an assistant appointed to superintend all the editorial business of the Book Concern in New-York, including the Christian Advocate and Journal, Magazine, and Review, and all other works published at that establishment.

*Resolved, &c.*, 2. That in the third division of the eighth section in the Discipline, part one, the word "editors" be stricken out, and the word "editor" be inserted in its place.

3. That the sixth division of the eighth section, part one, be stricken out of the Discipline, and that the following be substituted in its place:—

6. There shall be an establishment of the Book Concern in the city of Cincinnati, under the superintendence of an agent and an assistant, who shall so manage the business in the western country as to cooperate with the agents at New-York. They shall have authority to publish any book in our catalogue when, in their judgment and that of the Book Committee, it shall be advantageous to the interests of the Church, provided that they shall not publish type editions of such books as are stereotyped in New-York. And there shall be an editor and an assistant, who shall have charge of the Western Christian Advocate, and all the editorial business of this establishment, and who, together with the agent and assistant agent, shall be chosen from among the travelling preachers, and, by virtue of their

appointment, shall be members of the Ohio Annual Conference. The Book Committee for the establishment shall consist of seven members, including the editors, to be chosen annually by the Ohio Annual Conference, and whose duties shall be the same as those of the Book Committee at New-York. And the proceeds of this establishment, with the exception of what may be necessary to conduct the business, shall be paid annually to the agents at New-York, to be added to the profits arising from that Concern, and appropriated for the same purposes. In case of removal, by death, resignation, or otherwise, of the agents or editors, or any of them, the Ohio Annual Conference shall have authority to appoint a successor until the ensuing General Conference.

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tinued.

4. That the Book Committee in New-York shall consist of all the preachers stationed, for the time being, in that city by the New-York Annual Conference, including the editors, the resident corresponding secretary of the Missionary Society, and the presiding elder of the district; and that the fifth division in the eighth section of part one of the Discipline shall be so amended as to read in conformity with this resolution.

5. That the agents at Cincinnati be authorized, with the advice and consent of the Book Committee, to procure ground, and erect a suitable building for a printing-office, book-room, and bindery; and for this end they shall be allowed to appropriate such moneys in their hands as can be spared, together with any donations that may be made to the Concern in the West for that purpose.

6. That the Depository established at New-Orleans be discontinued; and that the seventh division of the eighth section in the Discipline, part one, be stricken from the book.

7. That the discount on the prices of our books, and the general terms of sale, shall be continued as they have been during the last four years.

8. That the Christian Advocate and Journal shall be circulated as formerly among the travelling preachers, who are expected to act as agents for it.

9. That the Methodist Magazine and Quarterly Review be continued; and that the editors shall be authorized, with the advice of the Book Committee, to employ suitable persons, at a fair compensation, for the purpose of supplying proper materials, and giving the work an elevated character.

10. That in addition to the Christian Advocate and Journal and Western Christian Advocate, there shall be a similar paper established in the following places, viz., Charleston, Richmond, and Nashville, to be conducted under the direction and patronage of this conference;



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tinued.

provided, that before any such paper shall be commenced three thousand subscribers shall be obtained, or subscriptions amounting to six thousand dollars. And the annual conference within whose bounds such paper shall be established shall appoint from their own members a publishing committee, consisting of three, whose duties shall be similar to those of the Book Committee of New-York and Cincinnati, so far as they may be applicable to those establishments.

11. That the editors for the papers at Charleston and Nashville shall be elected by this conference, and that the Virginia Conference be, and hereby is authorized to elect an editor for the paper at Richmond until the next General Conference. And in case of vacancy, by death, resignation, or otherwise, in either of the establishments, the annual conference, where it is located, shall have authority to fill such vacancy, as above provided.

12. That the Publishing Committees in each of these establishments shall keep an account of the receipts and expenditures for the paper, correspond with the agents at New-York, hold all moneys, after defraying current expenses, subject to their order, and shall report annually on the state of the establishment to their conference, and to the agents at New-York. And whenever it shall be found that such papers do not fully support themselves, it shall be the duty of the annual conferences within whose bounds they are established to discontinue them.

13. That the annual conferences be affectionately and earnestly requested not to establish any more conference papers; and that where such papers exist, they may be discontinued when it can be done consistently with existing obligations.

14. That it is inexpedient to establish any new depositories of books at present; but if, in the interval of the General Conference, the presiding bishop of any annual conference shall concur with said conference in opinion that it is expedient to establish a bookstore within their bounds, in such case the agents both in New-York and Cincinnati shall have authority to sell books to such conference bookstore, at a discount of forty per centum, without involving any pecuniary responsibility on the part of the Book Concern.

15. That the salaries for the support of editors and agents in all our book and periodical establishments shall be fixed by the Book or Publishing Committees in the several places for which such editors and agents are appointed.

16. That a certain claim against the estate of our late brother Askins, of the Illinois Conference, in favour of the Book Concern, in consequence of the loss of some of the books for which he was charged, and the poverty of his orphan children, be relinquished, and the debt forgiven.

17. That the Rev. William Spry, of the Philadelphia Conference, having mailed \$80 for the Book Agents at New-York, which they never received, and being unable to lose that amount, or to make further payment, be exonerated from his obligation to pay it.

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tinued.

18. That a claim against the old Book Committee of the Missouri Conference be referred to the Book Agents at Cincinnati, who shall have authority, if they deem it expedient, to remit any or the whole amount.

19. That the claim of the Book Concern against the Rev. Kenneth Murcheson for books which were never applied to his use, be referred to the Book Agents at New-York, who shall have authority to release him from payment.

20. That the claim of the Book Concern against Rev. Oliver Beale, being of many years' standing, and consisting in part of interest, be referred to the Book Agents at New-York, who are authorized to remit the amount, or any part of it, if they judge proper.

21. That James Quinn be exonerated from the payment of \$68, which were lost in the old connexion business, and which has been recommended by both the Book Committee at Cincinnati and the Ohio Annual Conference.

22. That the Book Agents at Cincinnati be instructed and authorized to settle with T. L. Douglass, and allow him a credit for old books lost or taken out of boxes forwarded to him, as the papers and vouchers in his possession will show.

23. That for the purpose of securing the property belonging to the Book Concern more firmly to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, the Agents at New-York and Cincinnati be authorized and directed to obtain, if practicable, an act of incorporation, and to take such other steps as may be deemed advisable for the accomplishment of this object.

24. That our friends in numerous places, who have manifested so deep an interest, and displayed so much liberality in favour of the Book Concern, are entitled to the thanks of this conference; and that it shall be the duty of the presiding elders and preachers in charge throughout the Union, where it has not already been done, to bring the subject of the late disaster and loss which this institution has sustained fully before our people, giving them an opportunity to do as others have done, in order to its reestablishment.

M. RUTER, *Chairman*.

*Resolved*, That members of this conference who break the twelfth rule of the conference by leaving without permission, shall be held answerable for so doing to their respective annual conferences. Signed, E. Robinson, S. Comfort.

Censure of  
members leaving  
without permission.

May 26.  
Resolution to be  
sent to confer-  
ences.

Tribunal of non-  
resident su-  
perannuated  
preachers.

On motion, the secretary was instructed to forward a copy of the above resolution to the several annual conferences.

On motion, the report of the committee appointed to determine the tribunal of non-resident superannuated preachers, was called up, read, and adopted, to wit:—

The committee to whom was referred the question relating to the trial of superannuated preachers living out of the bounds of the conference of which they are members, beg leave to report, that having taken the subject into consideration, are of opinion that such cases would be attended with great inconvenience and embarrassment, for want of a sufficiently explicit rule in the Discipline. We therefore recommend the following amendment to chapter one, section eighteen, at the end of the first paragraph in the answer to question one, viz.: "And if the accused be a superannuated preacher living out of the bounds of the conference of which he is a member, the presiding elder in whose district he may reside, shall bring him to trial, and, in case of suspension, shall forward to the ensuing annual conference of which the accused is a member, exact minutes of the charges, testimony and decision of the committee in the case." All of which is respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM PRETTYMAN, *Chairman.*

The president announced the names of the select committee to whom the article in the report on Book Concern, relating to an act of incorporation, was referred, viz., N. Bangs, W. B. Christie, and B. Waugh,

Conference adjourned to meet again this afternoon at three o'clock.

#### THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Soule in the chair.

Revisal report.

The chairman of the Committee on Revisal presented and read a report, which, according to rule, lies on the table one day.

On motion, the report of the Judiciary Committee to whom the appeals of William Heath, Samuel Helms, and Samuel Julien were referred, was called up.

The report was read, several amendments proposed, and considerable time spent in debate on the business. The report was finally amended and adopted as follows, to wit:—

Report of Judi-  
ciary Commit-  
tee on three  
appeals.

The Judiciary Committee to whom were referred the communications of W. Heath, S. Helms, and S. Julien, (the first of the Missouri Annual Conference, the second of the Kentucky, and the last of the Indiana Conference,) complaining of injustice done them by their several conferences, in locating them without their consent, report,

that they have examined these communications in connexion with the Discipline of the Church, and have come to the following conclusions, viz. :—

1. That the Discipline does not prohibit an annual conference from locating one of its members without his consent.

2. That there is no provision in the Discipline authorizing a person so located to appeal to the General Conference, nor for any process by which to conduct an appeal in such a case; and that the brethren concerned have, therefore, no legal ground to claim a privilege for which the Discipline under whose regulations they entered the itinerant field has made no provision.

3. Your committee believe, moreover, that when it is rendered evident to the satisfaction of an annual conference, that one of its members habitually neglects those duties which he engages, on entering the itinerancy, to perform, while in the estimation of the conference he is able to perform them, or otherwise conducts himself in a manner which, though not absolutely criminal in itself, nevertheless renders him unacceptable to the people, and destroys his usefulness among them, he ought to be located, and that provision ought to be made in the Discipline for that purpose. They therefore recommend the adoption of the following, to be inserted as a fourth question, and its answer, immediately after the answer to the third question of the eighteenth section of chapter one of the Discipline on fifty-fourth page.

*Question 4.* What shall be done with a member of an annual conference who conducts himself in a manner which renders him unacceptable to the people as a travelling preacher?

*Answer.* When any member of an annual conference shall be charged with having so conducted himself as to render him unacceptable to the people as a travelling preacher, it shall be the duty of the conference to which he belongs to investigate the case, and if it appear that the complaint is well founded, and he does not give the conference satisfaction that he will amend, or voluntarily retire, they may locate him without his consent, provided that he shall be at liberty to defend himself before the conference in person, or by his representative; and if he be located in his absence without having been previously notified of an intention then to proceed against him, he may apply to the conference at its next session, to be heard in his defence, in which case they shall reconsider the matter for that purpose.

D. YOUNG, *Chairman.*

Conference adjourned until to-morrow at eight o'clock, A. M.

May 26.

Right of an annual conference to locate its members in certain cases.

An annual conference may locate its members for sufficient cause.

May 27.

FRIDAY, MAY 27.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

Further report  
of Missionary  
Committee on  
South America.

The chairman of the Committee on Missions presented and read a report, which was adopted, to wit:—

The Mission Committee beg leave to report further, that they have had an interview with brother Fountain E. Pitts, respecting the state of things in South America. From the information received from him, as well as from other sources, it appears that there are most encouraging openings for missionary labour in that country, and that brother Pitts has succeeded in securing the confidence and protection of the government of Buenos Ayres, as well as establishing a mission at Rio de Janeiro, in the Brazilian republic. At Buenos Ayres there are, it seems, not less than ten thousand Protestants but partially supplied with the means of grace, and that here a Methodist society has been formed, and a house of worship commenced. At the Leopold settlement there is a Dutch colony, consisting of about seven thousand colonists, to whom the Gospel should be sent. At this place and Rio Janeiro there are about two thousand who understand the English language, now supplied by a missionary from us, brother Justin Spaulding, and that there are about two thousand at Montevideo. These facts induce us to believe that a promising field for labour is opened in South America, therefore,

*Resolved*, That the bishops be and are hereby requested to select two additional missionaries or more for South America, to labour at such places as the bishop or bishops appointing them may direct.

N. BANGS, *Chairman*.

The chairman of the select committee to whom was referred the subject of obtaining an act of incorporation for our Book Concern, presented and read a report, which was adopted, to wit:—

Report of Com-  
mittee on Act  
of Incorporation  
for Book  
Concern.

The committee to whom was referred the twenty-third resolution in the report of the Committee on the Book Concern, report:—

That they have examined the opinions of three eminent lawyers, to whom were submitted sundry questions in relation to the manner in which the property of the Book Concern is held in the city of New-York, and, taking these opinions as a guide, we recommend to the conference the adoption of the following resolutions:—

*Resolved*, 1. That the surviving joint-tenant, the Rev. Beverly Waugh, be, and he is hereby requested, to convey, under the advice of able legal counsel, the real estate which

he now holds, in trust, for the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to the Revs. Thomas Mason and George Lane, as joint-tenants, and not tenants in common, in trust for the sole use and benefit of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

May 27.  
Report of Committee on Act of Incorporation of Book Concern continued.

*Resolved, 2.* That the said Thomas Mason and George Lane be, and they are hereby directed to apply to the next legislature of the state of New-York for such an act of incorporation as shall secure the real estate in the city of New-York, belonging to the Methodist Book Concern, to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to be used and applied as the Discipline of said Church shall from time to time prescribe.

*Resolved, 3.* That the Book Agents at Cincinnati be, and they are hereby instructed, that whenever it is thought advisable, in conformity with a resolution passed at the present session of this conference, to purchase a lot for the purpose of erecting buildings for the Branch of the Book Concern at Cincinnati, to take measures for securing the premises legally to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to be used and applied as the Discipline of said Church shall from time to time direct.

Respectfully submitted,

N. BANGS, *Chairman.*

MAY 27th, 1886.

On motion, the report of the Committee on Temperance was called up. The first article was read. D. Ostrander withdrew his motion to amend. The original article was then before the conference for its action, and after several speeches were delivered, a motion was made to lay the resolution on the table, which was carried. The second resolution was then read, and a motion made to lay it on the table, which was lost. The resolution was then open for debate, and several members argued the matter pretty extensively.

Report on Temperance.

On motion, resolved, that when we adjourn, we adjourn to meet at three o'clock P. M.

The debate on the above resolution was continued until the hour of the consecration of the bishope-elect was announced. It was then moved to lay the resolution on the table, and lost.

Conference adjourned until three o'clock P. M.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Andrew in the chair.

On motion of S. G. Roszel:—

*Resolved,* by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, That Bishop Hedding be,

Copy of Bishop Hedding's sermon to the conference asked.

- May 27. and hereby is respectfully requested to furnish a copy of his sermon, delivered on the ordination of Bishops Waugh and Morris, as early as practicable for publication.
- On motion of S. Martindale, the report on Temperance was resumed. The resolution was read and debated.
- On motion of William Winans:—
- Resolution in temperance report referred to the bishops.** *Resolved*, That the resolution under consideration be referred to the bishops, with the request that they give their opinion, whether it interfere with the fourth restrictive regulation in our Discipline.
- On motion, the first resolution was called up, and the whole report was referred to the bishops for their decision, whether its contents interfere with the restrictive regulation referred to. Carried.
- On motion of J. Early, the resolution of P. P. Sandford was called up and adopted, as follows:—
- Reduction of ratio of delegation.** *Resolved*, That the ratio of delegation for the next General Conference be fixed at one delegate for twenty-one members of each annual conference.
- Seat of next General Conference.** On motion, the petitions requesting the next session of the General Conference were called up, and, on taking the ballot, Baltimore obtained a majority. Our next General Conference will, therefore, be held in the city of Baltimore, May 1, 1840.
- Editors for Charleston and Nashville.** On motion, the conference resolved to go into the election of editors for periodicals at Charleston and Nashville, by nomination and election. William Capers was appointed editor for the paper at Charleston, and Thomas Stringfield appointed editor at Nashville.
- Recommendation to restore Wm. Burk.** A communication from William Burk was presented and read, when, on motion of T. L. Douglas:—
- Resolved*, &c., That in order to facilitate William Burk's re-union with the Church, the Ohio Annual Conference are hereby respectfully recommended, at their next session, to restore the said William Burk to his former ministerial standing in the Methodist Episcopal Church, if said conference should think it expedient so to do.
- On motion of John Early:—
- Revised Discipline.** *Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed, of which one of the bishops shall be chairman, whose business it shall be to prepare a revised copy of our form of Discipline, to be printed forthwith in New-York.
- On motion of S. Martindale:—
- Vote of thanks to our friends for their hospitality.** *Resolved*, That a vote of thanks be passed for the kindness and attention of the citizens of Cincinnati to the members of this conference during its session, and that the same be published.
- Report on Bible, Tract, and Sunday-school Societies.** On motion, the report on Bible, Sunday-school, and Tract Societies was called up. The first resolution was read, amended, and adopted. The remainder of the report

was then read and adopted; so much thereof as must be incorporated in the Discipline is as follows, to wit:—

May 27.

*Resolved*, by the delegates of the annual conferences in General Conference assembled, That the following rule be inserted in the Discipline, chapter one, section four, question three, after answer two, page twenty-six:—

He shall have authority, when requested by an annual conference, to appoint an agent, whose duty it shall be to travel throughout the bounds of such conference for the purpose of establishing and aiding Sabbath schools, and distributing tracts.

A bishop may appoint a Sunday-school agent.

*Resolved*, &c., That this conference recommend to the Board of Managers of the Bible Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church the dissolution of that society, provided they give satisfaction to the life-subscribers.

Dissolution of Bible Society of Methodist E. Church.

On motion of N. Bangs, the resolution offered by him, proposing an amendment to the form of deed contained in the Discipline of our Church, by striking out the words, "United States of America," whenever it may occur in said form of deed, was called up, and while under debate adjournment was called for.

Proposed amendment in our Deed.

Conference then adjourned until half-past seven o'clock this evening.

FRIDAY EVENING.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Roberts in the chair.

On motion, the following resolution, proposed by John Early at a former session, was called up, amended, and on motion adopted:—

*Resolved*, That the bishops be requested to select some suitable and competent person to prepare for publication a vindication of our Episcopal ordination.

Defence of Episcopacy.

On motion, the report on Itinerancy was called up. The first resolution was adopted. The second resolution was read, and an amendment proposed, which was laid on the table.

Report of Committee on Itinerancy.

A motion was then made, and lost, to postpone the resolution indefinitely. The resolution was then adopted.

The third, fourth, fifth, sixth, and seventh resolutions were read and adopted.

The eighth resolution was then read, and on motion laid on the table.

The ninth, tenth, and eleventh resolutions were read and adopted.

The twelfth resolution was read, and, on motion, indefinitely postponed.

The thirteenth and fourteenth resolutions were read and adopted.

The report, with the preamble, was then adopted.



May 27.

On motion, resolved, that the Book Agents at New-York be instructed to furnish twenty-eight copies of the above report, one for each annual conference, and that those parts relating to the communications from L. Garrett and J. L. Bromwell be left out. (See the report filed with the Conference Journal.)

On motion of W. A. Smith:—

Order to publish  
this Journal.

*Resolved*, That our editors at New-York publish the Journal of this conference in the Christian Advocate and Journal as soon as practicable; also, that it be published in our other periodicals.

The following communication from N. Bangs was presented, read, and, on motion, resolved, that the request it contains be granted:—

Communication  
from N. Bangs.

TO THE BISHOPS AND MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE.

The undersigned has had in hand for several years past a history of the Methodist Episcopal Church, but has not had time, without infringing upon other duties of a more imperative character, to bring it to anything like completion. As it is possible, if life and health should be spared, he may do something toward filling it up during the four coming years, and as he wishes, in such an event, that it should be in all respects authentic, he asks the privilege of having access to the records of the General Conference.

Respectfully and affectionately,

N. BANGS.

CINCINNATI, May 26th, 1836.

On motion of C. Pitman:—

Vote of thanks  
to a benevolent  
individual in  
Philadelphia.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this conference be presented to the generous individual in Philadelphia, who gratuitously offered us a lot in that city on which to erect the necessary buildings for carrying on our General Book Concern.

On motion of J. A. Collins:—

Vote of thanks  
to several in  
Baltimore.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this conference be presented to the generous individuals in Baltimore, who gratuitously offered us a lot in that city on which to erect the necessary buildings for carrying on our General Book Concern.

On motion:—

Thanks to Sec-  
retaries.

*Resolved*, That this conference, by a rising vote, express their thanks to their secretaries for their faithful and indefatigable attention to their labour, in attending to the business of this General Conference.

This resolution was unanimously adopted.

On motion:—

Expenses of F.  
E. Pitta.

*Resolved*, That Fountain E. Pitts, late Missionary to South America, be authorized to draw on the Missionary

Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church for the amount of his expenses in attending this conference.

May 27.

On motion of S. G. Roszel :—

*Resolved*, That we now adjourn until the first day of May, 1840.

R. R. ROBERTS,  
JOSHUA SOULE,  
ELIJAH HEDDING,  
JAMES O. ANDREW.

THOMAS L. DOUGLASS, *Secretary.*

THOMAS B. SARGENT, *Assistant Secretary.*

JOHN A. COLLINS, *Assistant Secretary.*



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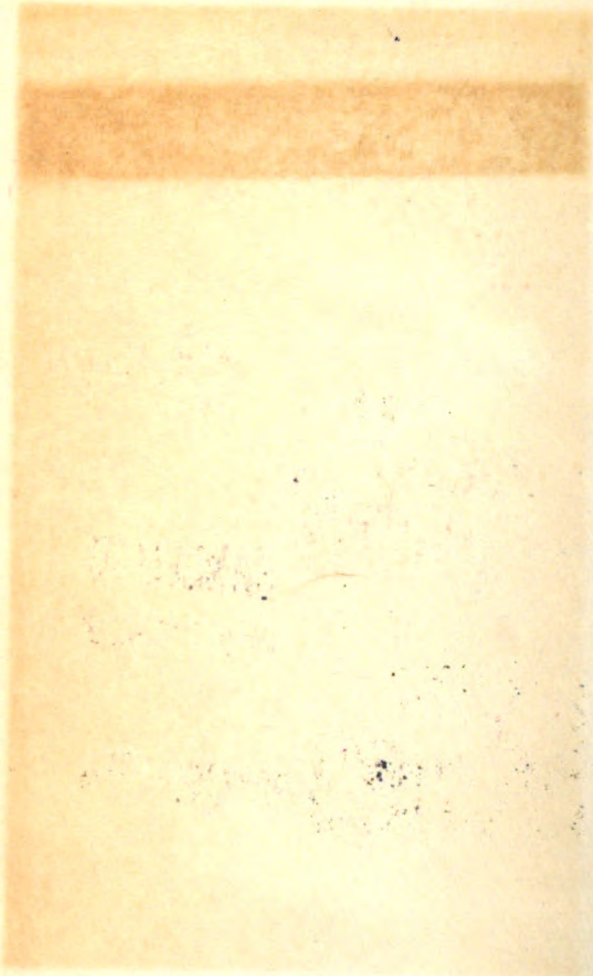
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