

OF THE

ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-EIGHTH SESSION

OF

# Orange Presbytery,

HELD IN THE

CHURCH IN DANVILLE, VIRGINIA.

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C.:
PRINTED AT THE PRESBYTERIAN OFFICE.
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#### MINUTES

OF

## Orange Presbytery.

DANVILLE, VIRGINIA, June 15, 1859.

Presbytery met according to adjournment and was opened with a sermon by Rev. S. A. Stanfield, from Rom. 13c.: 11-12 verses.

Constituted with prayer.

Present: E. W. Caruthers, D. D., Thomas Lynch, James Phillips, D. D., Edward Hines, J. Doll, A. G. Hughes, A. Currie, C. K. Caldwell, S. A. Stanfield, F. N. Whaley, T. U. Faucette, J. M. Sherwood, J. M. Kirkpatrick, J. W. Montgomery, P. H. Dalton and J. B. Shearer, Ministers, with Calvin Scott, William J. Bingham, John Wilson, Dr. Robert Gallaway, J. J. Speed, A. C. Lindsey, S. W. Hughes, M. V. Lanier, Thomas Grasty, J. A. Womack and N. M. Lewis, Ruling Elders.

Absent: Alex. Wilson, D. D., G. W. Ferrill, Thomas R. Owen, E. C. Bittinger, N. Z. Graves, T. G. Wall, J. M. Atkinson, Willis L. Miller, Daniel McGilvary, P. A. McMartin and T. B.

Neal, Ministers.

Rev. Edward Hines was chosen Moderator, and Rev. J. B. Shearer and Mr. A. C.Lindsey, temporary clerks.

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

Closed with prayer.

THURSDAY MORNING, June 16, 1859.

Presbytery met according to adjournment and was opened with prayer.

The reading of the Minutes of the last Session of Presbytery was dispensed with.

A letter was received from Rev. Thomas R. Owen, expressing his intention to withdraw from the Presbyterian Church. Therefore,

Resolved, That his name be stricken from the roll of members of this Presbytery, and that the Stated Clerk be required to write to brother Owen, informing him that his name has been stricken from our roll and to assure him of our kindest regards and best wishes for his future happiness and usefulness.

Rev. J. Henry Smith presented a certificate of dismission from West Hanover Presbytery. After the usual examinations Mr. Smith was received as a member of this Presbytery.

Rev. A. Currie and Mr. Wm. J. Bingham, were appointed a committee to examine the Sessional records of the first twenty-three Churches on the roll. And Rev. J. M. Sherwood and Dr. Robert Gallaway were appointed a committee to examine the remainder.

Rev. Sam'l J. Price, from Roanoake Presbytery being present, was invited to sit as a corresponding member.

The following Ruling Elders were added to the Standing Committees on the examination of candidates. To the 1st, A. C. Lindsey; 2nd, S. W. Hughes, 3d, M. V. Lanier, 4th, Dr. Robert Gallaway; 5th, Calvin Scott; 6th, John A. Womack; 7th, Thomas Grasty; 8th, J. J. Speed.

Messrs. Wm. M. Kilpatrick and Alexander Kirkland were introduced to Presbytery, desiring to be taken under its care, as candidates for the Gospel Ministry. After an examination on their experimental acquaintance with religion, and their motives for seeking the ministry, they were received under the care of this Presbytery.

The hour of 10 o'clock, having arrived, Presbytery spent an hour in devotional exercises.

Dr. W. W. Carrington, Ruling Elder from Spring Hill Church, and Mr. N. P. Hall, Ruling Elder from Little River Church, appeared in Presbytery, and took their seats.

Mr. Frontis H. Johnston, a licentiate from Concord Presbytery was received under the care of this Presbytery by certificate.

A call from the Church of Lexington for the pastoral services of Mr. F. H. Johnston was then presented to the Presbytery. This call being found in order, was placed in Mr. Johnston's hands.

The Treasurer's report was then read and referred to an auditing committee consisting of Messrs. W. W. Carrington and M. V. Lanier.

The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, 1. That the provision of the 5th item in the order for the distribution of the Presbyterial Fund, be extended to the Electors, as well as the Directors of the Union Theological Seminary.

Resolved, 2. That the Treasurer be directed to pay the expenses incurred by Messrs. Hughes and Doll in attending the recent

meeting of the College of Electors.

Rev. J. M. Atkinson and Mr. H. G. Hill, Ruling Elder from Clarkesville, appeared and took their seats.

A call from Spring Hill Church, for the pastoral services of Mr. Ephraim H. Harding was presented, and read before the Presbytery, whereupon the following minute was adopted, viz:

Although the call is without a certificate from the Moderator of the meeting, yet since it appears from the records of the session, and from the statement of the representative of the Spring Hill Church, that the call was made out in an orderly manner, therefore,

Resolved, That the call be placed in the hands of Mr. Harding. Mr. Harding then signified his willingness to accept this call.

The Committee of Domestic Missions was then discharged and the following Committee was elected. S. A. Stanfield, Chairman, P. H. Dalton, J. Doll and J. Henry Smith, Ministers, with N. M. Lewis, John W. Norwood and D. P. Weir, Ruling Elders.

The following subjects were assigned to Mr. Calvin H. Morrow, as parts of trial:

For a Latin Exegesis:

"Quis finis est hominis præcipuus?"

" " Critical Exercise, Heb. 1c.: 1-7 v's.

" " Lecture, 133rd Psalm.

" " Popular Sermon, Rom. 8c.: 1v.

had broths 4 mg Grandwallh Jarola The following subjects were assigned to Mr. John A. Woodburn, as parts of trial:

For a Latin Exegesis:

"An Ecclesia Romana Ecclesia Vera Sit?"

" " Critical Exercise, Heb. 6c.: 4-6vs.

" Lecture, John 10c.: 1-5vs.

" " Popular Sermon, Haggai 2c.: 7v.

The roll was called and inquiry made respecting the support of the poor. The churches represented, reported that they had no poor supported by the public taxes.

Mr. Kilpatrick was placed on the Deveraux Scholarship in

Union Theological Seminary.

Mr. Kirkland was referred to the committee on Education, and it was

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk be directed to give Mr. Kirkland an order on the Treasurer of Union Theological Seminary for any unexpended dividends which had accrued upon the Deveraux Scholarship before the time at which Mr. Kilpatrick was placed upon it.

The roll of the churches was called and inquiry made respecting the payment of the travelling expenses of their representa-

tives to Presbytery and Synod.

The committee appointed to organize a church at Warrenton, at Leaksville and at High Point was continued.

The roll was called and inquiry made respecting the observance of the 3rd chapter of the Directory for Public Worship.

The Committee of examination on Geography and History reported that they had examined W. M. Kilpatrick and recommend that the examination be sustained as a part of trial. This report was accepted and adopted.

The vacancies in the committees on examination of candi

dates were filled in the following manner, viz:

2 com. J. B. Shearer, vice,
 4 " T. B. Neal " W. N. Mebane,
 5 " J. M. Atkinson " T. R. Owen,
 6 " J. H. Smith, " J. J. Smyth.

Messrs. Sherwood and Doll, two of the commissioners to the last General Assembly, made their reports.

Resolved, That the next regular meeting of Presbytery shall

be held in Clarkesville Virginia, to begin on Friday before the meeting of Synod at 7 o'clock, P. M.

The committee of Examination on Latin &c., reported that they had examined Messrs. Kilpatrick and Morrow on Latin and recommend that the examination be sustained as a part of trial.

This report was accepted and adopted.

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

Closed with prayer.

#### FRIDAY MORNING, June 17, 1859.

Presbytery met according to adjournment and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

Mr. Jesse H. Lindsay, Ruling Elder from Greensboro; and Mr. Alfred Hargrave from Lexington appeared in Presbytery and took their seats.

A call from the Church of Greensboro' for the pastoral services of Rev. J. Henry Smith was presented to Presbytery. This call being found in order was placed in Mr. Smith's hands. Mr. Smith then signified his acceptance of the call.

Mr. F. H. Johnston having signified his acceptance of the call from the Church of Lexington, it was resolved that Presbytery hold an adjourned meeting at Lexington on the Friday before the 5th Sabbath in July, at 8 o'clock P. M., for the ordination and installation of Mr. Johnston if the way be open.

Rev. J. H. Smith to preside and preach the sermon.

Rev. A. G. Hughes his alternate.

Rev. J. W. Montgomery to give the charge to the Pastor.

Rev. A. Currie his alternate.

Rev. C. K. Caldwell to charge the people.

Rev. E. W. Caruthers, D. D. his alternate.

Isa. 55c: 7v: was assigned to Mr. Johnston as a text for a trial sermon.

Rev. James Phillips D. D. and Dr. Robt. H. Scales were appointed a committee to prepare a minute respecting the death of the Rev. William N. Mebane.

An adjourned meeting of Presbytery was appointed to convene at Spring Hill Church at 12 o'clock, on Friday, before the 3d Sabbath in July, 1859, with a view to the ordination and installation of E. H. Harding, if the way be open.

Rev. E. Hines to preside, and preach the Sermon.

Rev. S. A. Stanfield his alternate.

Rev. J. M. Kirkpatrick, to charge the pastor.

Rev. A. Wilson, D. D. his alternate.

Rev. F. N. Whaley, to charge the people.

Rev. A. G. Hughes his alternate.

Hebrews 12: 1: was assigned to Mr. Harding as a text for a trial sermon.

Rev. Mr. Mathews of Piedmont Presbytery being present was invited to sit as a corresponding member.

A communication was received from Spring Garden Church upon which the following action was taken, viz:

Resolved. That Presbytery in compliance with their request do hereby dissolve that church, and direct the names of the members to be transferred to the roll of the Madison Church.

The committee on the second half of the sessional record made a report which was accepted and adopted.

The committee on the first half of the sessional records made a report which was accepted and adopted with the exception of the report on their record of Chapel Hill Church which was laid on the table. And a committee consisting of Rev. S. A. Stanfield, with Messrs. M. V. Lanier, W. J. Bingham, Jesse H. Lindsey and A. C. Lindsey was appointed to make a report upon matters contained in said record.

The committee of examination on Natural Sciences reported that they had examined Messrs. Kilpatrick and Morrow and recommended that these examinations be sustained as parts of trial.

The committee of Examination on Greek made a similar report. Both these reports were accepted and adopted.

Rev. P. A. McMartin was appointed to preach on "The office and duties of Ruling Elders," at the next meeting of Presbytery.

Rev. J. Henry Smith, Mr. J. H. Lindsey and Dr. D. P. Weir

were appointed a committee on Colportage within the bounds of this Presbytery.

Rev. A. G. Hughes, Rev. T. B. Neal and Messrs. Hall and Wilson, obtained leave of absence after this evening's sessions.

Rev. P. H. Dalton, was appointed Evangelist for the next year on a salary of one Thousand Dollars.

The committee appointed to report on the matters referred to them in the record of Chapel Hill Church, made a report which was accepted. A motion was then made to adopt the report, pending the discussion on this last motion the Presbytery adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Closed with prayer.

#### SATURDAY MORNING, June 18th, 1859.

Presbytery met according to adjournment and was opened with prayer.

The unfinished business of yesterday was taken up, viz. The consideration of the motion to adopt the report of the committee to whom certain matters in the record of Chapel Hill church had been referred. This report was amended and adopted. It is as follows:

"The committee to whom was referred the matter relating to the church edifice at Chapel Hill report that they have inquired into and considered the facts and circumstances relating to the organization of the church and the erection of the church edifice at Chapel Hill, and they are of the opinion stated in the following resolutions which they recommend to be passed as expressive of the sense of the Presbytery, to wit:

Resolved, As the sense of Orange Presbytery that under the facts and circumstances connected with the organization of the Presbyterian church and the erection of the church edifice at Chapel Hill, the parties who contracted with the Trustees of the University for the purchase of the ground on which the building stands, ought to comply with the wishes of the church and consent that the legal title to the premises shall be conveyed

to the Trustees of the church for the use and benefit of the said church without condition or restriction, and to be upon the same footing in its relations to Presbytery as the houses of worship of other Presbyterian churches within our bounds; and further that a committee consisting of Alexander Wilson, D. D, John W. Norwood and Giles Mebane, be appointed to confer with the parties who contracted with the Trustees of the University for the purchase of the ground with a view if practicable to remove their opposition to the wishes of the church and congregation relative to the conveyance of the property to the Trustees of the church, and to report to Presbytery at its next regular meeting.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

S. A. STANFIELD,
M. V. LANIER,
W. J. BINGHAM,
JESSE H. LINDSEY,
A. C. LINDSEY.

The auditing committee to whom was referred the Treasurer's Report made the following report which was accepted and adopted: "We have examined the accounts and vouchers of the Treasurer and find that his accounts are correct and recommend that his report be accepted and adopted.

That part of the report of the committee on the first half of the Sessional records which had been laid on the table was taken up. It was then amended and adopted. It is as follows.

We recommend that the Sessional record of Chapel Hill church be approved as far as written, except that on pages 52–3, there is an entry of certain matters which as appears upon the face of the entry were not transacted in the Session and therefore constituted no part of its proceedings and could not lawfully be put upon its record except by its direction, and if the Session directed the same to be spread upon its record then there is no record made of such direction, which as being part of the proceedings of the Session ought to have been recorded.

The following plan was adopted to raise the salary of the Evangelist of this Presbytery,

Resolved, That the Rev. J. Doll be directed to correspond with ministers, churches, elders and rich pious laymen generally within the bounds of this Presbytery, with the view of getting

the subscription of one thousand dollars by twenty men giving fifty dollars each, or forty men twenty-five dollars each for two or more years for the support of our Evangelist; and that Mr. Doll be allowed to draw twenty dollars from the contingent fund for his services.

The following resolutions were adopted in reference to preach-

ing on the subject of Domestic Missions, &c.,

Resolved, That Presbytery solemnly and earnestly enjoin upon every pastor, stated supply and licentitate of this Presbytery to preach within the present current year, on the subject of Domestic Missions to the congregation from which the collection is to be raised on the day appointed for the same, or on the day on which the notice for the same is given.

Resolved, That at the same time and in the same discourse he shall fully and minutely to the best of his ability, detail to his congregation the whole subject of Domestic Missions, as connected with our particular plan of Evangelistic and Missionary operations, its special wants and claims, and urge them to increased interest and liberality in this cause.

The following preamble and resolutions were adopted in regard to the late election of a Professor, in Union Theological Seminary.

WHEREAS, It is well known to the members of this Presbytery, that the college of electors at their recent meeting, have selected one of our most valued and loved members, to fill one of the chairs in that Institution. Presbytery deem it not improper to give expression to their views in the case.

1. Resolved, That this Presbytery has an unabated and increasing interest in the prosperity of Union Theological Seminary.

2. Resolved, That highly as we esteem and love brother Phillips, and much as we would otherwise regret and oppose his leaving his present position of influence at our State University; yet, believing that the interests of the Seminary, and the church at large within the bounds of the Synod, and the Presbytery having care of this institution, will be greatly advanced by his acceptance; we cordially endorse the above election, and commend it to his most prayerful, and favorable consideration.

The committee appointed to bring in a minute in regard to the death of Rev. William N. Mebane, reported the follow-

ing which was adopted.

The Presbytery of Orange having received intelligence of the recent decease of the Rev. William Nelson Mebane, a member of this body, are reminded by the sad dispensation, that the glorious "gospel of the blessed God," is put into earthen vessels, that the "excellence of the power" may not be of us. It is one of many evidences, that the gospel is not a cunningly devised fable; that when the world was to be enlightend, the kingdom of God to be erected on the ruins of Satan's, and the stream of human corruption to be turned back, that its messengers were not flames of fire, to terrify us, nor philosophers, nor orators to woo and win us by the persuasive power of their eloquence, but earthen vessels, men like their Master, of no reputation.

Brother Mebane entered the junior class, at the University of North Carolina, in 1831, and during his residence there, made a public profession of religion. At his graduation in 1833, he was appointed to deliver the valedictory, which was done in a natural, unpretending, and effectual manner. After taking his first degree he was appointed a Tutor, an office which he retained only one year, discharging his duties conscientiously, vigorously and acceptably. He was received under the care of this Presbytery, during its session at New Hope, in September, 1833, and subsequently pursued his theological course at Princeton Seminary. But our brother's honors are rather to be found in his success as a minister of the gospel, than in his literary distinctions. He who put him in the trust of the gospel, blessed his labors to the conversion and edification of many precious souls, and his pastoral visits, his prayers and his pulpit exercises were made acceptable and profitable to his hearers, of whom not a few are ready to say that though they had other instructors in Christ; yet, they recognize him as their spiritual father.

His physical constitution was rather feeble than strong, rather languid than vigorous, yet, was he animated by a mind, intelligent, active, pains-taking, persevering, patient and tireless. Of the talent which he had received, he made good use; for he labored abundantly on Sabbaths and week-days, in season and out of season, and was only in his element, when he was in his work. We, who know his doctrine and manner of life, know how unweariedly he prosecuted his work, and how he set his

face as a flint for advancing serious godliness. He found that in waiting on the Lord, he renewed his strength, and, therefore would not listen to those who said, "Master spare thyself."

Many who are gay and pleasant while they are in health, when assailed by sickness, when painful disease attacks them, when they find death working in them, and that they are already taken into custody of its messengers are cast down and their countenance falls, but it was not, so with brother Mebane. Cheerfulness of spirit continued with him to the last, because he had built on the sure foundation, and he walked through the valley of the shadow of death, as one who even there feared no evil. He looked back with comfort on all the way which the Lord his God had led him in the wilderness, and encouraged his family to trust in the Lord and his providence, from his own experience of God's goodness. He looked forward without dismay to the severing of the dearest ties on earth, and upon a blessed state on the other side of Jordan. He knew he had a good home to go to, and God's time was a good time to go thither. Jesus taking the form of a servant, making his soul an offering for sin, rising for our justification and ever living to make intercession for all who come to God by him formed the props on which he rested. On these he calmly built, here he fixed the eye of his faith and so to him to 'live was Christ, but to die gain; Christ was all in all to him. Thus he entered into the invisible world, thus he embarked for eternity in the never failing ark of Christ's mediation as a poor sinner in the arms of an all sufficient Saviour.

Let us therefore endeavor to follow him so far as he tollowed Christ, remembering that we too are earthen vessels, and consequently brittle, and will inevitably be soon broken. It is the excellence of our holy religion, that it furnishes us with living comforts in dying hours, and gives us the victory over death and

the grave.

A letter was read from Rev. Daniel McGilvary, Missionary in Siam, and the Stated Clerk was directed to publish it in the North Carolina Presbyterian.

Presbytery then united in special prayer for Brother Mc-Gilvary.

Mr. Wm. J. Bingham and Alex. Wilson, D. D., were appointed a committee to write a letter in answer to Mr. McGilvary.

The hour for the order of the day having arrived, Rev. F. N. Whaley delivered the Presbyterial Sermon, on pastoral visitation, from Acts 20c.: 28v.

Presbytery requested Mr. Whaley to place his sermon in the hands of the Editors of the North Carolina Presbyterian for publication in that paper.

The following committee was appointed to install Rev. J. Henry Smith, pastor of the church in Greensboro' on the 4th Sabbath in July.

Rev. J. Phillips, D. D., to preside and preach the sermon.

Rev. J. Doll his alternate.

Rev. C. K. Caldwell to charge the pastor.

Rev. J. B. Shearer his alternate.

Rev. A. Currie to charge the people.

Rev. J. W. Montgomery his alternate.

The Committee of Domestic Missions, nominated the following list of supplies which was accepted and adopted:

E. W. Caruthers, D. D., two Sabbaths at Long's Mill.

A. Wilson, D. D., one Sabbath at discretion.

Jas. Phillips, D. D., two Sabbaths at Rockingham.

A. G. Hughes, one Sabbath at Pittsboro'; one do., at Hopewell.

E. Hines, Person county at discretion.

C. K. Caldwell, one Sabbath at Pittsboro'; one at Haywood.

J. Doll, one Sabbath at Wentworth; one at Leakvsille.

S. A. Stanfield, two Sabbaths at Mount Airy.

F. N. Whaley, one Sabbath at Warrenton; one at Penuel.

T. G. Wall, two Sabbaths at Kinston.

J. M. Sherwood, one Sabbath at Wilson; one at Greenville.

J. M. Kirkpatrick, one Sabbath at Wentworth.

J. W. Montgomery, one Sabbath at Union.

J. M. Atkinson, one Sabbath in Johnson.

W. L. Miller one Sabbath at Pittsboro'; one at Haywood.

P. A. McMartin, one Sabbath at Little River; one at Hughes' School House.

J. B. Shearer, one Sabbath at Kinston.

J. H. Smith, one Sabbath at Pittsboro'.

E. H. Harding, two Sabbaths at Aaron's Creek.

J. C. Denny, one Sabbath at Little River.

F. H. Johnston, one Sabbath at Hopewell; one at Winston.

C. H. Wiley, one Sabbath at High Point; one at Buffalo Ford.

A. Currie, one Sabbath at High Point.

T. M. Lynch, one Sabbath at Long's Mill.

The following subjects were assigned to Mr. W. M. Kilpatrick as parts of trial:

For a Latin Exegesis:

" Utrum diatheke sit testamentum an foedus.

" Critical Exercise, John 6c.: 43-53vs.

" Lecture, 95th Psalm.

" Popular Sermon, 1 Cor. 1c.: 30v.

It was ordered that the Stated Clerk should forward to the Editors of the N. C. Presbyterian, to the Editors of the Central Presbyterian, and also to the Editors of the Presbyterian at Philadelphia a copy of the minute adopted at this meeting of Presbytery, in the relation to the death of brother William N. Mebane with the request that they publish the same; and furthermore that the Stated Clerk forward a copy of said minute to the widow of our deceased brother, with the assurance of our sincere sympathy with her in this afflictive dispensation of divine providence.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Presbytery be tendered to the citizens of Danville, for their kind hospitality of its members during these Sessions, also to the Episcopal, the Methodist Episcopal and Baptist churches for the use of their houses of worship. And that Mr. Kirkpatrick be directed to read this resolution before the congregation.

Presbytery then adjourned to meet at Spring Hill Church

on Friday before the 3rd Sabbath in July 1859.

Closed with singing, prayer and the apostolic benediction.

J. DOLL,
Stated Clerk.

## TREASURER'S REPORT.

Greensboro', Guilford County, N. C., June 14th, 1859.

My last report embraced all receipts and disbursements up

to 21st April, 1858.

I forward herewith for the examination of Presbytery, my Book of accounts and vouchers, for all transactions from 21st April, 1858, to 14th June, 1859.

The balance on hand for the different Boards, will be found

as follows:

Education,	\$826	06
Publication,	131	18
Foreign Missions,	365	00
Domestic Missions,	809	58
Church Extension,	102	29
Support of aged Ministers,	5	00
Presbyterial Fund,	107	09

\$2,346 20

The following Churches have not paid the assessment of Presbytery for the Presbyterial Fund:

#### FOR THE YEAR 1855.

Gilead, \$2; Gum Grove, \$2; Bethel, \$3,75; Warrenton, \$2; Murfreesboro', \$2; Snow Creek, \$3; Graham, \$5; Alamance, balance \$2.

#### FOR THE YEAR 1856.

Gilead, \$2; Gum Grove, \$2; Warrenton, \$2; Murfreesboro', \$2; Snow Creek, \$3; Bethany, Alamance, balance \$2.

#### FOR THE YEAR 1857.

Gilead, \$2; Gum Grove, \$2; Warrenton, \$2; Murfreesboro', \$2; Snow Creek, \$3; Bethany, \$2; Alamance, balance \$2.

#### FOR THE YEAR 1858.

Gilead, \$2; Gum Grove, \$2; Warrenton, \$2; Murfreesboro', \$2; Snow Creek, \$3; Bethany, \$2; Harmony, \$4; Little River, \$6; Louisburg, \$2; Penuel, \$5; Spring Garden, balance \$4; Alamance, balance \$2.

#### FOR THE YEAR 1859.

Gilead, \$2; Gum Grove, \$2; Warrenton, \$2; Murfreesboro', \$2; Snow Creek, \$3; Bethany, \$2; Harmony, \$4; Louisburg, \$2; Penuel, \$5; Spring Garden, \$8; Speedwell, \$3; Grier's, \$6; Hillsboro', \$12; Alamance, balance \$2.

Respectfully submitted,

JESSE H. LINDSAY,

Treasurer of Orange Presbytery.

