MINUTES, 1850.

Detroit, Michigan, May 16th, 1850.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met, agreeably to appointment, in the First Presbyterian church in the city of Detroit, on Thursday, May 16th, 1850, at 7½ o'clock P. M., and was opened with a sermon by the Rev. Philip C. Hay, D. D., the Moderator of the last Assembly, from 2 Cor. x. 4—"For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds."

After sermon the Assembly was constituted with prayer.

The Committee on Commissions presented their report, and the following persons were thereupon enrolled as Commissioners to this General Assembly, viz.:—

I. SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Champlain*,	David Dobie.	
2. *Troy*,	Jonathan H. Noble,	Dexter Hitchcock.
3. *Albany*,	Robert P. Stanton,	John R. Bullock.
4. *Columbia*,	Josiah Leonard,	William Doty (2).*
5. *Delaware*,	Samuel J. White,	Philip Bassett.

II. SYNOD OF UTICA.

1. *St. Lawrence*,	Roswell Pettibone (2),	Harvey D. Smith.
2. *Watertown*,	George P. Tyler,	Reuben E. Bacon.
3. *Oswego.*		
4. *Otsego*,	Timothy B. Jervis,	William A. Walker.
5. *Utica*,	Elliot H. Payson,	Charles McLean.

III. SYNOD OF GENEVA.

1. *Onondaga*,	Alfred C. Lathrop,	Selah Munson.
2. *Cayuga*,	Henry A. Nelson,	Abner Hollister.
3. *Geneva*,	Maltby Gelston,	Jesse Smith.
4. *Cortland*,	Ezra B. Fancher,	Loammi Kinney.
5. *Chenango*,	Amos C. Tuttle,	E. M. Somers.
6. *Tioga*,	Edwin Benedict (2),	William Platt (2).
7. *Bath*,	Benjamin C. Smith.	
8. *Chemung*,	Morrison Huggins,	Solomon L. Gillett.
9. *Ithaca*,	Stephen Voorhees (2),	E. P. Healy, M. D. (2).
10. *Pennsylvania*,	Sidney Mills.	[302]

*The figures show on what day of the sessions the Commissioner presented his credentials and took his seat.

IV. SYNOD OF GENESSEE.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Genesee*,	Byron Sunderland,	Eli Woods.
2. *Ontario.*		
3. *Rochester.*		
4. *Niagara*,	William C. Wisner,	George W. Jermain.
5. *Buffalo*,	Grosvenor W. Heacock,	Abner Bryant.
6. *Angelica*,	Joel Wakeman.	

V. SYNOD OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY.

1. *Hudson*,	James W. Wood,	George W. Seward.
2. *North River*,	William N. Sayre,	James O. Adams (2).
3. *Long Island*,	George F. Wiswell (3),	Franklin Tuthill, M. D. (3).
4. *N. York, Third*,	Joseph C. Stiles, D. D.,	Charles Starr.
5. *N. York, Fourth*,	Erskine Mason, D. D.,	Jeremiah Terbell.
6. *Brooklyn*,	Samuel T. Spear,	John A. Davenport.
7. *Newark*,	Clifford S. Arms,	J. H. Clark, M. D.
8. *Rockaway*,	Joseph F. Tuttle,	John Titsworth, M. D.
9. *Montrose*,	Erasmus D. Willis.	
10. *San Francisco.*		

VI. SYNOD OF PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Wilmington*,	J. Edson Rockwell.	
2. *Phila. Third*,	Samuel M. Gould,	P. Frazer Smith (3).
3. *Phila. Fourth*,	David Malin.	
4. *Harrisburgh*,	William Sterling.	

VII. SYNOD OF WEST PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Erie*,	James F. Read (2),	George Kellogg (2).
2. *Meadville*,	Lawrence Streit.	
3. *Pittsburgh*,	David H. Riddle, D. D.	

VIII. SYNOD OF WESTERN RESERVE.

1. *Grand River*,	J. Mills Gillett.	
2. *Portage*,	Seth G. Clark (4).	
3. *Huron*,	Henry N. Bissell,	Jairus Kennan.
4. *Trumbull*,	William C. Clark.	
5. *Cleveland*,	Sherman B. Canfield.	
6. *Medina.*		
7. *Elyria*,	Ansel R. Clarke.	
8. *Maumee*,	Anson Smyth,	Horatio Conant.

IX. SYNOD OF MICHIGAN.

1. *Detroit*,	George Duffield, D. D.,	Eurotas P. Hastings.
2. *St. Joseph*,	William Fuller,	Amos Davis.
3. *Monroe*,	John Monteith,	Charles Noble (3).
4. *Marshall*,	William S. Taylor,	Charles Farnsworth, M. D.
5. *Washtenaw*,	J. Holmes Agnew,	Mather Marvin.
6. *Kalamazoo*,	Hollis Russell,	Luther H. Trask.
7. *Ionia.*		

X. SYNOD OF OHIO.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Athens*,	Windsor A. Smith,	John Rochester.
2. *Pataskala*,	Addison Kingsbury,	John Follett.
3. *Franklin*,	Charles W. Torrey,	Wm. H. Skinner.
4. *Scioto*,	Isaiah N. Ford,	David N. Murray (3).

XI. SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

1. *Cincinnati*,	David Gould,	George T. Layfield.
2. *Dayton*,	George G. Poage,	David Ghormley.
3. *Hamilton*,	Horace Bushnell,	Giles K. Reynolds.

XII. SYNOD OF INDIANA.

1. *Salem*,	John A. Tiffany.	
2. *Madison*,	Harvey Curtis.	
3. *Crawfordsville*,	James Thompson,	William Hoffman.
4. *Indianapolis*,	William H. Rogers,	Alexander Graydon.
5. *Logansport*,	Joseph G. Wilson,	Wm. H. Shaw.
6. *Fort Wayne*,	Thomas Anderson,	A. D. Seward.

XIII. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

1. *Illinois*,	Livingston M. Glover,	D. B. Ayers (3).
2. *Schuyler*.		
3. *Wabash*,	Joseph Wilson.	
4. *Alton*,	John Gibson (2).	
5. *Des Moines*,	S. Storrs Howe.	

XIV. SYNOD OF PEORIA.

1. *Ottawa*,	Charles A. Williams.	
2. *Peoria*,	C. Rufus Clarke.	
3. *Knox*,	Charles R. Fisk.	
4. *Galena*,	John C. Downer,	Jeremiah Wood.
5. *Chicago*,	Jonathan G. Porter,	J. Ambrose Wight.
6. *Belvidere*,	Ichabod A. Hart,	Joel Walker.

XV. SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

1. *St. Louis*,	James B. Townsend.	
2. *Northern Missouri*,	John Leighton.	
3. *Lexington*,	Fincelius R. Gray.	
4. *Osage*,	Joseph V. Barks.	

XVI. SYNOD OF VIRGINIA.

1. *Winchester*,	Andrew H. H. Boyd.	
2. *Dist. of Columbia*,	Thomas J. Shepherd,	George M. Phillips (2).
3. *Hanover*,	Charles H. Read.	

XVII. SYNOD OF TENNESSEE.

1. *Union*,	John S. Craig,	Andrew Blackburn.
2. *Holston*,	Francis A. McCorkle.	
3. *Kingston*.		
4. *New River*.		
5. *Chattahoochee*.		

XVIII. SYNOD OF KENTUCKY.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Harmony,*	Benjamin Mills.	
2. *Providence,*	Thomas Cleland, D. D.	
3. *Green River.*		

XIX. SYNOD OF WEST TENNESSEE.

1. *West Tennessee,*	Milton H. Dysart.	
2. *Shiloh.*		
3. *Richland,*	John H. Zivley.	

XX. SYNOD OF MISSISSIPPI.

1. *Clinton.*
2. *S. Lexington.*
3. *Newton.*

DELEGATES FROM CORRESPONDING BODIES.

General Association of Connecticut,	Rev. Charles P. Bush.
" " *Massachusetts.*	
" " *New Hampshire,*	Rev. E. M. Kellogg.
" *Conference of Maine,*	Rev. David Shepley.
" *Convention of Vermont.*	
" *Evan. Consociation of Rhode Island.*	
Presbyterian and Congregational General Convention of Wisconsin,	Rev. Dexter Clary. Rev. A. Montgomery.
General Synod of the Lutheran Church in the United States.	
General Synod of the German Reformed Church.	
General Association of New York,	Rev. Silas C. Brown.
" *Assembly of the Cumb. Pres. Ch.*	

After completing the Roll, the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 17th, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly met, pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer.

The Roll was called, and the following additional Commissioners presented their credentials, and took their seats.

Rev. Roswell Pettibone, of the Presbytery of	St. Lawrence.
Elder William Doty " "	Columbia.
Rev. George M. Phillips, " "	D. of Columbia.
Rev. Edwin Benedict, and Elder William Platt, from the Presbytery of	Tioga.
Rev. Stephen Voorhees, and Elder E. P. Healy, M. D., from the Presbytery of	Ithaca. [305]
Rev. James F. Read, and Elder George Kellogg, from the Presbytery of	Erie.
Rev. Dexter Clary, and Rev. A. Montgomery, from the Presbyterian and Congregational General Convention of	Wisconsin.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Nominations were made for Moderator, after which the Roll was called, and the Rev. David H. Riddle, D. D., of the Presbytery of Pittsburgh, was elected, and inducted into office in the usual form.

The Rev. Charles H. Read, of Virginia, was elected Temporary Clerk.

The "General Rules for Judicatories," contained in the Appendix to the Constitution, with the exception of Rules 36, 37, 38, were adopted as the Rules of this General Assembly.

Resolved, That the Assembly will meet every morning at 8½ o'clock, adjourn at 12½ o'clock; meet again at 3 o'clock, and adjourn at 5½ o'clock: and that the Assembly will occupy one half hour every morning in devotional exercises, before proceeding to business.

A copy of the printed Minutes of the last Assembly, agreeably to a standing rule, was given to each of the members, on a call of the Roll.

Ordered, that the usual number of copies of the Roll be printed for the use of members, under the direction of the Clerks.

The Presbyteries were called, and their Narratives of the State of Religion, Statistical Reports, and answers to the Overtures sent down by the last Assembly, were put into the hands of the Stated Clerk.

The reception of Synodical Records was made the order of the day, for 3 o'clock this P. M.

The reception of memorials and Overtures was made the order of the day, this P. M., immediately after the preceding order.

A communication was received from the Rev. D. H. Allen, D. D., informing the Assembly, that Rev. A. Bullard, D. D., who had been appointed by the last Assembly to preach a sermon on Home Missions during the present sessions, had declined the service, and requested him, as the alternate, to perform it; but at so late a day, as to preclude his undertaking the service.

Whereupon, it was *Resolved*, that the provision for a sermon on Home Missions; the nomination of a preacher on that subject for next year; and the whole subject of Home Missions, be referred to a *Committee*, consisting of Rev. H. Curtis, Rev. J. B. Townsend, Rev. Addison Kingsbury, Rev. S. S. Howe, and Elder Jeremiah Wood.

The accounts of the Treasurer, with vouchers, and the accounts of the Stated Clerk, with vouchers, were presented and committed to Messrs. G. Kellogg, C. Farnsworth, and A. Bryant, as an Auditing Committee.

Ordered, that the contributions to the Commissioners' Fund be paid into the hands of the Committee on Mileage; and that the contributions to the Contingent Fund be paid into the hands of the Stated Clerk.

Resolved, That the traveling expenses of the Stated and Permanent Clerks be paid out of the Contingent Fund, at the same rate as received by the Commissioners from the Commissioners' Fund.

Resolved, That the election of Trustees of the General Assembly, and of [306] the Directors of the Theological Seminaries, be postponed until the next year.

The reception of the reports of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies was made the order of the day for to-morrow, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

The nomination of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies was made the order of the day for Monday, at 9 o'clock, A. M.; and the election of Delegates was made the order of the day for Tuesday, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

Resolved, That it be recommended to all our churches to observe the first Monday in January next as a day of fasting and special prayer for the Conversion of the World.

The consideration of the subject of a Theological Seminary at the Northwest was made the order of the day for Tuesday, at 3 o'clock, P. M.

A letter was received from the Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., chairman of the Committee appointed by the last Assembly, to correspond with a Committee of the other General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, if such should be appointed, stating that "as no corresponding Committee was appointed by our brethren of the Assembly which met in Pittsburgh last year, no opportunity has been had to carry out the fraternal and Christian spirit of our Assembly."

The Committee were thereupon discharged.

The case of the Rev. Mr. Bridgman, referred to in the Minutes of the last Assembly, p. 181, was referred to the Committee to be appointed on the Records of the Synod of Genesee.

The Stated Clerk, to whom was referred the subject of the claim of Wm. M. Meredith, Esq., for legal services, made a report, which was accepted, and the Committee discharged.

The Moderator announced the following *Standing Committees:*

On Bills and Overtures,—Ministers, Erskine Mason, D. D., S. T. Spear, A. H. H. Boyd, Horace Bushnell. *Elders*, John Titsworth, M. D., A. Blackburn, George T. Layfield.

Polity of the Church,—Ministers, George Duffield, D. D., J. H. Agnew, W. Sterling, Thomas Cleland, D. D., C. S. Arms. *Elders*, George M. Phillips, Jer. Terbell, John H. Clark, M. D.

Devotional Exercises,—Ministers, David Malin, J. C. Stiles, D. D., J. F. Read. *Elders*, Eli Woods, Horatio Conant.

The Narrative,—Ministers, Charles H. Read, William Fuller, Thos. J. Shepherd, Elliot H. Payson, D. Clary, Charles P. Bush, S. T. Spear.

Leave of Absence,—Rev. John. Leighton, Lawrence Streit, J. Edson Rockwell. *Elders*, Mather Marvin, Joel Walker.

Mileage,—Elders, Charles Starr, E. P. Hastings, George Kellogg.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 17, 3 *o'clock, P. M.*

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved. [307]

The Rev. John Gibson, of the Presbytery of Alton, and Elder James O. Adams, of the Presbytery of North River, presented their Commissions, and their names were placed on the Roll of the Assembly.

Synodical Records were called for, presented, and referred to the following Committees:—

Synod of Albany,—Ministers, F. R. Gray, J. A. Tiffany, Francis A. McCorkle. *Elders*, Amos Davis, Jairus Kennan.

Utica,—Ministers, S. M. Gould, C. A. Williams, S. Storrs Howe. *Elders*, Alexander Graydon, J. A. Wight.

Geneva,—Ministers, William Fuller, W. H. Rogers, Joseph Barks. *Elders*, William H. Skinner, D. Ghormley.

Genesee,—Ministers, H. A. Nelson, L. M. Glover, Ichabod A. Hart. *Elders*, Abner Hollister, L. Kinney.

New York and New Jersey,—Ministers, A. C. Lathrop, H. N. Bissell, John Monteith. *Elders*, L. H. Trask, G. W. Jermain.

Pennsylvania,—Ministers, J. H. Noble, R. Pettibone, William S. Taylor. *Elders*, Dexter Hitchcock, H. D. Smith.

West Pennsylvania,—Ministers, William C. Clark, E. D. Willis, Joel Wakeman. *Elders*, E. P. Healy, M. D., Eli Woods.

Western Reserve,—Ministers, William C. Wisner, M. H. Dysart, James Thompson. *Elders*, G. W. Seward, Joel Walker.

Michigan,—Ministers, Addison Kingsbury, G. G. Poage, Thomas Anderson. *Elders*, A. D. Seward, William Hoffman.

Ohio,—Ministers, Joseph G. Wilson, C. Rufus Clark, Benjamin Mills. *Elders*, William H. Shaw, Giles K. Reynolds.

Cincinnati,—Ministers, Charles M. Torrey, C. A. Williams, John H. Zivley. *Elders*, James O. Adams, J. H. Clark, M. D.

Indiana,—Ministers, Joseph F. Tuttle, E. D. Willis, Hollis Russell. *Elders*, John A. Davenport, C. Noble.

Illinois,—Ministers, J. Edson Rockwell, Geo. P. Tyler, Ezra B. Fancher. *Elders*, Solomon L. Gillett, W. A. Walker.

Peoria,—Ministers, Thomas J. Shepherd, Joseph Wilson, Edwin Benedict. *Elders*, Selah Munson, Jesse Smith.

Missouri,—Ministers, E. H. Payson, Samuel J. White, C. R. Fisk. *Elders*, George M. Phillips, David N. Murray.

Virginia,—Ministers, Jonathan G. Porter, Isaiah N. Ford, Josiah Leonard. *Elders*, Phillip Bassett, Charles McLean.

Tennessee,—Ministers, William Sterling, G. W. Heacock, John S. Craig. *Elders*, John Titsworth, M. D., R. E. Bacon.

Kentucky,—Ministers, A. R. Clarke, William N. Sayre, M. Huggins. *Elders*, William Doty, John R. Bullock.

West Tennessee,—Ministers, John Leighton, William H. Rogers, Windsor A. Smith. *Elders*, John Rochester, John Follett.

Mississippi,—Ministers, J. Holmes Agnew, J. M. Gillett, Byron Sunderland. *Elders*, Dexter Hitchcock, William Platt.

Memorials and Overtures from several Synods, Presbyteries, churches, and communicants were put into the hands of the Stated Clerk, and referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures. [308]

The Rev. E. F. Hatfield, from the Committee appointed to prepare a new Digest of the Acts of the General Assembly, reported progress; and the Committee was continued.

The subject of the legacy of William Brown, Esq., of Greenville, Tennessee, was taken up for consideration; whereupon the whole subject was referred to the Rev. Erskine Mason, D. D., Rev. E. F. Hatfield, and J. L. Mason, Esq., to consider and report to the next Assembly.

The subject of a legacy of the late Isaac Keith, D. D., of Charleston, S. C., was referred to the same Committee.

The appointment of a time for the hearing of the agents of benevolent societies was referred to the Committee on Devotional Exercises.

The Assembly proceeded to consider the place for the meeting of the next General Assembly. New York, Utica, St. Louis, Philadelphia, and Richmond were put in nomination, and the selection was made the second order of the day for Tuesday next, in the P. M.

The Stated Clerk having been called home by a telegraphic despatch, informing him of the alarming illness of one of his children, Rev. Erskine Mason, D. D., was appointed Stated Clerk, *pro tem.*

The answers of Presbyteries to the Overtures sent down by the last Assembly were referred to the Committee on the Polity of the Church.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 8½ o'clock, A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 18th, 8½ o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Roll was called. After which, half an hour was occupied in devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioners presented their credentials, and their names were placed on the Roll of the Assembly, viz.:

Rev. George F. Wiswell, and Franklin Tuthill, M. D., Elder,	from the	Presbytery	of Long Island,
David N. Murray, Elder,	"	"	Scioto,
D. B. Ayers, Elder,	"	"	Illinois,
Charles Noble, Elder,	"	"	Monroe,
Rev. Sherman B. Canfield,	"	"	Cleveland.

The Delegates to foreign bodies were called upon for their several reports.

A letter from the trustees of a congregation in Michigan City, requesting a supply for their church, was read, and referred to the Committee on Home Missions.

A communication was received from the Rev. Joel Parker, D. D., of Philadelphia, presenting copies of a discourse on "Presbyterianism," for the use of the Assembly. *Ordered*, that the thanks of the Assembly be tendered to Dr. Parker for his acceptable donation.

Resolved, That the Treasurer's report and the report of the Auditing Committee, be published in the Appendix to the Minutes. [309]

The Delegates from Corresponding Bodies were called upon for communications.

Reports on the state of religion within their bounds were received from the Rev. Charles P. Bush, of Connecticut; the Rev. David Shepley, of Maine; the Rev. D. Clary and A. Montgomery, of Wisconsin, and Rev. Silas C. Brown, of the Congregational Association of New York.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported

Overture, No. 2, from the Synod of New York and New Jersey, on "Correspondence with the Methodist Episcopal Church," which was referred to the Committee on the Polity of the Church.

Also, Overture, No. 3, on "Doctrinal Tracts," which was put upon the docket.

The same Overture was then taken up for consideration. A motion was made to commit the subject to a select Committee; which was followed by a motion for the indefinite postponement of the whole subject.

Pending the discussion of this motion, the Assembly adjourned until 3 o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 18th, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The unfinished business of the morning, viz., the consideration of the Overture on "Doctrinal Tracts," was resumed; the motion before the house being for the indefinite postponement of the whole subject.

After a long discussion, the motion for postponement was lost.

The motion recurred on the reference of the subject to a select Committee; and it was finally referred to a *Committee* consisting of Rev. J. C. Stiles, D. D., James B. Townsend, Rev. J. Holmes Agnew, and Rev. Frederick A. Ross, with the Elders, Abner Bryant and George Kellogg, to report to the next Assembly.

Rev. H. Curtis, from the Committee on Home Missions, made a report, recommending that an interlocutory meeting, on the subject of Home Missions, be held on Monday morning next, as the second order of the day; and the report was adopted.

P. Frazer Smith, Elder, from the Presbytery of Philadelphia Third, presented his credentials, and his name was placed on the Roll of the Assembly.

The Rev. E. M. Kellogg, appeared as Delegate from the General Association of New Hampshire, and was received as a Corresponding Member of the Assembly.

Resolved, that it be the third order of the day for Monday morning next, to hear from Mr. Kellogg any communication he may wish to make to the Assembly.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church made a report on Overture No. 2,—which was put upon the docket.

The Records of the Synod of Western Reserve were, on the recommendation of the Committee appointed to examine them, approved so far as written. [310]

Ordered, that the reception of reports on Synodical Records be the order of the day for Wednesday morning next.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises made a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

Resolved, 1. That a prayer meeting be held every morning, at 6 o'clock, in the lecture room of this church; and that the following persons be appointed to conduct the exercises:

On the Sabbath, Rev. S. T. Spear; on Monday, Rev. W. C. Wisner; on Tuesday, Rev. Wm. Sterling; on Wednesday, Rev. Harvey Curtis; on Thursday, Rev. J. B. Townsend; on Friday, Rev. H. Bushnell.

2. That a sermon on Home Missions be preached before the Assembly, in this place, on Monday evening next, by the Moderator, Rev. D. H. Riddle, D. D.

Adjourned until Monday, at 8½ o'clock, A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 20th, 8½ o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The usual time was occupied in devotional exercises.

After which, the Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Nominations were made of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies; and the election made the order of the day for to-morrow, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly then, agreeably to previous order, went into an interlocutory meeting on the subject of Home Missions.

Resolved, that speakers be limited to a single speech of ten minutes.

Resolved, also, that any agent of the American Home Missionary Society who may be present, be permitted to take part in the discussion.

The interlocutory was continued until 12¼ o'clock, when it was arrested, for the present, with a view to hear a report of the Committee on Bills and Overtures.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 4: eighteen memorials on the subject of Slavery; and recommended that, after the reading of the memorial from the Presbytery of Fort Wayne, they be referred to a special Committee.

A motion was made to adopt the report.

Before the question was taken, the Assembly adjourned until 3 o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 20th, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

A communication was received, and read, from the Presbytery of Ro- [311] chester, in reference to a re-union of the two branches of the Presbyterian Church.

A letter was also read from the Rev. Absalom Peters, D. D., the Delegate from the General Association of Massachusetts, apologizing for his non-attendance at this meeting, and containing a general report on the state of religion within the bounds of that Association.

It was moved to refer the communication from the Presbytery of Rochester to a select Committee: this was followed by a motion for the indefinite postponement of the whole subject.

The motion for indefinite postponement was lost. And, the question recurring on the reference to a select Committee, it was moved that the further consideration of the subject be postponed for the present, with a view to resume the unfinished business of the morning.

The motion for postponement was carried, and the unfinished business was resumed, viz. the reference of the memorials on Slavery to a select Committee.

After much discussion, it was *Resolved*, that the said memorials be referred to a *Committee of seven*, after the Assembly shall have heard the memorial from the Presbytery of Fort Wayne, and such other memorials from Presbyteries, or Synods, as any Delegate from those Presbyteries or Synods may call for.

Memorials were read from the Presbyteries of Fort Wayne, Cleveland, Athens, and Trumbull.

At this stage, the business before the house was suspended, for the purpose of hearing the Rev. E. M. Kellogg, the Delegate from the General Association of New Hampshire.

The communication from the Rev. Mr. Kellogg, and also that from Rev. A. Peters, D. D., were referred to the Committee on the Narrative.

The unfinished business, viz. the hearing of the memorials on Slavery, was resumed. After all that were called for had been read, the memorials on Slavery were referred to a Committee, consisting of Rev. George Duffield, D. D., Rev. William C. Wisner, Rev. David Malin, Rev. Sherman B. Canfield, and Rev. Thomas Cleland, D. D., with the Elders, J. H. Clark, M. D., and Andrew Blackburn.

After which, the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow, at 8½ o'clock, A. M. Concluded with prayer.

On Monday evening, May 20th, the annual sermon on Home Missions was preached, according to previous arrangement, by the Rev. D. H. Riddle, D. D., from Ps. lxvii., 1, 2. "God be merciful unto us, and bless us; and cause his face to shine upon us: That thy way may be known upon earth, thy saving health among all nations."

Tuesday, May 21st, 8½ o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer.

The usual time was occupied in devotional exercises.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read and approved. [312]

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day, viz., the election of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies.

Rev. William Fuller, and Elder E. P. Hastings were appointed a Committee to collect and count the votes, who subsequently reported that the following persons had been duly elected: To the

General Association of Connecticut,—Rev. Joseph C. Stiles, D. D., Rev. Charles Beecher, and Rev. William Wisner, D. D.

General Association of Massachusetts,—Joseph C. Stiles, D. D., and Rev. Charles Beecher.

Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island,—Rev. William Wisner, D. D. Alternate, Rev. John Leighton.

General Association of New Hampshire,—Rev. Jacob Little. Alternate, Rev. David Dobie.

General Convention of Vermont,—Rev. David Dobie. Alternate, Rev. Jacob Little.

General Conference of Maine,—Rev. Samuel T. Spear. Alternate, Rev. James G. Hamner, D. D.

Presbyterian and Congregational General Convention of Wisconsin,—Rev. O. P. Hoyt, and Rev. Lewis H. Loss. Alternates, Rev. S. H. Hall, and Joseph G. Wilson.

General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States.—Rev. E. W. Gilbert, D. D. Alternate, Rev. J. Holmes Agnew.

General Synod of the German Reformed Church,—Rev. David H. Riddle, D. D. Alternate, Rev. Albert Barnes.

General Association of New York.—Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D. Alternate, Rev. S. M. Hopkins.

General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.—Rev. C. P. Wing. Alternate, Rev. John P. Zivley.

The Assembly resumed the discussion of the subject of Home Missions; when it was *Resolved*, that the discussion be arrested.

The consideration of the subject of correspondence between the two branches of the Presbyterian Church, as proposed by the Presbytery of Rochester, was then resumed;—the question before the house being, the reference of the whole subject to a select Committee.

Rev. I. N. Ford moved the postponement of the question before the house, to take up the following substitute: *Resolved*, that this Assembly always stands ready to communicate with the other branch of the Presbyterian Church, by committee or otherwise, with reference to a fraternal correspondence, or a re-union of the two bodies.

F. Tuthill, M. D., moved the indefinite postponement of the whole subject.

The discussion continued until the hour of adjournment.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock, P. M. Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 21st, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Pursuant to previous order, the subject of a Theological Seminary at the [313] North-west came up for consideration, when it was *Resolved*, that the Committee on that subject be discharged.

The Assembly proceeded to determine the place of the next meeting. The Roll was called, and it was *Resolved*, that the next General Assembly meet in the city of Utica, N. Y., on the third Thursday of May, 1851, at 7½ o'clock, P. M.

Rev. Messrs. W. H. Spencer, E. H. Payson, and S. W. Brace, with the Elders, Spencer Kellogg, and George Tracy, were appointed a *Committee of Arrangements* for the meeting of the next Assembly.

The unfinished business of the morning, viz.: the proposition for correspondence with the Assembly of the other branch of the Presbyterian Church,

was resumed; the question being on the indefinite postponement of the whole subject.

The motion for indefinite postponement was lost.

The question then recurred on the postponement of the motion for reference to a select Committee, to take up Mr. Ford's substitute.

The postponement was carried; and Mr. Ford's substitute came up for consideration.

Rev. J. B. Townsend then moved to postpone Mr. Ford's motion, to take up the following substitute.

"*Resolved*, that a *Committee of three* be appointed on the subject of the letter from the Presbytery of Rochester, with the following instructions: that the Committee simply refer to what has already been done by us; and that we decline taking any further step in the premises."

The postponement was carried, and the substitute adopted. Erskine Mason, D. D., Rev. S. T. Spear, and James B. Townsend were appointed the Committee.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 5, in reference to the establishment of a fund for superannuated ministers, by the Assembly, recommending that the General Assembly, as such, take no action on the subject, but refer it to the Presbyteries and Synods, to act as in their judgment may be deemed proper.

The report was adopted.

Also, Overture No. 6, from the Presbytery of St. Louis, in reference to the competency of witnesses in certain cases. The Committee recommended that the Presbytery be referred to Chap. VI. section 2d and 4th of the Book of Discipline, as containing a rule upon the subject, which is sufficiently explicit.

This report, also, was adopted.

C. Farnsworth, M. D., from the Committee appointed to audit the accounts of the Treasurer and of the Stated Clerk, made the following report, which was adopted, viz.:

That they find the several accounts accurately stated and authenticated by the proper vouchers.

That the whole amount received into the treasury the past year, including a balance from the account of the previous year, is $1200.17; the whole amount expended for various purposes, $1193.63; leaving an unexpended balance of $6.54.

That the whole amount received by the Stated Clerk is $436.04; the [314] amount expended for printing and sundry accounts, $310.67; the salary of Stated Clerk, $100; leaving in his hands a balance of $25.37.

After which the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow, at 8½ o'clock, A. M. Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, May 22d, 8½ o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The usual time was occupied in devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Pursuant to previous order, reports of Committees appointed to examine Synodical Records were received. And, on their recommendation, the Records of the following Synods were approved so far as written, viz.: of Albany, Geneva, Genesee, New York and New Jersey, Ohio, Cincinnati, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri and Michigan.

The Records of the Synod of Pennsylvania were approved with two exceptions,—

1. There is no evidence from the Records that the last meeting of the Synod was opened with prayer.

2. The Synod, in approving the action of a Presbytery in a judicial case, assigned an entirely unsatisfactory reason (p. 259).

The Records of the Synod of West Pennsylvania were approved with the exception, that there is no record of the election of a Moderator.

The Records of the Synod of Peoria were approved, with the following exceptions: 1. The Minutes of the last meeting of the Synod are not paged. 2. In the Roll of the Synod, record is made that no members of the Presbytery of Belvidere were present; but no record of the names of absentees. 3. Record is made that H. G. Pendleton and D. S. Dickinson appeared in Synod, but no record of the Presbytery from which they came, nor whether they were ministers or elders. 4. The free conversation on the state of religion was made the order of the day for 3 o'clock, but a subsequent minute records that "at 2 o'clock this conversation was had, and that at 3 o'clock, pursuant to appointment, C. A. Williams preached from Gen. xii. 1–8."

The Records of the Synod of Tennessee were approved, with the exception, that they have not been submitted to the inspection of the Assembly for a period of fourteen years; and an injunction that, for the future, the Synod of Tennessee send up their book regularly for review, according to Book of Discipline, Chap. XI. sect. 6th.

The Records of the Synods of Virginia, Kentucky, West Tennessee and Mississippi not being present, the Committees appointed to examine them were discharged.

Ordered, that the Synods who have neglected to forward their Records, be enjoined to send them up regularly hereafter.

The Committee on the Records of the Synod of Genesee reported, that the Synod had acted on the case of the Rev. Mr. Bridgman, as directed by the last Assembly. [315]

The Records of the Synod of Albany were re-committed to the same Committee.

The following resolutions were then adopted on the subject of Home Missions:

"1. *Resolved*, that, in the last command of Christ to his disciples, we recognize a command obligatory on our branch of the Church, to preach the Gospel and establish religious institutions throughout the entire extent of our national domain, as far, and as fast, as that domain becomes inhabited.

"2. *Resolved*, that our Presbyteries be recommended to take such action within their respective bounds, that, either by themselves, or by the aid of the Home Missionary Society, new churches may be organized wherever circumstances will permit; and the stated preaching of the Gospel be supplied in churches now destitute, as speedily as possible.

"3. *Resolved*, That it be recommended to all our churches, to strive earnestly to render our religious institutions permanent, by the erection of church edifices, and the settlement of pastors whenever this can be done; and in this work the older and wealthier churches ought to co-operate with the younger and feebler.

"4. *Resolved*, That the searching out and bringing forward of young men, of hopeful piety and talent, as candidates for the Gospel Ministry is an integral and essential part of the missionary enterprise; and, as such, demands the constant vigilance and untiring efforts of the ministers and elders of our churches in all parts of the land."

At 12 o'clock the Assembly proceeded to hear the report of the Committee to whom were referred the memorials on the subject of Slavery.

The report of the Committee was presented by Rev. G. Duffield, D. D. The report was accepted, and a motion made to print 300 copies for the use of members.

Before the question was taken, the Assembly adjourned until 3 o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, May 22d, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

A letter was received from J. W. Brooks, Esq., superintendent of the Michigan Central Railroad Company, tendering to the members of the Assembly free passes on their railroad and the steamers in their connection.

The offer was gratefully received, and the Temporary Clerk was directed to express to the Railroad Company the thanks of the Assembly.

The subject of printing the report of the Committee on Slavery was taken up, and it was ordered that 300 copies be printed for the use of the members.

The Rev. William C. Wisner presented a minority report from the Committee on Slavery, which was accepted and 300 copies of it ordered to be printed.

The Rev. E. M. Kellogg, Delegate from New Hampshire, after a short [316] address, which was responded to by the Moderator, respectfully took his leave.

The Rev. A. Montgomery, Delegate from Wisconsin, after a short address, which was responded to by the Moderator, respectfully took his leave.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises made the following report, which was adopted:

"That the Assembly unite in the celebration of the Lord's Supper on Thursday, at 7¾ o'clock, P. M., and that the following be the order of exercises:

1. Reading the Scriptures and Hymn, by the Moderator.
2. Remarks on the Nature of the Ordinance, " Rev. Thos. Cleland, D. D.
3. Distribution of the Bread, " Rev. Maltby Gelston.
4. Distribution of the Cup, " Rev. Dr. Poor, of Ceylon.
5. Concluding Address, " Rev. J. B. Townsend."

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 8½ o'clock, A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 23d, 8½ o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The usual time was occupied in devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that leave of absence had been given to Messrs. William Doty, T. B. Jervis, L. Kinney, William Platt, G. W. Jermain, H. Conant, and L. H. Trask.

The Committee on Mileage made the following report:—

"There has been paid into the hands of the Committee, from thirty-one Presbyteries, the sum of $508.69, and a distribution has been made on 19,929 miles of travel in coming to the Assembly, at the rate of $2.55¼

for every 100 miles, and in favor of forty members, the whole number who are understood to have made application for a portion of the fund."

The report was adopted; and the Committee on Mileage (in the absence of the Treasurer) were authorized to pay over the sums due to each Commissioner.

A hearing was then given, for a short season, to the agents of benevolent societies. The Assembly was addressed by the Rev. T. A. Mills, in behalf of Lane Seminary; by the Rev. Dr. Babcock, in behalf of the American Sunday-School Union; by the Rev. R. H. Leonard, in behalf of the Seamen's Friend Society; by the Rev. E. R. Fairchild, D. D., in behalf of the American and Foreign Christian Union; by the Rev. C. Clark, in behalf of the American Home Missionary Society; by the Rev. J. Beach, in behalf of the American Evangelical Alliance; and by the Rev. David Malin, in behalf of the A. B. C. F. Missions.

The Rev. Charles H. Read offered the following resolutions, in reference to the American and Foreign Christian Union, which were adopted:

"*Whereas*, the multiplication of benevolent organizations, having substantially the same end, tends to the embarrassment of the churches, and [317] also to the hindrance of the prosperity of other and kindred institutions: and *whereas*, in the providence of God among the papal nations of Europe, and also among the people of that communion in this country, many doors are now open for the diffusion of the principles of religious liberty, and a pure and evangelical Christianity,—Therefore,

"*Resolved*, 1. That this Assembly have learned with much satisfaction that the three societies, viz., The Christian Alliance, the American Protestant, and the Foreign Evangelical, whose objects, in relation to the evangelization of the papal population of this country and of Europe, are substantially identical, have been merged in one society, known as the American and Foreign Christian Union, thereby reducing the expenses, and augmenting the efficiency of this department of Christian benevolence.

"*Resolved*, 2. That this Assembly approve of the objects of the American and Foreign Christian Union, as set forth in its Constitution, viz., to diffuse and promote the principles of religious liberty, and a pure and evangelical Christianity both at home and abroad, wherever a corrupted Christianity exists; and do cordially commend it to the confidence and patronage of the churches under their care, and to the Christian community.

"*Resolved*, 3. That in view of the encouragements arising from past success and prospective usefulness, in making known the pure Gospel to the papal population of this country and of Europe, in the judgment of this Assembly, the American and Foreign Christian Union are called upon by the providence and word of God to put forth increased efforts in the work in which they are engaged."

The Committee on the Polity of the Church made a report in reference to the answers of Presbyteries to the Overtures sent down by the last Assembly, which was adopted, and is as follows:

"It appears from the Roll that there are one hundred and two Presbyteries connected with the Assembly; that eighty-seven Presbyteries have sent up their answers to the first three Overtures, on the subject of the limitation of Appeals, and fifteen have not: and that of these the following thirty Presbyteries have answered in the AFFIRMATIVE:—

"Delaware, Oswego, Cayuga, Geneva, Cortland, Chenango, North River, Erie, Grand River, Portage, Huron, Trumbull, Cleveland, Elyria, Maumee, Athens, Pataskala, Franklin, Scioto, Hamilton Peoria, Belvidere, Lexington, Osage, Winchester, District of Columbia, Hanover, Holston, West Tennessee, and South Lexington.

"And the following fifty-seven Presbyteries have answered in the NEGATIVE:—

"Champlain, Troy, Columbia, St. Lawrence, Watertown, Utica, Onondaga, Tioga, Bath, Chemung, Ithaca, Pennsylvania, Genesee, Niagara, Buffalo, Hudson, Long Island, New York Third, New York Fourth, Brooklyn, Newark, Rockaway, Montrose, Wilmington, Philadelphia Third, Philadelphia Fourth, Harrisburgh, Meadville, Pittsburgh, Detroit, St. Joseph, Monroe, Marshall, Washtenaw, Kalamazoo, Cincinnati, Dayton, Salem, Madison, Crawfordsville, Indianapolis, Logansport, Fort Wayne, Schuyler, Alton, Des Moines, Ottawa, Galena, Chicago, St. Louis, Northern Missouri, Union, New River, Harmony, Providence, Shiloh, and Richland.

"That to the fourth Overture, on the subject of Complaints, the answers [318] vary only by the addition of the Presbytery of Pataskala to the number of those answering in the negative; thus making the number of Presbyteries replying in the AFFIRMATIVE to this Overture, twenty-nine; and in the NEGATIVE, fifty-eight.

"That to the fifth Overture, on the subject of *pro re nata* Meetings of the Assembly, eighty-six Presbyteries have sent answers, the same as have replied to the other Overtures, with the exception of the Presbytery of Newark; and that of these only three Presbyteries have answered in the AFFIRMATIVE, viz., Champlain, Erie, and Hanover; the remaining eighty-three having answered in the NEGATIVE.

"That to the sixth Overture, on the subject of the Ratio of Representation in the Assembly, answers have been returned by eighty-four Presbyteries, the same as before, with the exception of the Presbyteries of Newark, Grand River and Huron; and that of these the following twenty eight Presbyteries have answered in the AFFIRMATIVE, viz.: Champlain, Delaware, Oswego, Geneva, Cortland, Bath, Hudson, North River, Long Island, Meadville, Portage, Trumbull, Cleveland, Maumee, Kalamazoo, Athens, Franklin, Scioto, Hamilton, Fort Wayne, Peoria, Belvidere, Lexington, Winchester, District of Columbia, Hanover, Holston, and South Lexington.

"And the following fifty-six Presbyteries have answered the same Overture in the NEGATIVE, viz.:—

"Troy, Columbia, St. Lawrence, Watertown, Utica, Onondaga, Cayuga, Chenango, Tioga, Chemung, Ithaca, Pennsylvania, Genesee, Niagara, Buffalo, New York Third, New York Fourth, Brooklyn, Rockaway, Montrose, Wilmington, Philadelphia Third, Philadelphia Fourth, Harrisburgh, Erie, Pittsburgh, Elyria, Detroit, St. Joseph, Monroe, Marshall, Washtenaw, Pataskala, Cincinnati, Dayton, Salem, Madison, Crawfordsville, Indianapolis, Logansport, Schuyler, Alton, Des Moines, Ottawa, Galena, Chicago, St. Louis, Northern Missouri, Osage, Union, New River, Harmony, Providence, West Tennessee, Shiloh, and Richland."

The Assembly therefore declares, that a majority of the whole number of the Presbyteries has decided against each and all of the proposed changes in the Constitution. The book, therefore, remains as in 1840; or as it was before the division of the Church.

A letter was received from Mr. Henry Perkins, of Philadelphia, in reference to a new edition of the Standards of the Church, informing the Assembly that he was ready to make the stereotype plates of the Constitution, published by him, by authority of the Assembly of 1846, conform to any alterations the Assembly may direct; and to submit the book, before publication, to the inspection of the Stated Clerk, or any Committee they may appoint.

Whereupon it was *Resolved*, that the Stated and Permanent Clerks be a

Committee to publish a new and correct edition of the Standards of the Church, and that they be directed to employ Mr. Perkins as the printer of the book.

The unfinished business of the last session, viz., the consideration of the report of the Committee on Slavery, was resumed.

A motion was made to postpone the report of the Committee in order to adopt the report of the minority. [319]

The motion was carried, and the report of the minority came up for adoption.

Pending the discussion, the Assembly adjourned until 3 o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 23d, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The unfinished business of the morning, viz., the consideration of the report on Slavery, was resumed, the question being on adopting the report of the minority.

The discussion was continued until near the hour of adjournment, when it was arrested, Mr. Clark having the floor.

Rev. Dr. Poor, of Ceylon, was requested to address the Assembly on Friday evening, on the subject of Foreign Missions.

Rev. D. Shepley, the Delegate from the General Conference of Maine, after a short address, which was responded to by the Moderator, took his leave.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 8½ o'clock, A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

On Thursday evening, at 7¾ o'clock, the Assembly united in the celebration of the Lord's Supper; the order of exercises being the same as previously appointed.

Friday, May 24th, 8½ o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The usual time having been occupied in devotional exercises, the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

A memorial from the Presbytery of Pataskala, on the subject of Slavery, was presented by the Committee on Bills and Overtures, and read to the Assembly.

The unfinished business of yesterday, viz., the consideration of the report on Slavery, was resumed,—the question being on the adoption of the report of the minority.

Rev. S. T. Spear moved the following as a substitute for the second resolution, which, with leave of the Assembly, was accepted by Mr. Wisner as a part of his report.

"That the holding our fellow-men in the condition of Slavery, except in those cases where it is unavoidable by the laws of the State, the obligations of guardianship, and the demands of humanity, is an offence against God and the Church, which should be regarded and treated in the same manner as other offences."

Rev. S. B. Canfield moved a substitute for the report of the minority, [320] which was discussed until near the hour of adjournment, when the discussion was arrested, Rev. J. H. Agnew having the floor.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported a list of supplies for the pulpits of this city, for the ensuing Sabbath, as follows:—

First Presbyterian Church—
1. Rev. Dr. Poor, Missionary at Ceylon, A. M.
2. Rev. J. C. Stiles, D. D., of New York, P. M.
3. Rev. G. W. Heacock, Buffalo, evening.

Second Presbyterian Church—
1. Rev. Henry A. Nelson, of Auburn, N. Y., A. M.
2. Rev. L. M Glover, of Illinois, P. M.
3. Rev. J. Edson Rockwell, Wilmington, Del., evening.

Congregational Church—
1. Rev. Samuel M. Gould, Norristown, Pa., A. M.
2. Rev. Dr. Poor, Missionary at Ceylon, P. M.
3. Rev. Sherman B. Canfield, of Cleveland, Ohio, evening.

First Methodist Episcopal Church—
Rev. William Sterling, of Williamsport, Pa.

Baptist Church—
Rev. Elliot H. Payson, of New Hartford, N. Y.

Second Methodist Episcopal Church—
1. Rev. J. H. Zivley, of West Tennessee, A. M.
2. Rev. Morrison Huggins, of Havana, N. Y., P. M.

Scotch Presbyterian Church—
1. Rev. A. C. Tuttle, of Chenango, A. M.
2. Rev. James Thompson, Indiana, P. M.

Rev. H. Curtis, from the Committee on Home Missions, made a report nominating a preacher on Home Missions for the next Assembly: and, on their recommendation, the Rev. Thornton A. Mills, of the Presbytery of Cincinnati, was chosen principal, and Rev. John A. Murray, of the Presbytery of Geneva, the alternate.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 24th, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported No. 7, on the "Erection of Presbyteries in Foreign Lands, and Church Extension in our own land:" which, on the recommendation of the Committee, was referred to a *Special Committee*, with instructions to report to the next Assembly.

The Committee to consist of Rev. Erskine Mason, D. D., Rev. Samuel T. Spear, and Elder Charles Starr.

Also, No. 8, "An inquiry by a Commissioner of the Presbytery of Ottawa, whether, if a majority of a Presbytery withdraw from the General Assembly, the remaining members, if sufficient in point of numbers, are to be regarded as the constitutional Presbytery?" [321]

On the recommendation of the Committee, the question was answered in the affirmative.

The unfinished business of the morning, viz., the discussion of the subject of Slavery, was resumed,—the question being on Mr. Canfield's motion to postpone the report of the minority, to take up his substitute.

The discussion continued until 5½ o'clock, when the Assembly

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 8½ o'clock, A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 25th, 8½ o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The usual time was occupied in devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The answer of the Presbytery of Niagara, to the Overtures sent down by the last Assembly, was received, and ordered to be recorded with the other answers.

The unfinished business of yesterday, viz., the discussion of the subject of Slavery, was resumed,—the question being on the postponement of the report of the minority, to take up Mr. Canfield's substitute.

The motion for postponement was lost. The question recurred on the adoption of the report of the minority.

The discussion continued until 12½ o'clock, when the Assembly adjourned until 3 o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 25th, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The unfinished business of the morning, viz., the discussion of the subject of Slavery, was resumed,—the question being on the adoption of the report of the minority.

On motion of Rev. D. Malin, Rev. Dr. Poor had leave to address the Assembly, on Monday, at 8½ o'clock, A. M.

The discussion continued through the afternoon until 5½ o'clock, when the Assembly

Adjourned until Monday at 8½ o'clock, A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 27th, 8½ o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

Rev. Dr. Poor, agreeably to previous order, addressed the Assembly, principally on the subject of Foreign Missions, after which the Moderator, in the name of the Assembly, bade him an affectionate farewell. [322]

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Rev. Charles P. Bush, the Delegate from the General Association of Connecticut, having been prevented from addressing the Assembly orally, took his leave by a written communication.

Rev. E. Mason, D. D., from the Committee to whom was referred the subject of correspondence with the other General Assembly, made a report, which, after being amended, was unanimously adopted, and is as follows:

"The Committee, to whom was referred the subject of the letter from the Presbytery of Rochester, report,

"That this Assembly has always deplored, and continues to deplore, the unhappy division in the Presbyterian Church, as well as the causes which produced it. For this sundering of the body of Christ they do not feel themselves at all responsible, as, in everything they have done, they have stood upon the defensive to protect their dearest rights, secured to them under the Constitution of the Church.

"They have always, moreover, been ready to meet their brethren in any plan consistent with principle, to heal the breach, and restore the Church to its former integrity; and have even taken the first step towards such a result.

"Feeling that a separation between brethren of a common faith, common sympathies, and a common creed, could not be without sin, they did, immediately after the separation in 1838, (see Minutes, p. 654,)* publish to the world their willingness to 'agree to any reasonable measures tending to an amicable adjustment of the difficulties existing in the Presbyterian Church.'

"In 1839, to avert all unpleasant controversy, and prevent all unhappy

* Reprint, p. 23.

litigation, they proposed a plan of amicable settlement, designed only to secure our constitutional privileges as Presbyterians, while it relinquished to our brethren of the other body all the chartered rights, institutions, and funds of the Presbyterian Church. (See Minutes of 1839, p. 21.)*

"The idea of an amicable settlement, and even of re-union, was cherished for some time by this body; and it was not until 1841, three years after the separation, that they relinquished it; and coming reluctantly to the conclusion that union was impracticable, they corrected their Roll, and dropped from it the names of these brethren, in deference to their feelings. (See Minutes of 1840, p. 16.)†

"Again, in 1846, they expressed the desire for union with their brethren; and, pained by the unseemly exhibition of two such bodies at apparent strife with each other, they proposed to their brethren of the other Assembly, a mutual recognition of each other, by communing together at the Table of our Master.

"These propositions and overtures were all made in good faith, and with an earnest desire and hope that they might be met in the spirit which prompted them.

"The result is a matter of history, and is now before the world. We do not pretend to question the motives of our brethren in rejecting them; we yield to them what we claim for ourselves, honesty of purpose, and sincere convictions of duty. We stated only the facts, and do so, to show that we cannot, as a body, at the present time, take any farther action in this matter. [323]

"While we are constrained to come to this conclusion, we should be untrue to ourselves before God and the world, did we not frankly avow our readiness to meet, in a spirit of fraternal kindness and Christian love, any overtures which may be made to us by the other body."

Rev. S. T. Spear was added to the Committee on Leave of Absence.

The unfinished business of Saturday, viz., the discussion on Slavery, was resumed; the question being on adopting the report of the minority.

The discussion continued until 12½ o'clock, when the Assembly adjourned until 3 o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 27th, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes were read and approved.

The unfinished business, viz., the discussion of the subject of Slavery, was resumed.

Resolved, That the speakers henceforth be limited to twenty minutes.

The discussion continued until 5½ o'clock, when the Assembly adjourned to meet in the lecture room of this church, at 7½ o'clock. P. M.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that leave of absence had been given to Messrs. William A. Walker, George Kellogg, W. C. Clarke, and Ansel R. Clarke.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 27th, 7½ o'clock, P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The unfinished business, viz., the discussion on the subject of Slavery, was resumed; the question still being on the adoption of the report of the minority.

* Reprint, p. 60. † Reprint, p. 97.

The discussion continued until nearly 10 o'clock, when the Assembly adjourned, to meet in the church to-morrow, at 8½ o'clock, A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 28th, 8½ o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

After the usual time occupied in devotional exercises, the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The report of the Committee in reference to correspondence with the Methodist Episcopal Conference, which had been put upon the docket, was taken up, and the following resolution was adopted, viz.:

Whereas, the communication of the Oneida Annual Conference of the [324] Methodist Episcopal Church solicits only a correspondence between themselves and the Synod of New York and New Jersey, and not with the Presbyterian Church generally; and *whereas* the Synod has referred the matter to the Assembly, without submitting any specific proposition or plan for such correspondence, Therefore,

"*Resolved*, That the communication be referred back to the Synod to adopt such measures as they may deem proper in pursuance of the request for a correspondence of the local bodies."

In reference to collections for the Commissioners' Fund, the Assembly reaffirmed the following resolution of the Assembly of 1843, contained in the Minutes of 1849, p. 214:—"That every Presbytery be, and hereby is earnestly requested to cause a contribution for the Commissioners' Fund to be taken up in all their churches, in the winter preceding each future General Assembly, and transmit the whole amount of the same to the Assembly, by their own or some neighboring commissioner."

The unfinished business of yesterday, viz., the discussion of the subject of Slavery, was resumed;—the question being still on the adoption of the report of the minority.

Resolved, That all debate on this subject cease at 12 o'clock, M.

Rev. D. Malin moved the postponement of the motion before the house, to take up the following substitute:

"*Whereas*, numerous memorials on the subject of Slavery have been regularly laid before this Assembly, and carefully examined by a Committee to whom they were referred;—which memorials unite in proposing no specific measure, but, in general, asking of this Assembly more decisive and stringent action;

And *whereas*, in answer to memorials of the same character on this subject, several successive General Assemblies have expressed their sentiments, and borne their decided testimony;

Therefore, *Resolved*,

That in the judgment of this Assembly, no evidence is before them, that new exigencies or circumstances have arisen requiring at this time further action by this body."

The following substitute, suggested by Rev. E. Mason, D. D., was adopted by Mr. Malin, as his own:

"*Whereas*, according to the 'Form of Government,' the powers of the General Assembly, except in judicial cases, are only 'ministerial and declarative;' and *whereas*, in former years, especially in the year 1849, the Assembly did fully and decidedly express its opinions respecting the subject of Slavery; and *whereas*, by the Constitution of the Church, sessions and Presbyteries are the courts of primary jurisdiction, competent to judge of offences and their proof;—this Assembly cannot take any farther action in this matter,

except as it may be brought up in a regular manner by way of judicial process, or general review and control from the lower judicatories."

At 12 o'clock, the question was taken, and the postponement was lost:

The question recurred on the adoption of the minority report, which after being amended was adopted, by Yeas and Nays, and is as follows:

"A minority of the Committee, to whom was referred a number of memorials on the subject of Slavery from various Synods, Presbyteries and churches within our bounds, beg leave to report:—

"That after a careful and thorough examination of the whole subject, they [325] have been brought to the conclusion, that, in consideration of the previous action of the Assembly, had at different times for a series of years, and what they believe to be its present sentiments, and the expectation of the churches in its connection, the cause of truth and righteousness, of peace and unity, will be best subserved by the adoption of the following resolutions:—

Resolved, 1. That we exceedingly deplore the working of the whole system of Slavery as it exists in our country, and is interwoven with the political institutions of the slaveholding States, as fraught with many and great evils to the civil, political and moral interests of those regions where it exists.

Resolved, 2. That the holding our fellow-men in the condition of slavery, except in those cases where it is unavoidable, by the laws of the State, the obligations of guardianship, or the demands of humanity, is an offence in the proper import of that term, as used in the Book of Discipline, Chap. I. sec. 3, and should be regarded and treated in the same manner as other offences.

Resolved, 3. That the sessions and Presbyteries are, by the Constitution of our Church, the courts of primary jurisdiction for the trial of offences.

Resolved, 4. That after this declaration of sentiment, the whole subject of Slavery, as it exists in the Church, be referred to the sessions and Presbyteries, to take such action thereon as in their judgment the laws of Christianity require."

The following members voted in the AFFIRMATIVE:

Messrs. Dobie, Leonard, White, Hitchcock, Bassett, Tyler, Payson, Bacon, Lathrop, Nelson, Gelston, Fancher, Tuttle, Benedict, B. C. Smith, Mills, Monson, Hollister, Jesse Smith, Somers, Sunderland, Wisner, Heacock, Bryant, Wood, Sayre, Wiswell, Stiles, Mason, Spear, Arms, J. F. Tuttle, Willis, G. W. Seward, Starr, Tittsworth, Rockwell, S. W. Gould, Malin, Sterling, P. F. Smith, J. F. Read, Streit, Gillett, S. G. Clark, Bissell, Canfield, Duffield, Fuller, Monteith, Taylor, Agnew, Russell, Hastings, Davis, C. Noble, Marvin, W. A. Smith, Kingsbury, Torrey, Ford, Skinner, D. Gould, Poage, Bushnell, Ghormley, Reynolds, Tiffany, Curtis, Thompson, Rogers, J. G. Wilson, Anderson, Hoffman, Graydon, Shaw, A. D. Seward, Glover, J. Wilson, Gibson, Howe, C. R. Clarke, Fisk, Porter, J. Wood, Wight, Walker,—87.

The following members voted in the NEGATIVE:

Messrs. J. H. Noble, J. H. Clark, Townsend, Gray, Barks, Boyd, Shepherd, C. H. Read, Phillips, Craig, McCorkle, Blackburn, Mills, Cleland, Dysart, Zivley,—16.

Against this action of the Assembly, the Rev. Charles H. Read, for himself and others, offered the following protest, which he wished to have entered in the Minutes; and his request was granted:

"The undersigned members of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, now in session in Detroit, believing conscientiously that the interests of Church and State of the entire population of the

North, and South, and East, and West, will, under existing circumstances, not only not be promoted by the present action of the Assembly on the subject of Slavery, but will the rather be injured thereby,— [326] do hereby solemnly and respectfully protest against that action in our own name and in behalf of the Presbyteries we are here to represent. This protest we ask to have entered upon the Minutes of this General Assembly."

Signed.—Charles H. Read, Andrew Blackburn, A. H. H. Boyd, J. H. Zivley, B. Mills, George M. Phillips, J. B. Townsend, F. R. Gray."

At half past one o'clock, the Assembly adjourned until 3 o'clock, P. M. Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 28th, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Mileage reported that a small balance remained uncalled for in their hands. *Ordered*, that it be paid over to the Contingent Fund.

The rule in reference to the printed Minutes, adopted by the Assembly of 1849, (Minutes, p. 172,)* was adopted in reference to the Minutes of this Assembly.

Rev. Charles H. Read, from the Committee on the Narrative, made a report, which was adopted, and ordered to be published in the Appendix to the Minutes.

Resolved, that the thanks of the Assembly be tendered to the N. Y. & Erie Railroad Company; to the Hudson River Railroad and Steamboat Company; and to the several railroad companies between Albany and Buffalo; to the proprietors of the Michigan Central Railroad and Lake Michigan Line of Steamers; to General Charles M. Read, of Erie; to the Detroit and Sandusky, the Monroe & Toledo Lines, and all others who have accommodated the members of this body in their passage to and from the city of Detroit, by a generous reduction of fares upon their several excellent and well arranged lines of conveyance.

Also, that thanks be tendered to the several proprietors of hotels in Detroit, for the courtesy and liberality shown by them to many of the Commissioners; also, to the Trustees of the First Presbyterian church in Detroit, for the use of their edifice, and various facilities for the business of the Assembly.

Also, to the many families in the city of Detroit whose unsurpassed hospitality has been shown to the members of the Assembly during a protracted session.

Resolved especially, that the General Assembly entertain a grateful sense of the very generous and entirely unexpected transmission to the members, by the superintendent of the Michigan Central Railroad Co., J. W. Brooks, Esq., of free tickets for a pleasure excursion after their sessions, to any place on the line of their railroad across the Peninsula, and on the line of their steamboats on Lake Michigan, from this city to Milwaukie and back; which generous expression of respect and courtesy to this body has contributed to enhance the pleasure of their visit and session in this city. [327]

Resolved, that the Permanent Clerk be directed to convey copies of the above resolutions to the persons for whom they are intended, and also to have them published in the papers of this city and elsewhere.

Ordered, that the salaries of the Stated and Permanent Clerks be paid.

The bill for the printing of the Roll and papers, amounting to $15, was ordered to be paid.

* Reprint, p. 213.

Also, the traveling expenses of Rev. G. N. Judd, D. D., as Delegate to Connecticut and Massachusetts.

Resolved, that the thanks of the Assembly be hereby expressed to the Moderator, for the patience, fidelity, and uninterrupted suavity, and gentleness of spirit and manner, as well as for his strict attention to the business before the body, with which he has discharged the duties of his office, through its protracted and onerous sessions.

Thanks, also, were tendered to the Temporary Clerk, for his uniform courtesy, and diligent faithfulness in the discharge of the duties devolving on him in his department.

On motion of J. H. Clark, M. D., *Resolved* unanimously, that the General Assembly regard the cause of Temperance with no less favor than in the days of its highest popularity, and would deprecate a return to the drinking usages of a former period, as one of the greatest evils to the Church and the world.

Resolved, that the cause of religion, of benevolence and of humanity, requires all who love our Lord Jesus Christ, to continue faithful to the cause of Temperance, holding themselves ready, at all times, when expedient, to present it from the pulpit, and by every suitable means to promote its interests.

The Minutes were read and approved.

The Roll was called, and the following members were recorded, and ordered to be reported to their respective Presbyteries, as absent without leave: Rev. Robert P. Stanton and Elder John R. Bullock, of the Presbytery of Albany; Rev. Roswell D. Pettibone and Elder Harvey D. Smith, of the Presbytery of St. Lawrence; Elder Charles McLean, of the Presbytery of Utica; Elder E. P. Healy, M. D., of the Presbytery of Ithaca; Elder Eli Woods, of the Presbytery of Genesee; Rev. Joel Wakeman, of the Presbytery of Angelica; Elder David N. Murray, of the Presbytery of Scioto; Elder George T. Layfield, of the Presbytery of Cincinnati; Elder E. B. Ayers, of the Presbytery of Illinois; and Rev. Ichabod A. Hart, of the Presbytery of Belvidere.

The business of the Assembly having been finished, and the vote having been taken for dissolving the Assembly, the Moderator, with prayer and the apostolic benediction, declared the Assembly dissolved; and required another General Assembly, chosen in the same manner, to meet in the city of Utica, New York, at such place as the Committee of Arrangements shall designate, on the third Thursday of May, A. D. 1851, at 7½ o'clock, P. M.

E. W. GILBERT,
Permanent Clerk.

Detroit, Mich., May 28th, 1850.

APPENDIX.

ANNUAL NARRATIVE

Of the State of Religion within the Bounds of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, May, 1850.

The history of the dealings of God with our Zion during the past year, and the statement of the present spiritual condition and prospects of the

churches in our ecclesiastical fellowship, which the many friends of Christ and religion expect at our hands, must necessarily be gathered from the more or less complete narratives sent up from the several Presbyteries in our connection. Whatever we might have occasion to rejoice in, or to deplore,—as viewed from the several stand-points of observation occupied by us individually,—we are expected in this paper to speak as those who have walked about the walls, through the streets and in the tabernacles of our beloved Zion, noticing candidly the strength and the weakness, the progress and decline, the things that are sorrowful or hopeful, and to make a true report.

From one hundred and two Presbyteries on the Roll of this Assembly we have received sixty-eight narratives. Some of these are quite too vague and general to answer the design of the Assembly, or to be of any use to the Committee to whom they have been referred. Others have evidently been prepared with conscientious consideration and care, furnishing precisely the staple facts and indications with which the whole Church should be made acquainted.

From a careful examination of the materials found in these narratives, and after listening to the statements made on the floor of the Assembly the following items are deemed worthy of public notice:—

1. The Evidences of External Prosperity.

We take pleasure in recording the fact, that while the ground formerly occupied under religious culture has, in the main, been well maintained,—new and extended efforts have been made over territory not before possessed by us. Not a few of our old churches have been greatly strengthened;—new and commodious edifices have taken the place of those that were dilapidated; a large amount of debt, for which the property of the churches was held as security, and the interest of which was burdensome, has been by generous private subscriptions liquidated; a considerable number of new church-edifices, upon new ground, have been erected, and new preaching stations occupied by missionary enterprise.

It deserves also to be noticed, in counterpart of this general statement, that owing to changes of population, diversions of trade to new centres, and sometimes for want of a due regard to the importance of a settled ministry and suitable support of pastors—here and there a church has been dissolved and an enterprise abandoned.

2. The Spiritual Condition of the Churches.

Under this general head the narratives and statements of the brethren lead us to notice,

1st. The feelings cherished among the people in populous districts respecting the regular services of the sanctuary, and a well-educated and settled ministry,—in contrast with impulsive irregular efforts, and temporary supplies.

Whatever the necessities of some sparsely settled portions of our country may dictate—it would seem to be the growing conviction of ministers and people—that steadfast and persevering labor upon fields well fenced in by the divinely accredited ordinances and means of grace,—where the pastor and people take deep root and grow together in sanctified affections and sympathies, and have an eye to permanent results,—are best calculated to promote the elevation of society, the salvation of souls and the glory of God. We hail it as an omen of future good, as it is a sign of present peace

and healthful sentiment, that there is a growing attachment between settled pastors and their people; a looking to God for dews and showers of his grace upon well-cultivated fields; and less dependence upon "a floating, unattached, irresponsible ministry."

It is greatly to be desired that this sentiment may prevail, and be extended over some portions of our Zion where its importance does not seem to be appreciated.

2d. The reports indicate an earnest sensibility on the part of many of the Presbyteries respecting

The Sanctification of the Sabbath.

That this holy day of God is one of the chief pillars of safety to the Church, the State and the best interests of humanity, is most clearly established by the word and providence of God, and by the history of our race. That true spiritual religion cannot flourish when this holy day is disregarded, or loosely observed,—is plain without argument; and yet it is a lamentable fact that some of the operations of our National Government, the employment of a very large amount of publicly-chartered and private capital, and the business and social usages of individuals, put dishonor on this divine institution. While, therefore, we have occasion to mourn and humble ourselves before God that these things are so, we rejoice that the Presbyteries are awake to the serious importance of this subject, and that it is noticed in so many of the reports with a holy sorrow, which, it is hoped, will lead to the promotion of a purer public and private sentiment in every portion of the Church, and throughout our beloved country.

It appears that the recent opening of new and great thoroughfares of travel and transportation of merchandise, and the migration of masses of people, have had the effect to disturb the former quietness of not a few places in our country, on the Sabbath day; hence, in addition to the previous greater or less profanation or indifference, there is now in many places much noise and confusion; crowds of idle and curious persons are gathered at railroad depots, at steamboat wharfs, and about the hotel and canal stations; encouragement is too frequently given to the vulgar and ignorant by the frequent mingling in such scenes of those who hold respectable and influential positions in society, and thus the Sabbath of God is desecrated, public worship disturbed, and the hearts of the pious deeply grieved. In view of this state of things, it becomes the people of God to be firmly conscientious, and to write "Holiness unto the Lord" on this day by precept and example.

3d. Again—under this general head we are called upon to notice

Spirituality in Personal Religion,

in contrast and in conflict with the strong tide of worldliness and covetousness which rises around and invades the Church.

The prominence which this particular occupies in many of the Presbyterial Reports would seem to demand more than a passing notice. There is evidently a great and special necessity now, and among us, for deep-seated and enlightened religious principle on the part of all Christians. All light and loose materials in society are caught up and borne along by the increased activity of all the worldly elements.

Religious principles and affections are now put to a severe test by the increased temptations and resistance which they have to contend with and overcome. Nothing but a vital union with Christ and the inhabitation of

the Holy Spirit will avail the professor of religion at such a time as this. There is an evident necessity that the voice of kind and faithful warning should not only be heard from the pulpit, addressed to the assembled congregation, but also that there should be much direct personal exhortation and application of truth, with meekness and love.

The spirit of worldliness is the more insidious and dangerous, for that it cannot be so distinctly defined as may some cardinal error in doctrine, or some overt sins: it is an enbosoming atmosphere rather than a distinct form, or opinion; we live in it and breathe it continually, and unless there be a positive and powerful pre-occupation of the mind and heart of the Christian by the knowledge, love and fear of God, he will wither under this moral pestilence.

Here again we have reason for encouragement in the fact that this is a felt evil, a realized danger on the part of the brethren who have united their testimony in the reports sent up; and as it is one of God's modes of dealing with his people—to make them see and feel their own danger, and the danger of others, in order that they may be put on their guard, feel their dependence, and look to Him for help,—we would indulge the hope, that what is spread out in the reports upon this subject is but the reflection and echo of His light and voice, shining and speaking in and through the hearts of the brethren. The mere faint hope of salvation from a faintly realized risk of perdition to the soul, is not enough wherewithal to stem the tide of worldliness, and overcome the lusts of the flesh, of the eye, and the pride of life: there must be more than this; yea, there must be the principle and the power of holiness, an enthroning of God-in-Christ in the heart, and a captivity of the soul to the obedience of FAITH.

4th. Family Religion and Faithful Instruction of Youth and Children.

The importance of the latter of these duties is frequently adverted to, as a matter of growing estimation, in many of the narratives; and the necessity of the former is plainly indicated. It is an occasion of hopeful rejoicing, that, in connection with a faithful instruction of our youth and children in the Holy Scriptures, in the family, the Bible class, and the Sabbath-school; the Assembly's Catechism is being restored and is growing in favor among our people. This is an omen full of good. It is to be hoped that while Bible classes and Sabbath-schools may be steadily and cordially sustained, they will in no case be regarded by Christian parents as a substitute for home instruction. No parent can excuse himself from the holy duty and privilege of carefully teaching his own children by reason of the kindest and most faithful offices of any one out of his own house. The family is one of God's most merciful and blessed institutions in this world. Intelligent piety finds here its strongest asylum, and here its sanctifying and elevating influences should be most sedulously cherished. The Hebrew commonwealth had its prominent elements of beauty and of strength in the family tie and family religion. Let there be cultivated an intelligent, meditative piety in the bosom of each Christian family, and we may not doubt that peace, purity and stability will be the characteristics of our churches, and a legacy for which other generations will bless us.

5th. Benevolence in Support of Religious Institutions.

In this respect, while the general standard is very low and we have reason

for humility rather than boasting, or even self gratulation, there is ground of encouragement.

In some of our churches the benevolent action in the way of strengthening our position and extending the Gospel through the agency of the Bible, Tract, Home and Foreign Missionary Societies has been systematized; pains have been taken to educate the mind and heart and the policy of life in harmony with the grand design of these and kindred enterprises; and it has been found that the promises of God to those who devise liberal things is faithful.

6th. Revivals of Religion.

We are called upon to acknowledge with devout gratitude many delightful refreshings from the special presence of the Holy Spirit among the churches. Reports of the revival of the tone of piety among Christians, and the conversion of the impenitent, come to us from almost all sections of our beloved Zion.

These blessings have come down, in most cases, very silently, upon churches enjoying the stated administrations of the Gospel, without much stir or observation; and yet the result has been the very manifest advancement of the kingdom of Christ—in the edification of his people and the salvation of sinners. And, lest we should forget our complete and encouraging dependence on the sovereign grace of God, it deserves attention—that, in some cases, blessed seasons of refreshing and extension to the Church have been enjoyed by some of the churches, which were at the time destitute of a pastor. We can but hope—as we would most fervently pray—that a period of merciful visitation has begun to dawn upon us, and that this fiftieth year is to be indeed a jubilee to our land and the world

7th. Successful Preaching of the Gospel among the Colored Population in the South.

The following brief extract from the narrative of the Presbytery of South Lexington is introduced as a specimen of the reports from our Southern churches: "The servants are cared for, and in some of our parishes the Gospel is preached to them as regularly as to the whites. They appreciate the glad tidings in some degree and many give pleasing proof of being new creatures in Jesus Christ."

In summing up the results of the ecclesiastical year, we have reason for profound humiliation and for devout gratitude to the Great Head of the Church. It has, upon the whole, been a year of progress, and, in some respects, we trust, of consolidation and increased activity under the blessing of God.

The frightful pestilence which was casting its dark pall over our country about the time of the dissolution of the Assembly of 1849, and which soon girded our nation and penetrated many sections, leaving its path distinct with sepulchres, desolating many hearth-stones, and cutting down not a few of the watchmen upon the walls of Zion, was not permitted to any considerable extent to invade our ministerial ranks or our congregations. May we all be enabled henceforth to say: "The life which thou hast made thy care, Lord, I devote to thee." It becomes our mournful duty, however, to record the fact that the following ministers of our Church have departed this life during the past year.

DEATHS OF MINISTERS.

Loren W. Haven,	of the Presbytery of	Utica.
Abijah P. Beebee,	"	"
John W. Adams, D. D.,	"	Onondaga.
Ethan Smith,	"	"
Oren Catlin,	"	Buffalo.
John D. Gardiner,	"	Long Island.
Josephus B. Loring,	"	New York, 4th.
William B. Lewis,	"	Brooklyn.
Stephen H. Gloucester,	"	Philadelphia, 4th.
Robert Cathcart, D. D.,	"	Harrisburgh.
Amos Chase,	"	Meadville.
Nathaniel Latham,	"	Grand River.
N. W. Fisher,	"	Huron.
John McCrea,	"	Medina.
Ira Dunning,	"	Detroit.
Julius Steele,	"	St. Joseph.
David Cushing,	"	Scioto.
James Osgood,	"	Cincinnati.
John M. Dickey,	"	Madison.
Thomas J. Haswell,	"	Schuyler.
Amnon Gaston,	"	Knox.
Royal N. Wright,	"	Belvidere.
John Mines, D. D.,	"	District of Columbia.
James H. Gass,	"	Union.
Joseph Sherman,	"	West Tennessee.

The statements made upon the floor of the Assembly by Delegates, and the written reports from Corresponding Bodies, to wit, The General Associations of Connecticut and New Hampshire, the General Conference of Maine, and the Presbyterian and Congregational General Convention of Wisconsin, afford gratifying evidence of general peace, purity and progress in these several branches of the Church and members of the body of Christ.

By order of the General Assembly.

DAVID H. RIDDLE, *Moderator.*
EDWIN F. HATFIELD, *Stated Clerk.*

Detroit, May 28th, 1850.

STATISTICAL REPORT

Of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, May, 1850.

Synods and Presbyteries.

The General Assembly has under its care twenty Synods, comprising one hundred and two Presbyteries, viz.:

1. The Synod of Albany comprises five Presbyteries, viz.: Champlain, Troy, Albany, Columbia, and Delaware.

2. The Synod of Utica comprises five Presbyteries, viz.: St. Lawrence, Watertown, Oswego, Otsego and Utica.

3. The Synod of Geneva comprises ten Presbyteries, viz.: Onondaga, Cayuga, Geneva, Cortland, Chenango, Tioga, Bath, Chemung, Ithaca, and Pennsylvania.

4. The Synod of Genesee comprises six Presbyteries, viz.: Genesee, Ontario, Rochester, Niagara, Buffalo, and Angelica.

5. The Synod of New York and New Jersey comprises ten Presbyteries, viz.: Hudson, North River, Long Island, New York 3d, New York 4th, Brooklyn, Newark, Rockaway, Montrose, and San Francisco.

6. The Synod of Pennsylvania comprises four Presbyteries, viz.: Wilmington, Philadelphia 3d, Philadelphia 4th, and Harrisburgh.

7. The Synod of West Pennsylvania comprises three Presbyteries, viz.: Erie, Meadville, and Pittsburgh.

8. The Synod of Western Reserve comprises eight Presbyteries, viz.: Grand River, Portage, Huron, Trumbull, Cleveland, Medina, Elyria, and Maumee.

9. The Synod of Michigan comprises seven Presbyteries, viz.: Detroit, St. Joseph, Monroe, Marshall, Washtenaw, Kalamazoo, and Ionia.

10. The Synod of Ohio comprises four Presbyteries, viz.: Athens, Pataskala, Franklin, and Scioto.

11. The Synod of Cincinnati comprises three Presbyteries, viz.: Cincinnati, Dayton, and Hamilton.

12. The Synod of Indiana comprises six Presbyteries, viz.: Salem, Madison, Crawfordsville, Indianapolis, Logansport, and Fort Wayne.

13. The Synod of Illinois comprises five Presbyteries, viz.: Illinois, Schuyler, Palestine, Alton, and Des Moines.

14. The Synod of Peoria comprises six Presbyteries, viz.: Ottawa, Peoria, Knox, Galena, Chicago, and Belvidere.

15. The Synod of Missouri comprises four Presbyteries, viz.: St. Louis, Northern Missouri, Lexington and Osage.

16. The Synod of Virginia comprises three Presbyteries, viz.: Winchester, District of Columbia, and Hanover.

17. The Synod of Tennessee comprises five Presbyteries, viz.: Union, Holston, Kingston, New River, and Chattahoochee.

18. The Synod of Kentucky comprises three Presbyteries, viz.: Harmony, Providence, and Green River.

19. The Synod of West Tennessee comprises three Presbyteries, viz.: West Tennessee, Shiloh, and North Alabama.

20. The Synod of Mississippi comprises three Presbyteries, viz.: Clinton, S. Lexington, and Newton.

SUMMARY OF THE ANNUAL SCHEDULE.

SYNODICAL ORDER.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Whole No. of Communicants.	Adults Baptized.	Infants Baptized.	Comm. Fund.	Contng. Fund.	STATED CLERKS.
I. Synod of Albany	1803	5	98	...	1	86	387	179	10,555	77	224	$115 67	$ 3 00	A. Bordman Lambert.
1. Champlain	1814	...	24	...	1	20	150	51	2,736	23	110	.....	.....	David Dobie.
2. Troy	1820	...	19	...	...	21	109	74	3,027	23	42	38 67	.....	A. Bordman Lambert.
3. Albany	1791	...	11	...	...	8	76	37	1,296	26	34	26 00	.....	Thomas S. Wickes.
4. Columbia	1802	...	25	...	...	18	52	17	2,208	5	38	51 00	3 00	Josiah Leonard.
5. Delaware	1831	...	19	...	...	19	...	...	1,288	...	...	.....	.....	Isaac D. Cornwell.
II. Synod of Utica	1829	5	84	4	...	99	407	276	9,197	121	161	116 51	15 33	
1. St. Lawrence	1818	...	7	...	...	9	34	32	863	5	32	15 00	3 00	Baruck B. Beckwith.
2. Watertown	1822	...	13	...	...	22	120	41	2,421	49	22	40 00	1 75	Isaac Brayton.
3. Oswego	1823	...	14	1	...	23	37	38	1,303	...	...	.....	.....	Robert W. Condit, D. D.
4. Otsego	1820	...	13	...	...	20	66	34	1,684	20	21	17 85	1 00	Charles K. McHarg.
5. Utica	1842	...	37	3	...	25	150	131	2,926	47	86	43 66	9 58	Samuel W. Brace.
III. Synod of Geneva	1812	10	214	27	8	197	514	483	20,765	201	325	206 98	.....	Henry A. Nelson.
1. Onondaga	1810	...	33	...	...	27	53	74	2,981	20	58	33 00	.....	Richard F. Cleaveland.
2. Cayuga	1810	...	34	14	4	24	17	73	2,692	26	6	34 63	.....	Henry A. Nelson.
3. Geneva	1805	...	43	4	...	32	100	107	4,735	45	83	17 10	.....	William Hogarth.
4. Cortland	1825	...	13	...	...	16	59	44	1,776	19	44	18 00	.....	Hercules R. Dunham.
5. Chenango	1826	...	14	2	3	16	73	29	1,582	28	28	25 50	.....	Amos C. Tuttle.
6. Tioga	1829	...	17	...	...	15	37	51	1,943	10	22	5 00	.....	Philip C. Hay, D. D.
7. Bath	1817	...	17	1	...	18	82	23	1,526	27	23	13 75	.....	Robert E. Willson.
8. Chemung	1836	...	18	1	1	21	62	55	1,407	18	35	22 00	.....	Charles C. Carr.
9. Ithaca	1839	...	14	5	...	15	19	8	1,745	7	5	38 00	.....	Solomon R. Seofield.
10. Pennsylvania	1845	...	11	...	...	13	12	19	378	1	21	.....	.....	Samuel J. McCullough.
IV. Synod of Genesee	1821	6	131	4	2	137	269	207	15,461	104	163	35 62	.....	Timothy Stillman.
1. Genesee	1819	...	17	...	...	18	76	25	1,804	36	11	.....	.....	John B. Preston.
2. Ontario *	1817	...	16	...	...	25	...	...	2,831	...	...	.....	....	John Barnard, Jr.

* The asterisk indicates that the report is that of a previous year.

3. Rochester*	1819	...	31	...	...	23	...	...	3,662	...	...	.....	.....	John B. Richardson.
4. Niagara	1817	...	19	1	...	16	59	67	2,208	22	48	27 62	.....	William N. McHarg.
5. Buffalo	1823	...	38	2	2	36	82	100	3,256	26	80	.....	.....	Timothy Stillman.
6. Angelica	1828	...	10	1	...	19	52	15	1,700	20	24	8 00	.....	Joel Wakeman.
V. Synod of N. Y. and N. J.	1788	10	181	37	17	127	704	676	22,413	267	621	217 98	44 79	John N. Lewis.
1. Hudson	1797	...	12	1	1	12	79	18	1,723	35	36	38 00	.....	Obadiah M. Johnson.
2. North River	1819	...	13	2	3	14	43	31	1,759	20	28	.....	7 00	Sumner Mandeville.
3. Long Island	1791	...	11	...	...	6	18	8	628	11	17	10 00	2 00	George F. Wiswell.
4. New York, Third	1831	...	32	13	6	14	112	170	4,967	30	152	60 42	10 00	Edwin F. Hatfield.
5. New York, Fourth	1845	...	24	13	2	12	66	90	3,006	12	119	36 10	.....	Erskine Mason, D. D.
6. Brooklyn	1838	...	19	3	4	7	69	91	1,938	20	59	.....	25 79	Jonathan M. Rowland.
7. Newark	1824	...	30	5	...	17	119	157	3,711	34	103	68 46	.....	Ebenezer Seymour.
8. Rockaway	1839	...	19	...	...	18	144	43	2,580	89	27	5 00	.....	Joel Campbell.
9. Montrose	1832	...	17	...	1	26	54	68	2,101	16	80	.....	.....	Adam Miller.
10. San Francisco	1849	...	6	...	...	1	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	.....	Samuel H. Willey.
VI. Synod of Pennsylvania.	1838	4	67	8	3	64	360	278	10,780	60	460	73 10	29 95	John Crowell.
1. Wilmington	1832	...	16	2	...	18	60	29	1,389	12	63	2 60	2 25	J. Edson Rockwell.
2. Philadelphia, Third	1832	...	15	2	...	15	107	37	3,557	12	147	6 50	.....	John Crowell.
3. Philadelphia, Fourth	1845	...	24	4	3	22	146	192	4,730	34	216	12 00	26 70	Charles Brown.
4. Harrisburgh	1839	...	12	...	...	9	47	20	1,104	2	34	52 00	1 00	Conway P. Wing.
VII. Synod of W. Penn'vania.	1843	3	17	...	...	32	61	45	2,436	19	130	30 21	5 25	George A. Lyon, D. D.
1. Erie	1801	...	7	...	...	15	18	26	1,066	2	40	30 21	2 50	Joseph Vance.
2. Meadville	1842	...	5	...	...	12	29	11	739	11	55	.....	1 50	Richard Craighead.
3. Pittsburgh	1839	...	5	...	...	5	14	8	631	6	35	.....	1 25	Benjamin F. Wallace.
VIII. Synod of W. Reserve	1825	8	130	19	1	127	161	206	8,566	26	194	26 92	9 00	William Hanford.
1. Grand River	1814	...	17	...	...	17	9	4	1,177	3	15	.....	.....	Alanson Saunders.
2. Portage	1818	...	28	10	1	15	40	34	1,307	8	39	2 00	2 00	William Hanford.
3. Huron	1823	...	18	1	...	22	33	10	1,647	...	17	2 50	4 00	Jonathan B. Parlin.
4. Trumbull	1827	...	15	2	...	19	23	22	1,375	2	43	.....	.....	Charles A. Boardman.
5. Cleveland	1830	...	22	2	...	14	41	92	1,436	7	38	19 42	3 00	Samuel T. Mills.
6. Medina*	1836	...	7	...	...	9	...	...	401	...	...	.....	.....	Sherman D. Taylor.
7. Elyria	1842	...	15	3	...	13	...	10	719	...	...	3 00	.....	Alfred H. Betts.
8. Maumee	1842	...	8	1	...	18	15	34	504	6	42	.....	.....	E. Richard Tucker.

SYNODICAL ORDER.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Whole No. of Communicants.	Adults Baptized.	Infants Baptized.	Comm. Fund.	Contingent. Fund.	STATED CLERKS.
IX. Synod of Michigan	1834	7	96	1	1	117	421	363	7,011	128	217	$40 09	$28 76	George Duffield, D. D.
1. Detroit	1826	...	21	...	...	25	84	86	1,874	18	71	.....	.....	Robert R. Kellogg.
2. St. Joseph	1833	...	17	...	1	28	68	38	1,326	19	22	15 00	1 00	Norman Kellogg.
3. Monroe	1833	...	10	...	...	15	12	28	783	8	38	16 00	10 00	John Monteith.
4. Marshall	1838	...	16	1	...	18	132	80	1,138	45	21	.....	6 50	Samuel H. Hall.
5. Washtenaw	1838	...	15	...	...	16	23	46	1,173	7	44	9 09	6 26	William S. Curtis.
6. Kalamazoo	1838	...	12	...	...	11	102	85	626	31	21	.....	5 00	Milton Bradley.
7. Ionia*	1845	...	5	...	...	4	...	...	91	...	...	.....	.....	Le Moyne S. Smith.
X. Synod of Ohio	1814	4	52	6	...	70	191	131	4,149	51	178	78 65	15 00	Addison Kingsbury.
1. Athens	1822	...	14	2	...	19	37	18	806	6	21	.....	5 00	Lucien C. Ford.
2. Pataskala	1809	...	13	2	...	29	37	30	1,650	10	48	.....	2 00	Alexander Duncan.
3. Franklin	1835	...	16	2	...	18	82	59	1,205	22	79	38 65	6 00	Henry L. Hitchcock.
4. Scioto	1845	...	9	...	...	11	35	24	488	13	30	40 00	2 00	Joseph Chester.
XI. Synod of Cincinnati	1829	3	36	9	4	43	245	122	2,910	63	132	83 80	10 75	Thornton A. Mills.
1. Cincinnati	1828	...	16	9	4	16	96	55	1,397	25	49	69 00	8 00	David D. Gregory.
2. Dayton	1838	...	8	...	...	16	78	51	832	26	28	14 80	2 75	Daniel Rice.
3. Hamilton	1846	...	12	...	...	11	71	16	681	12	55	.....	.....	Daniel Tenney.
XII. Synod of Indiana	1826	6	67	3	...	111	516	262	4,759	180	299	182 28	13 95	Joseph G. Wilson.
1. Salem	1823	...	10	...	...	19	126	18	801	49	42	56 78	5 20	John M. Bishop.
2. Madison	1825	...	9	1	...	15	78	48	896	23	66	29 00	5 00	Harvey Curtis.
3. Crawfordsville	1825	...	18	1	...	22	57	41	951	17	29	.....	.....	James H. Johnston.
4. Indianapolis	1830	...	13	...	...	21	64	31	821	27	49	43 50	3 75	Clement E. Babb.
5. Logansport	1835	...	6	1	...	16	146	89	834	58	38	53 00	.....	Joseph G. Wilson.
6. Fort Wayne	1845	...	11	...	...	18	45	35	456	6	75	.....	.....	Alfred Hawes.
XIII. Synod of Illinois	1831	5	64	1	...	71	283	189	3,654	71	193	58 90	7 50	George C. Wood.
1. Illinois	1828	...	18	...	...	14	36	35	829	13	28	31 90	5 00	Livingston M. Glover.
2. Schuyler	1833	...	11	...	...	13	73	46	882	23	45	.....	.....	Henry C. Abernethy.

3. Wabash	1833	...	5	...	...	4	13	3	176	...	20	10 00	.....	Enoch Kingsbury.
4. Alton	1836	...	21	1	...	26	116	69	1,350	25	72	10 00	.....	Augustus T. Norton.
5. Des Moines	1845	...	9	...	...	14	45	36	417	10	28	7 00	2 50	Glen Wood.
XIV. Synod of Peoria	1843	6	59	...	...	41	113	167	2,456	27	105	71 72	.....	Robert W. Patterson.
1. Ottawa	1834	...	11	...	...	7	8	24	187	2	16	2 00	.....	Nahum Gould.
2. Peoria	1836	...	6	...	...	7	21	14	323	3	11	6 40	.....	Joseph Fowler.
3. Knox	1838	...	7	...	...	4	28	22	506	6	28	8 50	.....	George W. Gale.
4. Galena	1842	...	12	...	...	13	12	35	512	5	15	24 35	.....	John C. Downer.
5. Chicago	1847	...	15	...	...	5	36	62	685	4	35	21 72	.....	Lewis H. Loss.
6. Belvidere	1847	...	8	...	...	5	8	10	243	7	...	8 75	.....	Ichabod A. Hart.
XV. Synod of Missouri	1832	4	42	1	3	52	198	126	2,199	83	127	47 00	7 50	Fincelius R. Gray.
1. St. Louis	1831	...	11	...	...	11	11	43	846	10	35	42 00	4 00	James B. Townsend.
2. Northern Missouri	1845	...	9	...	3	13	103	37	694	35	49	.....	.....	John Leighton.
3. Lexington	1845	...	12	1	...	14	71	37	323	31	25	4 00	2 25	Tapping S. Reeve.
4. Osage	1845	...	10	...	...	14	13	9	336	7	18	1 00	1 25	Isaac B. Ricketts.
XVI. Synod of Virginia	1788	3	42	9	6	43	172	93	3,715	58	163	45 75	10 00	John C. Smith.
1. Winchester	1794	...	12	2	2	17	49	10	953	16	20	26 75	.....	Patterson Fletcher.
2. District of Columbia	1831	...	13	2	1	11	39	45	1,459	13	100	.....	.....	Thomas James Shepherd.
3. Hanover	1838	...	17	5	3	15	84	38	1,303	29	43	19 00	10 00	Henry Smith.
XVII. Synod of Tennessee	1817	4	39	5	3	70	185	72	4,776	41	225	30 44	4 75	Fielding Pope.
1. Union	1797	...	17	5	3	29	28	31	1,945	7	124	13 44	1 00	Fielding Pope.
2. Holston	1826	...	10	...	...	13	129	38	1,421	31	82	17 00	2 50	Daniel Rogan.
3. Kingston *	1838	...	5	...	...	17	...	...	799	...	...	.....	.....	William B. Brown.
4. New River	1838	...	7	...	...	11	28	3	611	3	19	.....	1 25	George Painter.
XVIII. Synod of Kentucky	1802	3	12	1	6	22	77	9	915	43	28	60 00	.....	Archibald C. Dickerson.
1. Harmony	1842	...	3	1	5	8	11	6	424	9	22	.....	.....	E. Perkins Pratt.
2. Providence	1842	...	5	...	1	6	66	3	308	34	6	60 00	.....	Thomas H. Cleland.
3. Green River*	1842	...	4	...	...	8	...	...	183	...	...	.....	.....	Archibald C. Dickerson.
XIX. Synod of W. Tennessee	1826	3	24	2	2	37	157	42	2,188	84	122	.....	3 00	William Eagleton.
1. West Tennessee	1810	...	7	...	1	6	17	9	572	14	2	.....	75	Robert C. Garrison.

SYNODICAL ORDER.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Whole No. of Communicants.	Adults Baptized.	Infants Baptized.	Comm. Fund.	Contingt. Fund.	STATED CLERKS.
2. Shiloh	1816	...	7	1	1	18	78	26	1,040	32	88	.....	.....	Amzi Bradshaw.
3. Richland	1824	...	10	1	...	13	62	7	576	38	32	.....	$2 25	Archibald M. Pickens.
XX. Synod of Mississippi	1846	3	16	...	3	22	29	19	892	10	29	.....	.....	Alexander Newton, D. D.
1. Clinton*	1832	...	5	...	3	6	...	...	225	...	...	.....	.....	George Moore.
2. South Lexington	1845	...	7	...	...	8	29	19	399	10	29	.....	.....	Charles M. Atkinson.
3. Newton*	1845	...	4	...	...	8	...	...	268	...	...	.....	.....	Duncan A. Campbell.

SCHEDULE OF SYNODS.

NAME.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Examination.	Added on Certificate.	Whole Number of Communicants.	Adults Baptized.	Infants Baptized.	Commiss. Fund.	Contingent Fund.	STATED CLERKS.
1. Albany	1803	5	98	...	1	86	387	179	10,555	77	224	$115 67	$ 3 00	A. Bordman Lambert.
2. Utica	1829	5	84	4	...	99	407	276	9,197	121	161	116 51	15 33	
3. Geneva	1812	10	214	27	8	197	514	483	20,765	201	325	206 98	.....	Henry A. Nelson.
4. Genesee	1821	6	131	4	2	137	269	207	15,461	104	163	35 62	.....	Timothy Stillman.
5. N. York and N. Jersey	1788	10	183	37	17	127	704	676	22,413	267	621	217 98	44 79	John N. Lewis.
6. Pennsylvania	1838	4	67	8	3	64	360	278	10,780	60	460	73 10	29 95	John Crowell.
7. West Pennsylvania	1843	3	17	...	...	32	61	45	2,436	19	130	30 21	5 25	George A. Lyon, D. D.
8. Western Reserve	1825	8	130	19	1	127	161	206	8,566	26	194	26 92	9 00	William Hanford.
9. Michigan	1834	7	96	1	1	117	421	363	7,011	128	217	40 09	28 76	George Duffield, D. D.
10. Ohio	1814	4	52	6	...	70	191	131	4,149	51	178	78 65	15 00	Addison Kingsbury.
11. Cincinnati	1829	3	36	9	4	43	245	122	2,910	63	132	83 80	10 75	Thornton A. Mills.
12. Indiana	1826	6	67	3	...	111	516	262	4,759	180	299	182 28	13 95	Joseph G. Wilson.
13. Illinois	1831	5	64	1	...	71	283	189	3,654	71	193	58 90	7 50	George C. Wood.
14. Peoria	1843	6	59	...	...	41	113	167	2,456	27	105	71 72	.....	Robert W. Patterson.
15. Missouri	1832	4	42	1	3	52	198	126	2,199	83	127	47 00	7 50	Fincelius R. Gray.
16. Virginia	1788	3	42	9	6	43	172	93	3,715	58	163	45 75	10 00	John C. Smith.
17. Tennessee	1817	4	39	5	3	70	185	72	4,776	41	225	30 44	4 75	Fielding Pope.
18. Kentucky	1812	3	12	1	6	22	77	9	915	43	28	60 00	.....	Archibald C. Dickerson.
19. West Tennessee	1826	3	24	2	2	38	157	42	2,188	84	122	.....	3 00	William Eagleton.
20. Mississippi	1846	3	16	...	3	22	29	19	892	10	29	.....	.....	Alexander Newton, D. D.
		102	1,473	137	60	1,568	5,450	3,945	139,797	1,714	4,096	$1,521 62	$208 53	

COMPARATIVE VIEW.

It appears from the preceding schedule, that one hundred and two Presbyteries are, at present, in connection with the General Assembly. During the past year, the Presbyteries of Evansville and Chattahoochee, both of them very small, have been dissolved, and their ministers and churches attached to other Presbyteries. The names of two Presbyteries have been changed; Palestine to Wabash, and North Alabama to Richland.

Of these 102 Presbyteries, all but eight, viz. Ontario, Rochester, Medina, Ionia, Kingston, Green River, Clinton, and Newton, have presented their Statistical Reports; ninety-four in all; the largest number that have reported since 1837. Of these reports, however, some are very imperfect; in some cases, the number of church-members only having been presented; in others many churches are represented as not having reported at all to their Presbyteries. The actual number of additions during the year exceeds, therefore, considerably the number reported.

The accompanying summary shows a gratifying increase in almost every particular. The number of Ministers exceeds the number in 1849, by twenty-three, although not less than twenty-five have been removed by death. Seven more Licentiates are also reported than in the previous year; and two more Candidates. The number of Candidates is actually several-fold greater than reported, as more, than are here enumerated, are in connection with one of the four Theological Seminaries within the bounds of the Assembly, and many more are in the earlier stages of preparation. The Churches have increased by thirteen, and the Church-members by seven hundred and fifty. The number of Additions on Examination exceeds the average of the preceding three years, by two thousand and eighty-seven; and on Certificate, by seven hundred and seventy-five; of Baptisms also, the number of Adults is greater by seven hundred and seventy-seven, and of Infants, by one thousand four hundred and seventy-five. To the Commissioners' Fund, an increase of forty-seven dollars is reported, though it is now an annual, and not, as before, a triennial offering. In the contributions to the Contingent Fund, a decrease of more than one hundred and seventeen dollars is reported; a deficiency that should at once be supplied by some of the churches who have not yet presented their offerings to this Fund.

All which is respectfully submitted.

EDWIN F. HATFIELD, *Stated Clerk.*

New York, June 29th, 1850.