MINUTES, 1860.

Pittsburgh, Pa., May 17th, 1860.

THE General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met, agreeably to appointment, in the Third Presbyterian church of the city of Pittsburgh, Pa., on Thursday, the 17th of May, 1860, at 11 o'clock A. M., and was opened with a sermon, by the Rev. Robert W. Patterson, D. D., the Moderator of the last Assembly, from 1 Cor. 3 : 9: "Ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building;" and Ephesians 4 : 16: "From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love."

After the sermon, the Assembly was constituted with prayer.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [222]

Thursday, May 17th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The report of the Committee on Commissions was presented, and the following persons were thereupon enrolled as duly appointed Commissioners of this General Assembly:

I. SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Champlain,*	Rufus R. Deming, John R. Young,	Abel Knapp.
2. *Troy,*	Jotham Sewall,	Stephen C. Dermott.
3. *Albany,*	Samuel T. Seelye,	Edward A. Durant.
4. *Columbia,*	William S. Leavitt,	John Gaul, Jr.
5. *Catskill,*	Elias L. Boing,	Edgar B. Day.

II. SYNOD OF UTICA.

1. *St. Lawrence,*	Rufus Pratt (2),	William A. Eldridge.
2. *Watertown,*	Joseph A. Canfield,	David J. Wager.
3. *Oswego,*	Jeremiah Petrie,	
4. *Utica,*	Joseph N. McGiffert, Orlo Bartholomew,	Robert S. Williams.

III. SYNOD OF GENEVA.

1. *Geneva,*	William J. Jennings, Oliver P. Conklin,	Alfred Bolter, M. D., James M. Pow.
2. *Bath,*	Jeremiah Woodruff (2),	James H. Hotchkin.
3. *Chemung,*	Fordyce Harrington (2).	
4. *Ithaca,*	William Wisner, D. D.,	Joseph Esty.
5. *Pennsylvania,*	Joel Jewell,	Joseph Campbell.
6. *Lyons,*	William N. McHarg,	Dennis Clark.

IV. SYNOD OF ONONDAGA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Onondaga*,	Lewis H. Reid,	Amasa H. Jerome,
	Royal A. Avery,	Erwin E. Wells.
2. *Cayuga*,	Ezra A. Huntington, D. D.,	
	Simon S. Goss.	
3. *Cortland*,	Ova H. Seymour (4),	Jacob M. Schermerhorn.
4. *Tioga*,	Samuel F. Bacon.	[223]

V. SYNOD OF SUSQUEHANNA.

1. *Otsego*,	Samuel W. Bush,	Robert Russell.
2. *Chenango*,	Archibald McDougal,	John S. Morse.
3. *Delaware*,	Julius S. Pattengill,	Harvey Parsons.

VI. SYNOD OF GENESEE.

1. *Buffalo*,	Albert T. Chester, D. D.,	Thomas Farnham,
	Charles F. Mussey,	Samuel A. Brown.
2. *Ontario*,	Levi Parsons, Jr.,	Loren J. Ames, M. D.
3. *Rochester*,	Alfred North,	Oliver Spencer,
	Nathan Bosworth,	David Fancher.
4. *Genesee*,	Walter V. Couch,	Daniel N. Wells.
5. *Niagara*,	Alexander McColl,	John Wilson (6).
6. *Genesee Valley*,	Isaac G. Ogden.	

VII. SYNOD OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY.

1. *Hudson*,	James W. Wood,	William S. Webb.
2. *North River*,	Jonathan Silliman,	Edward Wells.
3. *Long Island*,	Epher Whitaker,	Marcellus D. Loper.
4. *New York, 3d*,	Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D.,	Hiram B. Littell.
	Walter Clarke, D. D.,	
	Rollin A. Sawyer,	
5. *New York, 4th*,	John Spaulding,	John H. Bulen.
	Henry M. Field,	
6. *Brooklyn*,	Charles S. Robinson.	
7. *Newark*,	Jona. F. Stearns, D. D.,	James B. Pinneo,
	James M. Sherwood,	John Munn.
8. *Rockaway*,	Burtis C. Megie,	Jabez L. Allen.
9. *Montrose*,	James B. McCreary,	Benjamin S. Bently.

VIII. SYNOD OF PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Wilmington*,	Heminway J. Gaylord,	Thomas B. Hopper.
2. *Philadelphia, 3d*,	Henry Darling,	P. Frazer Smith,
	J. Glentworth Butler,	Isaac Ashmead.
3. *Philadelphia, 4th*,	John McLeod,	David Thomas.
	Thomas Brainerd, D. D.,	
4. *Harrisburgh*,	Conway P. Wing, D. D.,	Hon. Mordecai McKinney (2). [224]

IX. SYNOD OF WEST PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Erie*,	William Grassie.	
2. *Meadville*,	Oliver N. Chapin,	Hon. Wm. W. Davison.
3. *Pittsburgh*,	Samuel M. Sparks,	Wm. C. Aughinbaugh.

X. SYNOD OF MICHIGAN.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Detroit*,	Azariah Eldridge,	Hon. Pres. B. Thurston.
2. *Monroe*,	Robert R. Salter, D. D.	
3. *Marshall*,	Maltby Gelston,	Chester Armstrong.
4. *Washtenaw*,	Thomas Wright,	Thomas M. Ladd.
5. *Kalamazoo*,	William S. Huggins,	Luther H. Trask.
6. *Cold Water*,	William Fuller,	Hon. Levi Baxter.
7. *Saginaw*,	Alanson Scofield,	Frederick Bourns.
8. *Gr. River Valley*,	Courtney Smith,	Sarell Wood.
9. *Lake Superior*,	Cicero B. Stevens (4).	

XI. SYNOD OF WESTERN RESERVE.

1. *Grand River*,	J. Mills Gillett,	Erastus Chester.
2. *Portage*,	George E. Pierce, D. D.,	Prof. C. A. Young (3).
3. *Huron*,	Ebenezer Bushnell,	Cortland L. Latimer (2).
4. *Trumbull*,	Isaac Winans,	William Laird.
5. *Cleveland*,	James Shaw, Daniel C. Blood (4),	D. F. Atwater, M. D. (2).
6. *Elyria*,	David A. Grosvenor.	
7. *Maumee*,	William W. Williams,	John R. Osborne.

XII. SYNOD OF OHIO.

1. *Athens*,	Ebenezer B. Andrews.	
2. *Pataskala*,	Simon J. Humphrey,	Charles Wallace.
3. *Franklin*,	Edward D. Morris,	John McElroy.
4. *Scioto*,	Joseph Chester,	Joseph Riggs (2).

XIII. SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

1. *Cincinnati*,	D. Howe Allen, D. D., Clement E. Babb,	Alfred Beasley, M. D., Anthony H. Hinkle.
2. *Dayton*,	John Martin,	Hon. W. M. Wilson (5).
3. *Hamilton*,	John Hussey,	Guernsey Y. Roots. [225]

XIV. SYNOD OF INDIANA.

1. *Salem*,	John G. Atterbury,	Daniel Cortner.
2. *Madison*,	Henry Little,	Alexander Edgar.
3. *Indianapolis*,	Thornton A. Mills,	John O. Wishard.
4. *Green Castle*,	Joseph G. Wilson,	Henry F. Blount.

XV. SYNOD OF WABASH.

1. *Crawfordsville*,	William N. Steele,	Thos. W. Fry, M. D. (3).
2. *St. Joseph*,	Jacob Patch.	
3. *Logansport*,	James A. Carnahan,	Henry M. Mann (3).
4. *Fort Wayne*,	Eleroy Curtis,	Samuel McClain.

XVI. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

1. *Illinois*,	John C. Downer,	Hiram B. Ellis.
2. *Schuyler*,	Edwin L. Hurd,	Clark B. Church.
3. *Wabash*,	Joseph Wilson (2),	William M. Allison.
4. *Alton*,	Cornelius H. Taylor,	Joshua G. Lamb.

XVII. SYNOD OF PEORIA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Ottawa*,	Wellington W. Wells,	
2. *Knox*,	Harvey Curtis, D. D.,	William A. Wood.
3. *Galena*,	Josiah Leonard,	Thomas Wilson.
4. *Chicago*,	R. W. Patterson, D. D.,	Henry Smith (3),
	J. Ambrose Wight,	Ebenezer Jenkins (3).
5. *Belvidere*,	Henry B. Holmes,	Joseph C. Button.
6. *Bloomington*,	Alfred Eddy,	Luman P. Capen (3).

XVIII. SYNOD OF WISCONSIN.

1. *Milwaukee*,	Edmund F. Waldo,	Isaac N. Mason.
2. *Fox River*,	Charles F. Halsey,	Chauncey Bigelow (2).
3. *Columbus*,	William Lusk.	

XIX. SYNOD OF IOWA.

1. *Des Moines*,	John C. Ewing,	John G. Weeks, M. D.
2. *Iowa City*,	George E. W. Leonard,	William Stewart (2).
3. *Keokuk*,	Eras. J. Gillett, D. D. (2).	
4. *Dubuque*,	George E. Delevan (2),	John Maclay.
5. *Iowa Valley*,	James Gordon.	
6. *Kansas.*		
7. *Chariton.*		

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XX. SYNOD OF MINNESOTA.

1. *Dakota*,	T. S. Williamson, M. D. (2),	George C. Clapp (3).
2. *Minnesota*,	John Mattocks,	Daniel W. Ingersoll.
3. *Winona.*		

XXI. SYNOD OF ALTA CALIFORNIA.

1. *San Francisco.*		
2. *Sierra Nevada*,		Abel H. Wilder, M. D.
3. *San José*,	Samuel B. Bell,	Jas. R. McDonald (4).

XXII. SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

1. *St. Louis.*	Henry A. Nelson, M. D.	
2. *North'n Missouri*,	William W. Whipple,	James Porter.
3. *Lexington.*		
4. *Osage.*		

XXIII. SYNOD OF VIRGINIA.

1. *Winchester.*
2. *District of Columbia.*
3. *Hanover*,
4. *Piedmont.*

CORRESPONDING BODIES.

1. *General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church*,	Rev. Jas. N. Edmiston (11).
2. *General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America.*	
3. *General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America*,	Rev. Theodore W. J. Wylie, D. D. (5).

4. *General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States,* Rev. William A. Passavant.
5. *Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States.*
6. *General Association of Massachusetts,* Rev. Stephen G. Dodd (5).
7. *General Association of Connecticut.*
8. *General Association of New Hampshire.*
9. *General Conference of Maine.*
10. *General Convention of Vermont,* Rev. Jer. E. Rankin (2).
11. *Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin.*
12. *Union of the Evangelical Churches of France.* [227]

The Committee on Commissions reported, also, the attendance of Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., from the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Fourth, Rev. John R. Young, from the Presbytery of Champlain, and Elder John H. Bulen, from the Presbytery of New York, Fourth, without Commissions. Their cases were referred to a *Committee on Elections*, consisting of Rev. William Wisner, D. D., Rev. Conway P. Wing, D. D., and Mr. Thomas Farnham.

The Committee presently reported, that they had obtained satisfactory information of the regular appointment of these Commissioners, and, on their recommendation, their names were added to the Roll.

The sudden decease of Benjamin R. Tuttle, a lay Commissioner from the Presbytery of Erie, on the very eve of his departure from home for the Assembly, was announced; and a record of the fact was ordered to be placed on the Minutes.

The Assembly proceeded to the election of a Moderator. Whereupon the Rev. Thornton A. Mills, of the Presbytery of Indianapolis, was chosen Moderator, and inducted into office in the usual form.

Rev. William N. McHarg, of the Presbytery of Lyons, and Rev. Ebenezer Bushnell, of the Presbytery of Huron, were chosen Temporary Clerks.

Resolved, That the Assembly hold its daily sessions from 9 o'clock A. M. to 12 M.; and from 2½ o'clock P. M. to 5½ P. M., and that the first half hour of the morning session be appropriated to devotional exercises, under the direction of the Moderator.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 18th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioners were reported, and their names were entered upon the Roll:

Mr.	Joseph Riggs,	Elder, of the Presbytery of	Scioto.
"	David F. Atwater,	Elder, "	Cleveland.
"	Samuel McClain,	" "	Fort Wayne.
"	Chauncey Bigelow,	" "	Fox River.
Rev.	George E. Delevan,	Minister, "	Dubuque.
"	Thos. S. Williamson,	M. D., " "	Dakota.
"	Joseph Wilson,	" "	Wabash.
"	Rufus Pratt,	" "	St. Lawrence.
"	Jeremiah Woodruff,	" "	Bath.
"	Erastus J. Gillett,	D. D., " "	Keokuk. [228]

Rev. Fordyce Harrington, Minister, of the Presbytery of Chemung.

Hon. Mordecai McKinney, Elder, of the Presbytery of Harrisburgh.

Rev. Jeremiah E. Rankin, from the General Convention of Vermont.

The printed Minutes of the last Assembly were distributed among the members.

The docket of business was read by the Stated Clerk.

The general Rules for Judicatories, contained in the Appendix to the Constitution, were adopted as the Rules of this Assembly.

Ordered, That the usual number of copies of the Roll be printed, under the direction of the Clerks.

Resolved, That a *Committee*, consisting of Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., Rev. Robert W. Patterson, D. D., and Mr. John Gaul, Jr., be appointed to inquire whether the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America, now in session in Allegheny City, would be willing to unite with this body, in a meeting for prayer and praise, at some hour convenient to both bodies.

The Moderator announced the following Standing Committees:

1. *Judicial Committee. Ministers*—Thomas Brainerd, D. D., George E. Pierce, D. D., John C. Downer, Burtis C. Megie. *Elders*—John Gaul, Jr., Hon. Prescott B. Thurston, William M. Allison.

2. *Bills and Overtures. Ministers*—Conway P. Wing, D. D., Joseph G. Wilson, Erastus J. Gillett, D. D., Cornelius H. Taylor. *Elders*—P. Frazer Smith, Jabez L. Allen, Joseph Esty.

3. *Polity of the Church. Ministers*—Harvey Curtis, D. D., James Shaw, Oliver P. Conklin, Epher Whitaker. *Elders*—Edward Wells, Clark B. Church, Hon. William W. Davison.

4. *Foreign Missions. Ministers*—Albert T. Chester, D. D., Thomas S. Williamson, M. D., William S. Leavitt, Azariah Eldridge. *Elders*—Benjamin S. Bentley, Alfred Bolter, M. D., Anthony H. Hinkle.

5. *Church Extension. Ministers*—Robert W. Patterson, D. D., Henry Little, Henry A. Nelson, D. D., Samuel T. Seelye. *Elders*—James B. Pinneo, Isaac Ashmead, Sarell Wood.

6. *Education. Ministers*—D. Howe Allen, D. D., Ezra A. Huntington, D. D., James M. Sherwood, J. Glentworth Butler. *Elders*—John R. Osborne, Thomas M. Ladd, Joshua G. Lamb. [229]

7. *Publication. Ministers*—John G. Atterbury, Henry M. Field, J. Ambrose Wight, Courtney Smith. *Elders*—Edgar B. Day, Joseph Riggs, John H. Bulen.

8. *Narrative. Ministers*—William S. Huggins, Ebenezer B. Andrews, Samuel B. Bell, Edward D. Morris. *Elders*—Amasa H. Jerome, William S. Webb, John O. Wishard.

9. *Leave of Absence. Ministers*—Alanson Scofield, Julius S. Pattengill, Jonathan Silliman, George E. Delevan. *Elders*—James H. Hotchkin, James M. Pow, Chauncey Bigelow.

10. *Devotional Exercises. Ministers*—Samuel M. Sparks, John Spaulding, John McLeod, Henry B. Holmes. *Elders*—William A. Wood, Chester Armstrong, John McElroy.

11. *Mileage. Elders*—Guernsey Y. Roots, John G. Weeks, M. D., Hiram B. Littell.

The Moderator also announced the Committees on the Synodical Records, as follows:

1. *Albany. Ministers*—William W. Whipple, Edwin L. Hurd. *Elder*—Alexander Edgar.

2. *Utica. Ministers*—John Mattocks, William N. Steele. *Elder*—William Laird.

3. *Geneva. Ministers*—William Lusk, Rollin A. Sawyer. *Elder*—Erastus Chester.

4. *Onondaga. Ministers*—Edmund F. Waldo, John Hussey. *Elder*—Stephen C. Dermott.

5. *Susquehanna. Ministers*—George E. W. Leonard, John Martin. *Elder*—Frederick Bourns.

6. *Genesee. Ministers*—Thomas Wright, Jacob Patch. *Elder*—Thomas B. Hopper.

7. *New York and New Jersey. Ministers*—Clement E. Babb, Joseph Chester. *Elder*—Daniel Cortner.

8. *Pennsylvania. Ministers*—Eleroy Curtis, Royal A. Avery. *Elder*—David J. Wager.

9. *West Pennsylvania. Ministers*—J. Mills Gillett, Jeremiah Petrie. *Elder*—William A. Eldridge.

10. *Western Reserve. Ministers*—Alexander McColl, Samuel W. Bush. *Elder*—Abel Knapp. [230]

11. *Michigan. Ministers*—Jeremiah Woodruff, Isaac G. Ogden. *Elder*—Edward A. Durant.

12. *Ohio. Ministers*—Orlo Bartholomew, Nathan Bosworth. *Elder*—John S. Morse.

13. *Cincinnati. Ministers*—William W. Williams, William Grassie. *Elder*—Charles Wallace.

14. *Indiana. Ministers*—James B. McCreary, Rufus R. Deming. *Elder*—Marcellus D. Loper.

15. *Wabash. Ministers*—William Fuller, James W. Wood. *Elder*—Isaac N. Mason.

16. *Illinois. Ministers*—Alfred Eddy, William J. Jennings. *Elder*—John Maclay.

17. *Peoria. Ministers*—Maltby Gelston, Samuel F. Bacon. *Elder*—Abel H. Wilder, M. D.

18. *Wisconsin. Ministers*—Lewis H. Reid, Alfred North. *Elder*—James Porter.

19. *Iowa. Ministers*—Jotham Sewall, Elias L. Boing. *Elder*—Dennis Clark.

20. *Minnesota. Ministers*—David A. Grosvenor, Moses F. Mussey. *Elder*—Hon. Mordecai McKinney.

21. *Alta California. Ministers*—Robert R. Salter, D. D., Isaac Winans. *Elder*—Henry F. Blount.

22. *Missouri. Ministers*—James A. Carnahan, Simon J. Humphrey. *Elder*—Joseph C. Button.

It was made the first order of the day for this afternoon, to receive the Synodical Records, the Narratives, and the Statistical Reports of the Presbyteries, Overtures, memorials, appeals, and complaints.

The Board of Trustees of the Presbyterian House presented their annual report, which, having been read, was accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee on Publication.

The annual report of the Permanent Committee on Church Extension was presented, and, having been read, was accepted and referred to the Standing Committee on Church Extension.

The Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions presented their annual report, which was read, accepted and referred to the Standing Committee on Foreign Missions.

Adjourned until 2½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 18th, 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Records of the Synods were presented, and put into the hands of the Committees appointed to examine them. [231]

The Assembly proceeded to receive the Narratives, Statistical Reports, and other papers of the Presbyteries.

The Permanent Committee on Education presented their annual report, which was read, accepted and referred to the Standing Committee on Education.

The annual report of the Permanent Committee on Publication was presented, and, having been read, was accepted and referred to the Standing Committee on Publication.

The annual report of the Treasurer of the General Assembly was received, and referred to an *Auditing Committee*, consisting of Messrs. John R. Osborne and Edward A. Durant.

The Committee appointed to confer with the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, with reference to a union meeting of prayer and praise, reported, recommending that such a meeting be held in this house to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock; and their report was adopted.

A *Committee*, consisting of Rev. James Shaw, Rev. William S. Leavitt, and Rev. Alfred Eddy, was appointed *to nominate a preacher* on Home Missions for the next Assembly.

The first Monday of January, 1861, was recommended as a day of fasting and prayer for the Conversion of the World; and the last Thursday of February as a concert of prayer for Colleges and other institutions of learning.

The First Presbyterian church of Syracuse, N. Y., was chosen as the place for the meeting of the next Assembly. The sessions of the First Presbyterian and First Ward churches were appointed a *Committee of Arrangements.*

A *Committee to nominate Delegates* to Corresponding Bodies was appointed, consisting of Rev. Messrs. Samuel T. Seelye, William W. Williams, J. Glentworth Butler, Clement E. Babb, and Levi Parsons, Jr.

Resolved, That it is inexpedient, during the sessions of this Assembly, to elect Trustees of the General Assembly, and Directors of the Theological Seminaries.

The Special Committee of Conference with the A. B. C. F. M., appointed by the last Assembly, presented their report, which was read, accepted and referred to the Standing Committee on Foreign Missions.

The Special Committee, appointed by the last Assembly, to consider the subject of the demission of the ministry, presented their report, which was read, accepted and put upon the docket.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported supplies for various pulpits in the city and vicinity on the ensuing Sabbath.

Invitations were received from the board of managers of the Young Men's Christian Association, and from the directors of the Young Men's Mercantile Library Association, tendering to the members of the Assembly the use of their libraries and reading-rooms, which were accepted with thanks.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer. [232]

Saturday, May 19th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The calling of the Roll was dispensed with for the remaining sessions of the Assembly.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioners presented their credentials, and their names were entered upon the Roll:

Mr. William Stuart, Elder, of the Presbytery of Iowa City.
" Cortland L. Latimer, Elder, " Huron.

The Board of Trustees of the Church Erection Fund presented their annual report, which was read, accepted and referred to the Standing Committee on Church Extension.

The hour of 10 having arrived, the Assembly, according to previous arrangement, united for an hour and a half with the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in a service of prayer and praise.

It was made the first order of the day for Wednesday afternoon, to receive the reports of the Committees to examine Synodical Records.

The adjustment and completion of the Roll was referred to the Standing Committee on the Polity of the Church.

Adjourned until Monday at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 21st, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioners were reported, and their names were entered on the Roll:

Mr. Ebenezer Jenkins, Elder, of the Presbytery of Chicago.
" Henry Smith, " " "
" Henry W. Mann, " " Logansport.
" Lumen P. Capen, " " Bloomington.
" Charles A. Young, " " Portage.
" Thomas W. Fry, M. D., " Crawfordsville.
" George C. Clapp, " " Dakota.

The Committee to nominate a preacher on Home Missions reported the names of Rev. Henry A. Nelson, D. D., of the Presbytery of St. Louis, principal; and Rev. Albert T. Chester, D. D., of the Presbytery of Buffalo, alternate; and their report was adopted.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported an application to the Assembly from members of the Presbyterian church of Mount Vernon, Indiana.

The prayer of the application was, that the General Assembly would give to that church "a release and quit claim" to certain property occupied by the church. [233]

The real estate in question was conveyed, in April, 1847, to certain "Trustees of the Presbyterian church of Mount Vernon, connected with the (New School) General Assembly, and to their associates and successors in office for ever."

In 1848, for reasons which have not been made very plain to the Committee, but which, be they what they may, could not influence the reply of the Assembly to the application, the church became connected with the (O. S.) Presbytery of Vincennes. From that time the real estate has been in the possession of the church, and occupied by them as a place of worship. They now desire to sell the property for the purpose of purchasing other property; but, as the Committee infer, they are unable to sell, because the original grant, having been made to a "New School" church, there is a cloud on the title, by which they at present hold the property.

The Committee are of opinion, that the determination of this matter is entirely with the civil courts of the State of Indiana; and, if action of the General Assembly in the premises would have any effect at all, it would rather complicate than relieve the embarrassment with which the applicants have surrounded themselves.

The Committee recommend the adoption by the Assembly of the following resolution:

Resolved, That in the opinion of the Assembly the questions, arising under the application of the church of Mount Vernon, Indiana, are exclusively for the determination of the civil courts of that State; that it is, therefore, inexpedient for the Assembly to take any action in the premises; and that the applicants have leave to withdraw their application and accompanying papers.

The report was adopted.

Rev. Jeremiah E. Rankin, the Delegate of the General Convention of Vermont, addressed the Assembly.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported a memorial from the Presbytery of Alton, which memorial was read, and referred to the Committee on Church Extension, as pertaining more properly to their province.

The Assembly took from the docket the report of the Special Committee of the last Assembly, on the demission of the ministry. Pending the discussion of a motion to adopt the report, the Assembly adjourned until 2½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 21st, 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioners presented their credentials, and their names were added to the Roll:

Mr. James R. McDonald, Elder, of the Presbytery of San José. [234]
Mr. Jacob M. Schermerhorn, Elder, " Cortland.
Rev. Ova H. Seymour, Minister, " Cortland.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported, recommending that the sermon on Publication, appointed by the last Assembly, be preached in this house to-morrow, at 7½ o'clock P. M.; and the report was adopted.

The Assembly resumed the consideration of the report of the Special Committee on the demission of the Ministry. After considerable discussion, the report was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee to whom was referred, by the last General Assembly, an Overture from the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Third, on the "Voluntary demission of the ministry," respectfully submit the following report:

The Constitution of our Church, it is well known, provides for the deposition of the unworthy, by due process of discipline; but seems not to have anticipated that any other class would require to be separated from the responsibilities of an office so high and so sacred. It nowhere contemplates the dismission of the members of the Church to the world, nor the return of the ministry, at their own instance, to the mere secularities of every-day life.

Such is the view that has been taken of our standards from the beginning. Neither the old Synod of New York and Philadelphia, nor any of our General Assemblies, has ventured to give any different interpretation. The Assembly of 1802, on the occasion of the exercise, by the Presbytery of Lewes, of the prerogative of divesting one of their ministers of

his office, without deposition, suspension, or censure, passed the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, That it is a principle of this Church, that no minister of the Gospel can be regularly divested of his office except by a course of discipline terminating in his deposition. That, if any minister, by providential circumstances, become incapable of exercising his ministerial functions, or is called to suspend them, or to exercise them only occasionally, he is still to be considered as possessing the ministerial character and privileges; and his brethren of the Presbytery are to inspect his conduct; and, while they treat him with due tenderness and sympathy, they are to be careful that he do not neglect his ministerial duties beyond what his circumstances render unavoidable."

The office is to be retained; but, for sufficient reason, the exercise of the office may be discontinued in whole or in part. Such was the judgment of the Synod of 1726, in the case of Mr. Robert Laing, who, by reason of the complaints of his "weakness and deficiency," brought against him, "rendering his exercise of the ministerial function a detriment to the interests of religion, and rather a scandal than a help to the Gospel," advised him to demit the whole exercise of the ministry, and not to take it up again but by the approbation of at least three ministers of the Presbytery wherein he may reside."

Similar was the judgment of the Synod of 1783, in the case of Mr. William Woodhull, who had represented to the Presbytery of New [235] York, of which he was a member, "his situation as being still incapable of exercising his ministry by his continued indisposition; and the little, or rather no, probability of his ever being able to attempt the exercise of it in future; and that he was at the same time engaged in certain secular employments that would seem to render it improper to have his name in their records as a member." The Synod judged "that Mr. Woodhull ought to be continued a member of the Presbytery of New York."

Two years afterwards, in the case of Mr. Joseph Montgomery of the Presbytery of New Castle, whose name had been dropped from the Roll of the Presbytery, at his own instance, on account of indisposition of body, and the acceptance of "an office under the civil authority," the Synod expressed their disapprobation of the measure, and recommended "to all Presbyteries, when any ministers under their inspection resign their charge or discontinue the exercise of their office while they remain in the same bounds, to pass a regular judgment on the reasons given for such conduct, and continue their inspection of those who shall not have deserved to be deprived of the ministerial character, though they may be laid aside from immediate usefulness."

Thus uniformly has the doctrine been maintained by the ecclesiastical authorities of our Church, "that no minister of the Gospel can be regularly divested of his office, except by a course of discipline terminating in his deposition." The Assembly of 1852 took the same ground, or, at least, refused to take ground to the contrary. In the case of a member of the Presbytery of Portage, "who, though chargeable with no disciplinable offense, had forsaken the ministry for ten or more years, had regularly and permanently engaged in secular employments, had become a private member of the church, and had no design of again acting as a minister of the Gospel, and who, on this ground, had requested his Presbytery to strike his name from the roll of members," the Presbytery took the position, "that presbyterial law contemplates the ministerial office as permanent, ceasing not but by death or deposition;" yet they referred the case to the wisdom of the

General Assembly. And the Assembly of 1852, although the Committee on the Polity of the Church recommended "that the Presbytery be directed to strike his name from the Roll, without implying any censure or any imputation upon his Christian character," refused to adopt the recommendation; thereby confirming the position taken by the Presbytery, and conforming their action to the uniform decisions of the highest ecclesiastical authorities of our Church from the beginning.

It is true that, in common with most of the evangelical denominations, we maintain that ordination is but a ceremony—on outward sign—a public recognition on the part of the ordainers of the fitness of him who is ordained for the office to which he is set apart. It does not impress a character or impart a fitness not previously possessed. But, in the case of a minister of the Gospel, it recognizes the fact that the man has consecrated himself to this high and holy calling; has, by irrevocable vows, set himself apart from merely secular pursuits, to the service of the Lord Jesus Christ in the ministry. From these [236] vows the Church has received no dispensation to release him; and, therefore, has ever disclaimed the power and right, even in the exercise of discipline.

So long, therefore, as it is in the power of the minister, he is to exercise his gifts and graces in this particular calling. He is under covenant, both to Christ and to the Church, thus to serve God. He may not, without breach of covenant, abandon, merely at his own instance, the ministerial for a secular calling. If the providence of God puts it out of his power, evidently and unmistakably, to pursue his ministerial work, it becomes his duty to bring his case before his brethren of the Presbytery, and submit it to their decision. If any minister neglects this obvious duty, and of his own accord devotes himself to secular pursuits, his Presbytery are to investigate the case, and pass judgment upon it. Such was the judgment of the General Assembly of 1834.

"When ministers have withdrawn," they say, "or may hereafter withdraw, wholly or in part, from the work of the ministry, it is enjoined upon the Presbyteries to which they belong, to require of such ministers their reasons for so doing; which reasons are to be put upon record by the Presbytery, with an expression of their approbation or disapprobation of the same."

In like manner, also, the Assembly of 1802, in order, very properly, to guard against the practical demission of the office, determined and directed, "that, if any minister of the Gospel, through a worldly spirit, a disrelish for the duties of his office, or any other criminal motive, becomes negligent or careless, he is by no means to be suffered to pursue this course, so as at length to be permitted to lay aside the ministry, without censure; because this would be to encourage a disregard of the most solemn obligations, by opening a way to escape from them with impunity. But, in all such cases, Presbyteries are seasonably to use the means and pursue the methods pointed out in the word of God and the rules of this Church, to recall their offending brother to a sense of duty; and, if all their endeavors be ineffectual, they are at length regularly to exclude or depose him from his office."

This rehearsal of the action of previous Assemblies, it is thought, is a sufficient answer to the Overture, without entering upon a discussion of the abstract question—"May an ecclesiastical body, in any case, demit from the office of the ministry without discipline or censure?" We simply refer to the usages of our own Church, and urge them upon the attention of our Presbyteries. They are not to allow any of their ministers to retire from the ministerial work, of their own accord; but to require, of such as are

desirous to enter into a secular calling, their reasons for such a course, which they are to put upon record, approvingly or otherwise. The circumstances of the age call loudly upon this Assembly to re-affirm these long-established principles, and to enjoin upon the Presbyteries the utmost carefulness in preventing the secularization of our ministry.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer. [237]

Tuesday, May 22d, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioners were reported, and their names were entered on the Roll:

Rev. Cicero B. Stevens, Minister, of the Presbytery of Lake Superior
" Daniel C. Blood, " " " Cleveland.

The Committee appointed to audit the report of the Treasurer of the General Assembly reported, that they had found the accounts correct, and recommended that the report be approved; and their report was adopted.

Reports were received from the Delegates, appointed by the last Assembly, to Corresponding Bodies: from the Rev. John W. Bailey, the Delegate to the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America; from the Rev. George A. Lyon, D. D., the Delegate to the Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States; from the Rev. Philemon H. Fowler, D. D., the Delegate to the General Association of Massachusetts; from the Rev. Selden Haines, the Delegate to the General Convention of Vermont; from the Rev. Henry B. Holmes, the Delegate to the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin; from the Rev. John McLeod, the Delegate to the Synod of the Presbyterian Church and to the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church, in Canada; from the Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., the Delegate to the General Association of Connecticut; from the Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., the Delegate to the General Association of New Hampshire; from the Rev. George F. Wiswell, the Delegate to the General Conference of Maine; from the Rev. W. Wallace Atterbury, the Delegate to the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church.

The reports were accepted, and ordered to be published in the Appendix to the Minutes.

Communications were received and read from the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin, and from the Synod of the Vaudois Church.

The Rev. Theodore W. J. Wylie, D. D., the Delegate from the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America, presented his credentials, and his name was added to the Roll.

The Standing Committee on Education presented their report, which was read, and ordered to be printed for the use of the members.

Adjourned until 2½ P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 22, 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved. [238]

It was made the first order of the day for to-morrow morning, to receive the report of the Standing Committee on Publication.

Rev. Theodore W. J. Wylie, D. D., the Delegate of the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America, and Rev. William A. Passavant, the Delegate of the General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States, addressed the Assembly.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported, recommending the celebration of the Lord's Supper, in this house, on Thursday, at 7½ o'clock P. M., agreeably to the following order:

1. The Moderator to preside, and read the Opening Hymn.
2. Reading the Scriptures and Prayer, by Rev. J. M. Sherwood.
3. Giving thanks and the administration of the Bread, by Rev. H. A. Nelson, D. D.
4. Administration of the Cup, by Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D.
5. Address, by Rev. William Wisner, D. D.
6. Hymn and Benediction, by the pastor of the church.

The following elders to distribute the elements: J. Ashmead, J. H. Bulen, J. R. Osborne, J. G. Weeks, M. D., G. Y. Roots, J. Gaul, Jr., S. Wood, W. A. Wood, T. Farnham, C. B. Church, J. Riggs, and J. O. Wishard.

It was made the second order of the day for to-morrow morning, to hear the report of the Commission on Home Missions, appointed by the last Assembly.

The Special Committee of the last Assembly to confer with the Synod of the Free Presbyterian Church presented their report, which was accepted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes.

A number of the members of the Third Presbyterian church invited the Assembly to spend an afternoon with them at Oakland. The invitation was accepted for next Saturday afternoon.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, May 23d, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioner and Delegate presented their credentials, and their names were added to the Roll:

Hon William M. Wilson, Elder, of the Presbytery of Dayton.

Rev. Stephen G. Dodd, from the General Association of Massachusetts.

Rev. Stephen G. Dodd, the Delegate from the General Association of Massachusetts, addressed the Assembly. [239]

The Standing Committee on Publication presented their report, which was accepted, and made the first order immediately after the conclusion of the unfinished business.

The Commission on Home Missions, appointed by the last Assembly, presented their report.

Adjourned until 2½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, May 23d, 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The report of the Commission on Home Missions, read this morning, was accepted, and referred to a Special *Committee of fifteen*, consisting of the Standing Committee on Church Extension, and Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., Thomas Brainerd, D. D., D. Howe Allen, D. D., and George E. Delevan,

ministers; and Messrs. Thomas Farnham, Cortland L. Latimer, and Isaac N. Mason, elders.

The Commission on Home Missions presented the correspondence between them and the Executive Committee of the American Home Missionary Society, which was read, and their part of it referred to the Standing Committee on Publication, to be printed for the use of the Assembly.

The reports of the Committees on the Records of the Synods of Albany, Utica, Geneva, Onondaga, Susquehanna, Genesee, New York and New Jersey, Pennsylvania, West Pennsylvania, Western Reserve, Michigan, Cincinnati, Indiana, Illinois, Peoria, Wisconsin, Iowa and Missouri, were presented, recommending that they be approved as far as written; and the reports were severally adopted.

The Committee on the Records of the Synod of Ohio reported, and their report was adopted, recommending the approval of the Records as far as written, with the following exception:

1. That the answer to the question contained in paper No. 2, page 225, should be, "He is a member of the Presbytery until he is received by another body."

And with the further exception of the action on pages 226–7, relative to a *Presbyterial Quorum* and similar matters; in respect to which, this Assembly expresses no opinion, but refers the whole subject to a Special *Committee*, consisting of Rev. John G. Atterbury, Rev. Conway P. Wing, D. D., and Mr. Edward Wells, to report to the next General Assembly.

The Committee on the Records of the Synod of Minnesota reported, and their report was adopted, recommending that the Records be approved as far as written, with the following exceptions: (1.) On page 54, in the record of the session of Friday, Sept. 30th, 1859, no mention is made of the opening services. (2.) No mention is made of any report from the several Committees on Presbyterial Records, appointed by the Synod. [240]

The Standing Committee on Church Extension presented a report in reference to the annual report of the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, which was read, accepted, and placed upon the docket.

The Standing Committee on the Polity of the Church reported on the answers to the Formula as follows:

This General Assembly has under its care 106 Presbyteries, of which only 26 have expressed any opinion.

Four Presbyteries have expressed an approval of the Formula.

Nine Presbyteries have suggested amendments, expressing an approval of the Formula if amended.

And thirteen Presbyteries are opposed to adopting this Formula; some of them being opposed to any Formula.

The Committee report the facts, and recommend nothing; supposing that the Formula fails for want of sufficient approval.

The report was accepted, and the subject indefinitely postponed.

Also, on a request from the Presbytery of Kansas, asking that said Presbytery be transferred from the Synod of Iowa to the Synod of Missouri, as follows: Although some informality is found in the form of this application, yet, inasmuch as the present connection was constituted by the last Assembly without consulting the parties interested; inasmuch as the Synod of Iowa was then the nearest body with which they could be connected, which is not now the case; and inasmuch as the convenience and welfare of the Presbytery will be greatly promoted by the change; it being understood that the Presbytery unanimously desire it, and that the Synod of Iowa do not object to it; therefore the Committee recommend

that the request be granted, and the Presbytery be accordingly transferred.

The report was adopted.

Also, on the adjustment of the Roll, as follows:

The Committee on Church Polity beg leave to report on the adjustment of the Roll:

Whereas, the Presbyteries of Winchester, Piedmont, and Hanover, constituent portions of the Synod of Virginia, have followed up their previous vote of withdrawal from the Assembly, by a positive connection with another ecclesiastical body; therefore, the Committee recommend, that the bounds of the Synod of Pennsylvania be so extended as to embrace the State of Maryland and the District of Columbia; that the Presbytery of the District of Columbia be transferred to the said Synod; and that the Synod of Virginia be stricken from the Roll.

The report was adopted.

Also, in reference to Statistical Reports.

The report was accepted and put upon the docket.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported, and the report was adopted, recommending that the sermon on Home Missions by [241] Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., by appointment of the last Assembly, be preached in this house, on Friday evening.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 24th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Assembly was addressed by Rev. George W. Wood, D. D., a deputation from the A. B. C. F. Missions.

The following additional Commissioner was reported, and his name was entered on the Roll:

Mr. John Wilson, Elder, of the Presbytery of Niagara.

The Mileage Committee reported as follows:

The Committee on Mileage respectfully beg leave to report the following statements and recommendations:

1st. That 50 Presbyteries have complied with the regulations of the Assembly, and have paid their full assessments towards the expenses of the Assembly, at the rate of five cents for each communicant, in their respective Presbyteries, viz.:

Catskill, Pennsylvania, Cayuga, Buffalo, Rochester, Hudson, Long Island, New York, 3d. New York, 4th, Newark, Philadephia, 3d, Harrisburgh, Erie, Pittsburgh, Saginaw, Grand River Valley, Lake Superior, Maumee, Scioto, Cincinnati, Dayton, Hamilton, Salem, Madison, Indianapolis, Green Castle, Crawfordsville, Fort Wayne, Illinois, Schuyler, Wabash, Ottawa, Knox, Galena, Chicago, Belvidere, Bloomington, Fox River, Columbus, Des Moines, Iowa City, Keokuk, Dubuque, Iowa Valley, Minnesota, Sierra Nevada, San José, St. Louis, and Northern Missouri.

2d. That 29 Presbyteries have contributed to the Contingent Fund, at the rate of sixty cents or more for each of their ministers, viz.:

Albany, Columbia, Watertown, Utica, Geneva, Chemung, Lyons, Onondaga, Delaware, Ontario, Niagara, Genesee Valley, North River, Brooklyn, Rockaway, Montrose, Philadelphia, 4th, Wilmington, Meadville, Detroit, Marshall, Washtenaw, Huron, Trumbull, Cleveland, Pataskala, St. Joseph, Logansport, and Milwaukee.

3d. That the Presbytery of Portage has contributed to the Contingent Fund the sum of one dollar.

4th. That the whole amount placed in the hands of your Committee is $3364.57

That the whole amount of bills presented for Mileage and expenses is 2538.35

Leaving a balance, after paying in full all the bills for mileage and expenses, of ..... 826.22 [242]

Your Committee recommend, that the bills for mileage and necessary expenses as audited be paid in full, and that the balance of $826.22 be paid to the Stated Clerk of the Assembly, to be applied to the Contingent Fund.

5th. That the following 23 Presbyteries have made no contribution whatever, viz.:

Champlain, Troy, St. Lawrence, Oswego, Bath. Ithaca, Cortland, Tioga, Otsego, Chenango, Genesee, Monroe, Kalamazoo, Coldwater, Grand River, Elyria, Athens, Franklin and Alton, Chariton, San Francisco, Kansas, and District of Columbia.

6th. Your Committee would recommend that these Presbyteries, including the Presbytery of Portage, be requested to pay to the Stated Clerk of the Assembly, for the Contingent Fund, sixty cents for each minister in their respective Presbyteries.

7th. That while your Committee are gratified in being able to recommend the payment, in full, of all bills presented to them, they would earnestly call your attention to the fact, that the payments as made are unequal, and frequently work as a hardship in some cases. on account of the failure of many able Presbyteries to meet their assessments.

The plan, however, adopted by the General Assembly, is highly satisfactory, and only requires a prompt compliance by all to meet all expenses; and they would recommend the Assembly, earnestly to enjoin it on all the Presbyteries to comply with the provisions of the plan in full.

8th. They would earnestly recommend a uniform assessment of five cents for each communicant, agreeable to the published Minutes of the Assembly, as being amply sufficient to defray the expenses of the next General Assembly.

The report was adopted.

The Assembly took up the unfinished business, viz., the consideration of the report of the Standing Committee on Education. Pending its discussion, the Assembly adjourned until 2½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 24th, 2½ 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 the Polity of the Church reported an answer to the inquiry—"Ought the eldership to participate in the ordination of ministers by laying on of hands?" as follows:

It is a recognized principle in our Church polity, in accordance as we believe with apostolic teaching, that bishops, ministers, and elders constitute but one grade or rank of officers in the Christian Church; and hence, that in all our church judicatories they have equal rights and powers. In all the judicial business of the Church all are [243] presbyters alike. (See Form of Gov., Chap. IX., secs. 1, 2, 4; Chap. X., secs. 2 to 7; Chap. XI., secs. 1, 2; and Chap. XII., sec. 2.) Still it cannot be denied, that in the Bible a distinction is recognized between those presbyters who rule only, and those who both

rule and preach. In the practice of the Presbyterian Church, in all its branches, this distinction has become very marked. Some are set apart expressly to preach the Gospel, and to administer the ordinances of God's house. They are presbyters in common with others; but, as ministers of Christ, they have functions and rights peculiar to themselves, and are required to possess peculiar qualifications. In the ordination of ministers, your Committee believe there are two distinct things to be done. 1st. The examination and approval of the candidate. In this all the members of the Presbytery participate alike; and 2d. The formal act of induction into office, in which, by almost universal consent, as we suppose, only ministers officiate. It is true, our Form of Government, Chap. XV., sec. 14, speaks of the whole Presbytery as laying on hands, and giving the right hand of fellowship. But every statute should be construed consistently with itself, and with general usage under the statute. Your Committee would suggest that the act of induction is ministerial, not judicial. And as, in respect to baptism, the elders jointly with the pastor determine who shall be admitted to this ordinance, yet the pastor only administers it; so in ordination, the whole Presbytery determine the fitness of the candidate, but only the ministers present induct into office. This, we believe, has been the universal practice under this rule; and that this usage was intended by the framers of the book, seems probable from the fact that, in the form of induction, those aiding in the service are directed to extend to the new minister their right hands, saying: "We give you the right hand of fellowship to take part of this ministry with us." This language manifestly implies, that those thus welcoming him do themselves occupy places in that ministry into which they welcome him. The Committee therefore recommend that the question be answered in the negative.

The report was adopted.

Also, on a memorial from certain members of a church in Bloomfield, N. J.; and the report was accepted and placed upon the docket.

The Assembly resumed the consideration of the report of the Standing Committee on Education; but, before its conclusion,

Adjourned until 7½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 24th, 7½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, agreeably to previous arrangement, for the celebration of the Lord's Supper; and, in union with a number of Christians, who accepted the invitation to participate with them, united in the celebration of the ordinance.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer. [244]

Friday, May 25th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last two sessions were read and approved.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church reported an answer to the following inquiry, "Is it forbidden by our standards to baptize adult converts upon a general confession of faith in Christ, previous to their being received into a particular church, and assenting to its articles of faith?" as follows:

A profession of faith in Christ, and obedience to him, is all that is required, in our standards, of those who are out of the visible Church in order

to their being baptized. (See Con. of F., Chap. XXVIII., sec. 4; Lar. Cat., Question 166; Shorter Cat., Question 95.) Hence, cases may occur, in which, as in the case of Philip and the Ethiopian eunuch, it may be proper to baptize a person who does not expect immediately to connect himself with any particular church. But, inasmuch as it was the obvious intent of the Saviour that all his disciples should be associated in local churches, and inasmuch as we cannot obey one of his commandments—that requiring us to remember him at his table—without such connection, therefore, your Committee believe, that in no ordinary circumstances can a person give good evidence of a readiness to obey Christ in all things, who, having the opportunity, does not connect himself with some particular branch of the visible body of Christ. In the practice of our Church, and according to her standards, baptism is manifestly regarded as a part of the general profession of faith in, and obedience to, Christ, which constitute his initiation into the visible Church, and into some particular branch of it; and in no ordinary case ought the several parts of this solemn profession to be separated.

The report was adopted.

The Standing Committee on Foreign Missions presented their report, which was read, accepted, and placed upon the docket.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures presented a report, which was accepted and placed upon the docket.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported that an Overture had been received from Rev. J. C. Adamson, D. D., of the 3d Presbytery of New York, now in South Africa, suggesting the appointment of a delegation from our branch of the Presbyterian family to the Convention, to be held in Edinburgh during the present year, to commemorate the establishment of the Protestant Reformation in Scotland three hundred years since.

The Committee recommended, and the Assembly adopted the recommendation, in compliance with this suggestion, that Rev. William Adams, D. D., of the 4th Presbytery of New York, Rev. M. L. P. Thompson, D. D., of the Presbytery of Cincinnati, Rev. John Jenkins, D. D., of the 3d Presbytery of Philadelphia, and Rev. Robert R. Booth, of the 3d Presbytery of New York, be appointed to attend the [245] convention alluded to, and to act as Delegates of this Assembly in its proceedings.

The Assembly took up the unfinished business, viz., the consideration of the report of the Standing Committee on Education. After a full discussion, the following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

The Standing Committee on Education for the Ministry, to whom was referred the report of the Permanent Committee on the same subject, respectfully submit the following report:

The attention of the Assembly is called to the occasion of gratitude to the great Head of the Church, for the increasing interest which is felt in this cause throughout our Church, for the continued prosperity of our Theological Seminaries, and especially for the success which has attended the efforts to enlarge the endowments of Auburn and Lane Seminaries.

At the same time, we are called upon for more earnest prayer to the Lord of the harvest, in view of the fact, that the whole number of students in these institutions, and, so far as we can learn, the whole number of candidates for the ministry in any stage of their education, is scarcely at all in advance of that of the preceding year. The number entering the ministry of our Church, from year to year, is entirely inadequate to meet the demands for our own home-field—even if we should do nothing toward furnishing a supply for foreign lands. While as an Assembly we are endeavoring to awaken in all our churches a deeper interest both in foreign and domestic

missions, it should not be forgotten, that that interest must necessarily be but transient, unless we have men to send abroad, who shall constitute our best and strongest bonds of union with far distant lands; and men to cultivate the new fields which may be opened, and occupy the new churches which may be formed, at home. All our attempts to enlarge our borders, and to gather new churches, by means of exploring missionaries, are greatly embarrassed, and many of them rendered comparatively useless, by the want of men to enter the fields as permanent laborers. This, so far as instrumental agency is concerned, is emphatically our great want. That this want may be rapidly supplied, let all Christians be exhorted to remember the command of the Master in their families and in their social circles—"Pray ye the Lord of the harvest," etc.

The labors of the Permanent Committee, through their Secretary, have done much to deepen the interest on this subject in the churches, Presbyteries, and Synods, and especially among the young men in the various institutions which he has visited. Your Committee are persuaded, that if the condition of this whole cause at this time could be compared with what it was four years ago when these labors commenced, the Assembly and the churches would feel, that the money necessary to sustain them could not have been better expended, and that these labors must on no account be discontinued. Their report has already informed you of the embarrassment under which they have labored, on account of the fact that the interest in the cause "has gathered itself around local centres," instead of around one common centre, so that what they have done cannot be embodied and made manifest to the Church at large. [246]

The most serious question which presses upon the minds of your Committee is, Can these causes of embarrassment and difficulty be removed—wholly or in part?

They believe that they can be removed, and that it is the sincere desire of all parts of the Church that they should be. Therefore,

Resolved, 1. That the Permanent Committee continue their work as heretofore; and that they be instructed, at an early day, to revise the present plan of the Assembly, and submit the revised plan to the Presbyteries, with the earnest request that they express their views and wishes concerning it to the Permanent Committee previous to the meeting of the next Assembly; and that Rev. Albert Barnes, D. Howe Allen, D. D., Ezra A. Huntington, D. D., and Henry B. Smith, D. D., be appointed to confer with said Committee concerning the revision of the plan.

2. That this Assembly are gratified to learn that the Permanent Committee have begun to aid students from their own treasury; and that the churches be earnestly requested to replenish that treasury, that the work may go on in a manner worthy of the cause and of the Church at large.

3. That John J. Owen, D. D., Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., Hon. William Jessup, LL.D., J. W. Benedict, and W. W. Wickes, be elected members of the Permanent Committee, to serve three years; and that Rev. Theodore L. Cuyler be elected to serve two years, in the place of A. Augustus Wood, D. D., who has resigned his place in the Committee.

Friday, May 25th, 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Assembly took from the docket the report of the Standing Committee on Publication, which, after some discussion, was adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee of Publication respectfully report:

It is a matter of satisfaction to notice from year to year the indication of advance, slow but sure, in this important department of the Church's activity.

The Presbyterian Publication Committee, in their report, (which, with the Treasurer's account and vouchers, has been carefully considered by us,) furnish evidence that they have been faithful stewards of the very limited resources placed at their control.

They have added to their list of publications a number of tracts and volumes which promise to be useful; among which is the long-needed Tune Book, literally, as it is named, "Eclectic" of the melodies widely familiar in our congregations. This, with the admirable "Church Psalmist," will contribute to promote a uniformity in the service of song of our beloved Zion. These new publications, as their [247] report remarks, must "add moral as well as material strength" to the Publication cause.

The sales of the year furnish a grateful indication of the growth of this scheme. The amount, for a period of eleven months included in the report, exceeds $15,000; being an advance of 60 per cent. over that of last year, and of 200 per cent. over that of the year previous.

The donations, likewise, are represented under the respectable figure of $8095.81; though an abatement from the satisfaction of this item must be had, in view of the fact, that it is mainly the result of a special appeal to the churches of Philadelphia, which have before done so much for the cause; and consequently it does not express the interest felt by the body at large.

The present capital of the Publication Committee may, perhaps, be estimated as high as $15,000; which, considering the newness of the scheme, and the difficulties under which it has been prosecuted, is certainly honorable to the energy and management of the brethren who have had it in hand, if not particularly creditable to the liberality of the denomination at large.

But, while we recognize this advance, we must not ignore the fact, that the Publication enterprise is yet in its infancy and weakness, and needs the fostering help of the churches.

The Publication Committee, in discharging the trust laid upon them, painfully realize the need of resources greatly beyond what have yet been supplied them. Indeed, in order to sustain the scheme, to keep it alive by meeting the demands of its natural growth, the brethren who compose that Committee are compelled to lie under a heavy personal pecuniary responsibility, to which they ought not for one day to be subjected.

The only relief for this weakness and inconvenience is, the formation of a working capital in some measure proportioned to the aims of the General Assemblies, which have established and continued the Publication Committee. And, until individuals of wealth may be inclined adequately to endow this enterprise, we must look to the annual and continued collections from our churches, to raise it gradually to a position of ability, in which it may wield the power for good, that was contemplated in its organization.

This Committee therefore recommend,

1. That the Publication Committee be endowed with a working capital of not less than twenty-five thousand dollars;

2. That the General Assembly earnestly request all their churches to make a special contribution for this object in the month of October next; and

3. That the Publication Committee be authorized, in their discretion, to employ an agent for the furtherance of this design.

It appears from the report before us, that less than one-half the number of our churches have done anything for the Publication cause; a fact which plainly and painfully suggests the want of instruction on the relations of this cause to our denominational interests, as well as the promotion of sound doctrine and godliness among the people. The Committee would therefore recommend,

4. That the Assembly earnestly request the pastors to preach to their congre[248]gations on this subject in connection with the call for a contribution in October.

It is too late, at this day, to argue the importance of the Publication scheme to our organic interests as a denomination. The disadvantage at which we were placed by the want of a distinctive press, in the presence of other bodies fully armed with this great instrument of power, was the moving cause of the initiation of this scheme. But there is reason to think that our membership at large, and too many of our ministers and elders, are yet very imperfectly awake to our weakness in this regard, and the necessity of coming up, with quick and resolute step, into line with other ecclesiastical bodies, if we would honor our profession, and satisfy the claims of our Master.

The General Assembly last year ordered, that churches, making collections for the Publication cause, should be allowed to receive one-half the amount of their contributions in publications of the Committee. This provision it is thought desirable should be renewed, and brought to the attention of the churches.

The object of endowing the Publication Committee with the means of making books, is for the end that they may be circulated among the people. Hence the need that all, who understand the importance of this enterprise, should give their co-operation to this end. The Publication Committee have not the means to employ colporteurs and missionaries to carry their books and tracts abroad through the land. But pastors and elders may, without burdening themselves, and in the line of their official duties, do much to distribute them among the people. There are some of both pastors and elders, who are now, in this way, greatly subserving the aims of this enterprise.

The suggestion is an important one, that in Synods or Presbyteries, a small amount of capital might be invested in the Committee's publications, and these put into the hands of some suitable person in a central position, for sale. The receipts from sales being re-invested from time to time, a perpetual stock would be maintained. It is obviously impossible for the Committee, with their limited means, to establish dépôts at many points.

Among the papers put into our hands, are certain resolutions of the Synod of Michigan, expressive of their views on the proper policy of the Publication Committee in the preparation of a literature for our churches. We think these views are eminently just, and should be commended to the attention of that Committee, believing, indeed, that they but express the opinions of the brethren themselves in that Committee.

A memorial from the Presbytery of Hamilton desires the General Assembly "to instruct the Publication Committee to issue, if practicable, an edition of the 'Church Psalmist' in smaller type than the smallest size now published, in order to bring it within the reach of a greater number of people; and that the retail price be not more than thirty cents." This Committee believe, that the memorial expresses a widely-felt want for a low-priced edition of the 'Psalmist,' and recommend that the Publication Committee be instructed in accordance with the memorial. [249]

The term of office of the following members of the Publication Committee expires, during the sessions of this Assembly, viz.: Rev. John Jenkins, D. D., Rev. J. Glentworth Butler, Charles S. Wurts, M. D., Samuel C. Perkins, Esq., and Hon. William Strong; they recommend that these gentlemen be re-elected on the Committee for the term of three years.

They also recommend for preacher before the next General Assembly, the Rev. M. L. P. Thompson, D. D., principal, and Rev. Samuel P. Seelye, alternate.

The sixth annual report of the Trustees of the Presbyterian House has been before the Committee. It records the removal by death of two of their number, namely, Charles S. Wurts and Rev. George Chandler, men of uncommon excellency of character, and active in the service of the Church.

The exhibition made by this Board of their trust is satisfactory, and demands the approval and thanks of the Assembly. The term of five of their number expires at this time, namely: John A. Brown, Matthew W. Baldwin, Samuel H. Perkins, Esq., Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., and Rev. George Chandler. We nominate for election the first four, with Rev. Ennals E. Adams, for the term of two years; and of Charles S. Wurts, M. D., to fill the vacancy in the Board occasioned by the decease of his father, the late Charles S. Wurts, for the term of one year.

The report of the Standing Committee on Church Extension, on the annual report of the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, was taken from the docket, adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Church Extension, to whom was referred the annual report of the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, also a memorial from the Presbytery of Iowa City, touching certain articles in the plan for the administration of the Fund, report as follows:

We find, in the report of the Trustees of the Fund, gratifying evidence that they have performed their duties faithfully and well during the past year, and that the practical working of the Plan, as to its essential features, is such as ought to be satisfactory to all our churches.

We recommend that the appropriations to the several Synods, for the ensuing year, be as follows:

Albany,	2 per cent.	Onondaga,	3 per cent.
Alta California,	3 "	Pennsylvania,	3 "
Cincinnati,	3 "	Peoria,	8 "
Genesee,	3 "	Susquehanna,	3 "
Geneva,	3 "		[250]
Illinois,	10 "	Tennessee,	.5 "
Indiana,	4 "	Utica,	2 "
Iowa,	6 "	Virginia,	1 "
Michigan,	8 "	Wabash,	3 "
Minnesota,	7 "	Western Reserve,	4 "
Mississippi,	.5 "	W. Pennsylvania,	3 "
Missouri,	5 "	W. Tennessee,	1 "
N. Y. and N. J.,	3 "	Wisconsin,	8 "
Ohio,	3 "		

A vacancy has been occasioned in the first class of the Board of Trustees, by the removal of Mr. Oliver H. Lee. The term of office of the third class of Trustees, consisting of Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D., Rev. James W. McLane, D. D., and Mr. Norman White, now expires. The Committee nominate Mr. Anthony P. Halsey to fill the place of Mr. Oliver H. Lee; and, to fill the

vacancy in the third class of Trustees, Mr. William A. Booth, Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D., and Rev. James W. McLane, D. D.

Rev. Theodore W. J. Wylie, D. D., the Delegate of the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America, took leave of the Assembly, and the Moderator responded in a brief address.

It was made the first order of the day for to-morrow morning to elect Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, and Trustees of the Presbyterian House.

The Special Committee, to whom was referred the report of the Commission on Home Missions, presented their report, which was accepted, and made the order of the day for to-morrow at 10 o'clock A. M.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported supplies for various pulpits on the ensuing Sabbath.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 26th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D., Rev. James W. McLane, D. D., and Mr. William A. Booth, were elected Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, to serve for three years; and Mr. Anthony P. Halsey, in place of Mr. Oliver H. Lee, for two years.

The following were elected Trustees of the Presbyterian House: Mr. John A. Brown, Mr. Matthew W. Baldwin, Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., Rev. Ennals J. Adams, Samuel H. Perkins, Esq., for two years; and Charles S. Wurts, M. D., for one year, in the place of Mr. Charles S. Wurts, deceased.

The Committee on Leave of Absence, reported that the following Commissioners have been excused from attendance on the further sessions of the Assembly:

Rev. Messrs. James Wood, Wellington W. Wells, William Lusk, Walter Clarke, D. D., Charles S. Robinson, James M. Sherwood, [251] and E. J. Gillett, D. D. Messrs. Thos. Farnham, Robert S. Williams, Hon. Levi Baxter, Cortland L. Latimer, John McElroy, Alfred Beasley, M. D., Guernsey Y. Roots, Daniel Cortner, Daniel W. Ingersoll, Abel H. Wilder, M. D., James Porter, Charles Wallace, James H. Hotchkin, Abel Knapp, Stephen C. Dermott, William A. Eldridge, Benjamin S. Bently, Hon. Mordecai McKinney, and Frederick Bourns.

The Assembly entered upon the consideration of the report of the Special Committee on Home Missions; but, before its conclusion,

Adjourned until Monday, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 28th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported on an Overture from Alfred Beasley, M. D., of the Presbytery of Cincinnati, inquiring whether a respect for the action of former Assemblies does not demand, from our Southern Presbyteries, some explanation of the condition of the churches under their care, in relation to Slavery, as follows:

Your Committee have not been supplied with any information, which

brings before us, in a manner authorized by our Book of Discipline, relations, practices, or delinquencies in relation to Slavery, which demand or render desirable any action of the Assembly on that subject at the present meeting.

The report was adopted.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported an Overture, requesting the Assembly to consider the propriety of appointing an official reporter of its proceedings.

The Committee recommended, that the paper be referred to the Committee of Arrangements for the next General Assembly, with instructions that, if they find such an arrangement practicable, it may be effected.

The report was adopted.

The Assembly resumed, and continued until the time of adjournment, the consideration of the report of the Special Committee on Home Missions.

Adjourned until 2½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [252]

Monday, May 28th, 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee to nominate Delegates to Corresponding Bodies presented their report, which, after amendment, was adopted, and is as follows: To the

1. *General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church*—Rev. William W. Whipple, principal; and Rev. Joseph Wilson, alternate.

2. *General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America*—Rev. Henry M. Field, principal; and Rev. John Spaulding, alternate.

3. *General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States*—Rev. George Duffield, Jr., principal; Elder P. Frazer Smith, alternate.

4. *Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States*—Rev. Conway P. Wing, D. D., principal; and Rev. Elias J. Richards, alternate.

5. *General Association of Massachusetts*—Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., principal; and Rev. Eber M. Rollo, alternate.

6. *General Association of Connecticut*—Rev. Thornton A. Mills, principal; and Rev. J. Few Smith, D. D., alternate.

7. *General Association of New Hampshire*—Rev. Henry Little, principal; and Rev. Simon S. Goss, alternate.

8. *General Convention of Vermont*—Rev. Edwin Hall, D. D., principal; and Rev. Royal A. Avery, alternate.

9. *General Conference of Maine*—Rev. George A. Howard, principal; and Rev. Jotham Sewall, alternate.

10. *Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin*—Rev. Addison K. Strong, principal; and Rev. Arthur Swazey, alternate.

The Committees on the Records of the Synods of Wabash and Alta California reported, that the records are not in the house, and were discharged.

The report of the Special Committee on Home Missions, after further discussion, and prayer for divine guidance, was adopted without dissent, and is as follows:

The Committee, to whom was referred the general subject of Home Missions, together with the report of the Commission, appointed by the General Assembly at Wilmington, to make investigation respecting the same, submit, and recommend for adoption, the following paper:

1. We regard the statements and representations made in the report of the Commission, as essentially correct and just. And we believe that this lucid and faithful exposition of facts and principles, if brought before our churches and the public at large, would remove [253] many misapprehensions, and do an important service to the cause of truth. It is therefore ordered, that at least 5000 copies of the report be printed, under the direction of the Stated Clerk of the Assembly, for general circulation.

2. We deeply regret, that our relations to the American Home Missionary Society seem to grow more and more complicated and embarrassing. We see no prospect of any such effectual removal of the difficulties, which have sprung up between that Society and our Church, as will fully re-establish the harmonious and beneficent co-operation in the Home Missionary work, which was so happily maintained in former years. All endeavors to effect a satisfactory adjustment of the matters of difference between us and the Executive Committee of the American Home Missionary Society have proved fruitless. And the position, which has been assumed in relation to our Church Extension operations, and the action of the General Assembly; by the leading Congregational Associations with which we are in correspondence, indicates a deep and settled feeling on their part, which appears to foretoken a speedy dissolution of the copartnership in Home Missions, unless we shall consent to abandon a great work which we believe Divine Providence has set before us, and shall retrace steps which we have taken under a most solemn conviction of our duty to God and to his Church.

3. It is with us no longer an open question, whether we should continue to prosecute our Church Extension work, so as to supply any lack of service that may exist on our field, according to our own judgment and ability. In maintaining this position, we are guilty of no breach of good faith towards the American Home Missionary Society. For we have never expressly, nor by remote implication, bound ourselves to make that Society the exclusive agency of our Church in the Home Missionary work.

In pursuing our Church Extension work, we feel that we are only discharging an imperative duty which the Great Head of the Church has laid upon us. The necessity for this work is becoming increasingly urgent, in consequence of new circumstances over which we have no control; and we must go forward, and not backward, in the prosecution of it.

4. While we deem it incumbent on our Church to maintain firmly the principles and policy regarding this subject, which have been heretofore adopted and acted upon by the General Assembly, we earnestly desire to effect a good understanding with our Congregational brethren. We have no disposition to take any advantage of them in our co-operation with them; nor do we assert any right or liberty for ourselves which we do not freely accord to them.

We have earnestly desired continued co-operation with our brethren in the work of Home Missions, provided it could be carried forward in consistency with the proper liberty of our churches, Presbyteries, and higher judicatories, and in fraternal confidence. But, if a separation must take place, we trust that it may be effected in Christian love, and solely with a view to the greater peace and efficiency of both denominations. [254]

And, that we may do all in our power to secure a wise and Christian adjustment of the difficulties by which we are encompassed, in relation to this subject, the General Assembly hereby appoint a *Committee of ten*, to meet, in a fraternal conference, a Committee of Congregational brethren, (should such a Committee be appointed,) consisting of two members from each of the Congregational bodies with which this General Assembly is in

correspondence, namely: the General Association of Connecticut, the General Association of Massachusetts, the General Convention of Vermont, the General Association of New Hampshire, and the General Conference of Maine. To carry into effect this arrangement, the Committee of Conference are hereby instructed to address a communication to each of the bodies already named, inviting them to appoint a like Committee to meet with the Committee of this General Assembly.

5. It shall be the duty of the Committee of the Assembly, herein provided for, to use their utmost endeavors to secure such an understanding between us and our Congregational brethren in regard to our co-operation with them in the work of Home Missions, as may conduct to an equitable and final settlement of this whole question.

It shall also be the duty of this Committee to make a full report to the next General Assembly, and to recommend to that body such plans and measures pertaining to the Home Missionary work as they may deem wise and necessary.

6. We would lay no restrictions whatever on our Presbyteries, or churches, as to the exercise of their liberty, in choosing for themselves, through what agency they shall bestow their contributions for the promotion of the Domestic Missionary work. But we would earnestly urge them, to do all in their power for the furtherance of this great cause, either through the A. H. M. Society, or the Church Extension Committee, or both, or through some other agency. And to suffer no feeling of suspense, as to the channels through which they are to send forth the waters of life, to dry up the fountains of their Christian beneficence.

Resolved, That four of the Committee of Conference appointed by the above report, be a quorum; and that they be authorized to fill their own vacancies.

Rev. Henry A. Nelson, D. D., Rev. John McLeod, Rev. William N. McHarg, Rev. Clement E. Babb, and Rev. John Spaulding, were appointed a *Committee to nominate* the Committee of Conference.

The Standing Committee on Church Extension, to whom was referred the annual report of the Permanent Committee on Church Extension, together with certain memorials on the subject of Home Missions, made a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Church Extension, to whom was referred the annual report of the Permanent Church Extension Committee; also certain memorials, from several Presbyteries and one Synod, on the subject of Home Missions, submit the following report:

The report of the Permanent Committee affords encouraging proofs [255] of progress in the work of Church Extension. This work is steadily growing on the hands of the Committee, and is carried forward by them with wisdom and efficiency. An increase of about fifty per cent. in the receipts of the Committee within the past year shows, that this cause is taking a deep hold on the hearts of our people. The importance of the exploring agencies that are employed by the Committee can hardly be overestimated. New and wide fields are opening, that must not be neglected by our Church. The number of our feeble churches, that can receive aid only from this Church Extension Committee, is, from special causes, rapidly increasing. These churches must not be suffered to die, or be driven to other denominations for support, as the condition of their continued existence. The present condition of our Home Missionary affairs multiplies, and will multiply, the demands for the efficient prosecution of our Church Extension enterprise. The coming year will be one of great importance in the history of this work.

A large increase upon the present receipts of the Committee will be urgently needed.

In view of the whole case, we recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That the report of the Church Extension Committee be approved, and that the Committee are hereby instructed to prosecute their work with all the energy that they can command.

2. That we urge our feeble churches, that make application to the Committee for aid, to use their utmost endeavors to help themselves, and to ask the Committee for the smallest amount with which they can adequately support their minister.

3. That we request all the churches in our connection, that are not aided by the American Home Missionary Society, to take up collections at an early day for the Church Extension cause.

The term of office of the following members of the Permanent Committee now expires, viz., Rev. Samuel W. Fisher, D. D., Hon. Joseph Allison, Mr. Samuel Whilldin, Mr. Lawrence Peterson, and Rev. Benjamin J. Wallace, D. D. We would recommend, to fill the vacancies thus occurring, the names of Rev. Henry Kendall, D. D., Mr. Alexander Whilldin, Mr. Lawrence Peterson, Hon. Joseph Allison, and Rev. Benjamin J. Wallace, D. D.

The memorials referred to the Committee are from the Synod of Ohio and the Presbyteries of Athens, Franklin, Hamilton, Watertown, Detroit, Alton, and Dakota. All of these memorials, except that from the Presbytery of Alton, express a desire that the co-operation between us and our Congregational brethren in the work of Home Missions may be continued; while, with a single exception, they recognize our Church Extension work as proper and necessary. The Presbytery of Alton ask, that the Assembly at once take charge of the entire Home Missionary work, in case it shall be deemed advisable to dissolve our relations with the A. H. M. Society. These memorials were laid before the Special Committee on Home Missions, and were duly considered by them in framing their report.

The Assembly took from the docket the report of the Standing [256] Committee on Foreign Missions. Before concluding its consideration, the Assembly adjourned until 7½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 28th, 7½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Assembly resumed the consideration of the unfinished business, viz., the report of the Standing Committee on Foreign Missions. The report was adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Foreign Missions beg leave to submit the following report, and recommend its adoption by the General Assembly as its utterance at the present time, on this most important subject:

The command, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature," is not surpassed for distinctness and impressiveness by any saying of our Lord Jesus Christ. No one, that pretends to love the Master, can be indifferent to this direction. Nor does it pertain alone to individual believers. It embraces every church in its organic character. Every denomination of Christians must see to it that its name is identified with the cause of Foreign Missions. It would be fatal to the hope of any professed disciple of the Son of God, to have no sympathy with the suffering Redeemer in his desire

to save a perishing world. It is disgraceful to any company of believers not to recognize, somewhere in their system, the obligation resting upon them to take part, at whatever cost and sacrifice, in the conquest of the world to the dominion of the Cross. It may not be necessary that there should be as many distinct organizations, for sending out and sustaining missionaries upon the foreign field, as there are separate denominations; but if, upon careful investigation, it be thought that in this way the strength and efficiency of any portion of the people of God can thus be more completely developed, then no considerations of a worldly policy should be allowed, for a moment, to hinder the formation of a new missionary society. We are not called upon to convert the heathen, but we are bound as individuals, as churches, and as a distinct branch of the Church of Jesus Christ, to do all in our power to preach the Gospel to every creature. We are debtors, made so by the command of Jesus, "both to the Greeks and to the barbarians, both to the wise and to the unwise;" so, as much as in us is, we must be ready to preach the Gospel, not only to them that are at Rome, but to the crowded population of China and India, to the scattered inhabitants of Polynesia, and to the roving hordes in our own wilderness.

The practical question at present is, whether, as a denomination, we [257] can continue to work with the American Board, or whether the time has come to initiate a system, under which we can more rapidly and fully develop the strength and spirit of our people.

The General Assembly finds an answer to this question in the report of its Permanent Committee, just presented, and that of the Committee of Conference with the American Board; which reports are to be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes, after so much of the first report as relates to the Presbyterial character of the churches of the Ahmednuggur Mission be modified, as the Permanent Committee now desire, to correspond to the facts in the case; and, after the paragraph be stricken out, relating to the communication of a missionary to a Presbytery, and the memorial of the Presbytery to the Assembly.

The attention of the churches is called to certain particulars in this elaborate and excellent report of the Permanent Committee:

First. The urging upon Presbyteries of the importance of securing a more perfect system, in respect to contributions for missionary purposes, and especially the necessity of reporting such collections, not in a spirit of boasting, but in order that full and correct statistics of our benevolent operations may be secured.

Second. The correspondence from the Dacotah, the Madura, and the African missions is worthy of notice, from the excellence of these communications and the important information which they convey; but more especially as constituting the beginning of an interchange of letters between the General Assembly and its absent and distant members, who are preaching the Gospel among the heathen.

Third. That portion of the report which is in reply to the memorial for the establishment of missions in Mexico, and Central or Southern America, may be accepted as the proper reply to the resolution of the Presbytery of Detroit, and a memorial signed by George Duffield and H. Kendall, submitted to the Standing Committee; as it argues at length the impracticability of attempting to establish separate and independent missions at the present time.

It is only necessary to say, in respect to the report of the Special Committee of Conference with the American Board, that everything sought by our Committee, or desired by the General Assembly, was cordially assented

to; and we rely upon the good faith of the Prudential Committee to carry out their own declaration, "that both 'reason' and 'charity' demand the facilitation of such organizations," (that is, Foreign Presbyteries,) "whenever circumstances and a due regard to the great objects of this Board will allow;" and, in view of the offer of the Prudential Committee, it is resolved, that the General Assembly will gladly welcome the annual delegation sent to confer with them by the American Board.

The Assembly wish to be understood, as expressing their undiminished confidence in the noble institution, with which they have been so long associated in the work of evangelizing the world, and their desire still to co-operate with their brethren of another denomination in spreading the news of salvation to the ends of the earth. Especially on this "jubilee year," would the Assembly enjoin upon all its churches to lend most liberal aid, in furthering a result so desirable as that [258] which is sought, viz., to bring the Board to its next anniversary free from debt, and prepared to begin, with increased ardor and energy, its second half-century in the glorious work of bringing all mankind into subjection to Jesus Christ.

The term of office of the following members of the Permanent Committee expires with this Assembly, viz., Rev. Albert Barnes, Rev. David O. Allen, D. D., Rev. Daniel W. Poor, D. D., Jesse W. Benedict, Esq., and Mr. John A. Brown.

It is respectfully recommended, as Rev. Albert Barnes declines a re-election, and Rev. David O. Allen, D. D., has removed to Massachusetts, that the vacancies be filled by the re-election of Rev. Daniel W. Poor, D. D., Jesse W. Benedict, Esq., and Mr. John A. Brown, with the addition of the names of Rev. George Duffield, D. D., and Rev. Walter Clarke, D. D.

The Standing Committee on Church Extension, to whom was referred the resolution, proposing that the General Assembly should instruct the Church Extension Committee to offer no assistance to any church that has in its communion one or more slaveholders, reported as follows:

1. The Permanent Committee on Church Extension is appointed to act for the whole Church, being an organ of the General Assembly, which represents the whole Church, and we can see no defensible principle on which such a Committee could make discriminations, on moral grounds, between churches that are recognized as having the same ecclesiastical standing under our common Constitution.

2. The position of our Church is well understood to be one of opposition to the spirit and the system of Slavery; and we have no reason to believe, that any churches connected with us are using their influence to sustain and fortify that institution.

3. If it be true, that any members of churches in our connection hold slaves under mistaken views of their duty towards them, we do not see that this affords any sufficient reason for withholding from them the Bread of Life, and such enlightened teachings, as we believe our ministry are qualified and disposed to impart, in relation to all the great principles of Christian duty. We sympathize with all Christian endeavors to remove imperfection and sin from the Church of Christ; but we think this end is to be accomplished, not by withdrawing the Gospel from those who need it, but by affectionate and prayerful efforts, to apply the principles of our holy religion to the heart and conscience of every Christian, who is willing to receive instruction.

4. The Church Extension Committee are fully aware of the ground which our Church occupies with reference to this subject, and we have confidence that they will conscientiously discharge their duty, with an enlightened

regard to the promotion of righteousness and holiness in the Church and in the world.

The report was adopted. [259]

Against the adoption of this report, Mr. William N. Allison and Rev. Simon S. Goss entered their dissent.

The following protest, also, against this action was ordered to be entered upon the Minutes:

The undersigned members of the Assembly desire to enter on the Minutes their solemn protest against the action of the same, in adopting the resolutions of the Committee on Church Extension, adverse to the resolution to instruct the Church Extension Committee to extend no aid to any church which has among its communicants one or more slaveholders, and to enjoin on the evangelists, whom they may employ, to receive no person known to be a slaveholder to the communion of any of the churches which they may form, which resolution had been referred to said Committee; for the following reasons:

1. Because said resolutions do really, though, we suppose, unintentionally, misrepresent the said resolution in insinuating that said resolution forbids the preaching of the Gospel to slaveholders; while it only forbids those, who are sustained by the contributions of our churches for the extension of Christ's kingdom, from receiving slaveholders to the communion of the Church.

2. Because said resolutions imply that we have no constitutional power to interfere, in any way, with the admission of slaveholders into the Church, though previous Assemblies have declared that the holding of our fellow-beings in the condition of Slavery is an offense, in the proper sense of the term, as used in the Book of Discipline; and we believe it to be a crime of the first magnitude; not less than adultery.

3. Because the action of the Assembly, in adopting these resolutions, is contrary to that of the Assembly of 1818, which declares that "it is manifestly the duty of all Christians, who enjoy the light of the present day, to use their honest, earnest, and unwearied endeavors, as speedily as possible, to efface this blot on our holy religion, and obtain the complete abolition of Slavery throughout Christendom;" which declaration has been repeatedly re-affirmed by subsequent Assemblies, while we, by refusing to express any disapprobation of receiving slaveholders to the Lord's table, do, in effect, express our approbation of so doing, and thus rivet the fetters of the slave.

George E. Clapp,
Thomas S. Williamson,
James Gordon.

A communication was received from Rev. George Shepard, D. D., the Delegate from the General Conference of Maine.

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

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 29, 8½ *o'clock A. M.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved. [260]

The Committee, appointed to nominate the *Committee of Conference* with a similar Committee to be appointed by the General Associations of New England, made the following nominations: Rev. Albert Barnes, Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., Rev. Robert W. Patterson, D. D., Rev. Thornton A.

Mills, Rev. Edwin Hall, D. D., Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D., Rev. D. Howe Allen, D. D., Rev. Samuel T. Seelye, Hon. William Jessup, LL.D., and Walter S. Griffith.

In regard to the distribution of the five thousand copies of the report of the Commission, the Committee recommend, that the Stated Clerk be instructed to place one thousand copies at the disposal of the Committee of Conference, and to send the remainder to the Stated Clerks of the several Presbyteries, dividing them in proportion to the number of communicants in each Presbytery.

The report was adopted.

Rev. James N. Edmiston appeared as a Delegate from the General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church; his name was entered upon the Roll, and he addressed the Assembly.

The Committee on the Narrative of the State of Religion presented their report, which was adopted, and ordered to be published in the Appendix to the Minutes. Pastors, stated supplies, and the sessions of vacant churches, were also requested to read it, at some convenient season, to their congregations.

The Assembly took from the docket the report of the Committee on the Polity of the Church, on the request from the Presbytery of Chicago, asking the General Assembly to take measures to secure more accuracy and completeness in the reports of our Presbyteries to the Assembly.

After discussion, the subject was referred to a *Committee*, consisting of the Stated and Permanent Clerks, to report to the next Assembly.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church, to whom was referred the Overture—When a church shall dismiss its ruling elders, and deny to its members the right of appeal and complaint, and deny the authority of Presbytery over it, has it a right to be represented in the judicatories of our Church?—reported as follows:

Our Church is organized on constitutional principles, with powers and duties appropriate to each branch or part thereof; and, with a gradation of subordinate and superior judicatories, designed to preserve unity of doctrine, and orderly discipline, according to the Scriptures.

This Constitution does not recognize a right of revolution, and makes no provision therefor; but treats all such cases simply as breaches of order, and visits them with appropriate constitutional remedies. Any individual church is represented in the church judicatories constitutionally, only by the pastor or an elder, one or both; and it can find admission into such judicatories only through such a mode of representation.

The Overture supposes three cases: 1st, a dismissal of elders; 2d, a denial of the right of appeal and complaint; and 3d, a denial of the authority of the Presbytery. [261]

Each of these is an unconstitutional act, is utterly null and void, and subjects the offending church to visitation and discipline at the hands of the Presbytery. The Form of Gov., Ch. X., sec. 8, empowers the Presbytery "to visit particular churches, for the purpose of inquiring into their state, and redressing the evils that may have arisen in them; to unite or divide congregations, at the request of the people; or to form or receive new congregations; and, in general, to order whatever pertains to the spiritual welfare of the churches under their care."

The above-named acts of insubordination, being void, work no effect; the session have still the right, and it is their duty, to send one of the elders to the Presbytery and the Synod; and his votes and acts in these bodies are the votes and the acts of the church. So, too, the Presbytery may send any

one of such elders to the General Assembly; and should such church refuse obedience to the acts of the judicatories so constituted, it would be subject to the discipline, in due form, of our ecclesiastical law. Such church has a right to be represented by elders, and it cannot pass by them and substitute a private member as its representative. A void act of deposition, or dismission of its elders, does not incapacitate the church. In sending one of its dismissed elders to the Presbytery or the Synod, it disaffirms its illegal act; and that is an end of it; and if it should send a Delegate, not an elder, he could not be received; and the church would simply be unrepresented, (except by the pastor,) *pro hâc vice;* but the church is still under the care of the Presbytery, and subject to its government. The bond of union, which was formed by mutual and concurrent consent and act, cannot be dissolved by an *ex parte* act of insubordination or revolution, until the other party has acted thereon. The Committee, therefore, recommend the following answer to the Overture:

Resolved, That the acts of insubordination, specified in the Overture, do not, of themselves, infer a forfeiture of the church's right to be represented in the church judicatories; but such representation must be in the mode, and by the persons, specified in the Constitution of the Church.

The report was adopted.

The report of the Committee on the Polity of the Church, on a memorial from certain members of the church in Bloomfield, N. J., inquiring as to the rights of female and minor members of the church to vote in elections for church officers, was indefinitely postponed.

A similar disposition was made of the report of the Committee on Bills and Overtures, previously accepted and placed upon the docket.

The Permanent Committee on Home Missions, appointed by the last Assembly, were continued for the present year, with the exception of Mr. Robert M. Hartley, in the place of Mr. Norman White.

Mr. Christopher R. Robert, Jesse W. Benedict, Esq., and Mr. John C. Hines were appointed auditors of the Church Erection Fund.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported an Overture from W. F. Stuart, Samuel Polkey, Robert Barry, Joseph H. Leonard, [262] and Parker Earle, representatives of different Temperance organizations in Illinois, praying that this General Assembly would "give the Temperance cause a proper prominence among the means of reform sustained by the Church;" and especially suggesting, that it would "arrange or recommend that some proper Temperance movement should sustain the same relation to the churches, as the Tract, the Bible, and the Missionary causes do, both morally and financially, it would be of immense advantage to the cause."

The Committee report, that this Overture did not come into their possession until near the close of the sessions of the Assembly, affording but little time for such action as the importance of the subject demands. In compliance with the request of the petitioners, the Assembly are willing to assign to the cause of Temperance a relation to our Church not dissimilar to that which has been given to the benevolent objects with which it is compared. But with none of these do we maintain any other connection, than that which their own moral power secures upon the free affection and esteem of our members. Very cheerfully and earnestly would this Assembly commend the cause of Temperance to all the ministers and members of our Church, and urge them heartily to co-operate with every judicious effort in a Christian spirit to promote it; that pastors frequently preach upon the subject, and especially that no countenance be given to those social usages, by which great temptations to intemperance are thrown before their fellow-men.

The report was adopted.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported, that the following Commissioners had been excused from further attendance on the sessions of the Assembly:

Rev. Messrs. Joseph Chester, George E. W. Leonard, Isaac G. Ogden, John Mattocks, William S. Leavitt, James A. Carnahan, Fordyce Harrington, John R. Young, Rufus R. Deming, David A. Grosvenor, Ova H. Seymour, Clement E. Babb, George E. Pierce, D. D., William Fuller, Lewis H. Reid, Cornelius H. Taylor, Julius S. Pattengill, William Wisner, D. D., and Henry M. Field. Messrs. Edward A. Durant, John Gaul, Jr., John Maclay, Luther H. Trask, Edgar B. Day, William A. Woods, Thomas B. Hopper, Hon. William W. Davison, Jacob M. Schermerhorn, Anthony H. Hinkle, John O. Wishard, Joseph Esty, James R. McDonald, John R. Osborne, and Loren J. Ames, M. D.

The Standing Committees severally reported, that they had no further business before them.

The janitor's bill, the bills for printing and staticnery, the traveling expenses of the Delegates to Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Canada, Wisconsin, and the German Reformed Synod, with the salaries and traveling expenses of the Stated and Permanent Clerks, were ordered to be paid.

Resolved, That the Minutes of this Assembly, with the usual Ap- [263] pendix, and the reports of the Treasurers of the Permanent Committees, be printed, under the direction of the Stated Clerk.

The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That the great good already accomplished by the Society for Promoting Collegiate and Theological Education at the West, in sustaining and encouraging valuable institutions in times of commercial embarrassment, until they could be placed on permanent foundations, is entitled to the grateful acknowledgment of this Assembly; while its unfinished work is worthy of the hearty sympathy and generous aid of all the friends of sound learning and enlightened piety; especially in regard to completing the endowment of the institutions now under its patronage.

Resolved, That the efforts of our brethren on the Pacific coast, to establish the institutions of education and religion among them, and especially to endow the Colleges of California and Oregon, are worthy of the confidence and patronage of our churches.

The following resolutions of thanks were adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this General Assembly be presented to the respective railroad companies, who have generously consented to a reduction of their regular fare, in favor of the Commissioners and others, who have been in attendance on our sessions.

Also, to the citizens of Pittsburgh, Allegheny City, and the neighboring villages, whose large-hearted hospitality has been so munificently extended to the members of the Assembly, and rendered their sojourn so pleasant and so gratefully memorable, with the assurance of our fervent prayers, that they and theirs may be abundantly "recompensed by the Giver of all good."

Also, to the Committee of Arrangements for their promptness and assiduity, in providing for the convenience and comfort of their numerous visitors on this occasion.

Also, to the Trustees of the Third Presbyterian church, for the use of their commodious house of worship, and its ample accommodations.

Also, to the Moderator, the Rev. Thornton A. Mills, for the able and

impartial manner in which he has presided over the deliberations of the Assembly; and for the discriminating and Christian courtesy which he has extended to the Commissioners.

Also, that the Assembly happily appreciate the admirable taste and luxurious comity of the entertainment given them by the ladies, on the beautiful grounds of Mr. Leslie, at his villa, in Oakland, to whom we are indebted for one of the most delightful excursions and social gatherings that we have ever enjoyed.

Also, that the thanks of the Assembly be given to the Young Men's Mercantile Library Association for their generous and valuable tender of the use of their library and reading-rooms.

The calling of the Roll was dispensed with, in consequence of the loss of a portion of the report of the Committee on Leave of Absence. [264]

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The business of the Assembly having been finished, and the vote having been taken for the dissolving of 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 First Presbyterian church, of the city of Syracuse, N. Y., on the third Thursday of May, 1861, at 11 o'clock A. M.

HENRY DARLING, *Permanent Clerk.*

Pittsburgh, Pa., May 29th, 1860.

APPENDIX.

ANNUAL NARRATIVE

Of the State of Religion within the Bounds of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, May, 1860.

The Narrative of the State of Religion, within the bounds of whatsoever ecclesiastical body, is an answer, so far it goes, to Zion's question: "Watchman, what of the night?" When it is "the return of the year" that suggests this question, and when the answer is to cover so vast a field as is represented by this Assembly, this answer becomes one of peculiar interest, and we await it with great anxiety, aware that we ourselves, in part, are responsible for it, whatever it may be.

How has the battle gone during these twelve eventful months, amid the multiplied opportunities and instrumentalities of this past year, in this portion of the field and in that; at the East, in the great Northwest, on the vast intervening field of the Middle States, on the Pacific shore? "Watchman, what of the night?" We ought to have an answer to this great inquiry from every portion of our field; but we regret to say that many of the Presbyteries, as in previous years, are silent. While the number of reports is somewhat larger than it was last year—a fact which your Committee are glad to be able to report, the number being then sixty-five, and this year seventy-one—they yet feel called upon to suggest, that every Presbytery ought to remember, that the General Assembly is very desirous to ascertain, from year to year, what each Presbytery within its bounds has been doing, what its experience has been, what its present wants are, and what are its prospects. And they would suggest, further, that every Presbytery ought to be equally desirous of coming into closer sympathy and fellowship with the other portions of the Church, by putting the Assembly in possession of these facts.

It is a marked feature in the reports which have come to us, that they very generally, at the outset, contrast the condition of the churches with that which was reported one and two years ago. Or, perhaps, it should be said, that what they indicate is a difference, rather than a contrast. Although nearly all of them mention the absence of those special manifestations of revival, which were so generally prevalent one and two years ago, yet, in a large majority of cases, there are still thanksgiving and praise, for the gracious influences of the spirit which have continued to pervade the churches, and for the many signs of encouragement which are seen.

Revivals.

Nearly every Presbytery reports one or more revivals, which, though not so marked in their features, nor so large in their results, as those of two years ago, have still greatly cheered and strengthened the churches. Even where no special outpouring of the Spirit has been enjoyed, the condition of the churches, in most cases, is not that state of apathy and declension which is too often the result of reaction after a season of revival. While the exclamation is seldom heard, which was so common a year ago, "The Lord hath done great things for us, whereof we are glad," there are many indications that our ministers and churches generally are awake and in earnest, laboring with a good degree of fidelity, and watching and praying and waiting in hope.

Growth and Development.

The present state of things among the churches seems to be quite generally regarded by them, not only in theory but in practice, as a time for growth and development, and a time to "prepare the way of the Lord." Although the expectations have been disappointed, which many had begun two years ago to cherish, that the Great Awakening was to continue unabated, the effect has not been to produce feelings of despondency and discouragement. To use the language of one of the Presbyteries, "the churches seem only to be more fully and deeply impressed with the truth, that the struggle with sin is a real conflict and a ceaseless one;" and that it must be waged by faith, as well as by sight, "and with unwavering confidence and hope in Him 'who giveth us the victory.'" Although walking now, in this respect, more by faith and less by sight, it is quite manifest, that the churches are not without such confidence and hope. And this is based not only upon the promises, and upon the sufficiency of the ordinary means of grace, but upon the indications which are actually seen in connection with the use of these means. Special mention is made, very generally, of an increased attendance upon the services of the sanctuary, and of an unusual interest in them. And there seems to be quite a general expectation, on the part of the brethren, of corresponding results. There is great encouragement in this fact; because, while there are doubtless special times of refreshing from the Lord, to be prayed for, and to be looked for, we cannot doubt, that the Church has only to put forth specific effort and expectation in connection with the ordinary means of grace, to be blessed with a constant ingathering of souls. In this connection, both for what it indicates, and for what it suggests, we quote the following from the report of one of our largest Presbyteries. "The Presbytery have remarked," they say, "as a conspicuous feature in the reports from the churches, that those that fear the Lord have been more constrained to speak often one to another of the things concerning the kingdom: and, as a result, they have become more interested in the salvation of the unconverted, and more anxious to devise new ways, by which the Gospel might find those hitherto out of the

reach of religious instruction, and those who would not voluntarily seek it. There has been less waiting for opportunities to do good, and more seeking for them than in former times; more pressing sense of obligation to labor appears to have rested upon the elders and the membership, and less of the feeling that their work was completed by regular attendance upon the services of the sanctuary; and that whatever else was to be done devolved upon the pastors. And these feelings have been practically developed in various ways."

In this connection, by way of illustration, the fact may be quoted, from another Presbytery, that one of the elders is accustomed to go forth, from time to time, on longer or shorter circuits, and spending from one to several days, for the purpose of circulating religious books and tracts, and having personal conversation with such as he may be able to reach. A good and a great work has thus been accomplished, through a single individual.

The following is very encouraging language in the same direction from another report: "Our elders especially are coming up to their true position in their churches, and in this Presbytery are becoming a model eldership."

Feeling the dependence of our Church upon her eldership, the clerical portion of the Committee have quoted this language and these facts, both for what they indicate and for what they suggest.

While the reports, generally, are thus favorable, as to the state of things among the churches, some of them are in a different strain, and mention facts which are fitted to humble us and make us sad. One Presbytery, for instance, numbering 16 churches, and these with an average membership of one hundred and sixty-four, report the additions on profession during the year as only twenty-six! There are other features, however, of this same report, which are interesting and full of promise; the advance, for example, of a thousand dollars in their contributions; the number of teachers engaged in the Sabbath-school; the multiplication and prosperity of Sabbath-schools, and the efforts which are being made to plant one at least in every school district in the Presbytery.

Another Presbytery, and this a large one too, says: "There is evidently a lack of spirituality and self-denying effort in Christ's service in most of our churches, and a spirit of apathy and worldliness prevails to an alarming extent." Let us labor and pray that there be no occasion for such reports, when the question shall be raised another year: "Watchman, what of the night?"

The Rising Generation.

The reports generally make special mention of the Sabbath-school, of increased interest in it, and increased efforts in that direction; and not only in behalf of the children of the Church and congregation, but of such as are gathered in mission schools. There seems to be special interest in this cause, accompanied with corresponding labors in every portion of our field. When Zion's watchmen report this fact to us, we cannot but be greatly cheered. It is auspicious of "great things," for the Church and for the world, when our Lord puts it into the hearts of his disciples to gather in the little ones, and especially to go out into the lanes and hedges, and by love "compel *them* to come in," whose ordinary associations do not bring them in. The instruction of the older youth and of adults in Bible-classes seems to be receiving very general attention. Its importance is appreciated, and greater efforts are being made to secure it. One of the most interesting features of one of the most important of our churches on the Pacific shore is its Bible-class of adults, which is largely attended, and sustained with

constant and increasing interest. As coming from California, this is, especially, an interesting fact.

One of the Presbyteries reports, commending the plan as one which it would be well for all the churches to adopt, that "some of the churches have introduced classes of catechumens from amongst the young who are candidates for membership with the church, and have placed them under the direct supervision of one or more members of the session." The benefits, which will be likely to flow from such an arrangement, are too obvious to need to be specified. Comparatively little allusion is made to catechetical instruction. Some of the reports speak of its importance in connection with its general neglect; while a few indicate an increased attention to it. It is greatly to be desired, that an increased attention to it should become more general. Error in these days assumes so many and such plausible shapes, and so easily communicates itself to the atmosphere which we breathe, and to the food which our mental appetites crave, that it is of especial importance, that our children should be furnished, in due season, with that well-proved "form of sound words" which the Catechism gives us. We wonder that Christian parents are not afraid to send their children out into the world, as the world is in these days, without arming them with some specific safeguard against the soul-destroying errors which everywhere prevail. The Bible, they will, of course, be made familiar with; but it is very desirable that they be made familiar, also, (and so familiar that memory can never let them go,) with clear and definite doctrinal statements of what the Bible teaches. We would suggest, that, while the Church is to be held responsible for the catechetical instruction of the children within its reach, a greater responsibility rests upon Christian parents. Unless the Catechism is honored, and its words made "household words" in our Christian families, the efforts of the Church in this direction will be of little avail.

Church Edifices.

A large majority of the Presbyteries report the building, or the remodelling, of one or more houses of worship. In many cases, existing debts have been removed; and, in a few instances, parsonages have been either built or purchased. These are signs of stability and progress.

Church Organization.

In the organization of churches, however, comparatively little has been done. While we regret this, as we do any indication of a lack of progress, our regret rather goes back of this to the already inadequate supply of ministers. We certainly do not regret that churches have not been organized "in advance of all others" at every "four-corners" of the land, with the prospect that they would soon starve and die because of none to break unto them the bread of life. We believe that, as a denomination, we are wisely cautious in this matter; and that a failure to organize churches is not altogether a failure to remember the destitute portions of our field, and, so far as possible, to care for them. Our Presbyteries are evidently feeling an increased sense of responsibility in this matter.

Education for the Ministry.

The greater occasion for regret is, the lack of evidence, that men will be found to minister to the churches, when churches shall be organized. In this connection, your Committee regard it as a significant fact, that there

is so great an indifference on the part of Christian parents to the ordinance of infant baptism. We do not discover that this prevails to any greater extent than hitherto; but, until our Presbyteries shall report a decided change for the better in this respect, we shall certainly have reason to fear, that Christian parents are still failing to give their children unreservedly to the Lord, and train them up to preach his word.

There would seem to be indicated, if your Committee might be permitted to draw an inference, in this connection, a lack of sufficient preaching on the importance of this ordinance, and on the obligations and privileges connected with it; and a lack of what is, perhaps, still more needed, personal and private conversation, on the part of ministers and elders, with such parents as do not bring their children forward—a lack of specific effort to give our little ones the benefit of this Heaven-appointed rite. While, however, we do not find, at this point, the evidence we should be glad to find of a prospective increase in the ministry, it is gratifying to see that the cause of Education for the Ministry is getting a stronger hold upon the attention and interest of the churches. The reports of the several Presbyteries show, as no general reports and no statistics can, that this cause is gradually taking the position which belongs to it.

In this as in other matters which are vital to our growth as a denomination, and to the prosperity of the Redeemer's kingdom in the field which he has assigned to us, there is gratifying evidence of increased interest and decided progress.

Pecuniary Contributions.

In the matter of Christian beneficence, although the pecuniary pressure has been more severe, during the past year, on some portions of our field than at any previous time, yet the indications are, that very few of our churches have fallen back from the ground previously held, while, in some quarters, a positive advance has been made; and yet by no means such an advance as is called for, both by the ability of the churches, and the necessities of Christ's kingdom. As a denomination, God, in his providence, seems, at the present time, to be making a special appeal to us, to enlarge our contributions, especially in the direction of Home Missions, Foreign Missions, and the Education of Young Men for the Ministry. We would venture the hope, and whatever of suggestion it may carry, that in view of our remissness in the past, and of the special appeal which the Great Head of the Church is making upon us just now, the ministry and the eldership will so interpret, to the churches, the voice of God's providence, that the membership will feel it as an individual responsibility, and appreciate it as a personal privilege, to give unto the Lord, and especially for these great causes, as God has given them ability.

Temperance.

We regret that so little appears to indicate progress in the cause of Temperance. The reports from the Presbyteries, so far as they allude to this subject, would seem to indicate, that, on the whole, Intemperance is fearfully on the increase; while, at the same time, it is gratifying to know, that, in many places, this great evil is as vigorously opposed as ever, and in some places with good success.

Ministerial Obituary.

And now, acknowledging the good hand of God in the prosperity which has attended our Zion, during another year of her history, and especially in the preservation of the lives of so many of his servants, whose privilege it

still is to serve him, in these days and in this great field of opportunity and of promise, it only remains sadly to chronicle the vacancies in our ranks, which have been made by the deaths of the following twenty brethren:

Abraham D. Brinkerhoff,	of the	Presbytery of	Champlain.
Flavel S. Gaylord,	"	"	Bath.
Joseph Myers,	"	"	Onondaga.
William L. Strong,	"	"	"
Archibald Bassett,	"	"	Delaware.
Artemas Dean,	"	"	Hudson.
Gideon N. Judd, D. D.,	"	"	"
Daniel T. Wood,	"	"	"
Francis C. Woodworth,	"	"	New York, 3d.
Henry A. Rowland, D. D.,	"	"	Newark.
Benjamin T. Neale,	"	"	Logansport.
Henry Root,	"	"	Marshall.
James McLauren,	"	"	Saginaw.
Ephraim T. Woodruff,	"	"	Grand River.
Harvey Coe,	"	"	Portage.
Franklin Putnam,	"	"	Indianapolis.
George Chandler,	"	"	Philadelphia, 4th.
Levi Collins,	"	"	Belvidere.
Matthew Smith,	"	"	Keokuk.
Richard Renshaw,	"	"	Iowa Valley.

By order of the General Assembly.

THORNTON A. MILLS, *Moderator.*
EDWIN F. HATFIELD, *Stated Clerk.*

REPORT*

Of Committee of Conference with the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions.

The Committee appointed by the General Assembly "to attend the next meeting of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, to be held in Philadelphia, for the purpose of conveying to the Board the Assembly's views as herein expressed," (in the report of the Committee on Foreign Missions,) "and of conferring with it, or with any Committee which it may appoint, as to the best mode by which these results may be most wisely and prudently secured; as well as to confer in regard to the localities where our missionaries can be most conveniently and speedily concentrated," beg leave respectfully to report:

That, in performing the duty assigned to them by the General Assembly, they attended the meeting of the American Board at Philadelphia, in October last, and requested the Board to appoint a Committee to confer with them on the subjects which had been referred to them; that they were met in the most kind and cordial manner by the Board; and that, in accordance with their request, a Committee, composed of the following gentlemen, was appointed by the Board: Rev. John W. Chickering, D. D., Hon. Lewis Child, Rev. Thornton A. Mills, Rev. Ray Palmer, D. D., and Henry Hill, Esq.; and that, after a full and free conference on the subjects referred to by the Assembly, the Committee of the American Board submitted the following report, which was unanimously adopted by the Board, and which

* See p. 80.

the Committee of the General Assembly submit as the substance of their report, viz.:

"The Committee of Conference with the Committee of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church offer the following report:

"Having had the most free and fraternal intercourse with said Committee, both before and since the framing of this report, we come to the Board with the consciousness of a thorough mutual understanding, which we trust may be communicated and perpetuated throughout the vast body of Christ's people which we together represent.

"Sure we are, that if the cordial co-operative spirit of the Assembly's Committee, and the kind and reasonable tone of the resolutions under which they were appointed, shall prove an index of the prevalent feeling in that large and important branch of the one Church of Christ, it will not be their fault if this bright star of hope, this Christian union in Christian missions, shall disappear from the moral firmament, where, too often, alienated and contending churches, like clouds without water, cast deeper shadows over a dark and ruined world.

"The Committee have presented to us four resolutions of the General Assembly, and several specifications, under which they 'record their deliberate judgment as to what is due to the interests of their Church, and its vital connection with their foreign work.' The resolutions express,

"1st. Satisfaction in having shared with their brethren of other denominations in bringing into efficiency this institution, and in founding and sustaining so many important missions.

"2d. Joy in its success, and a desire for a yet brighter future.

"3d. Sympathy in its embarrassments, and a recommendation to enlarged, self-denying liberality among Presbyterian churches for its relief.

"And, 4th. The conviction that 'in order to a more thorough development of the missionary spirit,' in those churches, there should be, 'not a cessation from the co-operative principle in conducting the missionary work, but simply a closer connection with it, by means of the formation of Presbyteries in foreign lands, wherever numbers and circumstances will allow of such a course.'

"It is in furtherance of the last-named object that the Committee, as the organ of the General Assembly, have called our attention especially to these points among the specifications above alluded to.

"The Assembly desires,

"'1. That it should be distinctly understood, here and abroad, that the Board, its Prudential Committee, and officers, interpose no obstacles in the way of the formation of Foreign Presbyteries.

"'2. That the appointments of missionaries should be so disposed, wherever it is wise and practicable, as to facilitate the formation of such Presbyteries.

"'3. That there should be a free correspondence of our missionaries with the Permanent Committee of the General Assembly.'

"Respecting the first point, your Committee can hardly find terms more clear than the resolution adopted at Newark in 1856, to express our concurrence in what seems to us a reasonable desire on the part of our brethren. That resolution was in these words:

"'*Resolved*, That, on the whole subject of ecclesiastical relations and organizations, the principle of the Board is that of entire non-intervention on the part of the Board and its officers; that missionaries are free to organize themselves into, or connect themselves with, such ecclesiastical bodies or churches as they may choose, either on missionary ground or in this

country ; and that, in organizing churches, provided the principles held in common by the constituencies of this Board be not violated, the persons to be thus organized are free to adopt such forms of organization as they may prefer.'

"This Board, we trust, still cordially holds this view, which its Prudential Committee and officers, we have reason to suppose, have, with equal cordiality, endeavored faithfully to carry out.

"In regard to the second suggestion, your Committee see no difficulty. The Board must of course, in specific cases, through its Prudential Committee, be the judge as to what is wise and practicable ; and, with so many elements to be taken into account, as to the fitness and desirableness of men for places and places for men, while the men are so few and the places so many, it may not always be easy to make such assignments as are here contemplated. But we fully concur with the Assembly and their Committee in the opinion, that both 'reason' and 'charity' demand the facilitation of such organizations wherever circumstances and a due regard to the great objects of this Board will allow, as has been practised with reference to other denominations represented in our missionary field.

"As to correspondence, your Committee approve and recommend the largest liberty, within the bounds of a wise Christian discretion.

"It is obvious, that this system of combined non-ecclesiastical missionary action involves certain mutual duties and claims, between the missionaries and those who have the immediate charge of sending and sustaining them.

"Questions are liable to arise between the Prudential Committee and the missionaries which belong to those two parties, and in regard to which premature correspondence, either with ecclesiastical bodies or with private friends, yet reaching the public eye, would be manifestly unsuitable and mutually injurious.

"This matter may be safely left to the good sense of missionaries and the wisdom of the Permanent Committee of the General Assembly, whose communications to their brethren abroad could be productive only of good, and whose prepared annual report of their foreign work, based upon most full and free communications from their foreign laborers, would doubtless 'quicken the zeal of their people in prayers and labors for the conversion of the whole world to Christ.'

"One other topic, not embraced in the Assembly's document, has been suggested to us during our informal and most fraternal conference.

"It relates to the appointment, by the Prudential Committee of the Board, of an annual delegation to the General Assembly ; said delegation to present such statements as shall keep that body informed of the general progress of the work in which we are engaged ; thus helping to secure the increasing sympathy and co-operation of this branch of the Christian Church, a constituent element of our nobly paternal institution. Your Committee recommend the adoption of this paper, as expressing to the General Assembly the cordial love and confidence of the Board, with the following resolutions:

"*Resolved*, That the Board warmly reciprocate the kind and fraternal sentiments expressed through its documents and its Committee, with the hope that this 'jubilee' year may, through the zeal and liberality of these different branches of the Church of Christ, prove a 'year of jubilee' in our being redeemed from pecuniary pressure, as well as a year of the right hand of the Most High in all our churches at home and abroad.

"*Resolved*, That we cordially assent to the three propositions as above recited and explained, as expressing not only the wishes of the General

Assembly, but the feelings and intentions of the American Board, relying on the wisdom and candor of Christian men for their full interpretation and application.

"*Resolved*, That the Prudential Committee make arrangements annually for a delegation to the General Assembly, should such a measure be agreeable to that body.

"In conclusion, your Committee would renewedly express the great satisfaction they have had in the interview with the representatives of the General Assembly. Their spirits were evidently in harmony with the genial tone of the paper which they presented. And for ourselves, earnestly and hopefully, prayerfully, and we trust prophetically, we say—of this glorious, Heaven-ordained, Heaven-sanctioned union among Christ's people in building up Christ's kingdom—*Esto perpetua!*"

The Committee of the General Assembly, in conclusion, would reciprocate the warm expressions of confidence in the report of the Committee of the Board, in regard to the kindness, the cordiality, and the Christian spirit with which they were met. On the part of the Committee of the Board, and the Board itself, there was every disposition manifested to furnish all the facilities, which the General Assembly had instructed us to ask, in prosecuting the work of Missions, and to comply with the wishes of the Assembly; and the Committee of the General Assembly may be permitted to add, that in all their interviews with the Committee and the Board itself, there was the manifestation of a spirit, eminently in accordance with the requirements of Christian love, and as expressive of entire confidence in us as associated with them in the work in which the Board is engaged, and as appropriate to the solemn work of diffusing the Gospel of Christ around the world.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Albert Barnes, *Chairman*,
J. F. Stearns,
Edwin F. Hatfield,
John Jenkins,
W. Strong,
M. W. Baldwin.

SUMMARY OF THE SCHEDULES.

I. Of the Synods and their Presbyteries.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	STATED CLERKS.
I. Synod of Albany	1803	5	81	4	7	70	240	138	8,561	104	127	$248 72	$3,812 68	$4,224 01	$812 78	$2,428 41	A. B. Lambert, D. D.
1. Champlain	1814	...	24	1	1	22	46	28	2,356	12	29	63 52	780 53	1,296 99	87 00	594 99	Stephen H. Williams.
2. Troy	1820	...	24	1	1	17	43	49	2,391	23	38	52 00	991 50	1,261 42	231 68	899 65	A. B. Lambert, D. D.
3. Albany	1791	...	14	2	3	12	111	32	1,775	59	34	34 05	764 82	498 63	191 10	228 50	Eber M. Rollo.
4. Columbia	1802	...	5	...	2	6	9	10	902	5	4	42 75	418 20	500 32	148 00	148 00	William S. Leavitt.
5. Catskill	1851	...	14	...	...	13	31	19	1,137	5	22	56 40	857 63	666 65	155 00	557 27	Leonard B. Van Dyck.
II. Synod of Utica	1829	4	81	4	8	76	122	93	6,990	26	89	233 05	2,111 28	2,735 08	1,326 66	1,538 93	William E. Knox.
1. St. Lawrence	1818	...	9	...	...	6	40	8	590	...	27	29 00	194 58	416 00	.....	95 99	Baruch B. Beckwith.
2. Watertown	1822	...	15	1	...	21	19	32	1,972	7	13	52 00	282 93	735 16	143 59	449 38	Isaac Brayton.
3. Oswego	1823	...	11	...	...	16	10	11	1,499	4	15	27 00	431 48	354 48	62 49	135 67	Thomas A. Weed.
4. Utica	1842	...	46	3	8	33	53	42	2,929	15	34	125 05	1,202 29	1,229 44	1,120 58	857 89	Samuel W. Brace.
III. Synod of Geneva	1812	6	107	4	9	92	388	219	9,307	179	167	367 66	2,731 05	2,359 95	1,084 09	1,855 98	Benjamin M. Goldsmith.
1. Geneva	1805	...	37	3	7	17	167	74	2,499	83	60	94 51	779 11	952 77	493 24	727 04	Benjamin M. Goldsmith.
2. Bath	1817	...	17	...	...	17	45	24	1,305	17	27	54 82	292 25	138 25	16 00	.....	Stephen Vorhis.
3. Chemung	1836	...	18	...	...	20	54	48	1,879	18	35	61 50	277 06	364 11	145 69	381 25	Charles C. Carr.
4. Ithaca	1839	...	10	...	1	9	74	23	1,284	39	12	47 35	787 27	574 46	261 97	371 28	Lewis Kellogg.
5. Pennsylvania	1845	...	10	...	...	15	12	5	599	8	7	30 33	76 88	43 07	16 00	37 84	Samuel J. McCullough.
6. Lyons	1856	...	15	1	1	14	36	45	1,741	14	26	79 15	518 48	287 29	151 19	338 57	William N. McHarg.
IV. Synod of Onondaga	1855	4	76	16	13	71	344	177	8,017	148	175	288 52	3,104 72	3,420 53	2,687 70	1,968 70	Lewis H. Reid.
1. Onondaga	1810	...	21	...	...	23	117	49	2,514	44	58	101 92	984 13	993 86	792 93	560 97	Royal A. Avery.
2. Cayuga	1810	...	30	15	6	21	172	77	2,360	85	52	113 50	1,140 21	1,004 76	1,418 45	795 86	Charles Hawley.
3. Cortland	1825	...	13	1	7	17	37	34	1,793	14	29	44 00	523 48	617 64	101 19	227 82	Ova H. Seymour.
4. Tioga	1829	...	12	...	...	10	18	17	1,350	5	36	29 10	456 90	804 27	375 13	384 05	Samuel H. Hall.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	STATED CLERKS.
V. Synod of Susquehanna.	1853	3	41	1	9	49	202	80	4,204	72	66	$97 53	$987 79	$1,239 83	$412 05	$620 19	David Torrey.
1. Otsego	1820	...	13	...	2	16	102	31	1,575	31	13	43 38	289 50	266 95	55 00	179 00	Samuel W. Bush.
2. Chenango	1826	...	16	...	1	18	64	33	1,689	30	31	19 65	363 31	685 82	158 66	236 86	Willard M. Hoyt.
3. Delaware	1831	...	12	1	6	15	36	16	940	11	22	34 50	334 98	287 06	198 39	204 33	Julius S. Pattengill.
VI. Synod of Genesee	1821	6	121	9	3	104	214	457	12,602	101	220	517 19	5,369 64	5,968 81	3,279 04	5,829 65	Timothy Stillman, D. D.
1. Buffalo	1817	...	40	2	...	31	58	96	3,519	25	82	198 00	1,808 75	1,744 32	1,359 51	1,082 16	Timothy Stillman, D. D.
2. Ontario	1817	...	17	...	...	13	23	65	1,553	10	34	69 85	366 44	1,135 23	346 70	469 64	John Barnard, D. D.
3. Rochester	1819	...	23	3	...	16	29	188	2,718	11	38	136 25	977 82	1,182 42	464 31	3,155 90	Charles E. Furman.
4. Genesee	1819	...	15	1	...	15	47	42	1,393	31	23	19 10	1,282 73	481 50	424 99	278 16	Gabriel S. Corwin.
5. Niagara	1823	...	17	2	3	18	23	51	2,351	10	30	64 32	642 96	934 46	612 78	813 79	J. Jerome Ward.
6. Genesee Valley	1828	...	9	1	...	11	34	15	1,068	14	13	29 67	290 94	190 88	70 75	30 00	Isaac G. Ogden.
VII. S. of N. Y. and N. J.	1788	9	236	40	86	156	595	955	25,940	175	698	1,147 87	36,674 03	36,623 57	45,405 53	12,870 72	Obadiah N. Johnson.
1. Hudson	1797	...	14	...	1	13	11	41	1,589	5	25	87 00	269 80	272 83	136 97	329 15	Obadiah M. Johnson.
2. North River	1819	...	19	1	2	18	30	30	1,669	14	38	74 50	276 44	293 26	92 00	336 30	Sumner Mandeville.
3. Long Island	1791	...	9	...	2	6	10	3	691	4	20	35 00	119 50	171 25	220 25	110 25	Epher Whitaker.
4. New York, 3d	1831	...	60	20	43	23	188	265	6,256	42	214	312 80	16,731 70	11,529 62	22,480 21	3,105 58	Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D.
5. New York, 4th	1845	...	33	18	20	10	128	150	2,968	30	91	146 07	7,416 92	17,314 87	18,600 88	1,204 32	J. Parsons Hovey.
6. Brooklyn	1838	...	18	...	1	10	48	96	2,476	10	55	114 60	1,325 73	1,832 84	663 50	289 31	William S. Karr.
7. Newark	1824	...	37	1	8	21	71	160	5,142	15	152	265 00	9,441 58	3,844 25	2,441 07	6,779 31	Joseph Few Smith, D. D.
8. Rockaway	1839	...	22	...	1	21	57	165	2,521	33	42	82 00	517 00	808 00	357 00	675 00	Burtis C. Megie.
9. Montrose	1832	...	24	...	8	34	52	45	2,328	22	61	30 90	575 36	556 65	413 65	41 50	Adam Miller.
VIII. S. of Pennsylvania.	1838	5	95	4	35	84	600	309	12,962	179	436	479 05	16,184 53	7,023 58	6,284 33	12,951 21	William E. Moore.
1. Wilmington	1833	...	10	1	1	14	44	20	1,350	14	33	40 00	1,672 57	771 32	286 94	605 00	John W. Mears.
2. Philadelphia, 3d	1832	...	28	...	8	20	226	141	3,075	49	143	168 00	8,784 00	3,015 00	2,786 00	10,571 00	J. Glentworth Butler.
3. Philadelphia, 4th	1845	...	32	1	18	27	280	130	5,930	102	230	220 00	4,171 93	2,480 24	2,595 05	1,510 95	Thomas J. Shepherd.

4. Harrisburgh	1839	...	15	1	8	10	50	18	1,111	14	30	51 05	1,556 03	757 02	616 34	264 26	Conway P. Wing, D. D.
5. Dist. of Columbia*	1831	...	10	1	...	13	...	...	1,496	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	William McLain, D. D.
IX. Synod of West Penna.	1843	3	21	2	4	35	158	58	3,083	45	103	126 50	1,605 36	911 88	430 71	619 13	George A. Lyon, D. D.
1. Erie	1801	...	10	1	2	13	90	26	1,345	32	28	63 75	469 96	219 97	79 28	415 13	Joseph Vance.
2. Meadville	1842	...	6	...	1	16	54	11	969	12	22	19 50	133 20	27 69	111 00	69 00	Richard Craighead.
3. Pittsburgh	1839	...	5	1	1	6	14	21	769	1	53	43 25	1,002 20	664 22	240 43	135 00	Samuel M. Sparks.
X. Synod of Michigan	1834	9	96	7	23	105	439	363	8,354	134	248	342 34	3,553 18	3,076 16	1,749 90	1,556 71	William S. Huggins.
1. Detroit	1826	...	19	1	...	17	21	52	1,370	8	61	46 69	1,541 43	996 44	805 34	132 03	Eurotas P. Hastings, Esq.
2. Monroe	1833	...	14	1	6	16	66	52	1,166	23	47	57 00	700 50	405 12	409 00	296 60	Addison K. Strong.
3. Marshall	1838	...	13	...	1	15	35	57	1,217	14	20	42 83	297 19	96 10	67 37	137 69	Chester S. Armstrong.
4. Washtenaw	1838	...	12	5	12	9	50	27	1,324	16	31	49 57	146 79	383 07	217 60	250 74	Benjamin Franklin.
5. Kalamazoo	1838	...	11	...	...	13	30	69	1,111	11	25	46 85	471 24	792 06	112 96	396 25	Milton Bradley.
6. Cold Water	1856	...	8	...	...	12	93	44	937	27	13	37 16	108 30	114 02	25 00	135 33	Reuben S. Goodman.
7. Saginaw	1856	...	9	...	4	14	124	34	839	29	42	43 84	219 64	237 28	68 50	161 58	Henry H. Northrop.
8. Grand River Valley	1857	...	6	...	...	4	11	8	307	...	...	13 90	44 00	27 07	44 13	31 26	Courtney Smith.
9. Lake Superior	1857	...	4	...	...	5	9	20	83	6	9	4 50	24 09	25 00	.....	15 23	Cicero B. Stevens.
XI. Synod of W. Reserve.	1825	7	103	6	41	83	230	220	6,637	81	120	223 84	3,971 70	3,529 41	1,101 35	3,921 12	Xenophon Betts.
1. Grand River	1814	...	8	...	1	6	12	13	569	1	4	20 00	92 86	119 55	29 00	.....	Dexter Witter.
2. Portage	1818	...	17	4	16	8	3	15	678	...	15	7 16	234 05	145 47	100 25	1,208 40	Samuel Lee.
3. Huron	1823	...	15	...	1	15	92	28	1,190	38	27	61 50	440 77	448 69	148 74	141 53	Alfred Newton.
4. Trumbull	1827	...	14	...	6	13	26	17	1,155	6	25	41 30	354 35	336 04	81 01	247 08	Xenophon Betts.
5. Cleveland	1830	...	27	2	10	14	36	65	1,497	9	28	60 13	2,368 93	1,262 64	437 35	967 90	James Shaw.
6. Elyria	1842	...	14	...	2	14	31	39	822	17	7	.....	184 74	953 54	133 00	1,085 95	Ansel R. Clark.
7. Maumee	1842	...	8	...	5	13	30	43	726	10	14	33 75	296 00	263 48	172 00	270 26	Perry C. Baldwin.
XII. Synod of Ohio	1814	4	52	6	14	72	264	137	4,855	76	142	87 78	2,285 03	1,301 08	630 72	1,392 77	Addison Kingsbury, D. D.
1. Athens	1822	...	11	5	7	18	150	20	822	40	51	25 50	116 17	130 50	76 00	301 50	Charles C. Hart.
2. Pataskala	1809	...	17	...	...	25	36	44	1,808	16	39	13 28	660 86	622 62	164 47	76 45	Timothy W. Howe.
3. Franklin	1835	...	17	...	6	18	48	56	1,439	19	34	.....	261 37	309 30	69 45	49 50	Henry Shedd.
4. Scioto	1845	...	7	1	1	11	30	17	786	1	18	49 00	1,246 63	238 66	320 80	965 32	Joseph Chester.
XIII. S. of Cincinnati	1829	3	44	15	6	39	140	112	3,064	49	53	154 70	848 57	2,107 44	1,053 91	453 66	William M. Cheever.
1. Cincinnati	1828	...	25	9	6	17	47	60	1,615	7	30	70 15	564 47	859 33	709 41	140 66	George M. Maxwell.

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

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2. Dayton	1838	...	10	3	...	11	72	36	893	36	17	$45 05	$254 25	$988 67	$280 00	$270 00	E. Roger Johnson.
3. Hamilton	1846	...	9	3	...	11	21	16	556	6	6	39 50	29 85	259 44	64 50	43 00	John Hussey.
XIV. Synod of Indiana	1826	4	40	1	11	62	180	120	3,350	59	147	174 60	1,588 69	1,744 19	3,239 19	448 85	John M. Bishop.
1. Salem	1823	...	8	1	3	15	76	42	951	28	48	48 55	676 25	523 17	242 45	184 65	John M. Bishop.
2. Madison	1825	...	12	...	7	14	29	32	947	11	38	50 60	322 96	330 55	326 65	180 20	W. Wallace Atterbury.
3. Indianapolis	1830	...	12	...	1	18	30	26	803	10	24	43 00	391 18	657 84	2,545 09	71 00	Philip S. Cleland.
4. Green Castle	1850	...	8	...	...	15	45	20	649	10	37	32 45	198 30	232 63	125 00	13 00	Thomas S. Milligan.
XV. Synod of Wabash	1851	4	41	1	1	58	119	143	2,700	43	77	107 65	566 28	355 37	214 40	76 30	Francis S. McCabe.
1. Crawfordsville	1825	...	15	1	...	11	43	37	569	12	14	35 00	255 05	78 00	51 40	24 00	William N. Steele.
2. St. Joseph	1833	...	12	...	...	17	8	38	828	2	17	26 00	193 23	151 72	.....	.....	Norman Kellogg.
3. Logansport	1835	...	8	...	...	18	55	48	915	20	26	26 00	73 00	80 00	138 00	52 30	Francis S. McCabe.
4. Fort Wayne	1845	...	6	...	1	12	13	20	388	9	20	20 65	45 00	45 65	25 00	.....	John Fairchild.
XVI. Synod of Illinois	1831	4	66	1	3	90	293	176	4,298	91	157	184 50	3,126 50	474 70	971 45	668 91	Edward B. Olmsted.
1. Illinois	1828	...	18	1	1	20	21	14	1,171	10	10	50 00	568 00	101 00	.....	15 00	Cyrus L. Watson.
2. Schuyler	1833	...	16	...	...	20	156	48	1,115	49	59	53 55	355 50	184 00	230 45	247 05	George I. King.
3. Wabash	1833	...	7	...	...	11	24	42	349	1	25	14 35	90 30	71 00	5 00	91 90	Enoch Kingsbury.
4. Alton	1836	...	25	...	2	39	92	72	1,663	31	63	66 60	2,112 70	118 70	736 00	414 96	Cornelius H. Taylor.
XVII. Synod of Peoria	1843	6	89	...	18	78	332	344	4,723	53	207	222 77	7,831 17	2,511 23	1,075 85	1,513 25	Zephan. M. Humphrey.
1. Ottawa	1834	...	18	...	...	12	52	29	388	18	23	20 00	70 50	83 75	.....	.....	Nahum Gould.
2. Knox	1836	...	15	...	...	7	29	41	586	4	20	25 30	249 36	143 75	50 00	271 11	John W. Bailey.
3. Galena	1842	...	10	...	...	14	73	28	597	7	24	28 75	180 70	86 37	.....	.....	William J. Johnston.
4. Chicago	1847	...	27	...	8	21	124	177	1,855	14	88	84 12	7,068 06	1,943 57	993 35	1,041 89	Lewis H. Loss.
5. Belvidere	1847	...	10	...	10	9	23	29	800	5	18	39 75	111 50	206 04	10 00	136 00	Henry B. Holmes.
6. Bloomington	1857	...	9	...	...	15	31	40	497	5	34	24 85	151 05	47 75	22 50	64 25	James R. Dunn.

XVIII. S. of Wisconsin....	1857	3	28	1	...	37	87	34	1,524	18	22	69 25	456 24	78 59	122 00	9 00	William A. Niles.
1. Milwaukee.....	1851	...	10	...	...	10	48	20	694	15	...	32 15	388 33	58 59	100 00	8 25	William A. Niles.
2. Fox River.....	1851	...	9	...	...	12	30	10	396	3	20	16 40	37 00	.....	22 00	.....	John B. Preston.
3. Columbus.....	1856	...	9	1	...	15	9	4	434	...	2	20 70	30 91	20 00	.....	75	Benjamin G. Riley.
XIX. Synod of Iowa.....	1853	6	51	...	7	70	129	122	2,047	37	83	87 30	240 61	141 06	155 53	39 75	Peter S. Van Nest.
1. Des Moines.....	1845	...	7	...	...	11	19	25	227	1	13	11 35	29 80	11 00	.....	13 00	Thompson Bird.
2. Iowa City.....	1852	...	20	...	1	24	44	60	756	18	35	36 15	88 09	39 00	143 53	15 00	Isaac W. Atherton.
3. Keokuk.....	1852	...	8	...	6	9	15	8	382	1	16	19 25	47 22	10 06	12 00	11 75	Gamaliel C. Beaman.
4. Dubuque.....	1855	...	7	...	...	3	7	21	172	1	7	8 95	40 50	81 00	.....	.....	James H. Trowbridge.
5. Iowa Valley.....	1857	...	4	...	...	12	41	6	232	16	12	11 60	35 00	.....	.....	.....	Williston Jones.
6. Chariton.....	1860	...	5	...	...	11	3	2	278	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Asa Martin.
XX. S. of Minnesota.....	1858	3	20	1	1	18	29	49	558	7	38	27 85	103 75	168 97	29 00	8 70	Edward D. Neill.
1. Dakota.....	1846	...	9	1	...	6	6	5	151	3	16	7 55	21 75	99 97	14 00	8 70	Moses N. Adams.
2. Minnesota.....	1850	...	7	...	...	8	6	14	263	...	7	13 50	59 00	35 00	.....	.....	John Mattocks.
3. Winona.....	1857	...	4	...	1	4	17	30	144	4	15	6 80	23 00	34 00	15 00	.....	Edmund D. Holt.
XXI. Synod of Missouri...	1832	3	20	...	1	22	49	87	776	10	83	43 05	787 15	300 35	150 00	143 00	Henry A. Nelson, D. D.
1. St. Louis.....	1831	...	9	...	1	5	33	78	562	7	61	30 55	787 15	295 35	150 00	143 00	Edmund Wright.
2. Northern Missouri....	1845	...	7	...	...	4	16	9	214	3	22	12 50	.....	5 00	.....	.....	William W. Whipple.
3. Kansas*	1859	...	4	...	...	13	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Isaac C. Beach.
XXII. S. of A. California.	1857	3	16	...	...	11	17	21	381	3	48	12 75	90 00	42 50	10 00	30 00	Edward B. Walsworth.
1. San Francisco*	1849	...	7	...	...	4	...	...	123	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Samuel H. Willey.
2. Sierra Nevada.....	1857	...	3	...	...	4	6	10	154	1	34	6 65	75 00	42 50	.....	.....	Walter Frear.
3. San José.....	1857	...	6	...	...	3	11	11	104	2	14	6 10	15 00	.....	10 00	30 00	W. Wallace Brier.

SYNODS.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certificate.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.
1. Albany	1803	5	81	4	7	70	240	138	8,561	104	127	$248.72	$3,812.68	$4,224.01	$812.78	$2,428.41
2. Utica	1829	4	81	4	8	76	122	93	6,990	26	89	233.05	2,111.28	2,735.08	1,326.66	1,538.93
3. Geneva	1812	6	107	4	9	92	388	219	9,307	179	167	367.66	2,731.05	2,359.95	1,084.09	1,855.98
4. Onondaga	1855	4	76	16	13	71	344	177	8,017	148	175	288.52	3,104.72	3,420.53	2,687.70	1,968.70
5. Susquehanna	1853	3	41	1	9	49	202	80	4,204	72	66	97.53	987.79	1,239.83	412.05	620.19
6. Genesee	1821	6	121	9	3	104	214	457	12,602	101	220	517.19	5,369.64	5,968.81	3,279.04	5,829.65
7. New York and New Jersey	1788	9	236	40	86	156	595	955	25,940	175	698	1147.87	36,674.03	36,623.57	45,405.53	12,870.72
8. Pennsylvania	1838	5	95	4	35	84	600	309	12,962	179	436	479.05	16,184.53	7,023.58	6,284.33	12,951.21
9. West Pennsylvania	1843	3	21	2	4	35	158	58	3,083	45	103	126.50	1,605.36	911.88	430.71	619.13
10. Michigan	1834	9	96	7	23	105	439	363	8,354	134	248	342.34	3,553.18	3,076.16	1,749.90	1,556.71
11. Western Reserve	1825	7	101	6	41	83	230	220	6,637	81	120	223.84	3,971.70	3,529.41	1,101.35	3,921.12
12. Ohio	1814	4	52	6	14	72	264	137	4,855	76	142	87.78	2,285.03	1,301.08	630.72	1,392.77
13. Cincinnati	1829	3	44	15	6	39	140	112	3,064	49	53	154.70	848.57	2,107.44	1,053.91	453.66
14. Indiana	1826	4	40	1	11	62	180	120	3,350	59	147	174.60	1,588.69	1,744.19	3,239.19	448.85
15. Wabash	1851	4	41	1	1	58	119	143	2,700	43	77	107.65	566.28	355.37	214.40	76.30
16. Illinois	1831	4	66	1	3	90	293	176	4,298	91	157	184.50	3,126.50	474.70	971.45	668.91
17. Peoria	1843	6	89	...	18	78	332	344	4,723	53	207	222.77	7,831.17	2,511.23	1,075.85	1,513.25
18. Wisconsin	1857	3	28	1	...	37	87	34	1,524	18	22	69.25	456.24	78.59	122.00	9.60
19. Iowa	1853	6	51	...	7	70	129	122	2,047	37	83	87.30	240.61	141.06	155.53	39.75
20. Minnesota	1858	3	20	1	1	18	29	49	558	7	38	27.85	103.75	168.97	29.00	8.70
21. Missouri	1832	3	20	...	1	22	49	87	776	10	83	43.05	787.15	300.35	150.00	143.00
22. Alta California	1857	3	16	...	...	11	17	21	381	3	48	12.75	90.00	42.50	10.00	30.00
		104	1523	123	300	1482	5171	4414	134,933	1690	3506	$5244.47	$98,029.95	$80,338.29	$72,226.19	$50,944.94