MINUTES, 1864.

Dayton, Ohio, May 19th, 1864.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met, agreeably to appointment, in the Third street Presbyterian church, of the city of Dayton, Ohio, on Thursday, the 19th of May, 1864, at 11 o'clock A. M., and was opened with a sermon, by the Rev. Henry B. Smith, D. D., the Moderator of the last Assembly, from Ephesians 4:13: "Till we all come, in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ."

After the sermon, the Assembly was constituted with prayer.

Adjourned to meet at half-past three o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [448]

Thursday, May 19th, 3½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Stated Clerk announced to the Assembly, that information had been received from the Rev. Henry Darling, D. D., the Permanent Clerk, that he would not be present during the sessions of the Assembly.

The Rev. T. Ralston Smith, of the Presbytery of New York, Third, was elected Permanent Clerk *pro tempore*.

The report of the Committee on Commissions was presented by the Permanent Clerk, *pro tem.*, and the following persons were thereupon enrolled, as duly appointed Commissioners of this General Assembly:

I. SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Champlain*,	Andrew M. Millar,	Hascall D. Savage.
2. *Troy*,	Samuel M. Wood.	
3. *Albany*,	Philander Barbour,	Hon. F. H. Hastings.
4. *Columbia*,	John Whitney (2),	Leroy L. Brown (2).
5. *Catskill*,	Alexander O. Peloubet.	

II. SYNOD OF UTICA.

1. *St. Lawrence*,	Herman C. Riggs.	
2. *Watertown*,	Enos Wood,	Solon Massey.
3. *Oswego*,	Peter W. Emens,	J. Gilbert Benedict.
4. *Utica*,	Chester Fitch,	
	Timothy B. Jervis.	

III. SYNOD OF ONONDAGA.

1. *Onondaga*,	Sherman B. Canfield, D. D.,	Hon. James M. Monroe (2).
2. *Cayuga*,	Samuel W. Boardman,	Israel Parsons, M. D.,
	Tertius S. Clarke, D. D.,	James Henderson (4).
3. *Cortland*,	Huntington Lyman,	Cyrus Coy.
4. *Tioga*,	George N. Boardman.	

IV. SYNOD OF GENEVA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Geneva*,	William Atwood,	Theron Van Auken,
	Frederick Starr, Jr.,	William Herries.
2. *Steuben*,	Samuel A. Rawson.	
3. *Chemung*,	George C. Curtis, D. D.,	Simeon Benjamin.
4. *Ithaca*,	Corydon W. Higgins (2),	Dickson C. Hazen.
5. *Wellsborough*,	Samuel J. McCullough.	
6. *Lyons*,	Arunah H. Lilly,	Bailey D. Foster.

V. SYNOD OF SUSQUEHANNA.

1. *Otsego*,	J. Addison Priest,	Elias Child.
2. *Chenango*,	Samuel N. Robinson (3).	
3. *Delaware*,	Allen J. Buell,	Orrin S. Penfield. [449]

VI. SYNOD OF GENESEE.

1. *Buffalo*,	Chalon Burgess,	Horace Stillman,
	Edwin S. Wright, D. D.,	Abijah F. Taylor (2).
2. *Ontario*,	Joseph R. Page.	
3. *Rochester*,	James H. Phelps,	Harley N. Bushnell,
	Byron Bosworth,	David Dickey (5).
4. *Genesee*,	T. Morey Hodgman,	Andrew Thomson.
5. *Niagara*,	William G. Hubbard,	William H. Frost.
6. *Genesee Valley*,	Milton Waldo,	Kindell Wilder.

VII. SYNOD OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY.

1. *Hudson*,	Henry Osborn,	William Redfield.
2. *North River*,	William N. Sayre,	Isaac Smith.
3. *Long Island*,	Epher Whitaker (2),	Joseph Wells.
4. *New York, 3d*,	Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D.,	Charles Merrill,
	James G. Craighead,	Horatio A. Nelson,
	T. Ralston Smith,	Charles A. Davison.
5. *New York, 4th*,	Henry B. Smith, D. D.,	Marcus C. Riggs,
	Thomas S. Hastings,	Hermon Griffin,
	Howard Crosby, D. D.,	Tobias D. Lander.
6. *Brooklyn*,	Spencer Marsh,	William Churchill.
7. *Newark*,	J. Few Smith, D. D.,	Hon. Horace J. Poinier,
	Daniel W. Poor, D. D.,	William S. Morris.
8. *Rockaway*,	John M. Johnson.	
9. *Montrose*,	Charles S. Dunning,	James Leighton,
	Asahel L. Clark,	William Wright.

VIII. SYNOD OF PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Wilmington*,	J. Garland Hamner,	Edward T. Taylor.
2. *Philadelphia, 3d*,	J. Glentworth Butler,	George W. Simons,
	William E. Moore,	Samuel W. Butler, M. D.
3. *Philadelphia, 4th*,	Thomas Brainerd, D. D.,	John B. Stevenson,
	Elias J. Richards,	Samuel H. Perkins.
4. *Harrisburgh*,	Alexander D. Moore,	John A. Weir.
5. *Dist. of Columbia*,	Halsey Dunning (6),	David Bassett.

IX. SYNOD OF WEST PENNSYLVANIA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Erie*,	James F. Read, D. D.,	Rufus L. Perkins.
2. *Meadville*,	Richard Craighead,	Joseph Dickson.
3. *Pittsburgh*,	Samuel M. Sparks.	

X. SYNOD OF MICHIGAN.

1. *Detroit*,	Thomas Forster,	Jacob S. Farrand.
2. *Monroe*,	George Duffield, Jr.,	Hon. Charles Noble.
3. *Marshall*,	Evan L. Davies.	
4. *Washtenaw*,	Benjamin Franklin,	Peter C. Vreeland (3).
5. *Kalamazoo*,	William T. Bartle,	William C. Hayne.
6. *Coldwater*,	Gustavus L. Foster,	John Chandler.
7. *Saginaw*,	William C. Smith,	Hon. James Seymour.
8. *Gr. River Valley*,	Augustus Marsh,	John D. Bennett.
9. *Lake Superior.*		[450]

XI. SYNOD OF WESTERN RESERVE.

1. *Grand River.*		
2. *Huron*,	Samuel D. Smith,	Elijah Bemis.
3. *Trumbull*,	Xenophon Betts,	Peter Allen, M. D. (2).
4. *Cleveland and Portage.*	Henry L. Hitchcock, D. D., Joseph E. Tinker, John B. Allen,	Isaac L'Hommedieu.
5. *Elyria*,	Francis A. Wilbur,	Isaac L. Fisher.
6. *Maumee*,	Nathaniel T. Fay (2).	

XII. SYNOD OF OHIO.

1. *Athens*,	Henry C. Cheadle.	
2. *Pataskala*,	Addison Kingsbury, D. D.,	Charles Wallace (2).
3. *Franklin*,	Oren H. Newton,	Seth W. Case (4).
4. *Scioto*,	Eli P. Adams,	Joseph Riggs.

XIII. SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

1. *Cincinnati*,	D. Howe Allen, D. D., Osman A. Lyman,	Edward D. Mansfield.
2. *Ripley*,	John Rankin,	James Snedaker.
3. *Dayton*,	S. Granby Spees, D. D.,	Hon. Peter Odlin.
4. *Hamilton*,	Clement E. Babb,	Robert Erwin (2).

XIV. SYNOD OF INDIANA.

1. *Salem*,	Elisha Ballantine.	
2. *Madison*,	W. Wallace Atterbury.	
3. *Indianapolis*,	Arthur T. Rankin (3),	Jacob C. Adams (4).
4. *Green Castle*,	Henry A. Rosseter.	

XV. SYNOD OF WABASH.

1. *Crawfordsville*,	Samuel S. Thomson,	Isaac M. Coen (2).
2. *St. Joseph*,	Almon G. Martin.	
3. *Logansport*,	James A. Carnahan,	Samuel Favorite.
4. *Fort Wayne*,	Andrew D. Jack (2),	John N. Gossitt.

XVI. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Illinois*,	Morgan L. Wood,	Richard E. Wilder.
2. *Schuyler*,	Isaac T. Whittemore.	
3. *Wabash*,	Robert Rutherford,	Alexander McKinney.
4. *Alton*,	Edward B. Olmsted,	David E. Beatty,
	Charles H. Foote,	Frank A. Sabin, M. D. (2).

XVII. SYNOD OF PEORIA.

1. *Ottawa*,	Levi P. Crawford,	Joseph Baker (2).
2. *Knox*,	Edwards Marsh,	William A. Wood.
3. *Galena and Belvidere*,	Benjamin Folts,	Gilbert E. Collins,
	Eugene H. Avery,	Charles Williams.
4. *Chicago*,	Robert W. Patterson, D. D.,	Ebenezer Jenkins.
5. *Bloomington*,	John H. Dillingham,	Bernard Fowler. [451]

XVIII. SYNOD OF WISCONSIN.

1. *Milwaukee*,	Edmund F. Waldo.	
2. *Fox River*,	James Bassett,	John L. Millard.
3. *Columbus*,	Hiram H. Kellogg,	John B. Dwinnell (2).

XIX. SYNOD OF IOWA.

1. *Des Moines*,	Francis M. Dimmick.	
2. *Keokuk*,	Gamaliel C. Beaman.	
3. *Iowa City*,	Abner D. Chapman,	James G. Irwin (2).
4. *Dubuque*,	Samuel Newbury,	Bushnell K. Bronson (2).
5. *Chariton*,	John Fisher,	Charles H. Howell.
6. *Cedar Valley*,	John Glass.	

XX. SYNOD OF MINNESOTA.

1. *Dakota*,	Jacob E. Conrad.	
2. *Minnesota*,	Jesse L. Howell (2),	William S. Potts.
3. *Winona*,	Edmund D. Holt.	

XXI. SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

1. *St. Louis*,	Edmund Wright (2),	Edwin Barnard (2).
2. *Lexington*,	Timothy Morgan.	
3. *Northern Missouri*,	James J. Wilson (2).	
4. *Kansas*,	James V. A. Woods,	William S. Hibbard.

XXII. SYNOD OF ALTA CALIFORNIA.

1. *San Francisco.*
2. *Sierra Nevada.*
3. *San José.*
4. *Washoe.*

CORRESPONDING BODIES.

1. *General Assembly that met in Peoria, in* 1863,	Rev. Edward P. Humphrey, D. D.
2. *General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.*	

3. *General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church in North America,* Rev. Thomas E. Vermilye, D. D.
4. *General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America.*
5. *General Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States,* Rev. David Winters.
6. *General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States,* Rev. Samuel Sprecher, D. D. [452]
7. *General Conference of Maine.*
8. *General Association of New Hampshire.*
9. *General Convention of Vermont,* Rev. Alfred Stevens.
10. *General Association of Massachusetts.*
11. *General Association of Connecticut.*
12. *Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin.*
13. *Union of the Evangelical Churches in France.*

The Committee further reported, that the Rev. Eugene H. Avery, of the Presbytery of Galena and Belvidere, and Elder James Snedaker, of the Presbytery of Ripley, were present without Commissions; and their cases were referred to a *Committee on Elections*, consisting of the Rev. Sherman B. Canfield, D. D., and Mr. Samuel H. Perkins.

The Committee on Elections presently reported, that sufficient evidence had been laid before them of the election of the Rev. Eugene H. Avery and Mr. James Snedaker, and recommended that they be admitted as members of the Assembly.

The report was adopted, and their names were entered upon the Roll.

The Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Fourth, was elected Moderator, and inducted into office in the usual form.

The Rev. George Duffield, Jr., of the Presbytery of Monroe, and the Rev. Charles S. Dunning, of the Presbytery of Montrose, were chosen Temporary Clerks.

Resolved, That the Assembly hold its daily sessions from 8½ o'clock A. M., to 12 o'clock M.; and from 3 o'clock P. M., to 5½ o'clock P. M.; and that the first hour of the morning session be appropriated to devotional exercises, under the direction of the Moderator.

The docket of business was read by the Stated Clerk.

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

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 Stated Clerk; and

That it be made the first order of the day for to-morrow morning, after the announcement of the Standing Committees, to receive the Synodical Records, and the papers from the respective Presbyteries, as well as all other papers of an official character intended for the Assembly; and

That it be made the second order of the day to receive the annual reports of all the Permanent Committees, except the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, the time for which report is fixed for the third day of the sessions. [453]

Resolved, That a meeting for prayer in behalf of our country be held

this evening at 7¾ o'clock, and that Rev. Thornton A. Mills be requested to preside.

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

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 20th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

After the calling of the Roll the following additional Commissioners were reported, and their names were entered on the Roll:

James J. Wilson,	Minister,	from the Presbytery of	Northern Missouri.
Epher Whitaker,	"	"	Long Island.
Corydon W. Higgins,	"	"	Ithaca.
John Whitney.	"	"	Columbia.
Jesse L. Howell,	"	"	Minnesota.
Andrew D. Jack,	"	"	Fort Wayne.
Robert Erwin,	Elder,	"	Hamilton.
Hon. Jas. M. Monroe,	"	"	Onondaga.
Leroy L. Brown,	"	"	Columbia.
Charles Wallace,	"	"	Pataskala.
James G. Irwin,	"	"	Iowa City.
Isaac M. Coen,	"	"	Crawfordsville.
Bushnell K. Bronson,	"	"	Dubuque.
John B. Dwinnell,	"	"	Columbus.
Abijah F. Taylor,	"	"	Buffalo.
Frank A. Sabin, M. D.,	"	"	Alton.

Also, the Rev. Thomas E. Vermilye, D. D., Delegate from the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Moderator announced the following Standing Committees:

1. *Judicial Committee. Ministers*—D. Howe Allen, D. D., Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., Oren H. Newton. James F. Read, D. D., Samuel A. Rawson, James V. A. Woods. *Elders*—Hon. Charles Noble, Hon. Peter Odlin, Samuel H. Perkins, Marcus C. Riggs, Horace Stillman. [454]

2. *Bills and Overtures. Ministers*—Henry L. Hitchcock, D. D., Daniel W. Poor, D. D., Elisha Ballantine, Tertius S. Clarke. D. D., Samuel M. Sparks, Abner D. Chapman. *Elders*—Charles Williams, Charles A. Davison, Gilbert E. Collins, William S. Potts, John Chandler.

3. *Polity of the Church. Ministers*—Henry B. Smith, D. D., William E. Moore, John Rankin, Xenophon Betts, Thomas Forster, Jacob E. Conrad. *Elders*—Edward D. Mansfield, Israel Parsons, M. D., Samuel Favorite, Ebenezer Jenkins, Tobias D. Lander.

4. *Church Erection. Ministers*—J. Glentworth Butler, Philander Barbour, George N. Boardman, Charles H. Foote, Eli P. Adams, James G. Craighead. *Elders*—Hon. Horace J. Poinier, William Redfield, William C. Haynes, William A. Wood, Theron Van Auken.

5. *Home Missions. Ministers*—Robert W. Patterson, D. D., Addison Kingsbury, D. D., Howard Crosby, D. D., James A. Carnahan, Edmund D. Holt, William N. Sayre. *Elders*—Hon. Frederick H. Hastings. Edward T. Taylor, Hon. James Seymour, William Churchill, William S. Hibbard.

6. *Foreign Missions. Ministers*—Sherman B. Canfield. D. D., Richard Craighead, Edward B. Olmsted, T. Morey Hodgman, Francis A. Wilbur, Spencer Marsh. *Elders*—Horatio A. Nelson, Rufus L. Perkins, Samuel W. Butler, M. D., Bernard Fowler, Isaac L'Hommedieu.

7. *Education.* *Ministers*—J. Few Smith, D. D., Samuel S. Thomson, Gustavus L. Foster, Frederick Starr, Jr., William T. Bartle, James H. Phelps. *Elders*—Hascall D. Savage, Dickson C. Hazen, Charles H. Howell, Joseph Riggs, George W. Simons.

8. *Publication.* *Ministers*—George C. Curtis, D. D., Hiram H. Kellogg, Elias J. Richards, Edwin S. Wright, D. D., W. Wallace Atterbury, Samuel W. Boardman. *Elders*—Simeon Benjamin, John D. Bennett, Elias Child, James Snedaker, David E. Beatty. [455]

9. *Narrative.* *Ministers*—Thomas S. Hastings, J. Addison Priest, Evan L. Davies, J. Garland Hamner. *Elders*—William S. Morris, Elijah Bemis, John L. Millard.

10. *Leave of Absence.* *Ministers*—Joseph R. Page, Chester Fitch, Edmund F. Waldo, Osman A. Lyman. *Elders*—Joseph Wells, Alexander McKinney, Isaac L. Fisher.

11. *Devotional Exercises.* *Ministers*—S. Granby Spees, D. D., Henry Osborn, Andrew M. Millar, Isaac T. Whittemore. *Elders*—John B. Stevenson, Charles Merrill, John W. Gossitt.

12. *Mileage.* *Elders*—Jacob S. Farrand, Hermon Griffin, John A. Weir.

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

1. *Albany.* *Ministers*—John M. Johnson, Augustus Marsh, Francis A. Wilbur. *Elders*—James Leighton, Joseph Dixon.

2. *Utica.* *Ministers*—Samuel D. Smith, Samuel M. Wood, Henry C. Cheadle. *Elders*—Orrin S. Penfield, Cyrus Coy.

3. *Onondaga.* *Ministers*—Peter W. Emens, Andrew M. Millar, Samuel J. McCullough. *Elders*—Dickson C. Hazen, William H. Frost.

4. *Geneva.* *Ministers*—Francis M. Dimmick, Almon G. Martin, John B. Allen. *Elders*—Joseph Riggs, William C. Hayne.

5. *Susquehanna.* *Ministers*—Levi P. Crawford, Benjamin Franklin, Henry A. Rosseter. *Elders*—William Wright, Charles Merrill.

6. *Genesee.* *Ministers*—John H. Dillingham, James Bassett, William C. Smith. *Elders*—Edward T. Taylor, William S. Morris.

7. *New York and New Jersey.* *Ministers*—William E. Moore, Richard Craighead, Timothy Morgan. *Elders*—George W. Simons, Joseph Dixon.

8. *Pennsylvania.* *Ministers*—Howard Crosby, D. D., Asahel L. Clarke, Jacob E. Conrad. *Elders*—Hon. Horace J. Poinier, Joseph Wells.

9. *West Pennsylvania.* *Ministers*—Henry Osborn, Gamaliel C. Beaman, Arunah H. Lilly. *Elders*—Simeon Benjamin, Elias Child.

10. *Michigan.* *Ministers*—Xenophon Betts, Alexander D. Moore, Samuel S. Thomson. *Elders*—David E. Beatty, Gilbert E. Collins. [456]

11. *Western Reserve.* *Ministers*—Evan L. Davies, Huntington Lyman, Chalon Burgess. *Elders*—Harley N. Bushnell, Bailey D. Foster.

12. *Ohio.* *Ministers*—Chester Fitch, Frederick Starr, Jr., Samuel Newbury. *Elders*—William S. Potts, Charles H. Howell.

13. *Cincinnati.* *Ministers*—Gustavus L. Foster, Joseph E. Tinker, J. Addison Priest. *Elders*—Horace Stillman, Israel Parsons, M. D.

14. *Indiana.* *Ministers*—Charles S. Dunning, John M. Johnson, J. Garland Hamner. *Elders*—William Churchill, Isaac Smith.

15. *Wabash.* *Ministers*—Enos Wood, Samuel A. Rawson, Abner D. Chapman. *Elders*—William S. Hibbard, Alexander McKinney.

16. *Illinois.* *Ministers*—Allen J. Buell, Joseph R. Page, William G. Hubbard. *Elders*—Andrew Thompson, Kindell Wilder.

17. *Peoria.* *Ministers*—Milton Waldo, Byron Bosworth, Timothy B. Jervis. *Elders*—Solon Massey, Hascall D. Savage.

18. *Wisconsin.* *Ministers*—Edwin S. Wright, D. D., George N. Boardman, Herman C. Riggs. *Elders*—J. Gilbert Benedict, William Herries.

19. *Iowa.* *Ministers*—Philander Barbour, William T. Bartle, Oren H. Newton. *Elders*—Isaac L. Fisher, John D. Bennett.

20. *Minnesota.* *Ministers*—James H. Phelps, Augustus Marsh, Alexander O. Peloubet. *Elders*—John Chandler, Elijah Bemis.

21. *Missouri.* *Ministers*—William Atwood, Thomas Forster, Robert Rutherford. *Elders*—William A. Wood, John N. Gossitt.

22. *Alta California.* *Ministers*—Morgan L. Wood, Benjamin Folts, Edwards Marsh. *Elders*—Charles Williams, Bernard Fowler.

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

The Assembly proceeded to receive the Narratives, the Statistical Reports, and other papers of the Presbyteries, which were duly referred to the Standing Committees.

The annual reports of the Permanent Committees on Foreign Missions, Education for the Ministry, and Home Missions, were read, accepted, and referred to the appropriate Standing Committees.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [457]

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

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

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

Edmund Wright, Minister, from the Presbytery of St. Louis.
Edwin Barnard, Elder, " " "
Joseph Baker, " " " Ottawa.
Peter Allen, M. D., " " " Trumbull.

The annual reports of the Presbyterian Publication Committee, the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, and the Treasurer of the Presbyterian House, were read, accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee on Publication.

The annual report of the Treasurer of the General Assembly was read, and referred to Messrs. Edward D. Mansfield and Edward T. Taylor, as an *Auditing Committee.*

The same Committee were instructed to present a minute in respect to the decease of the late Treasurer, Anthony P. Halsey, Esq., and also to nominate his successor.

The Lafayette avenue Presbyterian church, in the city of Brooklyn, N. Y., was chosen as the place for the meeting of the next General Assembly.

A Committee, consisting of Rev. Howard Crosby, D. D., Rev. Daniel W. Poor, D. D., and Mr. William Churchill, were appointed, to nominate a Committee of Arrangements.

Resolved, That the subject of a revision of the topics, included in the Statistical Reports required from the churches, be referred to a *Committee* of five members, to report during the present sessions of the Assembly.

The Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., Rev. J. Glentworth Butler, Rev. Howard Crosby, D. D., Rev. Richard Craighead, and Rev. Augustus Marsh were appointed to this service.

The Rev. David Winters, a Delegate from the General Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States, appeared, and communicated a proposition for the opening of a correspondence with this newly organized body.

It was resolved that a correspondence be entered into with the General Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States, on the same basis on which we correspond with other ecclesiastical bodies.

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to prepare a minute in reference to the tercentenary of the decease of John Calvin.

Rev. Henry B. Smith, D. D., Rev. Robert W. Patterson, D. D., Rev. Henry L. Hitchcock, D. D., Rev. S. Granby Spees, D. D., and Rev. Clement E. Babb, were appointed to this service.

Reports were received from the Delegates appointed by the last Assembly to Corresponding Bodies: from the Rev. George E. Pierce, D. D., the Delegate to the General Association of Connecti[458]cut, from the Rev. Lewis H. Reid, the Delegate to the General Association of New Hampshire; from the Rev. Jotham Sewall, the Delegate to the General Conference of Maine; from the Rev. Beriah B. Hotchkin, the Delegate to the General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States; from the Rev. D. Hopkins Emerson, the Delegate to the Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States; from the Rev. William Sterling, the Delegate to the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America; from the Rev. Thomas H. Skinner, D. D., LL.D., the Delegate to the General Synod of the Protestant Reformed Dutch Church in North America; from the Rev. Albert Barnes, the Delegate to the General Association of Massachusetts; and from the Rev. Lyman Gilbert, the Delegate to the General Convention of Vermont.

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

The Rev. Nathaniel T. Fay, of the Presbytery of Maumee, appeared as a Commissioner to this Assembly without the usual credentials. His case was referred to the Committee on Elections, who presently reported that the evidence of his election was satisfactory, and recommending that he be admitted to a seat in the Assembly.

The report was adopted, and his name was entered upon the Roll.

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

They also reported, recommending that there be a public service in this church this evening at a quarter before 8 o'clock, and that the Rev. Sherman B. Canfield, D. D., be invited to preach; and recommending further, that on Monday evening next a meeting be held in this church, under the direction of the Moderator, in the interests of the United States Christian Commission.

The recommendations were adopted.

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

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 21st, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

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

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

Arthur T. Rankin, Minister, of the Presbytery of Indianapolis.
Samuel N. Robinson, " " " Chenango.
Peter C. Vreeland, Elder, " " Washtenaw. [459]

Also, Rev. Samuel Sprecher, D. D., Delegate from the General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States.

It was made the first order for Tuesday afternoon next, to receive the communications of Delegates from Corresponding Bodies.

Additional reports were received from the Delegates appointed by the last Assembly to Corresponding Bodies: from the Rev. Charles H. Foote, the Delegate to the General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church; and from the Rev. Robert W. Patterson, D. D., and Mr. William H. Brown, the Delegates to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church which met last year at Peoria.

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

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

The Special Committee appointed by the last Assembly, on the subject of Sabbath-schools, Sabbath services, and the relations of the sessions of the churches thereto, presented a report, which was accepted, and referred to a Special *Committee*, consisting of Rev. Daniel W. Poor, D. D., Rev. Edmund Wright, and Rev. Gamaliel C. Beaman.

The Committee to nominate a *Committee of Arrangements* for the next General Assembly recommended the appointment of the following persons: the Rev. Theodore L. Cuyler, the Hon. Edward A. Lambert, and Messrs. Gurdon Burchard, William W. Wickes, William Churchill, Walter S. Griffith, Henry Ide, and J. C. Halsey, M. D.

The report was adopted.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 1,—a memorial from the Presbyterian Historical Society, asking this Assembly to adopt such action, as may aid the Society in its present efforts to secure funds for the erection of a fire-proof building, for the preservation of its valuable collections, and for an endowment, the interest of which shall be applied to the general purposes of the library.

The Committee recommended the following action:

Resolved, That the Assembly regards with favor the objects of the Presbyterian Historical Society, and also its present efforts to secure funds for the erection of a suitable fire-proof building, for the safe preservation of its valuable collections, and for an endowment, and commends the Society to the confidence and favor of our people.

The report was adopted.

The Committee also reported Overture No. 2—asking what order should be taken in regard to those Presbyteries, which do not [460] adopt the Assembly's plan for the payment of the expenses of their Commissioners. The Committee recommended

That the Assembly earnestly reiterate the sentiments and recommendation of the last General Assembly, (Minutes, pp. 329, 330,) and urge them especially upon the attention and fraternal feelings of the older and larger Presbyteries. The strong should help the weak, otherwise the new and distant Presbyteries must be imperfectly and irregularly represented, and thus their connection with the Church becomes loose, nominal, and uncertain, instead of being that vital, mutually helpful, and permanent relation which it ought to be.

This principle of mutual help is carried much further in the Free Church of Scotland, where all the money contributed to the support of the ministry is thrown into a common fund, and thence disbursed to the different pastors. Thus they who gather much have nothing over, and they who gather little have no lack.

The report was adopted.

A *Committee*, consisting of the Rev. Howard Crosby, D. D., Rev. Daniel W. Poor, D. D., Rev. Robert W. Patterson. D. D., with Elders George W. Simons, and Edward D. Mansfield, were appointed to prepare a minute *on the state of the country.*

The Permanent Committee on Home Missions presented a special report, as directed by the last General Assembly, in regard to the expediency of publishing, in a popular form, information relating to the work specially committed to their care.

The report was accepted, and referred to a Special *Committee*, consisting of the Rev. William E. Moore, Rev. Addison Kingsbury, D. D., Rev. W. Wallace Atterbury, Rev. Charles H. Foote, Rev. Samuel W. Boardman, and Messrs. Simeon Benjamin, Hon. Horace J. Poinier, Hon. Charles Noble, and Charles A. Davison.

The Special Committee appointed by the last General Assembly to report on the subject of making provision for disabled ministers, and the families of ministers deceased, presented their report, which was accepted, and ordered to be placed on the docket.

A communication was received, by telegraph, from the General Assembly now in session at Newark, N. J., requesting this Assembly to unite with that body in spending the afternoon of Wednesday next in thanksgiving and prayer for our beloved country.

The request was unanimously acceded to, and the Stated Clerk directed to inform the Assembly at Newark, by telegraph, that this body will unite with them on Wednesday next, at 3 o'clock P. M.

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

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 23d, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour was occupied with devotional exercises. [461]

The further calling of the Roll was dispensed with, until the close of the sessions.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

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

Seth W. Case,	Elder,	from the Presbytery of	Franklin.
James Henderson,	"	"	Cayuga.
Jacob C. Adams,	"	"	Indianapolis.

A *Committee to nominate Delegates* to Corresponding Bodies was appointed, consisting of Rev. Tertius S. Clarke, D. D., Rev. James A. Carnahan, Rev. Thomas S. Hastings, Hon. James M. Monroe, and Mr. David Bassett.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church reported Overture No. 3, from the Presbytery of New York, Fourth, inquiring what shall be done, in making up the annual statistical reports, with those members whose place of residence is not known to the session.

Your Committee report: That, according to repeated declarations of previous Assemblies, (see pp. 41–3 of the "Digest,") such names cannot be stricken from the Roll. Each session, in making up its own report, is at liberty to state the number of such members. And this Committee recommend, that the question of providing an additional column for such cases in the statistical returns be referred to the Special Committee of this Assembly, which now has the subject of these tables in its charge.

The report was adopted.

The same Committee further reported Overture No. 2:

An application from the Presbytery of Cincinnati, that Presbyteries may

be authorized to receive for a time under their care churches in the slave-holding States, where we have no Presbyteries formed.

A similar case was submitted by the same Presbytery in 1859, (see "Minutes," pp. 16, 17, 18, and "Digest," p. 131.)* No further action is required.

The report was adopted.

The Committee further reported Overture No. 4, as follows:

A minister who has laid aside the active duties of the profession, and engaged in a secular calling, though he occasionally preaches and administers the ordinances, and attends meetings of Presbytery, wishes to be informed whether it is compatible with the discipline of our Church, for him to accept the office of ruling elder in the church where he resides.

Your Committee find that the question must, according to our Constitution, be answered in the negative. (See "Form of Government," Chap. XIII., sec. 2.)

The report was adopted.

A report was received from the Rev. John Sailor, the Delegate [462] appointed by the last General Assembly to the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin.

The report was accepted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes.

Resolved, That the subject of the relation of unemployed ministers to the churches among whom they reside, and whom they may be desired and are disposed to serve as ruling elders, be referred to a *Committee*, to consider and recommend what action can and ought to be taken by the Assembly for removing the constitutional restrictions which prevent the employment of such ministers in the service of the church as ruling elders; and report to the next Assembly.

Rev. Henry B. Smith, D. D., Rev. Daniel W. Poor, D. D., Rev. Edwin F, Hatfield, D. D., Rev. Thomas H. Skinner, D. D., and Rev. Samuel T. Spear, D. D., were appointed to this service.

The Rev. Thomas E. Vermilye, D. D., the Delegate from the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church in North America, addressed the Assembly, and the Moderator responded.

It was recommended, that the first week of January be observed as a week of prayer, with reference to the Conversion of the World; and that the last Thursday in February be devoted to the spiritual interests of students in our Colleges and other seminaries of learning.

The Stated Clerk reported, that he had notified the Presbyteries of the action of the last Assembly in relation to the "Church Psalmist," and that he had received a reply from only fifteen Presbyteries, a number too small to justify any general report.

The report was accepted.

Messrs. Marcus C. Riggs, Tobias D. Lander, and Charles A. Davison were appointed auditors of the Church Erection accounts for the ensuing year.

It was made the order for 5 o'clock this afternoon, to hear the Rev. Samuel Sprecher, D. D., the Delegate from the General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 23d, 3 *o'clock P. M.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

* Reprint, pp. 16, 17.

The Committee on Commissions reported that the Rev Edward P. Humphrey, D. D., the Delegate from the General Assembly which met last year at Peoria, was present, and his name was added to the Roll.

The Standing Committee on Foreign Missions presented their report, which, having been amended, was adopted, and is as follows: [463]

It is not for the sake of mere form, that the Standing Committee recommend the adoption of the report of the Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions. That document was prepared with evident and commendable diligence, accuracy, and zeal for the honor of Him who, having tasted death for every man, said to his disciples: "Go, teach all nations." Presenting facts and suggestions fitted at once to humble, encourage, and guide us, it deserves to be read and pondered by all the ministers, elders, and members of our branch of the Church of Christ.

Some things brought to view in the report merit special attention.

1. The urgent importance of a general and vigorous compliance with the recommendation of the General Assembly of 1863. That recommendation is expressed in a resolution which was adopted unanimously, and which, for convenience of reference, is here quoted:

"*Resolved*, That each Presbytery connected with the Assembly be earnestly requested to arrange, at their next meeting, for the thorough and systematic presentation of the claims of the cause of Foreign Missions to each of their churches, and, as far as possible, to every member thereof; and to appoint one of their ministers or elders as the presbyterial agent for Foreign Missions, whose duty it shall be to see that the cause is presented to each church; to report at each meeting of the Presbytery; and also to report annually to the Permanent Committee of the Assembly what each church has done for the cause during the year; and that the Stated Clerk of each Presbytery be requested to furnish, to the Permanent Committee, the name of the minister or elder, who shall be appointed the presbyterial agent for Foreign Missions."

Nothing has transpired during the past year to show that this action was not eminently wise. So far as the Standing Committee can see, it was as likely to meet with a cordial and practical response as any action, either then or now possible, on the part of the Assembly; and, thoroughly carried out by the Presbyteries, it would accomplish many exceedingly desirable results. It would greatly increase the amount of contributions, and stir up in many hearts a more fervent spirit of prayer for the conversion of the world to Christ. It would remind not a few of their stewardship to God, and their obligation to manifest their gratitude for the light of the Gospel, by imparting it to those who sit in the region and shadow of death. It would diffuse much valuable information on the progress of Christ's kingdom in the world, and thus awaken interest and hope by turning attention to the promises of the Lord and the signs of the times.

It would show the efficiency of the voluntary principle in the work of Christianization both at home and abroad, and would develop the energy, and illustrate the peculiar adaptation, of the presbyterial system for that work.

The report of that action gave joy to our missionaries. It was an encouraging sign of spiritual growth in our churches; and seem[464]ed to promise a large increase of sympathy, between us and those whom we have sent forth to the labors and trials of preaching Christ to the dark-minded and degraded.

2. The second thing in that report deserving our serious attention, is the partial, not to say general, failure of the Presbyteries, suitably to respond to

the Assembly's earnest request That failure has not probably been so general, as the lack of reports from the Presbyteries might seem to indicate. There is reason to believe that many of those bodies have taken some action on the subject, and intended to do more, and yet have fallen short of a full performance of the work recommended.

Since the last report there has been an increase of thirty-four in the number of contributing churches, and of $10,000 in the amount contributed.

Yet it is painfully manifest, that far less has been accomplished than might reasonably have been expected. The failure referred to cannot be justified on the ground, that many things in the state of our country have tended to withdraw attention from Foreign Missions, and to divert contributions to objects at home. Our Lord's command, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature," is neither repealed nor suspended. The maxim or excuse, *Inter arma leges silent*, cannot reach the grand law of Missions. The work of evangelizing the heathen is pre-eminently a work of faith. It is performed with trust in Him to whom there are no insurmountable obstacles, and who is able to bless his people in all obedience. It was when the British people were amid the perils and under the heavy burdens of their long war with revolutionary France, that the Lord caused the spirit of missionary enterprise and liberality to spread more and more among them; and it was when our nation was entering upon its second trial of arms against England, that the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions was ushered into the world, and made to grow in the affections of Christians.

The voice of the Lord, bidding us abound in his work, the wail of more than six hundred millions of souls on their way to the judgment without the Gospel; aye, and the entreaties also of our missionaries, ought to be heard above all the din and roar of our civil war. During the three years of our struggle with a rebellion born of slavery, these missionaries have evinced an intense interest in the success of our government, and in the overthrow of that system of iniquity which has been not only a source of peril to our country, but a stumbling-block to the heathen. We have had their prayers, their contributions to relieve our sick and wounded soldiers, and, in several instances, their sons to help us fight our battles. When such servants of the Lord remind us of the door of access to the heathen—wide as the world—and when we see them laboring in some of the most fruitful and hopeful parts of the great field, under the auspices of that Board with which our relations continue to be so harmonious, shall we be deaf to their request for more men and ampler means to shed the light of saving knowledge? [465] At a time when we are a spectacle to the whole world, our example of munificence toward many other worthy objects ought not to be marred by a defect of liberality towards this cause, so noble in its philanthropy, and so dear to Him who holds all the interests of our country in His hand. Our great need as a nation is not of more money, nor of more men. Our physical resources are abundant. What we should seek above all things else is the favor of God, and the righteousness which exalteth a nation. Now the spirit of Missions is a vitalizing spirit to those sentiments and principles, which are essential to prepare us to solve aright some of the most difficult problems growing out of our present struggle. To view all men, of whatever race, or color, or present condition, from the stand-point of the Cross and of a common salvation, would strongly tend to raise the Church and the nation to that high moral level to which our safety requires us to ascend.

The Committee recommend the passage of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the Commissioners to this General Assembly be earnestly requested, at the next meeting of their respective Presbyteries, to call particular attention to this great cause, with the view of securing a thorough compliance with the recommendation of the last Assembly.

Resolved, That it be recommended to all our ministers to magnify this cause in their ministrations, and to co-operate with the presbyterial agent by exchanges, and in such other ways as they shall find practicable, in order to have it presented to all our churches.

Resolved, That, on account of the unexpected increase in the cost of exchange, whereby one dollar contributed here amounts to only sixty cents in the currency of the world when sent abroad, all of our churches who can do so, be earnestly requested to add forty per cent. to their contributions of last year; and, if their contributions have already been made, that the Assembly suggest to them to take up an extra collection to meet the difference of exchange, as a part of our war burden, that we may do what we can to keep the Board from closing its current financial year in debt.

The term of service of Asa D. Smith, D. D., Alfred E. Campbell, D. D., James W. McLane, D. D., Rev. John McLeod, and Jesse W. Benedict, Esq., as members of the Permanent Committee expires at this time, and by the death of J. Parsons Hovey, D. D., a vacancy has occurred in the class whose term of service expires in 1865. The Committee recommend the election of Alfred E. Campbell, D. D., Rev. John McLeod, Rev. R. Russell Booth, Jesse W. Benedict, Esq., and Mr. William Churchill, to serve three years; and Rev. T. Ralston Smith, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of the Rev. J. Parsons Hovey, D. D.

The Committee on the State of the Country presented their report, which was unanimously adopted (the whole Assembly rising in expression of their approbation,) and is as follows: [466]

Whereas, The iniquitous rebellion, prompted by reckless ambition in the defense and furtherance of human slavery, continues to lift itself against the liberal and legitimate Government of the United States; and

Whereas, Such rebellion not only violates the sacred principle of obedience to the authorities ordained of God, but also directly advocates the hindrance of the free progress of God's Holy Word, and thus, as Anti-Christ, opposes itself to the truth; and,

Whereas, Its aiders and abettors are responsible for the sea of blood that has been shed, through their resistance to the righteous efforts of the Government to save the life and integrity of the nation; and,

Whereas, It becomes the Church of Christ to utter no uncertain voice in regard to a grand public fact—so intimately and essentially associated with its interests; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That this General Assembly heartily re-affirms the principles, and renews the declarations, of previous General Assemblies, so far as applicable to the present aspect of public affairs.

Resolved, 2. That we recognize clearly the good hand of our God in all the victories of the national arms, whereby the limits of the rebellion have been contracted, and its vitality impaired; and we look humbly and confidently to the same Divine source for further success, until the cause of the nation shall be vindicated and peace established on the grave of treason.

Resolved, 3. That we also recognize the same good hand of our God in the disappointments and delays of the war, by which he has made more sure the complete destruction of the vile system of human bondage, and rendered less self-confident and more religious the heart of the nation.

Resolved, 4. That, in such recognition and hope, we do by no means lose sight of our national and individual sins, which render us so utterly unworthy of the Divine favor, but confess them with penitent hearts, and trust to a covenant God in Christ Jesus, that this unworthiness will not hinder the might of God's grace in behalf of the cause of right and order.

Resolved, 5. That we exhort all our churches to renewed zeal and faithfulness in supplication to God for the deliverance of the land, and the prosperity of Christ's kingdom, through the blessings of national peace and fraternity.

Resolved, 6. That we cordially uphold the Government with our sympathies and prayers in its energetic efforts for the suppression of this most causeless and cruel rebellion; and urge all Christians to refrain from weakening the authority of the Administration by ill-timed complaints and unnecessary criticisms, fully believing that, in such a crisis, all speech and action which tend to difference should be studiously avoided for the sake of the common weal.

Resolved, 7. That a copy of these resolutions, duly authenticated, be transmitted to the President of the United States. [467]

Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., Rev. Howard Crosby, D. D., Rev. Robert W. Patterson, D. D., Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., with Messrs. Samuel H. Perkins and Walter S. Griffith, were appointed a *Committee* to present this action of the Assembly *to the President* of the United States.

Resolved, That the pastors of the churches be requested to read the same to their congregations.

The following resolution was presented, and referred to the Standing Committee on Home Missions:

Resolved, That the Standing Committee on Home Missions be directed to inquire as to the necessity and expediency of the General Assembly's adopting some specific arrangements, whereby the institutions of the Gospel may be given to the large and increasing number of freedmen, who have been emancipated during the present civil war.

The Rev. Samuel Sprecher, D. D., the Delegate from the General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States, addressed the Assembly, and the Moderator responded.

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

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 24th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioner presented his credentials, and his name was added to the Roll:

David Dickey, Elder, from the Presbytery of Rochester.

Resolved, That a *Committee* of nine be appointed to take into consideration the expediency of revising the list of ecclesiastical bodies with which the General Assembly is in *Correspondence*, and of discontinuing the custom of paying the expenses of our Delegates, and to recommend such changes, if any, as in their judgment may appear desirable for the Assembly to inaugurate.

The Rev. Robert W. Patterson, D. D., Rev. Howard Crosby, D. D., Rev. Joseph R. Page, Rev. Gustavus L. Foster, Rev. Timothy B. Jervis, and Messrs. John A. Weir, James G. Irwin, Horace Stillman, and Isaac L'Hommedieu were appointed to serve on this Committee.

At the request of the Mileage Committee, the time for the presentation

of the bills of the Commissioners, and the payment of funds, was extended to the close of the present day.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 3, a memorial of the Synod of Michigan on Sabbath-Schools; [468]

And recommended that it be referred to the Special Committee to which was referred the report on the same subjects presented at this meeting by a Committee appointed by the last Assembly.

Also Overture No. 4, on the same subject, from the Presbytery of Otsego;

And recommended that it be referred to the Special Committee on the revision of the Statistical Tables.

Also Overture No. 5, on a periodical, from the Presbytery of Chicago;

And recommended that no further action be taken, inasmuch as the subject is before the Assembly by report from a Committee of the last Assembly.

The report was adopted.

The Standing Committee on Education presented their report, as follows:

The Standing Committee on Education respectfully present to the General Assembly the following report:

The annual report of the Permanent Committee on Education, with the accompanying statements from our Theological Seminaries, presents a condition of the Education cause in our Church highly gratifying, and calling for thankfulness to God.

The Assembly's Plan is now fairly in operation; and by its great success in organizing the work in all parts of the Church, and developing the interests of the Church into activity for the furtherance of this cause, it commends itself to the high estimation and confidence of the Assembly.

In view, however, of the fact, that so large a number of churches have failed to make an annual collection for this object, it is evident that there is still need to urge upon the Presbyteries, the importance of carrying out with energy the provisions of the Plan, and securing a hearing for this cause annually, by each of the congregations in connection with us. This is of high importance, not only for procuring the funds necessary for the effective carrying forward of our Educational work, but still more for keeping the mind and heart of the Church alive and earnest in it.

It is gratifying to learn, from the report of the Committee, that they have been able to meet all the demands upon their treasury, giving the young men the full amount of their allowed appropriation, and to reach the close of the year with a balance on hand, prepared to meet the wants of the coming year.

There is also abundant occasion for gratification in the highly prosperous financial condition of our Seminaries. And we notice, with peculiar satisfaction, numerous liberal donations to them, for the endowment of scholarships, the erection or improvement of buildings, the removal of debts, and the enlargement of their facilities for usefulness—examples of intelligent generosity worthy of imitation. The Lord seems to have smiled very benignantly on all the efforts of the General Assembly to place its several evangelizing institutions in working order; and we may congrat[469]ulate ourselves that, as respects the men, and the means, and the organizations, we possess, as a denomination, ample and admirable equipment for the great work committed to us.

The report, however, informs us that the number of students has been smaller than in former years. While there is an evident cause for this, in the fact that many of our promising young men, constrained by a sense of duty, have devoted themselves to the service of the country in connection

with the army, and while we give them our hearty approbation, and deem theirs a noble and appropriate sacrifice, the question may yet be asked with some solicitude, Are our churches doing what they may to call out the young men fitted for the ministry, and induce them to consecrate themselves to this sacred work?

A full supply of suitable candidates for the ministry is now a prominent demand upon the Church. All the questions and objections, based upon the number of unemployed ministers and the difficulties of obtaining settlements, vanish before the right view of Christ's arrangement for spreading his Gospel; before his direction to pray that laborers may be sent forth into the great harvest; before the well-considered facts in the case; and especially before the clear indications that, when this fearful war, in which our nation is struggling into a nobler life than she has before known, shall have passed away, there will be a louder call and a wider field for ministers and missionary work, than the Church has yet had presented to her. She must take large views of this work; and while filling her mouth with arguments to address to the Lord of the harvest, must seek to have her heart filled with the grandeur and importance of it. The great idea of entire consecration to God must take complete possession of her, and be a practical power in her living. Household consecration, basing itself with vital, loving faith on God's everlasting covenant with his people, should be an influential principle, and a spiritual habit to her. Let all her children be sacredly set apart for God, to be trained for him to serve him in whatsoever sphere he may appoint. Let faith and prayer seek to secure their early conversion by his grace. Let the Church go back to her ancient faith in this respect; a faith she has never lost, but of whose quickened energy there are encouraging evidences in the increased attention to the religious training of children, and hopeful indications of their conversion. And let the ministry, as a sphere of service for God of unequalled importance and desirableness, be made a prominent theme in the pulpit, in the prayer-meeting, in the family circle, and in the hearts of parents. In addition to general consecration to God, let parents see whether it may not be their privilege and duty to give their children to the ministry; and let it be brought, in a judicious and faithful manner, before the minds of children, so as to lead them to ask earnestly of the Lord what he would have them do. Let the Church be thus persuaded of the high value of the ministry of the Gospel, and its essential importance to her own perpetuity and extension, for Christ's glory, in the sal[470]vation of souls. And let the children of the Church be thus educated for God, and taught to look upon the ministry as a noble and attractive sphere of duty, having prime claims upon them; and the want of ministers, enlarge as it will, will be fully and constantly supplied.

And, what is equally important, we shall thus educate a ministry of the best kind—a ministry devoted to God, inspired with the love of Christ, filled and ruled by the Holy Ghost. In former years, the Education cause has labored under the imputation of bringing into the ministry men not adapted to the work, and of being simply a means of helping those who could not, or would not, help themselves. That imputation, if ever just, is no longer so. The Education Plan of our Assembly is not a charity, nor simply a way of aiding indigent young men into the ministry. It is an agency of the Church for inculcating right views of the nature of the ministerial work, and of calling to that work those who are fitted for it. Its province is to enlighten the mind and stir the conscience of the Church, so that parents and sons in all classes of life may feel God's claims upon them, and may not turn aside to any other sphere of service, however lucrative or pleasing,

without carefully considering whether the young men shall not give themselves up to this holy ministry. While, with a due sense of obligation, it aims to assist those who struggle manfully amid difficulties to obtain a fitting preparation for the ministry, it seeks also to call out, for this work, those whose more fortunate circumstances enable them to dispense with such assistance. It will help the needy, and it presents Christ's claims to the rich. It aims to secure men for the ministry, men of right ability and right spirit; and to put them in the way of the best training, whether they need pecuniary assistance or not.

A church deeply moved by love to Christ, and rightly estimating this work, will furnish such men. The Master will walk among her families, and will say to her sons, with a voice to which they will respond with joyful obedience: "Go, preach my Gospel."

It has seemed to your Committee desirable, in view of the increased prices of all the necessaries of life, that the Permanent Committee should be authorized temporarily to increase the amount of appropriations to those who receive the benefit of its funds; and a resolution to that effect is herewith submitted. The authority is limited to the present year, because the difficulty, it is hoped, will be but temporary, and it is not desirable to disturb the permanent rules of the Plan.

The report of the Permanent Committee shows a balance in the hands of the Treasurer of $3320.86. This is the accumulation of two years, and marks the success with which the Plan is working; at the same time that it results from the diminution of the number of applicants for aid. It is to be hoped and expected that coming years will furnish a larger number of applicants; while we are also to look for a still larger amount of contributions from the churches, numbers of which have yet contributed nothing; and to expect that each year [471] will furnish the means with which to supply its own demands. Your Committee would suggest, that the Permanent Committee be empowered to invest, in permanent scholarships, such amounts as may remain after the appropriations and expenses of each year have been paid. There will thus be secured a permanent and increasing fund, to meet any exigencies that may arise from financial revulsions or other causes; while there will be a just ground and abundant occasion for the annual presentation of the cause to all the churches.

In conclusion, your Committee would recommend to the General Assembly the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That this Assembly finds renewed occasion for confidence in the wisdom and efficiency of the Plan of Education, as managed by the Assembly's Permanent Committee, and for commending it to the cordial regard of the churches.

Resolved, 2. That the Assembly would hereby urge upon the Presbyteries a careful observance of the rules of the Plan, and persistent efforts to secure the sympathy and energetic co-operation of all the churches in its behalf; and would also express its sense of the importance of giving to the cause of the Christian ministry a prominence in the pulpit, and in other departments of church life and action.

Resolved, 3. That the Assembly would impress upon the Presbyteries the need of great carefulness in their examination of candidates for the aid of this fund, in respect especially to their intellectual qualifications, the earnestness and spirituality of their piety, and their aptness to teach according to the injunction of the Holy Spirit.

Resolved, 4. That the Assembly has heard with much satisfaction the statements of the condition of Auburn, Lane, and Union Theological Sem-

inaries; and commends these institutions to the love, esteem, and still farther liberal benefactions of the churches.

Resolved, 5. That, in view of the present high prices of all articles, the Permanent Committee are hereby authorized to increase the appropriations for the present year, at their discretion, to an amount not exceeding twenty per cent. additional to each appropriation.

Resolved, 6. That the Permanent Committee are hereby empowered to invest in good securities, for permanent scholarships, from time to time, such sums as may remain in their hands, after their regular appropriations and necessary expenses have been paid.

Your Committee would also recommend the following persons for election as members of the Permanent Committee, to supply the places of those whose term of office expires at this time, namely: Rev. James P. Wilson, D. D., Rev. R. Russell Booth, Rev. Charles S. Robinson, Rev. J. Glentworth Butler, and Mr. Fisher Howe.

Pending the consideration of the report, a written communication was received from the General Assembly in session at Newark, [472] N. J., conveying more fully the information received by telegraph on the twenty-first instant, that, in view of the condition of our country, they had resolved to spend Wednesday afternoon of this week in thanksgiving to Almighty God for past mercies, and in prayer for his continued blessing upon our country; with a request that this Assembly would unite with them at the same time in the same object.

Thereupon it was resolved to comply with the request, and that the Stated Clerk be instructed to communicate this action to the Moderator of the General Assembly at Newark, N. J., with an assurance of our hearty sympathy with them, in thus commending the case of our beloved country to the favorable regard of the God of our fathers, the Great Head of the Church—both theirs and ours.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

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

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Judicial Committee reported a memorial from the Synod of Onondaga, in relation to the action of the last General Assembly in the case of the complaint of Mr. S. Edwards Todd against certain decisions of that Synod.

In examining this case, the Committee find, first, that the history of the case is briefly this: Mr. S. E. Todd was tried by the Congregational church of Genoa on certain charges, and suspended from the privileges of the church. Mr. Todd entered a complaint against this action before the Presbytery of Cayuga, to the effect that it was grossly irregular, unjust, and unconstitutional. The Presbytery sustained the complaint, but adopted no minute as to the effect of their action in regard to the proceedings complained of. Messrs. William Robinson and Esbon Lyon then carried the case to the Synod, by complaint against the action of the Presbytery, as being unconstitutional; especially in that it was secured by the vote of the Moderator, when he had no right to vote, and for other reasons which it is not necessary here to repeat.

The Synod, by nearly a unanimous vote, sustained the complaint and censured the Presbytery; and then, as they should have done, put upon their records a minute as to the effect of this action upon the proceedings below,

namely, that it necessarily annulled the action of the Presbytery, and left that of the church untouched; or, in the language of the Book adopted by the Synod, reversed that of the Presbytery and affirmed that of the church.

The case came before the Assembly of 1863 by complaint of Mr. S. E. Todd against the action of the Synod. We have not this complaint before us; but infer, from the documents that we have, that the complaint was, that the Synod ought to have remanded the case to the Presbytery; but that, instead of doing so, they reviewed and decided the whole case. The action of the last As[473]sembly is found on pages 277–280* of their Minutes. The Judicial Committee found that the forms required by our Book in cases of complaint had not been observed; and yet, deeming that, according to the spirit of the Book, the complaint was properly before the Assembly, proceeded to present their findings in the case, and to recommend that it be remanded to the Synod, with instructions to remand it to the Presbytery. Their report was adopted.

When the action of the Assembly came before the Synod of Onondaga, it was referred to a Special Committee, who brought in the following report and resolution:

"Your Committee, to whom was referred the minute of the General Assembly relating to the case of S. Edwards Todd, report:

"That the General Assembly, at the request of Mr. Todd, at its last meeting, revised the proceedings of the Synod of Onondaga, in the matter of a complaint from the Presbytery of Cayuga, and virtually condemned the said Synod, without allowing it a trial in due form, and without allowing it any adequate means of defence.

"The irregularities of the General Assembly were the following, namely:

"1. It was irregular to entertain the case, because it did not come up in the regular order, no notice having been given the Synod, through the Moderator, that it was to go to the Assembly. (See Book of Discipline, Chap. VII., sec. 3, § v.)

"2. It was irregular, because the case was not put into the hands of the Clerk of the Assembly before the close of the second day's session. (See Book, Chap. VII., sec. 3, § vii.)

"3. It was irregular to entertain the case, when the complainant did not appear, either in person or by counsel. (See Digest, pp. 212, 214, 215.)

"4. It was irregular for the Assembly to act upon the case on the statements of the Judicial Committee, without hearing the testimony or the record. (See Book, Appendix, Rule 40. Also, Chap. VII., sec. 3, § viii., ix. Also, Chap. VII., sec. 4, § iv., v.)

"The accusations brought against the Synod by the General Assembly are the following:

"1. Irregularity in the prosecution of the case.

"2. Recording a judgment, reversing a decision of the Presbytery of Cayuga, and affirming a decision of the church in Genoa, without assigning any reason whatever.

"3. Failing to comply with a requirement of the Book of Discipline, in not remitting to the Presbytery of Cayuga, for a new trial, the matter in which a decision of said Presbytery had been reversed.

"This accusation is supported by a reference to the Book of Discipline, Chap. VII., sec. 2, § i.–vii.

"Your Committee have investigated these accusations, and report that they find each of them unfounded.

*Reprint, p. 242.

"1. That of irregularity.

"The records of the Synod show, that the prosecution of the [474] case in question came before the Synod through the proper Committee; that all the testimony relating to the case was patiently examined; that the original parties were heard; that the members of the Presbytery were also allowed to explain their votes, and that every step prescribed in the Book of Discipline was scrupulously adhered to.

"2. Recording a judgment without giving any reason, etc.

"This accusation your Committee find to be unfounded. The Synod has given a reason for reversing the decision of the Presbytery of Cayuga. It is found in the decision of Synod, in the paragraph marked 'first,' and was read before the General Assembly.

"It was in evidence before the Synod, that, when the question was taken before the Presbytery on the complaint of Mr. Todd, there were seven votes for sustaining, including the vote of the Moderator, and seven for not sustaining. The complaint was therefore lost by one majority, or by a tie, and the statement is copied into the Minute of the General Assembly.

"Moreover, the Synod had at its command and on record reason for affirming the decision of the church in Genoa, which was also additional reason for reversing the decision of the Presbytery of Cayuga. The reason is contained in the testimony before the church of Genoa, on the trial of Mr. Todd, to which the Synod listened, and to which its Minutes refer.

"This testimony the Synod would have brought before the General Assembly, if its Moderator had been notified that a complaint was to be made, in accordance with the requirement of the Book of Discipline.

"3. Failure to comply with the requirement of the Book, etc.

"The Synod is referred, in support of this position of the General Assembly, to Chap. VII., sec 2, § i.–vii.

"But sec. 2, of Chap. VII., relates to References, while the Todd case came before the Synod by complaint. But, even in the paragraphs referred to, a decision and not a remittance of the case is advised; while the section relating to complaints says expressly, (Chap. VII., sec. 4, § v.,) that 'a complaint brings the whole proceedings of the case under the review of the superior judicatory, and may have the effect,' etc., 'of reversing the judgment complained of, and placing matters in the same situation in which they were before the judgment was pronounced.'

"In view of the foregoing statement, the Synod resolves:

"1. That, while affirming its allegiance to the ecclesiastical authority of the General Assembly, the Synod cannot withhold its regret that action so unjust and unconstitutional should have been had in the case referred to.

"2. That, with the foregoing statement of facts in the case, the Synod respectfully refer it for consideration to the next General Assembly.

"3. That the Commissioners to the next General Assembly from the constituting Presbyteries of this Synod be requested to secure, if possible, a reversal of the action referred to. [475]

"The report of the Committee, as thus amended, was then adopted."

2. In view of the whole case, your Committee further find, that the last Assembly seem to have acted without such a knowledge of all the facts of the case, as a regular presentation of the complaint and the Records would have given them; and that, therefore, the case is one which justifies the action of this Assembly in relief of the Synod.

3. Your Committee further find, that the action of the Synod was scrupulously conformed to the requirements of our Book.

They had the right to send the case back to the Presbytery, or to review

the whole of it, according to their discretion. It is not for this court to decide which would have been the wiser course. The Synod judge it best to review the whole case, and their discretion is not a matter of review by this body.

Your Committee, therefore, recommend:

That the requisition of the last Assembly on the Synod of Onondaga be rescinded, and that the case be dismissed.

While the Committee come to this conclusion, they feel constrained also to express decidedly their disapproval of the language of the Synod, pronouncing the action of the Assembly "unjust and unconstitutional."

The report was adopted.

The Judicial Committee further reported Case No. 2, being the appeal of Mrs. Maria Hill from the action of the Synod of Albany.

The Committee find the papers in order, and recommend that the case be taken up in the following order:

1. Hear the papers which present the appeal, and the reasons therefor.
2. The action of the lower courts.
3. The statements of the parties in the case.
4. Opinions of the members in the case.

The report was adopted, and

It was made the second order for to-morrow morning to hear and issue the appeal.

Resolved, That the General Assembly recommends to each of its Presbyteries the annual appointment of Standing Committees, severally, on Home and Foreign Missions, Education and Publication, whose duties shall consist in a special oversight of these several objects; in the securing, as far as practicable, a collection in behalf of each object in every church; and in reporting annually to the Presbytery the amounts so contributed, as well as other matters of special interest pertaining to each cause.

Resolved, That the Assembly further recommends that the substance of the annual reports of such Standing Committees be embodied in the Presbyterial Narrative to the General Assembly.

A communication was received and read, inviting this Assembly [476] to attend the Ohio State Sabbath-school Convention, to be held to-morrow, May 25th, at Chilicothe, Ohio.

The invitation was respectfully declined.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave of absence to

Mr. Abijah F. Taylor,	of the Presbytery of	Buffalo.
" Robert Erwin,	"	Hamilton.
" J. Gilbert Benedict,	"	Oswego.
" Jacob C. Adams,	"	Indianapolis.
" Isaac Smith,	"	North River.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church reported an application from the Synods of Genesee and Geneva, to change the boundaries of these Synods, by sanctioning the transfer of the church of Hornellsville from the Presbytery of Steuben to the Presbytery of Genesee Valley. The action, on the part of the church, of the Presbyteries, and of the Synods, appears to be unanimous, and to be based on sufficient reasons.

The Committee recommended that this application be granted, and the report was adopted.

It was made the first order for Thursday morning to hear reports from the Committees appointed to examine the Synodical Records.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day, when the following

Delegates from Corresponding Bodies addressed the Assembly, and were responded to by the Moderator:

Rev. Edward P. Humphrey, D. D., from the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, which met last year at Peoria.

Rev. Abel Stevens, from the General Convention of Vermont.

Rev. David Winters, from the General Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States.

Written communications were also received from the Rev. C. F. McCauley, the Delegate from the Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States, and from

Rev. Stephen C. Strong, the Delegate from the General Conference of the Congregational Churches of Maine.

The Assembly then resumed the unfinished business, being the consideration of the report of the Standing Committee on Education for the Ministry.

The report was accepted, and the resolutions and recommendations therein contained were adopted.

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

Concluded with prayer. [477]

Wednesday, May 25th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour of the session was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 6, as follows:

Resolved, That this Assembly highly appreciates the faithful and self-denying labors of its ministers, and those of other Christian denominations, in our national army; that it has confidence in the value of the regimental chaplaincy, and in the motives and fidelity of the great majority of the chaplains. And the Assembly earnestly exhorts all in its churches to give these brethren in the field a place in their sympathies and their prayers.

Also, Overture No. 7, as follows:

Resolved, That the noble devotion, labors, and sacrifices of our patriot soldiers and sailors call for our deepest gratitude and lasting remembrance; and that we regard it as the high privilege, no less than the imperative duty, of the Church of God, to minister in every possible way to their necessities, both temporal and spiritual.

Resolved, That the Assembly have regarded with deep interest the labors of the United States Christian Commission among the army and navy; that we believe it is an agency well designed to meet the necessities of the work, and that we most cordially commend it to the Christian sympathy and liberality of the churches here represented.

The Committee recommended the adoption of the above resolutions, and their report was adopted.

It was made the first order for Friday morning to consider the report of the Special Committee on the subject of provision for disabled ministers and the families of deceased ministers in indigent circumstances.

The first order of the day not being in readiness, the Assembly proceeded to the second order, being the appeal of Mrs. Maria Hill from a decision of the Synod of Albany.

The Moderator reminded the Assembly, in due form, of the judicial character which they now assumed.

The sentence appealed from was read.

The reasons for the appeal were read, and also the proceedings of the inferior judicatory.

At this stage, by consent of the representatives of the original parties, the whole matter was referred to a *Committee* consisting of Mr. Samuel H. Perkins, Hon. Charles Noble, and Mr. Edward D. Mansfield. [478]

The Committee on the Polity of the Church reported Overture No. 5, as follows:

The Commissioners from the Presbytery of Wilmington have been instructed to ask information of the Assembly on the following points:

1. Who are voters in an election for trustees of a church?

2. Who have power to call a meeting for the election of trustees of a church?

3. Who have power to close and hold possession of a church—the trustees or the session?

The Committee reported:

1. That the questions asked are wholly legal questions, to be determined by the local laws, relating to church property, in the State where the church lies.

2. That, in the absence of any statutory law relating to the mode in which trustees shall proceed, the by-laws of the corporation shall govern the mode of proceeding.

3. That, in the absence of any specific rules of proceedings, the general principle of law, that the trust shall be executed for the sole use of those for whom it is held, shall govern the case.

The report was adopted.

The Standing Committee on Home Missions presented their report, which was accepted.

Pending the discussion on the question of adopting the report,

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported, recommending the celebration of the Lord's Supper to-morrow evening at a quarter before eight o'clock, agreeably to the following order:

1. The Moderator to preside and read the opening hymn.

2. Prayer and reading of the Scriptures by Rev. James A. Carnahan.

3. Address and administration of the Bread by Rev. George N. Boardman.

4. Prayer and administration of the Cup by Rev. John Rankin.

5. Address by Rev. George Duffield, Jr.

6. Hymn and Benediction by Rev. Edmund Wright.

And that the following elders be designated to distribute the elements, namely, Messrs. Marcus C. Riggs, Charles Williams, Samuel Favorite, Hon. Charles Noble, Samuel W. Butler, M. D., Bushnell K. Bronson, Hon. Peter Odlin, and David E. Beatty.

The report was adopted.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [479]

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

The Assembly met, and spent an hour and a half in devotional exercises, in accordance with the previous arrangement to unite with our brethren of the other Assembly in thanksgiving and prayer for the country.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Commissions reported the following additional Commissioner as present, and his name was added to the Roll:

Halsey Dunning, Minister, from the Presbytery of the District of Columbia.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church presented the following report, which was unanimously adopted:

The Committee on the Polity of the Church, to whom was referred the Overture of the Presbytery of St. Lawrence, upon the Reunion of the two General Assemblies of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, propose the following declaration:

1. That this Assembly cordially welcome all signs of increased love and union among those who hold to the fundamental facts and doctrines of the Gospel; and bears its solemn testimony, with self-humiliation, against whatever fosters alienation and genders strife among the disciples of our Lord.

2. That the tendencies of modern society, the condition of Protestant Christianity, the increase of infidelity, the progress of Romanism, and the present and prospective state of our own country, afford powerful arguments against further subdivisions, and in favor of that union and unity of the Church into which it is to grow, and which is to be its consummation; and that we record, with unfeigned gratitude, our profound conviction that the spirit of disunion and of sectarianism is waning, and that the spirit of brotherly kindness and mutual confidence is largely on the increase.

3. That in an especial manner are those churches bound to foster this spirit, who adopt the same standards of faith and order, and whose divisions are local, personal, and incidental, and for whose Reunion there is only needed a wise deference to each other's rights and a higher measure of Christian charity. Adopting the same formulas of faith and form of government, all that is needed is to receive them in the same spirit.

4. That as the churches represented by this Assembly did not inaugurate separation, so, too, they hold to no principles and views, and would impose no terms, inconsistent with a full and cordial Reunion, whenever and wherever the will of the great Head of the Church, as indicated by divine providence, may open the way for us all to meet together again, on the same basis on which of old our fathers stood; and that we should rejoice in such Re[480]union, as a pledge of the future prosperity, and an augury of the accelerated growth of the kingdom of Christ through the length and breadth of our land; and that it is our united and fervent prayer to our common Master, that he would so remove all hindrances as to make a plain path for our feet, where we may walk together, being of one heart and mind, in the ways of the Lord.

5. That, while we do not deem it expedient now to appoint such a Committee as that asked for in the memorial of the Presbytery of St. Lawrence, yet, that this expression of our principles and convictions, with our heartfelt Christian salutations, be transmitted to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church now in session at Newark, New Jersey.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave of absence to

Rev. D. Howe Allen, D. D.,	of the Presbytery of	Cincinnati.
" Tertius S. Clarke, D. D.,	"	Cayuga.
" Samuel D. Smith,	"	Huron.
" James V. A. Woods,	"	Kansas.
" Allen J. Buell,	"	Delaware.
Mr. Orrin S. Penfield,	"	"
" Bernard Fowler,	"	Bloomington.

Mr. William H. Frost, of the Presbytery of Niagara.
" Gilbert E. Collins, " Galena and Belvidere.
" John B. Dwinnell, " Columbus.

The Special Committee, appointed by the last Assembly to inquire whether any changes in the Plan of the Church Erection Fund are desirable to add to its efficiency, and, if so, what, presented their report, which was accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee on Church Erection.

The further consideration of the report of the Standing Committee on Home Missions was made the third order for to-morrow.

It was made the first order for to-morrow afternoon, to hear the report of the Committee to whom was referred the report of the Special Committee on the subject of Sabbath-schools and Sabbath services.

The Committees on the Records of the Synods of Susquehanna and Utica respectfully reported, recommending that the Records be approved as far as written; and the reports were adopted.

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

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 26th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour of the session was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved. [481]

The Committee on Mileage presented their report, as follows:

The Committee on Mileage respectfully report:

That eighty Presbyteries have paid their apportionments for the Assembly's Fund in full, namely:

Albany, Columbia, Catskill, St. Lawrence, Watertown, Geneva, Chemung, Ithaca, Wellsborough, Lyons, Cayuga, Otsego, Delaware, Buffalo, Ontario, Genesee, Niagara, Genesee Valley, Hudson, North River, Long Island, New York, 3d, New York, 4th, Brooklyn, Newark, Rockaway, Montrose, Wilmington, Philadelphia, 3d, Philadelphia, 4th, Harrisburgh, Erie, Pittsburgh, Detroit, Monroe, Marshall, Kalamazoo, Coldwater, Saginaw, Grand River Valley, Huron, Trumbull, Cleveland and Portage, Maumee, Scioto, Cincinnati, Ripley, Dayton, Hamilton, Salem, Madison, Indianapolis, Green Castle, Crawfordsville, Fort Wayne, Illinois, Schuyler, Wabash, Alton, Ottawa, Knox, Galena and Belvidere, Chicago, Bloomington, Milwaukee, Fox River, Columbus, Des Moines, Keokuk, Iowa City, Dubuque, Chariton, Cedar Valley, Dakota, Minnesota, Winona, St. Louis, Lexington, Northern Missouri, and Kansas.

That nine Presbyteries have paid in full to the Contingent Fund at the rate of seventy-five cents for each minister, and have paid in addition a part of their apportionment for the Commissioners' Fund, namely:

Utica, Steuben, Onondaga, Tioga, Rochester, Elyria, Pataskala, Saint Joseph, and Logansport.

That four Presbyteries have paid to the Contingent Fund at the rate of seventy-five cents for each minister, namely:

Champlain, Meadville, Washtenaw, and Athens.

That the Presbytery of Troy, having twenty-one ministers, has paid eighteen dollars; and that the Presbytery of Franklin, having sixteen ministers, has paid sixteen dollars and twenty-five cents to the Contingent Fund.

That ten Presbyteries have not contributed anything toward the expenses of the General Assembly, namely:

Oswego, Cortland, Chenango, District of Columbia, Lake Superior, Grand River, San Francisco, Sierra Nevada, San José, and Washoe.

The amount received by the Mileage Committee is.....		$5486.05
The amount of bills presented to your Committee for mileage and expenses is.....	$4321.15	
The estimate presented by the Stated Clerk of what is needed from this Fund for the contingent expenses of the Assembly is.....	1250.00	5571.15
		$85.10

Which shows a deficiency of eighty-five dollars and ten cents, provided the Commissioners are paid in full, which your Committee recommend should be done; and that the Stated Clerk be directed to appeal to the non-paying Presbyteries to make good [482] the deficiency. The amount is small, and of right should be promptly paid by the able Presbyteries which have not contributed.

Your Committee would also recommend that five cents for each communicant be assessed on the Presbyteries for the necessary expenses of the Commissioners, and for the Contingent Fund of the next General Assembly.

The report was adopted, and the Committee were instructed to pay the bills of the Commissioners in full, and the balance to the Stated Clerk for the contingent expenses of the Assembly.

It was resolved that, on account of the greatly increased expense of paper and printing, the price of the printed Minutes be, hereafter, sixty cents per copy, excluding postage.

The Assembly proceeded to the first order of the day, being the reports of the Committees on the Synodical Records.

The reports of the Committees on the Records of the Synods of Albany, Geneva, Genesee, Onondaga, Pennsylvania, West Pennsylvania, Michigan, Western Reserve, Ohio, Cincinnati, Indiana, Wabash, Illinois, Peoria, Iowa, Minnesota, and Missouri, were severally presented, recommending that they be approved as far as written, and the reports were adopted.

The following minute was adopted on the recommendation of the Committee on the Records of the Synod of Missouri:

In view of the probable fact, that this Synod is the only ecclesiastical body of our Church that has been disturbed in its regular meeting by the aggressions of the unholy Confederate rebellion;

And in view of the certain fact, that the wicked force of treason so far retired as to permit this Synod to return to its appointment, and hold a regular meeting even upon the historic soil of Kansas;

The Committee request that the Moderator direct that a brief thanksgiving be now offered to Almighty God, for the signal favor and blessing that the great Head of the Church hath, by this, shown to our brethren of the Synod of Missouri, and through them to the Church at large.

The Assembly were then led in prayer by Rev. William Atwood.

The Committee on the Records of the Synod of New York and New Jersey reported, recommending that they be approved as far as written, with certain exceptions.

The report was accepted, and put upon the docket.

The committee on the Records of the Synod of Alta California reported, that the Records had not been placed in their hands.

The report was accepted, and the Committee discharged.

The Committee on the Records of the Synod of Wisconsin reported, that they have been subjected to an increased amount of labor in examining the minutes of this Synod, in consequence of the failure of the Stated Clerk to

send up the Records annually to the Assembly, as our Rules require. The minutes of this body [483] have not been brought under the inspection of the Assembly since May, 1860; leaving an accumulation of four years of unexamined and unapproved Records.

There are indications that the Stated Clerk has been delinquent in punctually recording the annual Minutes as taken by the Temporary Clerk. In this way, the Records were probably not in readiness to be sent to the Assembly at the proper time, by the Commissioners annually appointed.

With these exceptions, the Committee recommended that the Records be approved as far as written, in the usual form.

The report was adopted.

The Assembly proceeded to the second order of the day, being the report of the Standing Committee on Publication, which was accepted and the resolutions appended adopted; it is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Publication, to whom were referred the twelfth annual report of the Permanent Publication Committee, and the tenth annual report of the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, together with certain other papers, submit the following report:

Your Committee are pleased to find so much evidence to justify the congratulation expressed to the General Assembly in the report of the Permanent Committee; and being the first instance of such good cheer in the history of the cause, the transition deserves special and grateful notice.

It is at length settled, even a very clear finality to-day, that this cause, after so long a time of equivocal existence, is henceforth to be a sure and living factor in the working plans of our Church. Nor this alone; it begins now to have some of the means and inspiration of success; as hitherto this poor offspring, in the group of our Christian enterprises, had but the will to work, and the prophecy of better days to come.

This cause is also more extensively and better known through our Presbyterian public than at any prior day, and can bear to be still better known, as it improves greatly on acquaintance. Though some are rather shy of it yet, giving it but a cold recognition instead of a hearty fellowship, it has nevertheless made many new friends the past year, and has the still deeper confidence of its old friends, who, with their first love never abated for a moment, have watched over it through the weary night, and are thankful to God to see it looking so well in the morning. It is now approaching the day when, by its own actual results, it can justify all the claims which it has ever urged upon the General Assembly and the denomination, as being, in manifold ways, a valuable and indispensable accessory to our growth and power.

It is proof of some advancement, that the catalogue of publications has not only been increased the past year by a considerable number of tracts and bound volumes, but that so many of these are original, and are the product of pens which we delight to [484] honor in our Church, and withal comprise an excellent range of subjects, and hence are an installment of that very literature which the Publication cause aims to supply, for the help of the ministry in its manifold work, for the nurture and admonition of the family, for the Presbyterian education of our Sabbath-schools, for the correction and instruction of the membership in the doctrines and polity of their own Church, and for the wider work of the evangelization of our land. And here, as it is pertinent to the topic, your Committee would repeat and emphasize the invitation extended by the Permanent Committee to the educated mind of the Church, to prepare manu-

scripts for publication, provided, let it be said, the subject chosen and the method of treating it will make a live book; or, better yet, a hot-shot tract, that will neither hang fire at the start, nor go out after it is discharged.

It is gratifying, also, to notice the special donations which have been made to the Publication Committee for stereotyping tracts and books; and your Committee would cite these as sample instances of what may be done to help the cause, in this unique form of contribution, whether it be by a church or by admirers of the author; as, in either case, whether through love of the man or love of the subject, the tract or the book will be endowed with a long, if not an everlasting life; for if, as John Milton said in his plea for a free press, he who took the life of a good book took the life of immortality itself, so we may say, with no more of hyperbole, that he who furnishes the Committee with the means to stereotype a good publication multiplies immortality, the dead author thus being an ever-living and speaking host. We hope that many a layman may honor the argument by cash.

Likewise your Committee can refer with pleasure to the increased sales of publications, as also to the larger donations of publications, and to the glad acknowledgments of them by pastors, laymen, and honorable women in various parts of the wide field; and to the uniform testimony, which their correspondence gives, as to the need of such publications, by our household of faith, and by those who are strangers to us. This is no new thought, indeed, but such a general and hearty certification of it attests the spiritual economy and profit of our Publication cause. A large percentage of the eldership of our Church, it is very probable, have not a copy of the Confession of Faith and Form of Government, to say nothing of other genuine Presbyterian literature for the advantage of the fathers and the children in Israel. Wherefore, we hail with satisfaction every evidence, and every method, of the circulation of the books and tracts of our Publication House.

Referring now to the Treasurer's report, your Committee discern another sign of progress, inasmuch as the amount contributed to the general purposes of the cause, and the amount received from the sales of publications, exceed those of the previous year over forty per cent. in respect to the sales; while the effort to raise the Endowment Fund of $50,000 has secured nearly [485] $30,000 of the sum. This fund, as fast as it is realized, is appropriated according to the directions of the General Assembly of last year; and thus the reduction of the incumbrance on the Presbyterian House and the transfer of the House and its profits to the Permanent Committee by a declaration of trust are important financial gains to the whole cause. With pleasure your Committee here mention the zealous and profitable service which the Rev. George A. Howard, of the Presbytery of Catskill, has rendered in behalf of the Endowment Fund, and commend him to the sympathy and co-operation of pastors and churches in his future efforts.

The appointment, also, of Committees in several Presbyteries, according to the recommendation of the last General Assembly, to secure annual contributions to the cause from all the churches, is at least a good beginning of systematic support, and will be better still when all the Presbyteries accept the counsel and the plan, which they are hereby besought to do.

In examining the report of the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, which has the tone of encouragement in it, the Standing Committee were reminded of the twofold power of this Board of Trustees, and deem it proper to call the attention of the General Assembly, and of our whole people, to the fact of the corporate authority of this Board to receive and administer any bequests

or legacies, which may be made in the interest of our other benevolent institutions, such as Home Missions and Ministerial Education. Those who want their works to follow them after they have ceased from their labors will please take notice, and pastors will please give the notice.

The Permanent Committee on Publication, including of course all the subdivisions of it, among whom the various parts of the work are distributed, and including the laborious Secretary, deserve the cordial thanks of this Assembly for the patience, fidelity, and public spirit with which they have discharged their respective duties.

Passing now from the foregoing commendations of the Publication cause, your Committee would begin their recommendations to this General Assembly, by urging the completion of the Endowment Fund. Year after year the important relations of this cause to the great interests of the Church have been pleaded before the Assembly. As a denomination we have resolved, that this arm of our service shall neither be cut off from the body, nor be allowed to remain a withered, impotent thing. Believing that our dearest interests and enterprises depend, in no small measure, upon the organized power of the press, we have instituted this Publication cause, and have invested funds, hopes, and our very reputation in it, so that now we must go forward. Nothing succeeds so well as success; and this we must have in order to preserve, or rather to redeem, our name from reproach. Delay, divided sympathy, and it might almost be said the want of natural affection for our own household, have hurt our stand[486]ing and our work. We must take these dead flies out of the ointment, else they will vitiate the very atmosphere of our Presbyterianism. No doubt, sectarianism, in spirit and results, is a very unlovely thing; and hence it has never been welcomed among us; but he who will not provide for his own family has even denied the faith, which is worse than the zeal of the bigot to spread it. The trouble in this cause is at headquarters; it is among the staff officers; it is with the ministry. If the leaders will take their columns and go to the front in support of this cause, the struggle will soon be ended. "The people will not contribute." No pastor may rightfully prejudge and censure them in advance of a fair and earnest effort. If the objection were true, it cannot annul his duty as an ambassador. By very virtue of his office, and instructions of the Throne, every minister is appointed an agent to take up collections for the kingdom of his Lord. He is as much bound to preach Christian beneficence, and guide it into the support of worthy objects, as he is bound to preach repentance, faith, love, any Christian grace, or guide sinners who seek Jesus. The right counsel, the apostolic precedent, the excellent way of success, reads thus: "Therefore, as ye abound in everything, in faith, and utterance, and knowledge, and in all diligence, and in love to us, see that ye abound in this grace also," of liberal giving. If there be any secret place of thunder, as we believe there is, in the press, let the Church give the Publication Committee the means of working the battery, and let the ministry call on the Church that it may furnish the supplies. And now, in order to unify and focalize the sympathies and contributions of all our people in behalf of the Endowment Fund,

Resolved, That the General Assembly recommend to every congregation in connection with it, which has not already contributed its just proportion of the $50,000, or made arrangements to do so, to take up a collection for this purpose on the fourth Sabbath of June *proximo*.

Resolved, That, in the diversity of judgment among pastors and others, in regard to the proposed Social Hymn-Book, and the consequent embarrassment of the Publication Committee on the subject, it be recommended by

the General Assembly that the book be published with four hundred hymns, and with so many and such tunes as the Committee may judge to be in good correspondence with the number and kind of hymns.

Resolved, That Rev. Nathan S. S. Beman, D. D., Rev. Albert Barnes, Rev. George F. Wiswell, and Mr. Frank L. Bodine, whose term of service now expires, be re-elected as members of the Presbyterian Publication Committee for the ensuing three years, with the addition of Mr. Alexander Whilldin, for the same period.

Resolved, That as the Trustees of the Presbyterian House represent that neither in character nor by-laws is it determined what number of Trustees constitute a quorum for the transaction [487] of business, the Assembly decide that five members of the Trustees shall be a quorum for this purpose.

Resolved, That as the term of office of the following Trustees of the Presbyterian House expires during the sessions of the present Assembly, namely, Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., Rev. Ezra E. Adams, Mr. John A. Brown, Mr. Matthew W. Baldwin, and Samuel H. Perkins, Esq., the Assembly re-elect these brethren as members of the said Board of Trustees for the ensuing three years.

The further consideration of the report of the Standing Committee on Home Missions was made the first order for this afternoon, in place of the report of the Committee on Sabbath-schools and Sabbath Services.

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

The Committee recommend the observance of the Tercentenary of the death of John Calvin to-morrow evening, agreeably to the following order:

1. The Moderator to preside.
2. Prayer by Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D.
3. Opening address by the Moderator.
4. Address by Mr. Edward D. Mansfield.
5. Address by Rev. Llewellyn J. Evans, one of the professors of Lane Theological Seminary.
6. Address by Rev. Howard Crosby, D. D.
7. Address by Rev. Henry B. Smith, D. D.
8. Benediction by Rev. Samuel M. Sparks.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 26th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave of absence to the following persons:

Rev.	Corydon W. Higgins,	of the Presbytery of	Ithaca.
"	Arunah H. Lilly,	"	Lyons.
"	William N. Sayre,	"	North River.
"	William T. Bartle,	"	Kalamazoo.
"	John B. Allen,	"	Cleveland.
"	Samuel S. Thomson,	"	Crawfordsville.
"	John Glass,	"	Cedar Valley.
"	James J. Wilson,	"	Northern Missouri.
Mr.	Edward T. Taylor,	"	Wilmington.
"	Peter C. Vreeland,	"	Washtenaw. [488]
"	William S. Potts,	"	Minnesota.
"	Ebenezer Jenkins,	"	Chicago.

Mr.	Charles Williams,	of the Presbytery of	Galena and Belvidere.
"	John N. Gossitt,	"	Fort Wayne.
"	James Snedaker,	"	Ripley.
"	Isaac L'Hommedieu,	"	Cleveland.
Hon.	James Seymour,	"	Saginaw.
Mr.	William C. Hayne,	"	Kalamazoo.
"	Rufus L. Perkins,	"	Erie.
"	James Leighton,	"	Montrose.
"	Andrew Thompson, M. D.,	"	Genesee.
Hon.	James M. Monroe,	"	Onondaga.
Mr.	Theron Van Auken,	"	Geneva.

Resolved, That it be referred to the Publication Committee to revise the "Church Psalmist," with a view to the restoration of the original phraseology, where deemed advisable.

The Assembly proceeded to take up the first order of the day, being the further consideration of the report of the Standing Committee on Home Missions, which, after amendment, was adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Home Missions, to whom were referred the annual report of the Permanent Committee on Home Missions, and other papers, respectfully submit the following report:

In reviewing the report of the Permanent Committee, which has been presented to the Assembly, we find many occasions for encouragement and devout thankfulness to the Great Head of the Church.

The diversity of sentiment and feeling that for many years disturbed our counsels, in relation to the Home Missionary work, has, we trust, wholly passed away. Since the organization of our Permanent Committee for the prosecution of this work, the number of our Home Missionaries has been largely increased. Thirty-nine have been added to the list within the last year, being a little more than fifteen per cent. of the number for the preceding year. The receipts to the treasury within the last year have increased more than sixty-five per cent., as compared with the receipts of the foregoing year, and are believed to exceed by more than one hundred per cent. the annual contributions of our churches to the American Home Missionary Society, before the organization of the Committee. At the same time, it has not been found necessary to add to the average amount of appropriations for the support of the several missionaries.

The importance and claims of the work set before us are pressed upon us with increasing urgency as time advances. The startling events of Divine Providence, that are bursting asunder the bonds of despotism in this land, afford fresh prophecies of a day, not far [489] in the future, when the way of the Lord will be prepared among our countrymen as never before. Let the bloody war in which we are now involved be succeeded by a stable peace, and how soon will hundreds of thousands, or even millions, be added to our unevangelized population from the Old World! And will not the Home Missionary field, accessible to our laborers, be almost doubled in point of territorial extent, calling us to perform our share in the work of evangelizing seven or eight millions of people, of different colors, who have been hitherto separated from us by impassable barriers?

The opening of new and immensely wide territories in the distant West and North-west, and the building up of new places along our constantly multiplying lines of railroad throughout the whole West, are enlarging the theatre for our domestic missionary enterprise beyond all precedent. And our denomination occupies the proper middle ground, alike in respect to doctrine, ecclesiastical order, and geographical position, to qualify it to perform

a peculiar part in the evangelization of the needy millions of our countrymen, and the planting of efficacious religious institutions all over the broad land.

We have thus a weight of responsibility devolved upon us in regard to the regeneration and salvation of our beloved country, such as rests upon no other Christian body of like numbers and resources.

The great practical question, therefore, is: How shall we fitly meet this momentous responsibility? It is not enough to answer this question by the general statement that we must address ourselves to the enterprise before us with a comprehensive wisdom, and in the self-sacrificing spirit of our Master. We must prosecute the work with systematic diligence, and by the adoption and execution of such specific measures as the nature and circumstances of the case may seem to require. It will not be deemed unsuitable to submit, in this connection, a few particular suggestions, which we regard as entitled to the attention and serious consideration of the Permanent Committee, and of the churches under the care of this Assembly.

In relation to the newer parts of our wide field, we must regard it as highly important and necessary that more labor should be expended in the line of exploration, gathering churches, looking after the interests of feeble congregations that may be in perilous circumstances, and securing regular and generous contributions to the funds of the Committee. It seems impracticable, both from the lack of men and means, to sustain Presbyterial missionaries to any great extent at present. But may not synodical missionaries be wisely employed, at least in new sections of the country, where the fields of the district secretaries extend over several States or Territories? Without some such arrangement, we fear the interests of the cause will seriously suffer, in many of the finest portions of our missionary field.

We cannot doubt, also, that the time has come when our Com[490]mittee should send missionaries to such parts of the Southern and South-western States as have been redeemed from the power of the rebellion. The harvests are already beginning to ripen for the sickle, among both the white and the colored people that have been brought within the lines of our armies, where communities are assuming a somewhat settled form; and there can be no doubt, that many friends of the Home Missionary cause in our churches would esteem it a privilege, to be allowed to make special contributions for the aid of the work in this department. Shall we not closely follow the providence of God in this direction? Shall we not be among the pioneers in this part of the missionary field, which God is so wonderfully preparing before us, while the earth is still red with the blood of our brothers and sons? Our Government has extended to us, with other leading Christian denominations of the country, a special invitation to enter upon this work without delay, by the issue of an order from the War Department for our protection and assistance on this behalf. Let not the civil government outrun the Church in point of zeal for the evangelization of the freedmen and the recovered population of the South.

It may seem to be traveling out of the province assigned to your Committee, but we cannot forbear calling attention anew, in this connection, to our need, as a Church, of more young and vigorous laborers, to enter and occupy the vast regions of the West and South.

We cannot hope to accomplish this work to any great extent by enlisting in it men who have already borne the burden and heat of the day, and who are encumbered by the care of large families. The wheels of our enterprise must move slowly, until the number of our younger ministers who shall be willing to spend and be spent for Christ shall be largely increased. As often,

therefore, as we look abroad upon the home field, and inquire how we are to do our part in the gathering of its whitening harvests, we seem to hear the Master saying to us, as he did to his disciples eighteen hundred years ago: "Pray ye the Lord of the harvest that he will send forth laborers into his harvest."

We trust our churches will not forget to help our self-denying workers in the new settlements, in this time of high prices and extraordinary expenses of living, by sending to them, through the proper channels, missionary boxes well filled, not with worn-out clothing, but with articles of substantial value, for individual and family use.

We are called, in the judgment of your Committee, to a highly important duty, in respect to the invigoration, development, and consecration of our benevolence in the direction of Home Missions. A wider diffusion of definite information on this subject is demanded, to stir up and keep alive the zeal of our people. It is known that many members of our churches are to this day ignorant of the change in our method of conducting the Home Missionary work, and are therefore contributing annually to the treasury of a society that makes no return for the benefit of our denomination. [491] And comparatively few of our people have any definite knowledge in regard to the location, labors, and trials of our missionaries. We therefore hail with unfeigned satisfaction the proposition to issue a monthly publication, that shall spread before our churches our whole work of benevolence and evangelization; hoping to see it carried into effect without unnecessary delay. Will not all our pastors and stated supplies earnestly co-operate in the effort to instruct our congregations fully in relation to this cause, both by introducing among them such publications as the *Monthly Periodical* and the *Presbyterian Almanac*, besides the excellent weekly papers of our Church, and by frequent expositions of the subject from the pulpit?

Permit us to suggest, in this connection, that it seems to us important that the Permanent Committee should take effectual measures to obtain statistical reports from all our Home Missionaries at least once each year.

We would recommend that special pains be taken to call the attention of the benevolent members of our churches, who ought to make bequests for the furtherance of this cause, to the necessity of looking well to the direction of their legacies, if they would have their real wishes carried into effect. Many thousands of dollars, in the form of legacies from members of our churches, are now used for the support of ministers and churches of another denomination. If our experience in this regard has been sore, let it teach us the more effectually.

The time has arrived when our Church should come up to a higher standard of giving, especially for the promotion of this great work of saving our own country. We ought to raise, for the Home Missionary Committee, at least $150,000 within the next ecclesiastical year.

A vigorous effort should be made by our Presbyteries and pastors to systematize the work of making collections for this object, that every member of our churches may have a part in the blessedness of helping a cause so noble and far-reaching in its results. We have, on the rolls of our churches, more than a hundred and forty thousand names. If we deduct fifteen thousand from this number for non-residents, we shall still have left a membership of more than one hundred and twenty-five thousand; and a contribution from this number, averaging only one dollar and twenty cents per member, would place in the Committee's treasury $150,000.

Let the abler members of our churches enlarge their benevolence on this behalf with a generous spirit, and let all our people be induced to bear even

a small part in this work, and our treasury will be filled, and God be greatly glorified.

In accordance with the suggestion and request of the Permanent Committee, in regard to the location of members of that Committee, we recommend that the fourteenth of the "Resolutions on the Home Missionary Work," adopted by the General Assembly of 1861, (Minutes, p. 469,) be so altered as to read as follows: [492]

"*Resolved*, That the members of the Committee be located in and about New York or Philadelphia."

We also recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the payment of $100 into the treasury, at one time, on behalf of any person, shall constitute that person an honorary member of the Committee; and the payment of $30, in like manner, shall constitute any person a corresponding member of the Committee.

We nominate, to fill the vacancies in the Permanent Committee, Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., Rev. William Adams, D. D., Rev. Howard Crosby, D. D., Hon. Edward A. Lambert, and Messrs. Joseph F. Joy and James B. Pinneo.

The Committee to whom was referred the special report of the Presbyterian Committee on Home Missions, on the subject of a Periodical, presented a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee to whom was referred the special report of the Presbyterian Committee on Home Missions, on the subject of a Periodical, report:

That such a publication is greatly needed, and widely called for. A publication ably edited, and in full sympathy with the spirit of the Gospel in its adaptation to the times in which we live, seems necessary, to set before all our people the mutual relations and claims of the various schemes, by which our Church seeks to do her own work of giving the Gospel to a lost world, and building up God's people through an educated ministry, missions at home and abroad, permanent places of worship, and the press. The claims of the Master upon us as an evangelistic Church, and the means devised by the Assembly to meet those claims, must be set before our Church frequently and perseveringly to insure their intelligent and liberal co-operation.

To this end the Committee recommend the Assembly to direct the Publication Committee to establish, as soon as possible, a monthly periodical of not less than twenty-four octavo pages, under the general supervison of the editor of that Committee; such publication to be the organ of the General Assembly, through its various Committees, for furthering the ends for which they were instituted.

Leaving the details to the various Committees in conference, we would recommend, generally, that the periodical contain departments specially devoted to Education, Home and Foreign Missions, and Publication; each department to be under the control of the secretary of the Committee to which it pertains.

The profits or losses of the publication shall be shared by the respective Committees in such ratio as may be agreed upon, on the general principle of their respective use of the magazine.

The Committee recommend that the price be placed as low as possible, and would suggest fifty cents per annum, rigidly in advance. [493]

Also, that the Assembly urge upon all our ministers and elders to take such measures as shall give it a very wide circulation in their respective congregations, so as to secure, as far as possible, the general intelligence and hearty co-operation of all our people in the efforts of our Church to evangelize the world.

The Committee appointed to audit the annual report of the Treasurer of the General Assembly reported that they had examined it, with the vouchers, and found it to be correct; and they recommended that it be approved, and printed in the Appendix to the Minutes.

The report was adopted.

The Committee further reported the following minute, which was adopted:

Mr. Anthony P. Halsey served for twelve years as Treasurer of the General Assembly, for several years as Treasurer of the Church Erection Fund, and for many years as Treasurer of the Union Theological Seminary, to whose interests he was greatly devoted. Distinguished as a financier, he was also distinguished as a genuine Christian. He was an office-bearer of the Church, and a man of a pure, meek, and humble spirit. In memory of his services and his Christian character, the General Assembly puts this minute upon its records.

The Committee also recommended Mr. William A. Booth, of the Presbytery of New York, Third, for Treasurer of the General Assembly, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the decease of Mr. Halsey, and their recommendation was adopted.

The report of the Committee on the subject of Sabbath-schools and Sabbath services was postponed, and made the second order for to-morrow morning.

The Committee appointed to draw up a minute on the Tercentenary of Calvin's decease, presented the following report:

The Church of the Lord Jesus Christ owes it to itself and its divine Master to pay a fitting tribute to the memory of the great theologians and reformers who, endued with grace from on high and illumined by the study of the Scriptures, have reformed the faith and restored the order of the Gospel.

This Assembly, therefore, gratefully welcomes this Tercentenary of the decease of John Calvin, falling as it does within the period of its regular sessions, (May 27th,) as a suitable occasion for expressing our reverence for the character, and recognition of the influence, of the great theologian and chief organizing spirit of the Reformation of the sixteenth century by which Christianity was revived and saved. We honor him not alone for the comprehensiveness and penetration of his intellect, the steadfastness of his will, and the multitude of his labors, but also, and first of all, because in life and death he honored our Lord. His enemies were the enemies of the Reformation; his cause was the cause of God.

Among all the reformers John Calvin stands pre-eminent for the [494] variety of his personal endowments and the extent of his historic influence. No one more profoundly studied the Holy Scriptures, and his commentaries are models of exact interpretation, seizing the spiritual sense and the logical connection of the Word of God. His "Institutes," in their first form the unmatched product of a youth of twenty-five years of age, so systematized the doctrinal positions of the Reformation, that even Roman Catholic writers have called it "the Koran, or rather the Talmud, of heresy." He revived the Presbyterian system of church order, and, in the office of ruling elders, gave it such a popular and representative character, that it made the Church strong, not only against the attacks of Romanism, but also against the encroachments of the State. From the days of the apostles no such ecclesiastical discipline had been known, as that by which he transformed the city of Geneva into a Christian republic, for two centuries the home of sacred learning and the citadel of orthodoxy. His system penetrated all the Reformed countries, and their wisest men learned from his lips forms of sound words and rules of holy living. He organized the Church of France; planned the first

foreign mission of the Protestant Church; trained many of the early English and Scotch Reformers; exercised "the cure of souls" throughout Europe, and matured a system which has most deeply penetrated the countries that have led the way, in the thorough application of Christianity to all the relations of human life and human society. Its reforming power did not cease with the age of the Reformation. Our Puritan and Presbyterian ancestors derived from it, in a large degree, those principles which made them strong in contending for civil and religious freedom. Our early churches confessed the Reformed faith. Calvinism was resuscitated on this continent in the theology of Edwards, when it was dying out on the continent of Europe. The history of the Church of Christ since Calvin lived is the best vindication of his principles and eulogy of his character. His influence has so penetrated this land, that we are peculiarly bound to cherish the memory of the great Reformer of Geneva.

As an Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, we cordially celebrate this Tercentenary, in the hope and with the prayer that it may help to revive among us that reverence for God's holy truth, that sublime and self-sacrificing devotion to duty, that earnest opposition to whatever opposes the faith and order of the Gospel, that commingling of the highest Christian faith with the purest Christian life, that zeal for the propagation of apostolic piety, and that constant and earnest effort for the union of the various branches of the one Reformed faith, by which such lustre is thrown, brighter and clearer as time recedes, around the memory and the example of John Calvin.

We trust that this anniversary may serve to draw nearer together the various branches of our Reformed Church in this and other lands; and that the use of our common and time-honored historical name may be revived, that we may thus feel more fully the unity of the spirit in the bonds of peace.

We exhort our ministers and elders, and the other members of [495] our churches, to a renewed study of the life of this Christian reformer; and we also commend to their liberal patronage the project for the erection of a Hall of the Reformation, in the city of Geneva, as a memorial of this tercentenary celebration.

We further propose that this Assembly, under the presidency of its Moderator, unite in the commemorative exercises to be held in this city on the evening of the twenty-seventh of this month.

It is also hereby ordered that a copy of this minute be transmitted to the Committee on the Memorial Fund in the city of Geneva.

The report was adopted.

The Standing Committee on Church Erection presented their report, which was accepted.

Pending the discussion of the question on the adoption of the report,

The Assembly adjourned until 7¾ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 26th, 7¾ o'clock P. M.

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

After the service, the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow, at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Friday, May 27th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

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

The Assembly resumed its unfinished business, when the report of the Standing Committee on Church Erection, after amendment, was adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Church Erection, to whom were referred the tenth annual report of the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, and also the report of the Special Committee appointed by the last General Assembly to consider the desirableness of any changes in the plan of administering the Fund, respectfully report:

The statement submitted by the Trustees respects the appropriations of the Fund for the past year, and its condition at the year's close.

Your Committee deem it only just to observe, at the outset, that this statement furnishes such abundant evidence of assiduous fideli[496]ty in the care and administration of this responsible trust, as calls for a renewed grateful recognition by this General Assembly of the services of its Trustees.

In looking at the amount of appropriations made during the year, (about $3400,) the question instantly occurs, Why so small a proportion of the large sum yet unappropriated has been put to actual use? Fully and fairly do the Trustees answer this inquiry by reference to the facts: First, that the Fund is assigned in specific proportions to the respective Synods; and next, that special causes, obvious to all, growing necessarily out of the state of the country, have placed a temporary check upon the work of church-building. These facts, it is believed, are sufficient to sustain the expressed conviction of the Trustees, that it is due to no deficiency in the principles or details of the Plan, that a large amount of the Fund has not been used.

As respects the present condition of the Fund, while commending generally the careful and judicious action of the Trustees to which its safety and prosperity are so largely owing, your Committee would refer specifically to a single item in their report, as demanding the serious attention of the General Assembly. It is the amount of instalments past due and unpaid, of which there is now outstanding the sum of $22,457.67. It needs no demonstration, that, to maintain the integrity of the Fund—even more than this, to avert its utter exhaustion—it is indispensable that these instalments be promptly met by the indebted churches. For the aid and partial relief of the Trustees in their delicate work of urgency in this matter, your Committee suggest that this General Assembly recommend to the Synods by whose churches this amount is owing, that they urge upon these churches the importance of using every exertion to meet promptly each instalment as it falls due, according to the provisions of the Plan.

Concerning the matter of the apportionment of the Fund among the respective Synods, which, according to the Plan, is to be determined every year by the General Assembly, your Committee recommend that the last year's apportionment remain unchanged for the ensuing year.

Turning next to the carefully prepared report of the Special Committee appointed by the last Assembly, your Committee find clear, full, and accurate statements respecting the history of the Church Erection Fund, the circumstances in which it originated, its leading design and objects, the principles embodied in its plan of administration, and the benefits which have already accrued from its actual work, in the securing of a large amount of church property, in part by insuring the perfection of previously defective titles, but chiefly by stimulating the energies of feeble congregations to do for themselves. In addition to these facts, the report in question enters fully into the discussion of various changes which have been proposed to the Plan itself.

In the general reasonings and conclusions of the Special Committee pertaining to this matter of change in the Plan, your Com[497]mittee are happy to express their entire concurrence, though with respect to some of the particular questions discussed in the report, no judgment could be formed in the limited time allowed them for examination.

Your Committee feel it to be greatly desirable, that information respecting much of the subject-matter contained in this report be furnished to the churches; and therefore recommend, that the report of the Special Committee be referred to the Trustees of the Fund, with direction to publish so much thereof, and with such additions thereto, as their mature experience and consideration may deem to be useful.

Your Committee nominate Jesse W. Benedict, Esq., and Messrs. William E. Dodge and Walter S. Griffith for re-election to the places made vacant by the expiration of their term; and the Rev. J. Few Smith, D. D., and the Rev. Samuel D. Burchard, D. D., for election to fill vacancies in the class whose term of office will expire in June, 1866.

The following resolution, presented by the Standing Committee on Church Erection, was referred to the consideration of the next General Assembly, namely:

Resolved, That Article XIV. of the Plan of Church Erection be so altered as to read, in the second paragraph, instead of "$500," $750, and instead of "$200," $300.

It was made the first order for this afternoon to elect Trustees of the Church Erection Fund.

The order of the day was taken up, and the report of the Committee on the subject of Provision for Disabled Ministers and the families of deceased ministers in indigent circumstances was adopted. It is as follows:

The Committee on the subject of Provision for Disabled Ministers and the families of deceased ministers in indigent circumstances, respectfully report:

That, in discharging the duty assigned them, they have given a careful examination to the whole subject, as one which deeply involves the honor and prosperity of the Presbyterian Church, and which, therefore, earnestly calls for immediate attention and effective regard.

From actual investigation it appears that every other branch of the Church of Christ, either in its organic capacity or through its subordinate ecclesiastical bodies, has adopted and carried into effect some measures for the relief of its disabled ministers and their families; while it must be acknowledged that we have thus far failed to initiate any effort to make suitable provision in behalf of this suffering class.

The Committee, believing that its appointment indicates a disposition on the part of the Church to remove the reproach which has justly attached to its past inaction, beg leave to submit, First, and succinctly, certain considerations of Christian duty and church policy, upon which is based the obligation of the Church to pro[498]vide for her disabled servants; and next, more fully to state the several plans by which this duty has been proposed to be accomplished, with a commendation to immediate adoption by this General Assembly of that method which seems, in the judgment of your Committee, best adapted to accomplish the desired object.

I. The grounds, upon which the obligation of the Church rests, in this matter are simple, clear, and positive. For the least and lowest consideration, as a portion of Christ's poor, as among the highest class of his needy ones, characterized as such with a sublime emphasis of truth, the claim of Christ's ministers to the support of Christ's people is undeniably foremost. If the law of Christ, "Do good unto all men," imposes an obligation on his

people to help the unfortunate, the improvident, and even the vicious, without the pale of the Church, by the same law are they required especially to aid those that are of the household of faith. And if the members of that household, surely, also, they that have been solemnly set apart and received as its spiritual heads, are included in the obligation of that law.

A higher and more positive consideration is suggested by the divine ordination, "that they who preach the gospel should live of the gospel." The priests of the temple were consecrated and supported for life, not merely during their term of active service. So Christ's ministers are self-consecrated to the work of the Church for life. All their preparations are for that work, and that alone. In the act of consecration, followed by the life of self-devotion, they give themselves and theirs in solemn compact to the Church. And, as every compact has two parties with corresponding obligations, the Church on her part tacitly agrees to accept their service, to receive and keep them not only through their active ministry, but for life. As the employees of the Church, laborers fitted for her work and nothing beside, self-consecrated and accepted for life, debarred by their ordination vows from other occupations, their support is assured by the Church for life. If there be an obligation resting upon the State honorably to retire and provide for its disabled life-servants, and to extend such provision to their families, equally imperative is the duty of the Church to do the same for her dependent ministers and their families. No Christian State fails to meet this obligation in some measure. No branch of Christ's spiritual kingdom should occupy a less honorable position.

These considerations plainly indicate ministerial provision to the end of life, by the Church of Christ, to be the just claim of Christ's servants, and the duty of his people. Be it noted and kept distinctly in view, that it is a claim of the one, and a duty of the other; not a charity received by one and dispensed by the other. It might be added that a just policy demands of the Church a cordial interest in and faithful discharge of this duty. The Church needs men. Men, and especially young, inexperienced, and partially sanctified men, need, at least, the ordinary inducements in reference to future provision. If they give themselves to this [499] work, and so cut themselves off from all other means of securing sustenance in the future, they ought to feel and know that they and theirs will not be left to penury and its consequent suffering.

II. As the second and main branch of their report, the Committee next refer to the plans by which this duty of the Church has been proposed to be accomplished. From actual investigation it is found that only three plans have been seriously considered, or attempted to be carried into execution, by other branches of the Church of Christ.

1st. The use of the principle of life insurance.

2d. The raising, by immediate and direct appeal to the churches, of a permanent fund, the interest on which shall suffice to meet the wants of those for whom provision is intended.

3d. Annual contributions by all the churches, to constitute a common fund, to be disbursed upon equal principles, under judicious rules.

1. The Committee would remark, with respect to the first of these plans, the annual investment of premiums in behalf of individual ministers, either in an association created by a particular denomination, or in existing life insurance companies, that only a single denomination has adopted and attempted to use the principle of life insurance. For nearly thirty years the Reformed Dutch Church have had an association based upon this principle within their bounds. As that plan is now undergoing a radical revision

by the body, it may not be improper to state, that, as clearly shown by its history, it has utterly failed. The failure is sufficiently indicated by the fact that the fund yielded for distribution among its own annuitants only $104 the year last reported. But it needs no illustration to show that those who most need provision cannot be reached; the wants of a great majority, at least, of this class, cannot be met by any practicable use of the principle of life insurance. That principle is of necessity specific in its application, local and limited in its benefits. The contributions must be made in behalf of individuals. There is no adjustment possible whereby the principle can be universally applied, and the avails of general collections distributed according to exigencies actually arising in the changing circumstances of our widely scattered ministry.

2. The second plan proposed is that of a permanent fund, to be raised by immediate and direct appeal to the churches; a fund of sufficient amount to meet, by its accruing interest, the wants of those for whom provision is intended. Concerning this scheme, which has had many and earnest advocates, the Committee in this place would simply refer to the following facts, leaving the more positive objections to its adoption to be mentioned in connection with the third and only remaining plan.

It is a fact, and an argument of no inconsiderable weight, that the other great branch of our Presbyterian body, after a most thorough examination and discussion, protracted through many General Assemblies, has decisively rejected this plan. It is another [500] fact and argument, that but one denomination of the American Church—the Methodist Episcopal body—has attempted to supply the wants of its disabled ministers through a permanent fund, and the effort has come very far short of the accomplishment of the object. Their main reliance for this supply is now, as it always has been, upon the annual collections in their churches. The other fact and, it is believed, argument too, though of a peculiar character, is found in our own past experience in the gathering of permanent funds, in the history and the actual raising of our Church Erection and Publication endowments. This history, it is believed, gives no encouragement to the most enthusiastic advocate of a fund for the object under consideration. It fails to suggest even a speculative faith in the practicability of realizing, within any definite term of years, a fund of two, three, or four hundred thousand dollars, for an object so intrinsically worthy and desirable as this. It might be added, as a serious objection to the existence of such fund, if it could be gathered, that it would lock up and leave to stagnate a large amount of money. Unlike the Church Erection and Publication Funds, the bulk of which is kept in active use, this would lie still, merely earning its own small interest, itself exposed to danger or loss, as well as imposing very grave responsibilities upon those charged with its management.

3. The remaining plan is that of annual collections in all the churches, to constitute a common fund, to be disbursed upon equal principles, under judicious rules.

Your Committee wish to be understood as strongly commending this plan, with the simple addition of a standing request for special contributions and legacies, in order to the gradual formation of a small fund to meet exigencies arising from general or local causes, connected with the financial condition of the country. They favor the immediate adoption, by the Assembly, of the plan as thus stated, and beg leave to present the following as the principal reasons to be assigned for its adoption:

As respects the distinction between a general and local (for example, a presbyterial or synodical) fund, it is evident that the former alone can secure

adequate and equal provision for all. A general fund is necessary to equalize the burden upon the Church, by bringing in her wealthier portions to supplement the contributions of the poorer. It is essential too, since, practically, the larger number of those needing assistance are found in the feebler sections of the Church. Furthermore, it is in accordance with the generic order of Christ, that the strong should support the weak; and with the Apostle's specific direction to the wealthy Church of Corinth, "that their abundance should supply the want of others, that there might be equality."

In the next place, comparing the plan of annual collections with that of a permanent fund, it is to be observed, that the former, that is, the collection of a few thousand dollars, year by year, could not and would not interfere with the demands of the great charities now incorporated into the organic working of our Church; [501] while the raising of a permanent fund would, for the years spent in its slow accumulation, act with a real and serious detriment to these leading interests of our body. Further, as a consideration directly bearing upon the comparative value of the two plans, it is undeniably just that every generation should bear its own burdens and meet its own obligations. It is unjust to impose upon the State and the Church of the present generation the burdens and claims which belong to a future generation. It were as just, ay, and as wise, to exact from the citizens now constituting this State or this nation, the millions or thousands of millions necessary to support governmental and other institutions for a hundred years to come; it were as just and wise to ask of the existing generation of Christians the means of sustaining the ministry, and carrying on the operations of the Church for the entire future of her history; or, to narrow the range and sharpen the point of the analogy, it were as just and wise to put upon the present generation of Christian and benevolent men the maintenance, for an indefinite period in the future, of all other classes of Christ's poor, as to require or to do it in behalf of this particular class. Manifestly the simplest justice exacts a similar obligation in this last as in all the preceding particulars. Manifestly each generation of citizens is bound to support its own institutions of State; each generation of Christians is bound to sustain its own Church institutions and servants; to minister to the wants alike of its active and its disabled ministry. And not justice merely, but the highest utility opposes the plan of endowment, while it imperatively calls for that of annual collections in behalf of the class in question. The Church of Christ needs the frequent repeated appeal in behalf of Christ's poor, as one of the most effective means of developing a practical Christlike spirit. This, it will be admitted, is the object of the divine arrangement, that we should have the poor always with us. Herein is furnished the most lofty and persuasive of motives, the most powerful and healthful of all the stimulants to a Christlike sympathy and beneficence. The very appeal, and much more the act of response, is adapted to waken, to exercise, and expand the kindliest, best feelings in the Christian's heart. Hence, in this appeal and response in behalf of Christ's poor, the Church finds alike a duty, a privilege, and a benefit. If this be so with regard to the poor of other classes; if duty, privilege, and spiritual advantage demand a frequent appeal in their behalf, much more with reference to this highest class, Christ's disabled, dependent, suffering ministers—those faithful ones who have toiled for Christ and souls while they could, whose toils have precluded their laying up this world's goods in provision for the time of age or infirmity.

The last and most convincing consideration, in favor of the plan of annual collections, is its uniform success where it has had a trial. The actual experience of other Churches conclusively indicates this plan to be the most

practicable and efficient in its working, and in all its effects, both upon the ministry and Church, productive of the best, most useful ends. The Moravian Brethren, [502] the Methodist, and Protestant Episcopal Churches, have all along adopted it, and report it as working well. The other branch of our own Church having, after ten years of discussion, decisively adopted it, (with the addition of the request for special donations and legacies,) report that the plan produces yearly an amount in excess of the demand. The Secretary in charge of this interest reports, to the Assembly now in session at Newark, N. J., the disbursement of about $14,000, and a surplus of nearly $10,000 in the treasury, as the history of the plan for the year just closed.

Sustained by these considerations and facts, your Committee confidently commend the adoption, by the Assembly, of the plan of annual collections in all its churches, together with a standing request for special contributions and legacies toward the creation of a small permanent fund, the principal of which, as well as interest, may be drawn upon to meet unanticipated exigencies.

If this plan be adopted by the Assembly, as it is important that the churches have an intelligent apprehension of the amount requisite for its successful initiation, the Committee venture to name the sum of $10,000 as that which this last but not least worthy claimant upon their benefaction should receive during the ensuing year.

As respects the agency and method by which the fund so gathered shall be disbursed, the Committee recommend, in outline simply, that it be intrusted to the care and control of the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, to be by them disbursed, through a secretary or agent to be appointed for the purpose, upon the recommendation of the several Presbyteries within whose bounds its deserving claimants may reside; and that the principles and rules of distribution be left to the considerate judgment of the brethren composing the Board.

In conclusion, the Committee submit the following resolutions for the adoption of this General Assembly:

Resolved, 1. That a Fund, to be called "The Ministerial Relief Fund," for the relief of disabled ministers of good and regular standing, in connection with this body, and the families of ministers who have deceased while in our connection, be constituted, to be supplied by annual collections in all our churches, donations and legacies.

Resolved, 2. That in order to constitute and maintain such Fund, it is hereby enjoined upon all our Presbyteries to take such action as shall secure from every church an annual contribution thereto.

Resolved, 3. That this Fund be intrusted to the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, to be by them disbursed upon the recommendation of Presbyteries, upon such principles and rules of distribution as they shall deem most equal and beneficial.

Resolved, 4. That for the special oversight and care of the interest thus committed to them, the Trustees are authorized to appoint a secretary, prescribe his duties, and determine his salary.

The Committee on the Narrative presented their report, which [503] was adopted, and ordered to be published in the Appendix to the Minutes.

The following resolutions were also presented by the Committee on the Narrative, and adopted:

Resolved, 1. That the Presbyteries be requested, in preparing their annual Narratives for the Assembly, to embody in them such statistics as will show the number of their actual membership, and the amounts which they have contributed for the removal of church debts, or for the erection of new houses of worship; also that they be requested to state what they are doing for the

children of the church in addition to the ordinary Sabbath-school instructions.

Resolved, 2. That each year the names of the Presbyteries, which neglect to send to the Assembly a Narrative of the State of Religion within their bounds, be designated in the report of the Assembly's Committee on the Narrative.

The Committee to whom was referred, by the last Assembly, an Overture from Mr. Joseph M. Wilson on the subject of Manses, presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee appointed by the last Assembly to report upon an Overture of Mr. Joseph M. Wilson, proposing that inquiries should be made in respect to manses or parsonages, and to whom also was referred the subject of pastoral libraries, beg leave to state, that in consequence of the removal of the Chairman, Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D., to another field of labor, no meeting of the Committee has been held. The subject, however, is so important, that it is presumed the Assembly will desire to keep before the churches, under one form or another, the desirableness of providing comfortable accommodations and literary help for their pastors, and will willingly further any judicious measure looking to this end.

Mr. Wilson now proposes, through one of the Committee, to supply, at his own expense, the Stated Clerks of the Presbyteries, with as large a number of copies of a letter of inquiries, in respect to the matters proposed, as there are churches within the bounds of all our Presbyteries; with the understanding, that the Stated Clerks will attend to their distribution among the churches; and he himself will arrange and classify the same in time to be presented to the next General Assembly.

By directing the answer to be forwarded directly to a Committee appointed for that purpose, who could place them in the hands of Mr. Wilson, to be arranged and classified, it is believed that the statistical zeal and ability of Mr. Wilson, under the general direction of the Committee, could be advantageously employed by the Assembly, and his generous offer be accepted.

The Committee would, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Whereas, The importance of providing manses or parsonages for the comfortable accommodation of our ministers and their [504] families, and also of establishing and enlarging pastoral libraries, is worthy of serious consideration, and never more so than at present; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That Rev. George E. Day, D. D., Rev. J. Glentworth Butler, Rev. Zephaniah M. Humphrey, and Messrs. Edward D. Mansfield and Charles A. Davison, be appointed a *Committee* to collect information, by appropriate inquiries, in respect to existing *Parsonages and Pastoral Libraries* in connection with our churches, to report to the next General Assembly.

Resolved, 2. That blank forms containing these inquiries be sent to the Stated Clerks of the Presbyteries, and that they be requested to attend to their distribution among the churches.

Resolved, 3. That the ministers, elders, deacons, and members of the churches under the care of the General Assembly be earnestly requested to make early and full replies to these questions, adding any information, or making any suggestions, which may tend to awaken an interest in behalf of manses or parsonages and pastoral libraries.

The Committee to whom were referred the report of the Special Committee appointed by the last Assembly, on the subject of Sabbath-schools and Sabbath services, and the Overture from the Synod of Michigan on the same subject, presented their report, which was accepted.

Pending the question of its adoption,
The Assembly adjourned until 2½ o'clock P. M.
Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 27th, 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 whom was referred the appeal of Mrs. Maria Hill from a decision of the Synod of Albany presented the following report, which was adopted as the decision of this Assembly, namely:

The Committee to whom was referred the appeal of Mrs. Maria Hill from the decision of the Synod of Albany, at their stated meeting at Catskill, in her case, respectfully report:

That after examining the documents presented, and hearing the statements of the parties, by themselves or counsel, your Committee are satisfied that substantial justice has been done in their case.

The alleged irregularities in the lower judicatories, which are complained of, are of a technical character, or caused by the course pursued by the appellant or her agents. She could, at any time, have arrested the proceedings, and prevented a conviction of contumacy, by submitting to the authority of her session, and answering their citations; and can now, at any moment, reverse the [505] sentence and be restored, in the manner provided by the tenth article of the fourth chapter of our Book of Discipline.

Your Committee, therefore, recommend that the appeal of Mrs. Maria Hill be not sustained.

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of Correspondence with other ecclesiastical bodies, and the propriety of discontinuing the custom of paying the Delegates from this body, presented their report, which, after being amended, was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee on Correspondence with other ecclesiastical bodies report as follows:

1. We recommend that, after the present year, our correspondence be closed with ecclesiastical bodies that are in correspondence with Synods in our connection, covering the same ground with them, and that such bodies be duly informed by our Delegates of this change and of the reasons for it.

2. Inasmuch as we have entered into correspondence with the General Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States, we recommend that our Delegate to the Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States be instructed to confer with that body, in regard to the expediency of discontinuing the correspondence between us and them.

It was resolved that the Permanent Committee on Publication be authorized to give special certificates, of two classes, to those who contribute to its funds one hundred dollars and thirty dollars respectively.

The Committee to nominate Delegates to Foreign Bodies made a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

1. *To the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, to meet next year at Pittsburgh, Pa.*—Rev. Grosvenor W. Heacock, D. D., and Mr. Horace Stillman, both of the Presbytery of Buffalo, principals; and Rev. George Duffield, D. D., of the Presbytery of Detroit, and Hon. Peter Odlin, of the Presbytery of Dayton, alternates.

2. *To the General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church*—Rev. John G. Atterbury, D. D., of the Presbytery of Salem, principal; and Rev. George E. Day, D. D., of the Presbytery of Cincinnati, alternate.

3. *To the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church in*

North America—Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., of the Presbytery of Newark, principal; and Rev. R. Russell Booth, of the Presbytery of New York, Third, alternate.

4. *To the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America*—Rev. George W. Warner, of the Presbytery of Cayuga, principal; and Rev. Edwin S. Wright, D. D., of the Presbytery of Buffalo, alternate.

5. *To the General Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States*—Rev. S. Granby Spees, D. D., of the Pres[506]bytery of Dayton, principal; and Rev. D. Howe Allen, D. D., of the Presbytery of Cincinnati, alternate.

6. *To the General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States*—Rev. J. Few Smith, D. D., of the Presbytery of Newark, principal; and Rev. William E. Moore, of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Third, alternate.

7. *To the General Conference of the Congregational Churches of Maine*—Rev. George L. Prentiss, D. D., of the Presbytery of New York, Fourth, principal; and Rev. Roswell D. Hitchcock, D. D., of the Presbytery of New York, Third, alternate.

8. *To the General Association of New Hampshire*—Rev. Daniel Rice, of the Presbytery of Logansport, principal; and Rev. Philander Barbour, of the Presbytery of Albany, alternate.

9. *To the General Convention of Vermont*—Rev. Edwin Hall, D. D., of the Presbytery of Cayuga, principal; and Rev. Samuel M. Wood, of the Presbytery of Troy, alternate.

10. *To the General Association of Massachusetts*—Rev. Chester Fitch, of the Presbytery of Utica, principal; and Rev. William Adams, D. D., of the Presbytery of New York, Fourth, alternate.

11. *To the General Association of Connecticut*—Rev. Thomas S. Hastings, of the Presbytery of New York, Fourth, principal; and Rev. Henry Darling, D. D., of the Presbytery of Albany, alternate.

12. *To the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin*—Rev. Edmund F. Waldo, of the Presbytery of Milwaukee, principal; and Rev. Charles J. Hutchins, of the Presbytery of Chicago, alternate.

13. *To the Union of the Evangelical Churches in France*—Rev. Byron Sunderland, D. D., of the Presbytery of the District of Columbia.

The Assembly resumed the unfinished business, being the consideration of the report of the Committee on Sunday-schools, which was amended, adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee to whom were intrusted the special report of the Committee of the last Assembly on Sunday-schools, and the memorial of the Synod of Michigan on the same subject, respectfully report:

That they have carefully considered the papers committed, and are of the opinion that the subject therein presented, and the suggestions made thereon, call for the earnest deliberation and mature action of this Assembly. The labors of individuals and churches on behalf of Sunday-schools, in the provisions admirably devised for their accommodation, in the literature or music provided for their use, in the development of talents and influences especially adapted to interest and operate on the minds there gathered, and in concerts of prayer, have conspired to lift the institution into a position of prominence and power never before occupied, and promising yet greater growth and larger good. This fact seems to require that a more distinct recognition of the Sunday-school agency be made in our Assembly reports, and that its relation to the [507] Church and its authorities be more clearly defined. While experience has demonstrated the vast capacities for good

that lie in the Sunday-school, and which ought to be more fully unfolded, it has in various ways, also, admonished us of evils which ought to be guarded against and avoided. The danger is, that the Sunday-school may become detached from its proper connection with the Church and its authorities, and assume an independence which must prove, in the end, injurious both to itself and the Church.

This severance has, we learn, actually taken place in some instances, and the proper shepherd of the flock can appear before the lambs only by the sufferance of the superintendent; and so the young, cut off from their appointed spiritual guardians, are exposed to influences which cannot be brought under proper supervision and control. We would recommend, therefore, that the Assembly adopt and act upon the resolutions presented in the papers that we have in charge, thereby bringing this important institution within their constant purview, and doing what they can to develop and impress its great importance upon the hearts of the Church.

Resolved, 1. That it belongs emphatically to the pastor and elders of each congregation to direct and supervise the whole work of the spiritual training of the young, and that it is an important part of the functions of their office, both to encourage parents to fidelity in bringing up their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, and, also, to secure the co-operation of all the competent members of the Church, in the religious education of all the children and youth to whom they can gain access.

2. That great attention ought to be paid to the work of inculcating lessons from the sacred Scriptures, and of fixing in the memory the Catechisms of our Church, both as to its doctrine and polity; and still farther of combining all the schools of a congregation in united worship as far as possible, and especially of leading them to Jesus in the exercise of a living faith and continued reliance on the Holy Spirit.

3. That to the above end, we would farther recommend to the pastors that they adapt, wherever practicable, the second discourse of every Sabbath, particularly to the young of their flock; thus affording to this, the most susceptible and hopeful portion of their fields, at least one half of their time and labor, and giving their children distinctly to feel that they have a place, no less in the sanctuary than in the Sunday-school, both for worship and instruction.

4. That church sessions be required to furnish, in their statistical reports, a full account of the number of Sunday-school scholars and teachers in their respective congregations, to be embodied in the Assembly's Minutes.

5. That a Permanent Committee of the Assembly be appointed, whose duty it shall be to take charge of this great interest, and to report whatever may quicken and stimulate the Church, in its duty of training the young according to the Word of God. [508]

6. That this General Assembly earnestly recommend to the pastors of the churches within its bounds to present before their congregations, in one or more discourses, the relation of baptized children to the Church, and the reciprocal duties between parents and children, growing out of this relation, as defined in the word of God, and declared in the doctrines of our Church.

7. That it is exceedingly desirable that the entire congregation, old and young, be permanently connected with the Sunday-school, either as scholars or teachers.

The report of the Committee on the Records of the Synod of New York and New Jersey was taken from the docket, when the exceptions therein recorded were stricken out, and the Records were approved as far as written.

Resolved, That this Assembly, looking with interest and concern upon the

condition of the Temperance cause throughout our land, reiterates the sentiments and recommendations of former Assemblies, and calls upon its ministers and the members of its churches to renew their efforts in this direction, and especially to refrain from the use of cider, beer, and ale, as a beverage, and also from the manufacture and similar use of domestic wines.

The following resolution was referred to the Permanent Committee on Sunday-schools:

Resolved, That a Committee of three ministers and two elders be appointed, to prepare a circular, embodying the resolutions passed on the subject of Sunday-schools, and urging upon pastors and sessions, as the judgment of this Assembly, the importance of assuming the spiritual care and oversight of the schools connected with the churches under their care, to send a copy of this circular to every pastor, and to report to the next General Assembly such action on this subject as they may deem expedient.

Resolved, That the Chairman of the Committee on Leave of Absence be instructed to report to their respective Presbyteries the delinquencies of such Commissioners to this body as have absented, or as may absent themselves, without leave, from a full half day's session of this Assembly.

The Committee appointed to consider the subject of a revision of the Statistical Tables presented the following report, which was adopted, namely:

The Committee appointed to consider the subject of a revision of the Statistical Tables recommend that the subjects recorded shall comprise the following, in the order mentioned, namely:

I. Under the general head of Membership.
   1. Communicants added on examination.
   2. Communicants added on certificate.
   3. Whole number enrolled.
   4. The number who have been non-resident for a period of five years. [509]
   5. Adults baptized.
   6. Infants baptized.
   7. The entire Sunday-school membership connected with or under the care of the church.

II. Under the general head of Contributions.
   1. General Assembly.
   2. Assembly's Committee on Home Missions.
   3. Assembly's Committee on Foreign Missions, viz., the A. B. C. F. M.
   4. Assembly's Committee on Education.
   5. Assembly's Committee on Publication.
   6. Assembly's Ministerial Relief Fund.
   7. Congregational—including all moneys expended by the particular congregation for salaries, building repairs or erection, and incidental expenses.
   8. Miscellaneous—including all contributions to objects not already specified.

The Committee further recommend the omission of cents in the record of funds contributed.

The following persons were duly elected, by ballot, Trustees of the Presbyterian House: Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., Rev. Ezra E. Adams, Mr. John A. Brown, Mr. Matthew W. Baldwin, Samuel H. Perkins, Esq.

And the following persons were also duly elected, by ballot, Trustees of the General Assembly's Church Erection Fund: Jesse W. Benedict, Esq., Mr. William E. Dodge, Mr. Walter S. Griffith, to serve for the full term of three years; and Rev. J. Few Smith, D. D., and Rev. Samuel D. Burchard,

D. D., to fill vacancies during the term closing in June, 1866, occasioned by the decease of the Rev. James W. McLane, D. D., and the resignation of the Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D.

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

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 28th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the previous session were read and approved.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 8, as follows:

Resolved, That the Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions be authorized to take measures to become incorporated, so as to receive and hold property in trust for the General Assembly, to be expended in Foreign Missions.

The Committee recommended the adoption of the Overture, and it was adopted.

The Committee further reported Overture No. 9, as follows: [510]

Resolved, 1. That it affords us great pleasure to renew our expression of confidence in the American Bible Society, as one of the great instrumentalities of God, by the dissemination of his Word, for the preservation of the civil and religious liberties of our land, and the moral and spiritual elevation of the whole family of man.

Resolved, 2. That we offer devout thanksgiving to Almighty God for the prosperity of the Society during the past year, enabling it, to a large extent, to meet the wants of the army and navy, in supplying our noble men with the Word of life, which has been to them an unfailing source of instruction and comfort, amid the trials, sacrifices, and sufferings to which they have been exposed.

Resolved, 3. That in view of the increasing demand for the Holy Scriptures in the foreign field and the home work, we will encourage our people to increased liberal support of the Bible cause; and, while we welcome the accredited agents to our pulpits, we will cordially co-operate with them, in every proper measure, to advance the interests of this great and benevolent work.

On the recommendation of the Committee, the report was adopted.

The Committee, also, reported Overture No. 10, as follows:

Resolved, That the General Assembly's Permanent Committee on Publication, as speedily as possible, procure stereotype plates of the "Confession of Faith" and "Shorter Catechism," to correspond with the largest and smallest sizes of our "Church Psalmist," and that every "Psalmist," hereafter bound and sent forth by the Committee, have, at the end of the same, a copy of each of these indispensable Presbyterian documents.

The Committee recommended, that the Overture be referred to the Permanent Committee on Publication, with discretionary power to act in the matter, according to their judgment.

The report was adopted.

The Committee, also, reported Overture No. 11, as follows:

Has a session or church constitutional power, in examining a candidate for membership, to require abstinence from any error, practice, or custom, which the members adjudge to be sinful, and decidedly injurious to personal piety, and to the interests of the Church of Christ? And, if they have this power, then is it expedient to admit persons to membership who practise and defend promiscuous dancing, card-playing, and the use, manufacture, and sale of intoxicating drinks as a beverage?

The Committee recommended the following answer:

It is the province of the session to judge of the qualifications of candidates for membership in the Church. For their guidance in the matters noticed in the Overture, reference is made to past acts of the Assembly, found in the Digest, Chapter VII., on "Moral Questions," sections 3, 4, and 5.

The report was adopted. [511]

The Committee, also, reported Overture No. 12, as follows:

Whereas, The exigencies of the country are such that in all probability it will be necessary, for many years, to maintain a large standing army and navy; and

Whereas, The regulations of the army and navy, as well as the efficiency of these branches of the public service, require that they be supplied with suitable chaplains; and

Whereas, It is desirable that the Presbyterian Church do its part in providing suitable men to fill these responsible positions, and be properly represented in them; therefore,

Resolved, That the Permanent Committee on Home Missions be requested and authorized to act as a Special Committee of the General Assembly, to receive and examine all applications that may be made to them by those desiring appointments as chaplains, either in the army or navy, and, if satisfied with the qualifications of said applicants, furnish them with a recommendation to that effect.

The Committee recommended the indefinite postponement of the Overture, and the report was adopted.

The Committee further reported Overture No. 13, as follows:

Whereas, The providence of God has recently given special encouragement to Christian labor for the propagation of a pure Gospel, in various parts of the world that have long been under the influence of Romish superstition, especially in South America and Italy;

Resolved, That this Assembly recognizes the American and Foreign Christian Union as invested with a peculiarly high and solemn responsibility, as pledged to a most honorable work, and as worthy of the confidence, affection, and liberal support of all our churches.

On the recommendation of the Committee, the report was adopted.

The Committee, also, reported Overture No. 14, as follows:

Resolved, That a *Committee* of five be appointed, to report to the next General Assembly, *on* the relations of the Church to *the Weekly Religious Press*—its interest in, and its duty in regard to, the family religious newspaper.

On their recommendation, the report was adopted, and the Rev. D. Howe Allen, D. D., the Rev. Clement E. Babb, the Rev. Henry M. Field, D. D., the Rev. John W. Mears, and Mr. Edward D. Mansfield, were appointed to this service.

The Committee further reported, that they have received a memorial from the session of the First Presbyterian church of Detroit, setting forth the imperative necessity which the providence of God has laid upon our Church, at the present time, to awake to a higher degree of spiritual life and activity, especially in view of the enlarged fields of labor which are opened for missionary effort. The memorial calls especial attention to the wants of our destitute and unoccupied regions at the West, and likewise those which are being opened by the tread of our advancing [512] armies at the South and South-west. It likewise sets forth, in earnest words, the call for Christian labors among that long-oppressed race who are now coming forth, from their bondage and slavery, into the possession of their rightful heritage of freedom.

The main topics of this memorial have been made the subjects of reference to appropriate Committees. Reports have been received, and fully and thoroughly discussed, and such action has been taken as the Assembly deemed wise. It does not, therefore, seem necessary to take any further action upon them. The Committee, however, feel that the large experience and judgment of their venerable and honored brother, the Rev. George Duffield, D. D., may be employed, to the great advantage and profit of the Church, if he would prepare a succinct statement of the views which have been presented in this memorial, so that they may be published in a form for popular distribution; and they, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Rev. George Duffield, D. D., be requested to prepare and furnish to the Publication Committee, for the use of our churches, a tract, setting forth the demands for Home Missionary labors, which have been imposed upon the Church by the recent developments of God's providence in our nation.

The report was adopted.

Resolved, That the Stated and Permanent Clerks of the General Assembly be a Standing Committee to nominate Delegates to Corresponding Bodies.

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

Resolved, That it be referred to the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, to mature and report to the next General Assembly a plan, whereby adequate assistance may be furnished to churches who need and should receive aid to a greater amount than five hundred dollars.

A written communication was received from the Rev. Matson M. Smith, D. D., the Delegate appointed by the General Association of Connecticut to this General Assembly.

Rev. Halsey Dunning, the Delegate appointed by the last Assembly to the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, presented his report, which was accepted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes.

A communication was received from the Rev. Henry Darling, D. D., the Permanent Clerk of the General Assembly, tendering, with reasons, the resignation of his office.

His resignation was accepted, and the cordial thanks of the Assembly were tendered to the Rev. Henry Darling, D. D., for the faithful manner in which he has performed the duties of his office.

The Rev. J. Glentworth Butler, of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Third, was elected Permanent Clerk of the General Assembly. [513]

It was *Resolved*, That the thanks of this General Assembly are due, and are hereby cordially tendered, to the citizens of Dayton, who have so kindly received and entertained our Commissioners during the sessions of our body.

Also, to the Trustees of the Third street Presbyterian church; to the choir of said church; to the Committee of Arrangements, and especially its Chairman, whose manifold services have made our sessions so agreeable and comfortable.

Also, to the railroad companies who have courteously facilitated the assembling of our body, by reducing the fare on their respective roads.

Also, to the pastor of this church, to whose indefatigable services the body is indebted for the anticipation and supply of all their wants.

Also, to the editor of the *Dayton Journal*, for the publication of our proceedings in his daily issue.

Also, to Mr. A. F. Payne, bookseller, for the kindness manifested in extending to the members of this Assembly the freedom of his establishment.

The pastor of this church was requested to give this action all needful publicity.

It was further resolved, that the thanks of this Assembly be presented to the Moderator, the Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., to whose urbanity and impartiality we are so much indebted;

Also, to the Clerks, for their promptitude and exactness in arranging the business, and keeping the Records of the Assembly, in a manner so satisfactory.

Resolved, That the Minutes of the Assembly, with the usual Appendix, and the reports of the Treasurers of the Permanent Committees, be printed under the direction of the Stated Clerk.

The janitor's bill, the bills for stationery and printing, the traveling expenses of the Delegates to Foreign Bodies, and the salaries and traveling expenses of the Stated and Permanent Clerks, were ordered to be paid.

The Roll was called, and the following persons were found to be absent without leave: Messrs. Cyrus Coy, Hon. Horace J. Poinier, David Bassett, Richard E. Wilder, and Gilbert E. Collins, and the Rev. John Fisher.

The Minutes of this session were read and approved.

The business of the Assembly having been completed, and the vote taken for the dissolution of the Assembly, the Moderator, with prayer and the apostolic benediction, declared the Assembly dissolved, and required another Assembly, chosen in the same manner, to meet at the La Fayette avenue Presbyterian church in the city of Brooklyn, N. Y., on the third Thursday of May, A. D., 1865, at 11 o'clock A. M.

T. RALSTON SMITH,
Permanent Clerk, pro tempore.

Dayton, Ohio, May 28th, 1864.

APPENDIX.

ANNUAL NARRATIVE

Of the State of Religion within the Bounds of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, May, 1864.

Reports have been received from eighty-one different Presbyteries. In a summary so brief as this Narrative should be, it is difficult to present a just and graphic view of the condition of our portion of the great field. The Christian life of 135,894 believers, and the labors of 1616 ministers, for one year; or a biography, covering 137,510 years of toil and struggle and suffering and victory, must be given within the limits of a few moments. It is no easy task. Only salient points can be noticed; and the vividness and interest of details must be sacrificed to the imperatives of comprehensiveness and brevity. And how shall the choice be made, among so much material? It is easy to discover and record abundant evidences, that our churches have not been so devoted as they might have been. It is easy to give a sad and sombre tone to such a portraiture as this. Everything depends upon the spirit in which we look upon the facts that come under review.

"Everywhere the light and shade
By the gazer's eye are made."

We might chronicle and lament the ravages of vices, the pretensions of error, and the triumphs of sin; yet we are called upon to report the condition and progress, not of Satan's kingdom, but of Christ's. Not merely to fight the devil, but to serve the Saviour, is the mission of our Church. Evil is to be overcome with good; and the progress of the good is the best, and the brightest, and the greatest thing.

There are tokens for good, many encouraging tokens, in the general condition of our denomination. The characteristic spirit of our Church, which utters itself with distinctness and emphasis in the reports from the Presbyteries, is genial and broad, generous and earnest. It is the spirit, not of law alone, which would be bondage, nor of liberty alone, which would be license; but it is the spirit of law and liberty—the spirit of the Gospel. It is noticeable, that, from year to year, there are evidences of increasing oneness.

The different parts of the Church, though widely separated, are blending in warmer sympathy, and in a more compact unity. There is more of thrift, and there is more of church loyalty, throughout our body; and, though our catholicity was never broader than now, yet there never was so deep and cheerful a conviction in the brain and heart of our Church, that we have a special and distinct mission, and need not to lean on other denominations, but only on God, to accomplish that mission. The Presbyteries and churches are girding themselves for more earnest work. They are engaging in the great enterprises of benevolence, to which they are committed, with increasing interest and liberality. They are giving themselves, with more and more hearty loyalty, to the support of our own proper Church work. Our Permanent Committees are encouraged and stimulated by the responses of the churches, which point them forward, and promise them increasing support. The general tone of the Reports from the Presbyteries is thus cheerful and inspiring.

Intemperance.

There are, indeed, not a few lamentations over the prevalence of profanity and intemperance and Sabbath desecration; but such lamentations we expect to hear, continually, in this fallen world, until the full anthem of the final triumph of the Church shall drown for ever the harsh discords of the world's sin and the world's suffering. With respect to the cause of temperance, there is, doubtless, sufficient occasion for the almost universal anxiety and complaint, which are conspicuous in the Reports of the Presbyteries. We are in a period of reaction and transition on that subject. We must seek broader and surer ground than has sometimes been occupied, and give ourselves to more careful and intelligent and prayerful efforts to remedy the awful evil, which is destroying so many hopes and desolating so many homes.

Payment of Church Debts.

It would be interesting, if our statistical tables could be made to show how much is contributed, each year, not only to missionary enterprises, but to the no less important work of building or improving houses of worship, and of lessening or cancelling church debts. An almost unexampled amount of this work has been accomplished during the past year. We have reason for profound gratitude and hearty rejoicing, that such a liberal spirit and such great enterprise have been shown by so many of our churches. Perhaps there never was so favorable a time for the removal of church debts as the present; and it is to be devoutly hoped, that the good work begun so nobly will be carried on to the end.

Love of Country.

The marked unanimity of our people in supporting the Government, and in confronting slavery and its rebellion, is an occasion for special thankfulness. The loyalty of our people, as a body, without malevolence, is deep, thorough, enthusiastic. It is not a passion, but a principle. From every quarter there come to us the warmest utterances of patriotism and of devotion to liberty. Many of our churches are suffering severely from the loss of their best young men, who have gone to the front at the call of their country. But those who remain are thinking, and feeling, and praying, as never before. There are undoubtedly excesses in extravagance and in worldliness; and against these there is great need of special watchfulness. But your Committee are persuaded, that extravagance and worldliness are not the general or prevailing characteristics of the present condition of the Church. There are some who look only upon the surface of society, and see only the giddiness of those who have acquired sudden wealth, or only the thoughtlessness of those who are not softened, but hardened, by adversity; and such as take this superficial view are apt to speak in tones of sadness and despondency, concerning the condition of the Church and of society. But, in times of such profound and universal agitation, when the Divine power is stirring society to its lowest depths, it must be expected that the scum will rise to the surface. Yet deep down beneath that surface there are the profound and thorough workings of such a tuition as no other nation ever knew. And there never was a time when the majesty and sovereignty of God, and the entire dependence of man, were so deeply felt by our people as now. There never was a time when we knew, so well as now, while our sons and brothers are grappling with the foe, what it is to pray without ceasing.

Revivals of Religion.

No less than fifty-two of our churches are reported as having experienced revivals of religion, while many others speak with peculiar hopefulness and expectation of their spiritual condition, or are rejoicing in the first drops that betoken the nearness of abundant showers. Many of these revivals have been exceedingly deep and powerful, so that great multitudes have been added to the churches. The prominent characteristic of these works of grace has been the ingathering of children and youth. Much special labor has been expended in their behalf. In Utica, in Rochester, in Cincinnati, and in Newark, N. J., hopeful conversions among the children have been numbered by the hundred. There is a growing feeling apparent in the churches, to which frequent allusion is made in the reports from the Presbyteries, that we must give greater emphasis and practical prominence to the Abrahamic covenant; that we must more distinctly recognize the proper position of the baptized children within the Church; that we must do more for these children, and expect more from them. While interest in Sabbath-schools, as a general rule, is steadily increasing, yet it is evidently a growing conviction that the Word of God should be preached to the children, and that the pastor's official relations to them should have this open and habitual recognition.

There are many items of interest upon which your Committee would have been glad to report to the Assembly. But a certain want of definiteness, which is generally characteristic of Presbyterial Narratives, makes this impossible. It would be pleasant and profitable, to know how many of our brethren have gone as chaplains to the army, and how many have fallen

at their posts of duty; but these and many other questions, which our hearts ask, we have not the data for answering. The review of the year is indeed encouraging. Our beloved Church is making such progress as calls for devout gratitude to God. We have reason to rejoice in her position, in her prospects, and in the vastness of her undeveloped resources, which we pray the Great Head of the Church to help us to call forth and consecrate to God and humanity.

Decease of Ministers.

The following ministers have departed this life during the year:

Gardner Hayden,	of the Presbytery of	Troy.
Boswell Pettibone,	"	St. Lawrence.
Peter Snyder,	"	Watertown.
Chauncey E. Goodrich,	"	Utica.
Orlo Bartholomew,	"	"
Ira Ingraham,	"	Geneva.
Francis L. Whiting,	"	Chemung.
Lewis M. Shepherd,	"	Lyons.
Joseph Rosenkrans,	"	Onondaga.
Caleb Clark,	"	Cortland.
Ralph S. Crampton,	"	Rochester.
Josiah Partington,	"	Niagara.
Clifford S. Arms,	"	Hudson.
Daniel Beers,	"	Long Island.
David Oliver Allen, D. D.,	"	New York, Third.
J. Parsons Hovey, D. D.,	"	New York, Fourth.
James W. McLane, D. D.,	"	Brooklyn.
Thomas S. Ward,	"	Montrose.
John O. Blythe,	"	Philadelphia, Third.
Horatio S. Howell,	"	Philadelphia, Fourth.
Moses Jewell,	"	District of Columbia.
Reuben Armstrong,	"	Detroit.
Warren Isham,	"	Lake Superior.
Caleb Pitkin,	"	Portage.
Phineas Kingsley,	"	Cleveland.
David Hughes,	"	Athens.
Enoch R. Martin,	"	Madison.
Daniel Jones,	"	Fort Wayne.
Calvin Bushnell,	"	Ottawa.

By order of the General Assembly.

THOMAS BRAINERD, *Moderator.*
EDWIN F. HATFIELD, *Stated Clerk.*

REPORTS OF DELEGATES

To the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, that met at Peoria, Illinois, in May, 1863.

The undersigned, having been appointed to represent your venerable body in the General Assembly, whose sessions were held in Peoria, Illinois, in May, 1863, respectfully report, that we endeavored to perform the service assigned to us. We received notice of our appointment for this service by telegraph, several days after the opening of the Assembly at Peoria, without any intimation in regard to the duty devolved upon us, beyond what was implied in the simple announcement, that we were expected to act the part of Delegates to that body.

We were received courteously, and with manifest cordiality, by our brethren of the other Assembly. We conveyed to them the fraternal salutations of our Assembly and of our whole Church; and assured them of our high satisfaction, on the opening of this new correspondence, which we felt had been too long delayed. We did not, however, feel authorized to make any expression to them of our views, or desires, in relation to the reunion of the two branches of the Church represented by their Assembly and ours. Nor was any public reference made to this subject during our brief attendance on their sessions. Our private intercourse with the brethren of the Assembly at Peoria, revealed a warm sympathy on their part toward our branch of the Church, while we heard few if any expressions of a desire for a speedy reunion of their branch with ours.

The Assembly was a large, dignified, and able body. There were evidently conflicting currents of feeling among its members, in respect to our national troubles, and the terrible curse by which they have been created. But the controlling sentiment was strongly on the side of loyalty and human liberty.

We cannot doubt that a large majority of the churches and ministers, represented by that Assembly, are coming nearer to us, in relation to most of the grounds of difference and separation between us and them. And we feel assured, that the correspondence that has been inaugurated between the two Assemblies will be attended with happy results, tending, as it must, to foster the spirit of brotherly love and confidence where it has been so far interrupted.

We only add that the Rev. Edward P. Humphrey, D. D., and Mr. A. E. Chamberlain were appointed, by the Assembly at Peoria, as Delegates to the Assembly to be held at Dayton, Ohio.

All which is respectfully submitted.

R. W. Patterson,
W. H. Brown.

Chicago, Ill., May 16th, 1864.

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 Certificate.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	STATED CLERKS.
I. Synod of Albany	1803	5	83	3	5	65	156	93	7,747	50	117	$309 83	$6,739 47	$3,954 85	$1,876 65	$3,889 87	A. B. Lambert, D. D.
1. Champlain	1814	...	22	...	...	18	33	17	1,977	7	40	58 38	1,681 59	1,443 87	339 00	928 35	Jonathan Copeland.
2. Troy	1820	...	27	3	2	17	57	34	2,242	21	26	69 00	1,495 95	1,247 40	448 10	1,396 57	A. B. Lambert, D. D.
3. Albany	1791	...	15	...	1	11	23	18	1,585	4	19	86 20	2,356 50	342 41	743 68	231 00	Stephen Bush.
4. Columbia	1802	...	7	...	1	6	9	9	799	4	12	37 70	78 25	375 00	54 28	196 62	William S. Leavitt.
5. Catskill	1851	...	12	...	1	13	34	15	1,144	14	20	58 55	1,127 18	546 17	291 59	1,137 33	Alvin Cooper.
II. Synod of Utica	1829	4	75	4	11	69	360	163	6,785	148	108	235 45	4,616 36	3,486 41	901 35	2,698 45	William E. Knox.
1. St. Lawrence	1818	...	9	...	...	8	15	15	756	2	6	33 15	183 90	669 80	4 25	265 10	Baruch B. Beckwith.
2. Watertown	1822	...	18	...	...	20	17	17	1,965	5	28	103 15	489 72	717 37	326 87	502 47	Richard G. Keyes.
3. Oswego	1823	...	7	...	...	13	42	26	1,370	29	11	36 25	487 04	634 22	257 09	142 44	John N. Hubbard.
4. Utica	1842	...	41	4	11	28	286	105	2,694	112	63	62 90	3,455 70	1,465 02	313 14	1,788 44	Timothy Dwight Hunt.
III. Synod of Onondaga	1855	4	95	26	19	70	330	231	8,050	165	164	352 52	5,549 39	3,556 48	2,526 80	2,533 75	Lewis H. Reid.
1. Onondaga	1810	...	23	...	3	21	71	43	2,442	39	48	109 30	1,521 46	933 89	676 75	981 22	Chester W. Hawley.
2. Cayuga	1810	...	36	25	14	22	173	117	2,554	94	59	124 22	2,536 27	1,265 93	1,528 48	714 47	Charles Hawley, D. D.
3. Cortland	1825	...	14	...	...	16	14	32	1,689	9	28	49 00	576 77	384 12	79 50	405 08	Henry N. Millerd.
4. Tioga	1829	...	22	1	2	11	72	39	1,365	23	29	70 00	914 89	972 54	242 07	432 98	Samuel H. Hall, D. D.
IV. Synod of Geneva	1812	6	102	5	4	91	372	191	8,959	161	162	424 15	3,739 91	3,086 37	1,485 43	2,829 79	Benjamin M. Goldsmith.
1. Geneva	1805	...	34	2	...	18	72	74	2,544	20	50	127 40	835 95	1,126 22	489 95	957 31	Benjamin M. Goldsmith.
2. Steuben	1817	...	13	...	...	18	37	20	1,389	20	24	50 00	459 85	303 60	88 75	175 12	Stephen Vorhis.
3. Chemung	1836	...	20	...	...	18	23	38	1,401	6	25	70 50	895 02	505 58	335 00	464 37	Charles C. Carr.
4. Ithaca	1839	...	10	...	1	8	37	14	1,236	15	12	62 20	880 30	655 80	297 00	435 47	David Torrey, D. D.
5. Wellsborough	1845	...	10	1	...	14	35	5	590	23	9	29 00	30 44	28 59	3 08	10 50	Samuel J. McCullough.
6. Lyons	1856	...	15	2	3	15	168	40	1,799	77	42	85 05	638 35	466 58	271 65	787 02	Arunah H. Lilly.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certificate.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	STATED CLERKS.
V. Synod of Susquehanna.	1853	3	36	1	6	43	126	61	3,736	46	44	$172 57	$1,322 63	$2,318 55	$626 56	$863 39	William T. Doubleday.
1. Otsego	1820	...	14	1	1	16	60	21	1,395	24	13	73 50	679 64	1,507 99	206 41	343 37	Charles Gillette.
2. Chenango	1826	...	13	...	2	15	23	21	1,497	6	9	43 80	512 28	681 46	279 45	167 38	Willard M. Hoyt.
3. Delaware	1831	...	9	...	3	12	43	19	844	16	22	55 27	130 71	129 10	140 70	352 64	Julius S. Pattengill.
VI. Synod of Genesee	1821	6	131	7	10	99	695	352	12,673	264	216	632 96	7,915 54	6,409 02	3,904 22	6,389 21	Timothy Stillman, D. D.
1. Buffalo	1817	...	37	...	8	26	118	91	3,424	29	80	194 00	2,634 92	2,817 95	1,845 53	1,060 01	Timothy Stillman, D. D.
2. Ontario	1817	...	17	...	...	12	42	47	1,486	14	23	75 10	601 89	664 49	330 32	560 28	John Barnard, D. D.
3. Rochester	1819	...	25	6	...	16	366	83	3,070	159	50	130 80	871 56	1,039 02	133 00	3,572 36	Charles E. Furman.
4. Genesee	1819	...	16	...	1	16	35	43	1,403	15	17	68 90	1,285 56	656 33	542 39	459 22	Charles F. Mussey.
5. Niagara	1823	...	19	1	...	16	37	55	2,199	15	21	108 06	2,050 87	858 24	750 98	519 28	Lucius I. Root.
6. Genesee Valley	1828	...	17	...	1	13	97	33	1,091	32	25	56 10	470 74	372 99	302 00	218 06	Isaac G. Ogden.
VII. Syn. of N. Y. and N. J.	1788	9	278	47	50	162	1146	1068	27,931	318	686	1394 20	58,753 04	42,044 70	17,734 94	24,329 03	Obadiah M. Johnson.
1. Hudson	1797	...	17	...	...	13	73	50	1,693	37	46	83 20	511 08	583 29	154 77	412 85	Obadiah M. Johnson.
2. North River	1819	...	24	1	...	18	147	42	1,921	69	51	111 00	841 43	683 27	186 96	1,746 05	Sumner Mandeville.
3. Long Island	1791	...	8	...	...	6	5	2	691	2	17	35 20	642 81	278 28	54 80	317 10	Epher Whitaker.
4. New York, Third	1831	...	60	16	20	22	218	286	6,542	55	151	317 05	15,333 14	10,400 54	3,845 55	3,733 16	Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D.
5. New York, Fourth	1845	...	49	19	19	15	177	241	3,395	30	57	162 60	13,840 01	21,288 44	5,667 47	8,083 33	John Spaulding.
6. Brooklyn	1838	...	20	3	1	9	64	152	2,673	11	64	134 55	11,891 70	2,032 54	1,275 30	4,397 33	William S. Karr.
7. Newark	1824	...	48	6	8	27	287	202	6,255	38	206	304 00	14,169 77	5,270 21	5,029 59	4,147 74	James Hoyt.
8. Rockaway	1839	...	23	1	1	20	78	35	2,229	42	45	112 60	629 10	566 30	814 88	1,321 70	Burtis C. Megie.
9. Montrose	1832	...	29	1	1	32	97	58	2,532	34	49	134 00	894 00	941 83	705 62	169 77	Adam Miller.
VIII. S. of Pennsylvania.	1838	5	101	12	24	84	663	398	13,898	188	511	749 45	44,171 91	10,380 46	12,790 86	9,663 00	William E. Moore.
1. Wilmington	1833	...	11	2	3	15	135	34	1,564	50	15	78 20	5,463 14	592 31	318 89	638 23	William Aikman.
2. Philadelphia, Third	1832	...	34	1	5	23	142	155	3,756	36	174	187 00	22,876 00	3,241 00	4,268 00	4,854 00	J. Glentworth Butler.
3. Philadelphia, Fourth.	1845	...	35	5	12	28	273	144	6,063	85	223	291 25	13,108 53	4,223 57	6,470 35	2,705 08	Thomas J. Shepherd.
4. Harrisburgh	1839	...	11	3	3	9	37	24	1,061	3	42	111 00	2,460 40	1,566 57	1,190 50	1,180 60	Conway P. Wing, D. D.
5. Dist. of Columbia	1831	...	10	1	1	9	76	41	1,454	14	57	82 00	263 84	757 01	543 12	285 09	William McLain, D. D.

IX. Synod of West Penn.	1843	3	26	2	1	33	124	78	2,995	49	74	142 67	2,536 47	1,565 96	11,647 52	1,455 93	George A. Lyon, D. D.
1. Erie	1801	...	14	1	...	13	66	28	1,350	35	27	66 50	347 49	285 81	100 62	477 93	Joseph Vance.
2. Meadville	1842	...	8	1	1	15	27	11	852	10	27	31 42	132 52	56 00	245 90	46 00	Richard Craighead.
3. Pittsburgh	1839	...	4	...	...	5	31	39	793	4	20	44 75	2,056 46	1,224 15	11,301 00	932 00	Samuel M. Sparks.
X. Synod of Michigan	1834	9	113	4	10	110	316	396	8,628	94	255	433 55	4,419 22	2,743 16	2,437 92	1,763 67	William S. Taylor.
1. Detroit	1826	...	18	...	3	16	40	55	1,321	2	43	65 00	1,668 26	765 91	743 25	267 51	Eurotas P. Hastings, Esq.
2. Monroe	1833	...	13	...	...	16	84	61	1,287	20	51	59 75	380 96	372 54	98 00	201 61	George Duffield, Jr.
3. Marshall	1838	..	17	...	1	14	49	68	1,360	26	24	69 30	328 80	181 42	76 81	38 56	Chester S. Armstrong.
4. Washtenaw	1838	...	15	2	5	9	38	61	1,184	24	26	57 15	242 09	131 60	497 85	31 26	Lucius D. Chapin.
5. Kalamazoo	1838	...	18	1	1	15	56	27	1,370	6	43	70 05	856 55	776 21	93 16	554 59	Job Pierson.
6. Coldwater	1856	...	9	1	...	12	17	45	860	7	21	45 35	386 53	228 86	443 84	279 63	Joseph A. Ranney.
7. Saginaw	1856	...	13	...	...	14	23	60	769	7	33	47 20	369 78	209 77	301 25	348 00	Henry H. Northrop.
8. Grand River Valley	1857	...	8	...	...	9	9	19	401	...	14	19 75	186 25	76 85	183 76	42 51	David M. Cooper.
9. Lake Superior*	1857	...	2	...	...	5	...	...	76	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Cicero B. Stevens.
XI. Synod of W. Reserve	1825	6	102	4	13	80	140	181	6,157	56	158	298 75	8,524 78	5,063 84	5,251 32	3,910 19	Xenophon Betts.
1. Grand River*	1814	...	8	...	...	5	...	. .	432	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Dexter Witter.
2. Huron	1823	...	17	...	2	16	29	36	1,283	8	23	65 70	530 64	413 84	767 02	422 21	Alfred Newton, D. D.
3. Trumbull	1827	...	12	...	1	15	18	38	1,153	8	29	56 55	379 38	533 75	160 83	706 67	Xenophon Betts.
4. Cleveland & Portage	1830	...	45	4	6	21	47	70	1,992	19	66	104 75	4,160 51	2,805 80	3,249 97	1,103 06	James Shaw.
5. Elyria	1842	...	13	...	1	12	20	6	594	10	13	28 75	1,850 00	996 80	121 00	1,293 50	Ansel R. Clark.
6. Maumee	1842	...	7	...	3	11	26	31	703	11	27	43 00	1,604 25	313 65	952 50	384 75	Perry C. Baldwin.
XII. Synod of Ohio	1814	4	53	5	6	67	118	106	4,306	29	145	189 56	1,929 98	1,639 07	1,454 94	1,308 66	Addison Kingsbury, D. D.
1. Athens	1822	...	11	2	5	17	19	19	783	3	34	36 50	215 25	107 31	137 15	240 02	Charles C. Hart.
2. Pataskala	1809	...	19	1	...	23	37	35	1,459	5	57	71 06	728 78	667 89	890 35	344 60	Timothy W. Howe.
3. Franklin	1835	..	18	2	1	17	31	44	1,261	17	33	39 50	556 78	639 67	281 14	172 04	Oren H. Newton.
4. Scioto	1845	...	5	...	...	10	31	8	803	4	21	42 50	429 17	224 20	146 30	552 00	Eli P. Adams.
XIII. Synod of Cincinnati	1829	4	55	11	1	51	276	126	3,849	79	135	250 30	5,953 88	2,829 26	12,189 36	6,881 92	William M. Cheever.
1. Cincinnati	1828	...	26	10	...	16	69	71	1,504	15	87	131 50	4,068 50	1,833 92	11,436 86	6,261 78	Joseph Chester.
2. Ripley	1838	...	12	...	1	17	32	18	878	4	24	38 15	529 00	221 30	213 00	312 90	Jesse H. Lockhart.
3. Dayton	1838	...	7	...	...	10	81	20	914	28	18	45 65	911 88	337 00	437 50	147 00	William M. Cheever.
4. Hamilton	1846	...	10	1	...	8	94	17	553	32	6	35 00	444 50	437 04	102 00	160 24	John Hussey.

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

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certificate.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	STATED CLERKS.
XIV. Synod of Indiana...	1826	4	42	2	7	63	192	124	3,679	79	105	$196 52	$2,538 80	$2,257 32	$7,295 54	$873 88	John M. Bishop.
1. Salem	1823	...	9	...	...	15	95	25	1,007	41	40	45 55	993 40	648 76	5,402 50	78 88	John M. Bishop.
2. Madison	1825	...	9	2	5	15	42	15	867	18	23	51 42	492 95	631 22	558 80	248 95	Wm. Wallace Atterbury.
3. Indianapolis	1830	...	13	...	2	18	31	49	1,110	12	22	64 50	768 90	654 40	1,248 74	502 85	Philip S. Cleland.
4. Green Castle	1850	...	11	...	...	15	24	35	695	8	20	35 05	283 55	322 94	85 50	43 20	Thomas S. Milligan.
XV. Synod of Wabash	1851	4	33	...	...	54	141	97	2,740	42	83	107 50	673 41	1,123 42	1,095 89	660 15	Francis S. McCabe.
1. Crawfordsville	1825	...	10	...	...	12	21	26	580	7	6	27 00	137 06	227 55	197 45	30 00	William N. Steele.
2. St. Joseph	1833	...	10	...	...	14	45	21	724	14	12	28 10	202 20	428 22	512 25	129 05	Bethuel Farrand.
3. Logansport	1835	...	8	...	...	19	49	32	1,020	10	47	29 95	278 00	232 00	289 00	478 00	Francis S. McCabe.
4. Fort Wayne	1845	...	5	...	...	9	26	18	416	11	18	22 45	56 15	235 65	97 19	23 10	William R. Palmer.
XVI. Synod of Illinois	1831	4	71	...	...	83	191	170	4,455	63	135	218 85	3,001 60	2,013 43	1,550 01	2,130 70	George C. Wood.
1. Illinois	1828	...	18	...	...	20	79	45	1,447	21	33	61 50	884 00	1,423 00	515 86	961 60	George C. Wood.
2. Schuyler	1833	...	17	...	...	21	45	38	1,150	19	34	56 05	477 05	308 98	467 70	580 90	George I. King.
3. Wabash	1833	...	9	...	...	10	12	26	448	1	25	19 90	215 35	78 50	16 00	.....	Enoch Kingsbury.
4. Alton	1836	...	27	...	...	32	55	61	1,410	22	43	81 40	1,425 20	202 95	550 45	588 20	Cornelius H. Taylor, D. D.
XVII. Synod of Peoria	1843	5	86	...	4	71	228	258	5,155	77	167	238 60	7,947 48	3,094 70	1,560 50	2,864 04	Zephan. M. Humphrey.
1. Ottawa	1834	...	14	...	...	9	41	11	415	15	20	18 20	134 75	65 50	.....	11 00	Nahum Gould.
2. Knox	1836	...	8	...	3	8	30	31	553	13	11	28 05	181 05	264 54	339 20	322 70	Samuel Wyckoff.
3. Galena & Belvidere	1842	...	27	...	...	21	64	44	1,357	24	44	58 15	956 96	393 95	73 20	404 05	Isaac E. Carey.
4. Chicago	1847	...	30	...	...	20	75	134	2,240	22	70	103 80	6,574 40	2,266 71	1,148 10	2,116 29	Asahel L. Brooks.
5. Bloomington	1847	...	7	...	1	13	18	38	590	3	22	30 40	100 32	104 00	.....	10 00	James R. Dunn.
XVIII. Syn. of Wisconsin.	1857	3	32	...	...	28	58	39	1,316	20	77	64 30	345 78	128 58	395 58	248 82	Sidney H. Barteau.
1. Milwaukee	1851	...	13	...	...	7	12	11	556	5	53	27 85	214 99	60 49	161 57	153 92	George W. Elliott.
2. Fox River	1851	...	8	...	...	7	6	11	312	2	3	13 20	37 00	4 00	105 50	.....	John B. Preston.
3. Columbus	1857	...	11	...	...	14	40	17	448	13	21	23 25	93 79	64 09	128 51	94 90	Benjamin G. Riley.

XIX. Synod of Iowa.....	1853	6	51	...	2	55	79	90	1,982	14	74	118 50	963 59	232 00	409 97	399 90	Samuel Storrs Howe.
1. Des Moines.	1845	...	6	...	...	10	8	18	281	1	13	12 65	72 80	28 25	38 75	69 50	Thompson Bird.
2. Keokuk.....	1852	...	8	...	2	6	12	3	294	1	13	16 85	152 40	55 25	146 47	89 00	Gamaliel C. Beaman.
3. Iowa City.....	1852	...	14	...	...	15	19	31	500	6	27	38 00	157 50	48 65	199 75	172 85	Hannibal L. Stanley.
4. Dubuque.....	1855	...	7	...	...	4	11	11	206	3	11	10 00	264 69	64 85	.....	68 55	Henry B. Holmes.
5. Chariton	1857	...	5	...	...	6	14	...	295	2	7	18 00	56 00	.....	.....	.....	Asa Martin.
6. Cedar Valley	1860	...	11	...	...	14	15	27	406	1	3	23 00	260 20	35 00	25 00	.....	Calvin Waterbury.
XX. Synod of Minnesota..	1858	3	26	...	2	22	171	59	1,014	129	189	33 85	239 45	166 95	229 85	302 85	Charles S. Le Duc.
1. Dakota.....	1846	...	12	...	...	8	150	32	524	122	172	10 45	27 70	36 25	.....	232 00	Moses N. Adams.
2. Minnesota	1850	...	8	...	...	9	13	7	295	3	12	14 75	175 75	115 70	115 50	9 50	John Mattocks.
3. Winona.....	1857	...	6	...	2	5	8	20	195	4	5	8 65	36 00	15 00	114 35	61 35	Edmund D. Holt.
XXI. Synod of Missouri...	1832	4	24	2	...	23	77	51	1,352	17	39	50 50	2,159 85	364 51	988 05	434 45	Henry A. Nelson, D. D.
1. St. Louis.....	1831	...	6	...	...	3	27	23	495	5	24	24 00	2,054 20	301 91	953 05	434 45	Edmund Wright.
2. Lexington	1842	...	6	...	...	4	5	...	432	...	...	6 30	10 00	54 60	.....	.....	Timothy Morgan.
3. Northern Missouri.....	1845	...	5	...	...	5	32	5	235	7	...	10 45	52 00	8 00	35 00	.....	James A. Darrah.
4. Kansas	1859	...	7	2	...	11	13	23	190	5	15	9 75	43 65	.....	.....	.....	Judson Aspinwall.
XXII. S. of A. California	1857	4	29	...	...	19	21	22	667	5	48	.....	135 00	70 00	.....	12 00	Edward B. Walsworth.
1. San Francisco *.....	1849	...	9	...	...	3	...	...	143	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Samuel H. Willey.
2. Sierra Nevada.....	1857	...	8	...	...	5	17	12	218	5	16	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Walter Frear.
3. San José.....	1857	...	8	...	...	8	4	10	253	...	32	.....	135 00	70 00	.....	12 00	Wm. Wallace Brier.
4. Washoe *.....	1863	...	4	...	...	3	...	...	53	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Albert F. White.

SYNODS.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certificate.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.
1. Albany	1803	5	83	3	5	65	156	93	7,747	50	117	$309.83	$6,739.47	$3,954.85	$1,876.65	$3,889.87
2. Utica	1829	4	75	4	11	69	360	163	6,785	148	108	235.45	4,616.36	3,486.41	961.35	2,698.45
3. Onondaga	1855	4	95	26	19	70	330	231	8,050	165	164	352.52	5,549.39	3,556.48	2,526.80	2,533.75
4. Geneva	1812	6	102	5	4	91	372	191	8,959	161	162	424.15	3,739.91	3,086.37	1,485.43	2,829.79
5. Susquehanna	1853	3	36	1	6	43	126	61	3,736	46	44	172.57	1,322.63	2,318.55	626.56	863.39
6. Genesee	1821	6	131	7	10	99	695	352	12,673	264	216	632.96	7,915.54	6,409.02	3,904.22	6,389.21
7. New York and New Jersey	1788	9	278	47	50	162	1146	1068	27,931	318	686	1394.20	58,753.04	42,044.70	17,734.94	24,329.03
8. Pennsylvania	1838	5	101	12	24	84	663	398	13,898	188	511	749.45	44,171.91	10,380.46	12,780.86	9,663.00
9. West Pennsylvania	1843	3	26	2	1	33	124	78	2,995	49	74	142.67	2,536.47	1,565.96	11,647.52	1,455.93
10. Michigan	1834	9	113	4	10	110	316	396	8,628	94	255	433.55	4,419.22	2,743.16	2,437.92	1,763.67
11. Western Reserve	1825	6	102	4	13	80	140	181	6,157	56	158	298.75	8,524.78	5,063.84	5,251.32	3,910.19
12. Ohio	1814	4	53	5	6	67	118	106	4,306	29	145	189.56	1,929.98	1,639.07	1,454.94	1,308.66
13. Cincinnati	1829	4	55	11	1	51	276	126	3,849	79	135	250.30	5,953.88	2,829.26	12,189.36	6,881.92
14. Indiana	1826	4	42	2	7	63	192	124	3,679	79	105	196.52	2,538.80	2,257.32	7,295.54	873.88
15. Wabash	1851	4	33	...	...	54	141	97	2,740	42	83	107.50	673.41	1,123.42	1,095.89	660.15
16. Illinois	1831	4	71	...	...	83	191	170	4,455	63	135	218.85	3,001.60	2,013.43	1,550.01	2,130.70
17. Peoria	1843	5	86	...	4	71	228	258	5,155	77	167	238.60	7,947.48	3,094.70	1,560.50	2,864.04
18. Wisconsin	1857	3	32	...	...	28	58	39	1,316	20	77	64.30	345.78	128.58	395.58	248.82
19. Iowa	1853	6	51	...	2	55	79	90	1,982	14	74	118.50	963.59	232.00	409.97	399.90
20. Minnesota	1858	3	26	...	2	22	171	59	1,014	129	189	33.85	239.45	166.95	229.85	302.85
21. Missouri	1832	4	24	2	...	23	77	51	1,352	17	39	50.50	2,159.85	364.51	988.05	434.45
22. Alta California	1857	4	29	...	...	19	21	22	667	5	48	.....	135.00	70.00	.....	12.00
		105	1644	135	175	1442	5980	4354	138,074	2093	3692	$6614.58	$174,177.54	$98,529.04	$88,353.26	$76,443.65