MINUTES, 1869.

New York City, N. Y., May 20th, 1869.

THE General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met, agreeably to appointment, in the church of the Covenant, in the city of New York, N. Y., on Thursday, the 20th of May, 1869, at 11 o'clock A. M., and was opened with a sermon, by the Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., the Moderator of the last Assembly, from John 17 : 21: "That they all may be one."

After the sermon, the Assembly was constituted with prayer.

The Committee of Arrangements reported, recommending that the morning session open at 8½ A. M., and close at 12½ o'clock P. M.; that the afternoon session open at 2½ o'clock, and close at 5½ o'clock P. M.; and that the first hour of the morning session be occupied with devotional exercises. The report was adopted.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [248]

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

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the previous session were read and approved.

On the report of the Committee on Commissions, the following persons were enrolled as duly appointed Commissioners of this General Assembly:

I. SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Champlain,*	George T. Everest,	Henry McFadden.
2. *Troy,*	James M. Crawford,	Elijah G. Atwood,
	George Van Deurs,	William P. Bliss.
3. *Albany,*	Henry Darling, D. D.,	Samuel Anable.
4. *Columbia,*	David R. Frazer,	Clarence W. Bacon.
5. *Catskill,*	George A. Howard,	David B. Hull.

II. SYNOD OF UTICA.

1. *St. Lawrence,*	John Waugh,	William A. Eldridge.
2. *Watertown,*	John B. Preston,	William P. Massey, M. D.
3. *Oswego,*	Henry N. Millerd,	Daniel W. Ingersoll.
4. *Utica,*	Philemon H. Fowler, D. D.,	Horatio G. Torbert, M. D.,
	S. W. Fisher, D. D., LL.D.,	Thomas Williams.

III. SYNOD OF ONONDAGA.

1. *Onondaga,*	Sherman B. Canfield, D. D.,	E. Kirby West.
2. *Cayuga,*	Ezra A. Huntington, D. D.,	Sylvester Willard, M. D.,
	Marcus N. Preston,	Hon. John Porter.
3. *Cortland,*	John V. C. Nellis,	Henry C. Hendrick, M. D.,
4. *Tioga,*	Solon Cobb,	Stephen D. Hand, M. D.

IV. SYNOD OF GENEVA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Geneva*,	A. Augustus Wood, D. D.,	Harvey Rice,
	David Magie,	Ebenezer B. Jones.
2. *Steuben*,	Joel Wakeman, D. D.,	Paul C. Howe.
3. *Chemung*,	Augustus W. Cowles, D. D.,	Hon. William T. Jackson.
4. *Ithaca*,	Alexander O. Peloubet,	Abram G. Opdyke.
5. *Wellsboro*,	Frederick Graves,	Hon. Henry W. Williams.
6. *Lyons*,	Robert E. Willson,	Henry M. Clark.

V. SYNOD OF SUSQUEHANNA.

1. *Otsego*,	Charles Gillette.	
2. *Chenango*,	Sumner Mandeville,	Nelson G. Hunt.
3. *Delaware*,	Charles H. De Long,	Marsena Benedict.

VI. SYNOD OF GENESEE.

1. *Buffalo*,	Albert T. Chester, D. D.,	George W. Tew,
	Gros. W. Heacock, D. D.,	Loring Danforth (2).
2. *Ontario*,	Levi Parsons,	Orrin S. Gilbert (2).
3. *Rochester*,	James B. Shaw, D. D.,	Frederick Starr,
	Alexander McA. Thorburn,	Louis Chapin.
4. *Genesee*,	John Wickes,	Augustus Cowdin.
5. *Niagara*,	Edward Payson Marvin,	William F. Evans.
6. *Genesee Valley*,	Corliss B. Gardner.	[249]

VII. SYNOD OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY.

1. *Hudson*,	George Pierson (2),	Jesse Roe.
2. *North River*,	Edgar W. Clark,	George Bates.
3. *Long Island*,	Epher Whitaker,	Stuart T. Terry.
4. *New York, 3d*,	Robt. Russell Booth, D. D.,	Cephas Brainerd (6),
	Thomas Street,	Stephen H. Thayer,
	James B. Bonar,	George W. Beale.
5. *New York, 4th*,	William Adams, D. D.,	Hon. William E. Dodge,
	Thomas S. Hastings, D. D.,	George W. Lane,
	Howard Crosby D. D.,	William A. Cummings.
6. *Brooklyn*,	Norman Seaver, D. D.,	Nathan Lane,
	Samuel Carlile,	Harrison Teller, M. D.
7. *Newark*,	Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D.,	William F. Van Wagenen,
	Daniel W. Poor, D. D.,	Hiram B. Littell,
	Charles T. Haley,	Frederick G. Burnham.
8. *Rockaway*,	John Ford,	Hon. Daniel Haines.
9. *Montrose*,	Charles S. Dunning,	Nathan P. Wilcox (2),
	Jacob G. Miller,	LaFayette Fitch (2).
10. *South Carolina*,	Silas McKinney.	

VIII. SYNOD OF PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Wilmington*,	John Patton, D. D.,	Edward T. Taylor (5).
2. *Philadelphia, 3d*,	William E. Moore,	Hon. William Strong (2),
	Z. M. Humphrey, D. D.,	Hon. Jos. Allison, LL.D. (2)
3. *Philadelphia, 4th*,	Robert Adair,	Samuel T. Bodine,
	Richard H. Allen, D. D.,	Charles M. Lukens,
	Herrick Johnson, D. D.,	Peter L. Krider (2).
4. *Harrisburgh*,	Conway P. Wing, D. D.,	Peter Wilson.
5. *Dist. of Columbia*,	Byron Sunderland, D. D.,	J. Faris Moore.

IX. SYNOD OF WEST PENNSYLVANIA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Erie*,	George W. Cleaveland,	Absalom M. Carson.
2. *Meadville*,	Richard Craighead,	Daniel Uber.
3. *Pittsburgh*,	William T. Wylie,	Wm. C. Aughinbaugh.

X. SYNOD OF MICHIGAN.

1. *Detroit*,	Albert E. Hastings,	Hon. Jacob S. Farrand.
2. *Monroe*,	J. Gordon Jones,	Ephraim R. Willard.
3. *Marshall*,	Thomas Sherrard,	Hon. George H. French.
4. *Washtenaw*,	Gustavus L. Foster,	Gershom B. Gillett (2).
5. *Kalamazoo*,	John Sailor,	Daniel O. Roberts.
6. *Coldwater*,	Fred. R. Gallaher, D. D.,	Albert A. Luce.
7. *Saginaw*,	Archibald McSween,	Youngs E. Benton.
8. *Grand Riv. Val.*,	Louis Mills,	Henry Griffin.
9. *Lansing*,	J. Evarts Weed,	Joseph Mills.

XI. SYNOD OF WESTERN RESERVE.

1. *Grand River*,	Dwight K. Steele (2),	Orramel H. Fitch.
2. *Huron*,	William T. Hart,	Jairus Kennan.
3. *Trumbull*,	Xenophon Betts,	Jonathan Warner.
4. *Cleveland and Portage*,	Samuel C. Aiken, D. D.,	Hon. John A. Foot,
	James Shaw, D. D.,	Thomas D. Crosby.
5. *Maumee*,	Perry C. Baldwin.	

[250]

XII. SYNOD OF OHIO.

1. *Athens*,	Henry W. Ballantine,	Marcus Bosworth.
2. *Pataskala*,	Addison Kingsbury, D. D.,	Timothy Rose.
3. *Franklin*,	John W. Thompson,	John McElroy.
4. *Scioto*,	E. Perkins Pratt, D. D.,	David C. Anderson (2).

XIII. SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

1. *Cincinnati*,	Cornelius H. Taylor, D. D.,	Guernsey Y. Roots,
	George M. Maxwell, D. D.,	Francis Ferry.
2. *Ripley*,	Henry Osborn,	John West.
3. *Dayton*,	Rollin A. Sawyer,	Daniel Keifer.
4. *Hamilton*,	Benjamin W. Chidlaw,	John Irwin.

XIV. SYNOD OF INDIANA.

1. *Salem*,	Charles Hutchinson,	Joseph Loughmiller.
2. *Madison*,	Manuel J. Drennan.	
3. *Indianapolis*,	Alexander Parker,	William H. Wishard (4).
4. *Green Castle*,	Blackford Condit,	R. Wilds Jones.

XV. SYNOD OF WABASH.

1. *Crawfordsville*,	Caleb Mills, LL.D.,	John Foster (2).
2. *St. Joseph*,	George C. Noyes.	
3. *Logansport*,	Amos Jones,	Noah Cory.
4. *Fort Wayne*,	Henry L. Brown,	Hon. John L. Knight.

XVI. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

PRESBYTERIES	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Illinois*,	Smith H. Hyde,	John Crocker.
2. *Schuyler*,	William W. Whipple.	
3. *Wabash*,	Russell D. Van Deursen,	Eben H. Palmer.
4. *Alton*,	Gideon C. Clark,	David E. Beatty,
	James W. Stark,	Lewis Potter.

XVII. SYNOD OF PEORIA.

1. *Ottawa*,	Wellington W. Wells,	Charles Merwin.
2. *Knox*,	Edward H. Curtis,	John Irwin.
3. *Galena and Belvidere*,	Josiah Leonard,	Thomas Wilson,
	Edwards Marsh,	Calvin A. Shaw.
4. *Chicago*,	Robert W. Patterson, D. D.,	Claudius B. Nelson,
	Arthur Mitchell,	Royal E. Barber.
5. *Bloomington*,	Charles H. Palmer,	Benjamin E. Miles.

XVIII. SYNOD OF WISCONSIN.

1. *Milwaukee*,	John Martin,	Owen R. Bacon.
2. *Fox River*,	John Fairchild.	
3. *Columbus*,	Warren Mayo,	Ephraim G. Stitt.
4. *Lake Superior*,	George W. Lloyd,	John B. Clark (2).

XIX. SYNOD OF IOWA.

1. *Des Moines*,	Asa Johnson.	
2. *Keokuk*,	Charles R. French,	Nathaniel Heizer.
3. *Iowa City*,	Abner D. Chapman,	William Ballantyne.
4. *Dubuque*,	David Blakely,	Proctor C. Samson.
5. *Chariton*,	John Fisher,	Robert M. Evans.
6. *Cedar Rapids*,	John Summers,	Benjamin K. Adams.
7. *Omaha*,	George L. Little,	Elmer D. Dimmick. [251]

XX. SYNOD OF MINNESOTA.

1. *Mankato*,	Moses N. Adams,	William P. McMasters.
2. *Minnesota*,	Frederick W. Flint,	Daniel W. Ingersoll.
3. *Winona*,	Delos E. Wells (2),	Andrew B. Coe (2).
4. *Dakota*,	Stephen R. Riggs.	

XXI. SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

1. *St. Louis*,	Raphael Kessler,	James M. Brawner.
2. *Northern Missouri*,	Thomas H. Tatlow,	Homer H. Winchell.
3. *Lexington*,	Elijah A. Carson,	Charles F. Smith.
4. *Osage*,	Seth G. Clark,	G. Whitelaw Shield.

XXII. SYNOD OF KANSAS.

1. *Kansas*,	Victor M. King,	Wm. P. Montgomery.
2. *Humboldt*,	James Lewis,	Philetus Fales.
3. *Smoky Hill*,	J. Levis Jones,	Benj. F. Thayer, M. D.

XXIII. SYNOD OF TENNESSEE.

1. *Union*,	Isaac Emory,	Benj. A. Blackburn (2).
2. *Kingston*,	William B. Brown,	William S. Potter (2).
3. *Holston*,	Nathan Bachman,	Joseph R. Brown (2).

XXIV. SYNOD OF ALTA CALIFORNIA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *San Francisco.*		
2. *Nevada,*	Alexander M. Stewart.	
3. *San José,*	William W. Brier,	David Huber.

CORRESPONDING BODIES.

1. *General Assembly of the other Branch,*	Rev. Chas. C. Beatty, D. D., LL.D., Rev. George W. Musgrave, D. D., Hon. Robert McKnight.
2. *General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.*	
3. *General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America.*	
4. *General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland.*	
5. *General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland.*	
6. *Synod of the Canada Presbyterian Church,*	Rev. William Ormiston, D. D.
7. *General Synod of the Reformed Church in America,*	Rev. John L. See, D. D.
8. *General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America.*	
9. *General Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States.*	[252]
10. *General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States.*	
11. *General Conference of the Congregational Churches of Maine.*	
12. *General Association of New Hampshire.*	
13. *General Convention of Vermont.*	
14. *General Association of the Congregational Churches of Massachusetts,*	Rev. Edward Strong, D. D.
15. *General Association of Connecticut,*	Rev. Robert G. Vermilye, D. D.
16. *Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin.*	
17. *Union of Evangelical Churches of France.*	

The Rev. Philemon H. Fowler, D. D., of the Presbytery of Utica, was elected Moderator, and inducted into office.

The Rev. George A. Howard, of the Presbytery of Catskill, and the Rev. William E. Moore, of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Third, were chosen Temporary Clerks.

The docket of business was read by the Stated Clerk.

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

The reception of the Synodical Records, Statistical Reports, Narratives, and all papers intended for the Assembly, was made the first order of the day for to-morrow morning.

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

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

Resolved, That the responses of the Presbyteries to the Overture on Reunion be referred for collation and a classified report to the Rev. Henry Darling, D. D., Rev. Arthur Mitchell, Rev. Charles S. Dunning, and Messrs. Nathan Lane and Guernsey Y. Roots.

Ordered, That, for the future, a Standing Committee be appointed, to whom shall be referred so much of the annual report of the Permanent Committee on Home Missions, as relates to the Freedmen's Department.

Resolved, That a *Committee* of five ministers and five elders be appointed, to-morrow morning, by the Moderator, to confer with any like Committee of the Assembly of the other branch on the subject of Reunion.

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

Concluded with prayer. [253]

Friday, May 21st, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and occupied the opening hour with devotional exercises.

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

A communication from the Synod of the Canada Presbyterian Church, accrediting a deputation of two of its members to this General Assembly, was referred for consideration and report to the Rev. Samuel W. Fisher, D. D., Rev. George M. Maxwell, D. D., and Rev. James B. Bonar.

The Moderator announced the following Standing Committees:

1. *Bills and Overtures. Ministers*—Albert T. Chester, D. D., Byron Sunderland, D. D., Robert Russell Booth, D. D., Charles S. Dunning, Henry W. Ballantine, John Fairchild. *Elders*—Hon. John A. Foot, Horatio G. Torbert, M. D., Samuel Anable, Joseph Loughmiller, Noah Cory.

2. *Judicial Committee. Ministers*—Conway P. Wing, D. D., Samuel C. Aiken, D. D., John Waugh, James Shaw, D. D., Robert E. Willson, Richard Craighead. *Elders*—Hon. John Porter, Hon. William T. Jackson, Frederick G. Burnham, Jairus Kennan, Royal E. Barber.

3. *Polity of the Church. Ministers*—Henry Darling, D. D., E. Perkins Pratt, D. D., Xenophon Betts, Epher Whitaker, George Pierson, Russell D. Van Deursen. *Elders*—Hon. Henry W. Williams, Stephen H. Thayer, Charles M. Lukens, Timothy Rose, Ephraim R. Willard.

4. *Foreign Missions. Ministers*—Grosvenor W. Heacock, D. D., Stephen R. Riggs, Alexander M. Stewart, Gustavus L. Foster, J. Evarts Weed, Charles H. Palmer. *Elders*—Frederick Starr, Claudius B. Nelson, Elijah G. Atwood, Proctor C. Samson, Jonathan Warner.

5. *Education. Ministers*—Ezra A. Huntington, D. D., George M. Maxwell, D. D., Augustus H. Cowles. D. D., Caleb Mills, LL. D., John Patton, D. D., Charles Hutchinson. *Elders.*—Sylvester Willard, M. D., George W. Lane, Frederick G. Burnham, Daniel Keifer, Benjamin F. Thayer, M. D. [254]

6. *Home Missions. Ministers*—Zephaniah Humphrey, D. D., Cornelius H. Taylor, D. D., William W. Brier, J. Levis Jones, Frederick R. Gallaher, D. D., Norman Seaver, D. D. *Elders*—Thomas Williams, George W. Tew, William Ballantyne, William C. Aughinbaugh, James M. Brawner.

7. *Freedmen. Ministers*—Arthur Mitchell, Joel Wakeman, D. D., Silas McKinney, William T. Wylie, Jacob G. Miller, William B. Brown. *Elders*—Nathan Lane, John West, Hiram B. Littell, William P. Bliss, J. Faris Moore.

8. *Publication. Ministers*—Thomas S. Hastings, D. D., A. Augustus Wood, D. D., Levi Parsons, Wellington W. Wells, Richard H. Allen, D. D., George T. Everest. *Elders*—William A. Cummings, Elmer D. Dimmick, G. Whitelaw Shield, David E. Beatty, Daniel O. Roberts.

9. *Church Erection. Ministers*—Herrick Johnson, D. D., Rollin A. Sawyer, George C. Noyes, Raphael Kessler, Henry N. Millerd, Edward P. Marvin. *Elders*—Ebenezer B. Jones, Guernsey Y. Roots, E. Kirby West, Louis Chapin, Daniel W. Ingersoll.

10. *Sabbath-schools. Ministers*—Daniel W. Poor, D. D., Alexander McA. Thorburn, Isaac Emory, George Van Deurs, Benjamin W. Chidlaw, Thomas Street. *Elders*—Joseph Mills, Eben H. Palmer, Calvin A. Shaw, Owen R. Bacon, Stephen D. Hand, M. D.

11. *Ministerial Relief. Ministers*—Sherman B. Canfield, D. D., William W. Whipple, Marcus N. Preston, Alexander Parker, John Sailor, Henry Osborn. *Elders*—Hon. George H. French, Harvey Rice, Augustus Cowdin, R. Wilds Jones, Homer H. Winchell.

12. *Narrative of Religion. Ministers*—David Magie, Addison Kingsbury, D. D., Solon Cobb, Charles Gillette, George W. Cleaveland, J. Gordon Jones. *Elders*—Henry McFadden, Henry M. Clark, Harrison Teller, M. D., Peter Wilson, Thomas B. Crosby.

13. *Mileage of Commissioners. Elders*—Francis Ferry, George W. Beale, Samuel T. Bodine. [255]

14. *Devotional Exercises. Ministers*—Howard Crosby, D. D., James B. Bonar, Robert Adair, Charles T. Haley, Sumner Mandeville, James M. Crawford. *Elders*—William P. Montgomery, Henry C. Hendrick, M. D., Alvan G. Opdyke, George Bates, John B. Clark.

15. *Leave of Absence. Ministers*—Josiah Leonard, George L. Little, Frederick W. Flint, William T. Hart, John V. C. Nellis, Alexander O. Peloubet. *Elders*—William T. Van Wagenen, Youngs E. Benton, Henry Griffen, Orramel H. Fitch, David B. Hull.

The Moderator also announced the following Committees on Synodical Records:

1. *Synod of Albany. Ministers*—John Wickes, Charles H. De Long, Corliss B. Gardner. *Elders*—John McElroy, Lewis Potter.

2. *Synod of Utica. Ministers*—Samuel Carlile, John Ford, William E. Moore. *Elders*—Charles Marvin, John Irwin.

3. *Synod of Onondaga. Ministers*—Amos Jones, Henry L. Brown, Gideon C. Clark. *Elders*—Owen R. Bacon, Ephraim G. Stitt.

4. *Synod of Geneva. Ministers*—John Martin, Warren Mayo, George W. Lloyd. *Elders*—Nathaniel Heizer, Robert M. Evans.

5. *Synod of Susquehanna. Ministers*—James W. Stark, Wellington W. Wells, Edward H. Curtis. *Elders*—Charles F. Smith, William P. McMasters.

6. *Synod of Genesee. Ministers*—Moses N. Adams, Frederick W. Flint, Elijah A. Carson. *Elders*—John Irwin, John West.

7. *Synod of New York and New Jersey. Ministers*—Thomas H. Tatlow, Seth G. Clark. Victor M. King. *Elders*—Philetus Fales, David Huber.

8. *Synod of Pennsylvania. Ministers*—John B. Preston, David R. Frazer, Corliss B. Gardner. *Elders*—Henry McFadden, Elijah G. Atwood.

9. *Synod of West Pennsylvania. Ministers*—George L. Little, John Summers, John Fisher. *Elders*—William P. Bliss, Samuel Anable. [256]

10. *Synod of Michigan. Ministers*—Nathan Bachman, James Lewis, David Blakely. *Elders*—Clarence W. Bacon, David B. Hull.

11. *Synod of Western Reserve. Ministers*—Abner D. Chapman, Charles R. French, Asa Johnson. *Elders*—William A. Eldridge, Daniel W. Ingersoll.

12. *Synod of Ohio. Ministers*—Blackford Condit, Manuel J. Drennan, Perry C. Baldwin. *Elders*—Horatio G. Torbert, M. D., Thomas Williams.

13. *Synod of Cincinnati. Ministers*—John W. Thompson, Louis Mills, Thomas Sherrard. *Elders*—E. Kirby West, Sylvester Willard, M. D.

14. *Synod of Indiana. Ministers*—Albert E. Hastings, Edgar W. Clark, George T. Everest. *Elders*—Hon. John Porter, Henry C. Hendricks, M. D.

15. *Synod of Wabash. Ministers*—James M. Crawford, George Van Deurs, David R. Frazer. *Elders*—Ebenezer R. Jones, Harvey Rice.

16. *Synod of Illinois. Ministers*—John Waugh, John B. Preston, Henry N. Millerd. *Elders*—Hon William T. Jackson, Abram G. Opdyke.

17. *Synod of Peoria. Ministers*—Marcus N. Preston, John V. C. Nellis, Solon Cobb. *Elders*—Henry M. Clark, Nelson G. Hunt.

18. *Synod of Wisconsin. Ministers*—David Magie, Joel Wakeman, D. D., Alexander O. Peloubet. *Elders*—Frederick Starr, George W. Tew.

19. *Synod of Iowa. Ministers*—Robert E. Willson, Charles Gillette, Sumner Mandeville. *Elders*—Louis Chapin, Augustus Cowdin.

20. *Synod of Minnesota. Ministers*—Levi Parsons, Alexander McA. Thorburn, John Wickes. *Elders*—William F. Evans, Jesse Roe.

21. *Synod of Missouri. Ministers*—Edward P. Marvin, Corliss B. Gardner, George Pierson. *Elders*—George Bates, Stuart T. Terry.

22. *Synod of Tennessee. Ministers*—Edgar W. Clark, Epher Whitaker, Thomas Street. *Elders*—Stephen H. Thayer, George W. Beale. [257]

23. *Synod of Alta California. Ministers*—James B. Bonar, Samuel Carlile, Charles T. Haley. *Elders*—William A. Cummings, George W. Lane.

The Moderator also announced the following Special Committee:

On Reunion. Ministers—William Adams, D. D., Robert W. Patterson, D. D., Samuel W. Fisher, D. D., LL.D., Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., James B. Shaw, D. D. *Elders*—Hon. William Strong, Hon. Daniel Haines, Hon. William E. Dodge, Hon. Jacob S. Farrand, Hon. John L. Knight.

The Records of the Synods, the Narratives, the Statistical Reports, and other papers from the Presbyteries, were received, and appropriately referred.

The annual report of the Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions was read, and referred to the corresponding Standing Committee.

The Committee on the Reunion of the two branches of the Presbyterian Church, continued by the last Assembly, presented a report, which was referred to the Special Committee on Reunion, just appointed.

The annual report of the Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions was read, and referred to the corresponding Standing Committee.

A communication was received from the General Assembly in session at the Brick church, announcing that a Committee of Conference, consisting of the Rev. George W. Musgrave, D. D., Rev. A. G. Hall, D. D., Rev. Lyman Atwater, D. D., Rev. Willis Lord, D. D., Rev. Henry R. Wilson, D. D., and the Elders, Robert Carter, J. C. Grier, Charles D. Drake, Henry Day, and William M. Francis, had been appointed to confer with a similar Committee, if appointed by this Assembly, on the subject of the Reunion of the two branches of the Presbyterian Church, to report during the present sessions, and at as early a day as practicable, what further action, if any, should be taken on the subject.

The Stated Clerk was directed to acknowledge the receipt of the communi-

cation, and to state that a similar Committee, with like purpose, has been appointed by this Assembly.

Adjourned until 2½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [258]

Friday, May 21st, 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Treasurer of the Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions presented his annual report, which was referred to the Standing Committee.

The annual reports of the Education Committee, of the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, of the Executive Committee of the Ministerial Relief Fund, of the Presbyterian Publication Committee, and of the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, were severally read and referred to the appropriate Standing Committees.

The report of the Treasurer of the General Assembly was read, and referred to Messrs. Nathan Lane and Sylvester Willard, M. D., for audit.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 8¾ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 22d, 8¾ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and occupied the opening hour with devotional exercises.

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

The annual report of the Permanent Committee on Sabbath-schools was read, and referred to the corresponding Standing Committee.

A recommendation of the Committee on Bills and Overtures, in answer to Overtures from four Presbyteries, asking for a reduction of the apportionment to meet the expenses of the General Assembly, was referred to the Mileage Committee.

The reports of the Rev. Daniel W. Lathrop, the Delegate to the General Association of Connecticut, of the Rev. Joseph T. Duryea, D. D., the Delegate to the General Association of New Hampshire, and of the Rev. Francis B. Wheeler, the Delegate to the General Synod of the Reformed Church in America, were read and accepted.

The report of the Rev. Philemon H. Fowler, D. D., the Delegate to the Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland, and to the Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Ireland, was read, and, having been accepted, its suggestions were referred for consideration and report to the Rev. Robert Russell Booth, D. D., the Rev. Byron Sunderland, D. D., and the Hon. Joseph Allison, LL.D. [259]

The Assembly, on invitation, resolved to meet, in joint prayer-meeting, with the Assembly of the other branch, at the Brick church, on Monday morning, from 8½ o'clock to 9½ o'clock.

Resolved, That while this Assembly sympathize most heartily with the noble and touching tribute to be paid to the memory of our buried soldiers whose lives were sacrificed in the cause of the Union, as, under the auspices of the Grand Army of the Republic, their graves are to be decorated with floral offerings, yet we enter our most earnest protest against the proposed unnecessary desecration of the Sabbath for this purpose; and urgently request the proper authorities to appoint the next Saturday as the time for this interesting ceremony.

A *Committee*, consisting of the Rev. Zephaniah Humphrey, D. D., the Rev. Benjamin W. Chidlaw, and Mr. Frederick Starr, was appointed to re-

port this action of the Assembly to the officers of the Grand Army, and to make such further publication as may seem to be called for.

Adjourned until Monday morning, at 9¾ o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 24th, 9¾ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The further calling of the Roll was dispensed with, until the closing session of the Assembly.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on the collation of answers from the Presbyteries, to the Overture on Reunion sent down by the last Assembly, presented the following report; which was accepted and referred to the Special Committee on Conference respecting Reunion.

The Special Committee appointed to collate the answers of the Presbyteries to the Overture on the subject of Reunion sent down to them by order of the last Assembly, respectfully report: That the following Presbyteries have expressed their approval, giving their consent to the Reunion of the two branches of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, on the basis proposed by the Joint Committee of thirty, and approved by the two Assemblies meeting in May, 1868, respectively, in Albany, N. Y., and Harrisburgh, Pa., viz.:—Champlain, Troy, Albany, Columbia, Catskill, St. Lawrence, Watertown, Oswego, Utica, Onondaga, Cayuga, Cortland, Tioga, Geneva, Steuben, Chemung, Ithaca, Wellsborough, Lyons, Otsego, Chenango, Delaware, Buffalo, Ontario, Rochester, Genesee, Niagara, Genesee Valley, Hudson, North River, Long Island, New York, 3d, New York, 4th, Brook[260]lyn, Newark, Rockaway, Montrose, Wilmington, Philadelphia, 3d, Philadelphia, 4th, Harrisburgh, Erie, Meadville, Pittsburgh, Monroe, Marshall, Kalamazoo, Cold Water, Lansing, Grand River, Huron, Trumbull, Cleveland and Portage, Athens, Pataskala, Franklin, Scioto, Cincinnati, Ripley, Dayton, Hamilton, Salem, Madison, Indianapolis, Green Castle, Crawfordsville, St. Joseph, Logansport, Fort Wayne, Illinois, Schuyler, Wabash, Alton, Ottawa, Knox, Bloomington, Milwaukee, Fox River, Columbus, Lake Superior, Des Moines, Keokuk, Iowa City, Dubuque, Cedar Rapids, Omaha, Mankato, Minnesota, Dakota, St. Louis, Osage, Lexington, Kansas, Union, Holston, San Francisco, Northern Missouri, Nevada, San José, and Humboldt. In all 100.

The following Presbyteries have answered the Overture in the negative: District of Columbia, Detroit, Washtenaw, Chicago.—4.

The Committee also report, for the information of the Assembly, the action of its Presbyteries on the general subject of Reunion in the following particulars: First, the Presbyteries assenting to the amending of the Basis by the omission, first, of that part of the Basis in the first article which begins with the words "it being understood," and ends with the words "in the separate churches;" and, second, of the whole of the tenth article; are as follows: Troy, Albany, Columbia, Watertown, Utica, Onondaga, Cayuga, Cortland, Geneva, Chemung, Wellsborough, Tioga, Otsego, Ontario, Rochester, Genesee, Genesee Valley, Hudson, North River, Long Island, New York, 3d, New York, 4th, Brooklyn, Newark, Montrose, Philadelphia, 4th, Harrisburgh, District of Columbia, Erie, Detroit, Monroe, Marshall, Saginaw, Lansing, Grand River, Huron, Trumbull, Cleveland and Portage, Maumee, Athens, Pataskala, Franklin, Scioto, Cincinnati, Ripley, Dayton, Salem, Indianapolis, Green Castle, Crawfordsville, St. Joseph, Logansport, Fort Wayne, Illinois, Schuyler, Wabash, Ottawa, Knox, Chicago, Blooming-

ton, Fox River, Lake Superior, Des Moines, Mankato, Minnesota, Winona, Dakota, St. Louis, Lexington, Chariton, Cedar Rapids, Belvidere, San José, Humboldt, Holston.—75. The Presbyteries expressing their dissent to these proposed amendments of the Basis are: Catskill, Pittsburgh, Dubuque. —3.

The following Presbyteries express rather a preference or a willingness to have the Reunion accomplished upon the simple Basis of the standards: Genesee Valley, Wilmington, Meadville, Pataskala, Rochester, Niagara, Huron, Cincinnati, Dayton, Hamilton, Columbus, Kansas, Chariton, Chenango.—14.

The Presbyteries of Scioto, Logansport, Ottawa, Lyons, and Northern Missouri add to this expression of their willingness to have the Reunion thus accomplished, the condition that three-fourths "of the Presbyteries assent."

The following Presbyteries express a desire that the General Assembly should consummate this Reunion without again referring the proposed Basis of it to them, and in their own language [261] empower and authorize the Assembly so to do: Champlain, Troy, Albany, St. Lawrence, Watertown, Oswego, Cayuga, Otsego, Buffalo, North River, Detroit, Grand River Valley, Athens, Ripley, Madison, Wabash, Keokuk, Mankato, St. Louis, Humboldt, Winona, Steuben, Knox, Iowa City, Galena, and Belvidere.—26.

The Presbyteries of Philadelphia, 4th, and Pittsburgh, express their opposition to Reunion upon any basis that has not been specifically approved by a majority of the Presbyteries of each class.

Several Presbyteries append to their action on this question certain conditions besides those already mentioned. These are as follows: The Presbytery of Knox, in assenting to the proposed amendment of the first article of the basis, add, "Provided all reasonable liberty in interpretation be not relinquished."

The Presbytery of Philadelphia, 4th, say, "It must, however, be well understood that, by agreeing to the omissions in question, the Presbytery do not relinquish nor deny the right to all reasonable liberty in the statement of views and the interpretation of the standards not impairing the integrity of the Calvinistic system."

The Presbytery of Huron passed the following resolution:

Resolved, That we say to the General Assembly that in any case we shall always claim the right, according to the Constitution of the Church and the Plan of Union, to deal with the Congregational churches now on our roll without interference from the higher judicatories of the Church.

The Presbytery of Maumee ask for certain specified changes in the second article of the basis, and would have it construed as directory and advisory, and not as imperative.

The Presbytery of Washtenaw, in replying negatively to the motion of the Assembly, express conviction that the first step in the negotiations for Reunion should be the repeal of the exscinding acts and the imperative rule in respect to presbyterial examinations.

The Rev. Charles C. Beatty, D. D., LL.D., the Rev. George W. Musgrave, D. D., and the Hon. Robert McKnight, the Delegates of the General Assembly now in session at the Brick church, addressed the Assembly, and were responded to by the Moderator.

The Rev. John L. See, D. D., the Delegate of the General Synod of the Reformed Church, the Rev. Edward Strong, D. D., the Delegate of the General Association of the Congregational Churches of Massachusetts, and the Rev. Robert G. Vermilye, D. D., the Delegate of the General Association

of Connecticut, addressed the Assembly, and were responded to by the Moderator.

Adjourned until 2½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [262]

Monday, May 24th, 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Standing Committee on Foreign Missions presented their report, which was accepted and recommitted.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported on several Overtures, urging the importance of diminishing the expense of sending Delegates to Corresponding Bodies, and recommended the following answer: That it is inexpedient at present to make any change of the rule or usage of the General Assembly on this subject.

The report was adopted.

The same Committee, in answer to an Overture asking some action of the Assembly in regard to street-preaching, reported the following resolution:

Resolved, That we esteem it an imperative and solemn duty of the churches, to put forth strenuous and persistent efforts to reach the unevangelized multitudes of our villages, towns and cities; that we hold, that any failure in this respect is not the fault of the Presbyterian polity, but of the men who work it; that we enjoin all the ministers, elders, and members of our churches to use all feasible methods to bring the Gospel in contact with the minds and hearts of those outside of our churches.

The report was adopted.

The same Committee, in answer to an Overture from the Presbytery of Lyons, (1) on the unstable connection between ministers and churches, (2) on the inadequate supply of our churches, and (3) on the introduction of a Sustentation Fund System, recommended the following resolutions:

1. That, while the instability of the pastoral relation arises out of the uneasiness incident to growing and changing communities, and so cannot be removed by legislation, still the Presbyteries themselves can do much to abate it, by honoring the pastoral relation, and declining, except in extraordinary cases, to ordain young men as evangelists, to serve as stated supplies.

2. That the Presbyteries be instructed to appoint a Standing Committee on Vacancies, whose duty it shall be to negotiate between ministers and vacant churches, and endeavor to secure the regular preaching of the Gospel in every church.

3. That it is inexpedient to take any action concerning a Sustentation Fund at this time.

The report was adopted.

The same Committee, in answer to an Overture on the subject of Ministers Without Charge, and Vacant Churches, reported the following recommendations: [263]

1. That the attention of the Synods be called to the rule adopted by the General Assembly of 1834, (Minutes, page 450, and Digest, page 65.) namely: "That, when ministers have withdrawn in whole or in part from the work of the ministry, it be enjoined upon the Presbyteries to which they belong to require of such ministers their reasons for so doing; which reasons are to be put on record by the Presbytery with an expression of their approbation or disapprobation of the same."

2. That the Synods be required at their next regular meeting to obtain replies from their several Presbyteries to the (two following) questions, namely:

(1.) Whether the above recited rule of the Assembly of 1834 has been observed by the Presbytery.

(2.) Whether proper discipline has been exercised, in cases where the reasons for withdrawal from ministerial duty have been disapproved by the Presbytery; and also in cases of habitual absence from the meetings of the Presbytery without the rendering of sufficient excuse.

The report was adopted.

The report of the Standing Committee on Foreign Missions was again presented, adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee, to whom was referred the report of the Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions, beg leave respectfully to report: That they regard the labors of your Permanent Committee with unqualified interest and satisfaction, and they indulge the cheerful and confident hope, that, through the blessing of God upon the wise plans and faithful efforts which that Committee have set on foot, a practical and thorough interest in the great work of Foreign Missions is to be extended throughout all the churches of our communion, till not one shall be found which will not, according to its measure, respond to the spirit of the great command, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature."

Nor are we at all discouraged in this hope, by the large number of churches which are reported to us as having made no collection for this cause during the past year. Many of our churches have doubtless failed to report their collections, many more of them are feeble churches, destitute of a stated ministry and the regular ordinances of the Gospel.

We do not mention these facts to excuse, but to explain, and to say, that we believe that the considerate and earnest supervision, which it is the special office and care of your Permanent Committee to exercise in this matter, will soon reach most, if not all, of these churches, and, exciting within them the large and catholic spirit of Christian Missions, will make the weak strong, and the strong stronger.

Moreover, we take to ourselves, as pastors and teachers of the churches—as we believe is our solemn duty before God—the chief responsibility in this matter, and we say with all solemnity, [264] If the churches do not regard the great cause of the world's evangelization as they ought, the responsibility is chiefly with the ministry of the churches.

A ministry, whose hearts are all aflame with the intense fire of the Missionary impulse, will set the heart of the Church aglow with the same spirit. It should burn in our hearts with a fervor, which neither the indifference nor worldliness of the churches, nay, which many and great waters, cannot quench. And this responsibility of ours is greatly increased from the consideration, that the very life and spirituality of the Church itself largely depend on a deeper and more self-sacrificing consecration to this work.

It is in this direction, that we welcome and applaud the office and operations of your Committee. That Committee can make its voice heard in the Synods and Presbyteries, and through them in the churches.

We welcome its agency, for a closer supervision of this work, through synodical and presbyterial Committees on Foreign Missions in all the Synods and Presbyteries of the Church. We believe this to be the best and truest way to reach the separate churches, and to develop in them the spirit of this work. We ask them to speak to us, in the name and with the authority of the great Author of the Gospel and its ineffable grace, to unfold and emphasize upon our minds the mighty and commanding force of the evangelical impulse.

Sheldon Dibble once said, that a man must be as truly convicted and con-

verted on the missionary question, in order to be a missionary, as a sinner must be convicted and converted in order to his being a Christian. Ought we not to act on this principle among the churches?

The work of the world's evangelization accumulates, in its highest intensity, the whole force of the evangelical motive. Let that motive be unfolded and expounded: the world in its vast and deep ruin throwing us back upon the infinite and glorious energies of the Cross; the moral misery of the race upon the riches of the divine redemption—"Deep calling unto deep."

Let these voices find repeated utterance in words of profound and earnest appeal. Let us believe, that we have a right to be heard again and again, in the interests of such a cause, the cause of Christ's glory and the redemption of men.

It is on such motives as these that we may and must chiefly rely. The Church will not give even its surplus wealth to a cause whose claims are either impertinent or impotent; the claims of this great cause are transcendent.

And, when your Permanent Committee have thus spoken to the conscience and heart of the Church, let them proceed undiscouraged in the more patient and practical work of finding, for the expression of this awakened interest, both a time and a mode, a season and a channel.

Let them, through the Presbyterial Committees, seek to increase among the churches both the observance of, and the interest which [265] ought to attach to the Monthly Concert, urging that that interest can alone be rendered intelligent and earnest, by frequent reports of missionary labors and successes, missionary toils and triumphs, from the far-off fields of missionary work. Thus let your Committee seek to develop the large and loving, and yet systematic, benevolence of the Church in this cause. The results of such patient effort on their part will be worth all and vastly more than all the labor they may cost.

We desire that the Assembly should heartily commend and encourage the Committee, in endeavoring to overtake such a close, comprehensive, and vigorous supervision of this work.

We cannot close this paper without, in the name of the Assembly, sending the "All hail!" of a fraternal and affectionate greeting to the dear brethren and sisters of our branch of the Church, who, in distant lands, or among the scattered tribes of our own country, are seeking to make known "the unsearchable riches of Christ." A tender sympathy thrills our hearts as we bear them in prayer to the throne of the heavenly grace. In the sight of God, we hold ourselves bound, not only to Christ, but to them also, that their labors and sacrifices shall not be in vain, but shall be carried forward to their glorious and world-wide consummation.

We also desire to express our large and continued confidence in that great organization through which we are carrying forward the work of Foreign Missions—the A. B. C. F. M., a name highly and justly honored, as among the most venerable and successful of all the missionary organizations of the age.

The terms of five members of the Permanent Committee expire with the present Assembly. We recommend the re-appointment of three of that number, namely: Walter S. Griffith, Thomas Bond, and Nathan Lane; and the appointment of Robert Jaffray in the place of Horace J. Poinier, resigned; and of George Endicott, in the place of Hon. John E. Torrey, whose distant residence renders it inconvenient for him to attend the sessions of the Committee in this city.

The Auditing Committee reported that they had found the account of the

Treasurer correct; they recommended its approval, and that it be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes.

The report was adopted.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 8¾ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 25th, 8¾ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and occupied the opening hour with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved. [266]

The Special Committee on Manses and Ministerial Libraries reported progress, and were continued.

On the recommendation of the respective Committees, the Records of the Synods of Western Reserve, Geneva, Missouri, Albany, Illinois, Michigan, Iowa, Peoria, Pennsylvania, Indiana, West Pennsylvania, Minnesota, Susquehanna, Alta California, Genesee, Utica, Ohio, New York and New Jersey, Wabash and Wisconsin, were approved as far as written. The Committees on the Records of the Synods of Cincinnati and Onondaga reported that the Records had not been placed in their hands; and they were accordingly discharged.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church reported an Overture from the Presbytery of Des Moines, as follows:

A church has been dissolved by the Presbytery, letters having been given the members to unite with any evangelical church where God may, in his providence, cast their lot.

One of these members holds such a letter more than eighteen months old, not having used said letter. Is such a member amenable to the Presbytery, and is the Presbytery under obligation to receive, entertain, and pass upon a complaint entered against such party, holding said letter?

The Committee recommend that this Overture be answered in the affirmative, on the following grounds:

1. That every church-member is amenable to some appropriate tribunal, and that, in the case specified in the Overture, this tribunal must be the Presbytery.

2. That every member of a church continues to be amenable to that church, until he becomes regularly connected with another.

The same Committee reported papers showing that, at a meeting of the Synod of Missouri, on the third of October, 1869, three Presbyteries, namely, the Presbyteries of Kansas, Humboldt, and Smoky Hill, were erected out of the Presbytery of Kansas, for the purpose of being erected into a Synod, to be called "the Synod of Kansas," by the General Assembly, and also that the Presbyteries so erected have severally made application to the same effect. The Committee recommend, that the request be granted; and that the Assembly order, that the Presbyteries of Kansas, Humboldt, and Smoky Hill, now within the bounds of the Synod of Missouri, be erected into a Synod to be called "the Synod of Kansas;" that its first meeting be held in the city of Lawrence, on the second Thursday of October next, at 7½ o'clock P. M., and that the Rev. William H. Smith, of the Presbytery of Kansas, (or, in his absence, the next senior minister present,) preach the opening sermon, and act as Moderator, until his successor be appointed by the Synod.

The report was adopted. [267]

The same Committee reported the following question:

Is it expedient that the Assembly, by a standing rule, require its Permanent Committees, in their reports, to give the percentage of cost in connection

with the amount of funds raised, together with a comparison, in this particular, with the preceding year?

In answer the Committee proposed the following resolution:

Resolved, That, inasmuch as several of the benevolent enterprises of the Church are in their infancy, such a standing rule as is proposed would be unfair in its operation, and its adoption would therefore be inexpedient.

The report was adopted.

The Standing Committee on Sabbath-schools presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

No observer of signs can fail to note that the institution of Sabbath-schools is acquiring a broader and deeper hold on the Christian mind of the country, and is gathering to itself influences and agencies which make it a great and growing power in the land. It has its own extensive literature, its own particular public advocates, and its institutes and conventions, both local and national. Already has it, in many churches, absorbed the vitality of the second Sabbath service, and even displaced it altogether. To its instrumentality, thus encouraged and developed, many of our churches are largely indebted for their steady increase. This magnitude of importance has been reached, to a great extent, through the efforts of laymen devoted to the cause. Yet, with all that has been done, it is plain that all the capacities for good which lie in this institution have not been fully developed. We seem to be only at the beginning of a new stage of progress, in reference to it.

The question before the Assembly is, Shall we let this power work on as it has done and take care of itself, or shall we bring it under our distinct recognition, and give it, as far as may be, our fostering and regulating influence? Thus far the Assembly has felt that something ought to be done, without at the same time being willing to afford the means for doing anything. It is an attitude which your Committee deem unworthy of this body, and dishonorable to the cause thus treated. A clear line of policy should be determined upon and adopted, or the whole matter should be entirely dropped.

It is, therefore, with no disparagement to the cause of Sabbath-schools that your Committee recommend the following preamble and resolution:

Whereas, The proper management of the Sabbath-school interest, in connection with our body, can only be secured through the appointment of a Permanent Secretary, whom the Assembly has not the means of sustaining; and [268]

Whereas, The possible change in the future constituency of this body renders the adoption of any new measures at this juncture unadvisable.

Resolved, That the Sabbath-school Committee be, and hereby is, at its own request, disbanded.

Adjourned until 2½ o'clock P. M.

Tuesday, May 25th, 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Special Committee appointed by the last Assembly, at the suggestion of the Presbyterian Convention held in Philadelphia, for conference with other Presbyterian bodies concerning Union, presented a report, which was accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee on Reunion.

The Committee, to whom was referred the communication of the Synod of the Canada Presbyterian Church, presented a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee to whom was referred the communication from the Synod

of the Canada Presbyterian Church—a Church recently formed by the union of the Free and United Presbyterian Synods of Canada—would recommend to the Assembly the adoption of the following resolutions:

1. That the Assembly would heartily reciprocate the expressions of kind feeling and Christian esteem toward us, contained in their communication.

2. That the Assembly express their willingness to enter into correspondence with this body by an interchange of Delegates, on the same conditions which characterize our correspondence with other ecclesiastical bodies.

3. That the Rev. William Ormiston, D. D., the only one present of the Delegates appointed by the Synod of the Canada Presbyterian Church to open this correspondence, be now admitted as a correspondent to the floor of the Assembly.

4. That the Assembly appoint a Delegate to attend the sessions of the Canada Synod, to meet at Hamilton, on the eighth day of June next, to convey to the members of that body our fraternal salutations, and consult with them on the common interests of our Redeemer's kingdom.

The Standing Committee on Publication presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Publication, to whom was referred the report of the Permanent Committee, congratulate the Assem[269]bly on the steady and substantial advance from year to year which this important cause is making, in its hold on the intelligent sympathy of our churches. Our Church has been slow in accepting this cause, as a necessity to the completeness of her equipment for the field. She has been reluctant to cherish an enterprise, which seemed to many to be imposed upon her chiefly by the demands of her separateness, and by the usages of sister Churches. There has been a skepticism on this subject, growing out of a chronic aversion to the least appearance of exclusiveness, and also out of a reasonable fear of creating a financial power within the Church which might become intrusive, assuming, and arbitrary, gradually embarrassing our liberties, and awakening jealousies and suspicions, from which we have been, and would fain continue to be, free. It is not to be denied that, in other Churches, large and cumbrous publishing interests have sometimes proved unwieldy, and have exerted a kind and a degree of influence, that have given some occasion for the fear and the caution which have been manifested among us. But, on the other hand, it is maintained with great and—as it seems to us—with conclusive force, that there is in our body a prevalent and characteristic spirit, which makes it quite improbable, if not almost impossible, that the publishing interest should ever attain such disproportionate magnitude, or wield such an undue influence. It has also become each year more evident, that a true and effective catholicity requires, as the base for its advances toward a higher Christian unity, a well-rounded denominational completeness. With respect to such completeness, in comparison with sister Churches, there can be no question, that our special deficiency has been the lack of proportionate zeal and enterprise in the cause of publication. Your Committee would, therefore, urge upon the pastors and the churches the importance of giving to this cause a more hearty sympathy, and a more effective co-operation. The demand for donations to our Home Missionaries must continue to increase rapidly, and that demand should never fail of a generous supply.

The report of the Permanent Committee shows a most encouraging appreciation of the vital importance of the claims of our Sabbath-schools upon their increased attention. A "Sub-committee on Sabbath-schools" has been appointed for the general supervision of this branch of the work. They will aim to promote the diffusion of a better Sabbath-school literature, and to

awaken a deeper interest in the extension of the Sabbath-school work in the destitute portions of our broad field.

Your Committee would call the attention of the pastors and the sessions of our churches to the claims of the *Presbyterian Monthly*, which have been repeatedly and earnestly urged. Surely the circulation of this valuable organ of our Church ought to be increased.

Your Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions: [270]

1. That the Committees on Publication in the several Presbyteries be requested, to urge upon the representatives of each of their churches, the duty of disseminating among their people regular intelligence concerning the various departments of our church work, by promoting the general circulation of *The Presbyterian Monthly*.

2. That the Permanent Committee be authorized, at their discretion, to employ a general agent to visit the churches and Sabbath-schools, to bring them into connection with the Committee's work; and to devote himself to the cause of Sabbath-school extension, and to the promotion of higher efficiency in our Sabbath-schools generally.

Your Committee would also recommend the appointment of the following persons to fill the places of the members of the Permanent Committee whose term of office has expired: Rev. Daniel March, D. D., Rev. J. Glentworth Butler, D. D., Samuel C. Perkins, Esq., and Messrs. Robert M. Willson and George W. Simons.

The report of the Trustees of the Presbyterian House shows that the interests intrusted to them are carefully conserved; and we recommend the re-election of the following Trustees: Mr. John C. Farr, Charles S. Wurts, M. D., Rev. Daniel March, D. D., Rev. William T. Eva, and Rev. Thomas J. Shepherd, D. D.

The Judicial Committee presented a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Judicial Committee report that two papers have been referred to them by the Assembly, namely:

1. One from T. C. Connelly, of Washington, D. C., calling attention to an alleged case of injustice on the part of a congregation in that city toward one of its members. No specific action by the Assembly is asked for, nor does it appear that the case is under the control of any ecclesiastical court. Congregations, acting through a Board of Trustees, are not as such responsible to the Presbyteries. It does not appear that any method has been resorted to, by the subscriber to this paper, to obtain justice from the civil or church courts; but, from the printed extract with which his paper is accompanied, it seems that an account of the whole case has been published in the newspapers. Such attempts to influence the public mind, before any scriptural or constitutional efforts at discipline have been resorted to, are an obvious violation of Christian courtesy and obligation. Your Committee, therefore, recommend that the paper be returned to the subscriber, and the whole matter dismissed.

2. The other paper is an inquiry, proposed to the Assembly by Fisk Harmon, of Swede Point, Iowa, respecting a case of discipline which has occurred in what he calls the Presbytery of D——. A minister is said to have been deposed, and the sentence of deposition to have been pronounced, but his name was not ordered to be stricken from the Roll. The Clerk, however, assumed the [271] responsibility of erasing his name; and, when the case was appealed to the Synod, and remanded by it to the Presbytery that new evidence might be presented by the appellant, and the deposed minister demanded that his name might be replaced on the Roll before the Presby-

tery proceeded to the reception of the evidence, he was informed by the Moderator that his name did not belong there. The inquiry is: "Can this new sentence of striking the name of the deposed minister from the Roll be constitutionally inflicted without a new and regular trial?"

The Committee recommend the following reply:

As the name of every minister under trial must be properly on the Roll of some Presbytery, it should not be finally erased until the completion of all the ecclesiastical proceedings connected with the case. In the present instance, the Assembly decide that the name of the minister referred to should be restored to the Roll of the Presbytery, and retained until the case has been finally disposed of.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church reported on Overture from the Presbytery of the District of Columbia as follows:

The following question was submitted to the Presbytery of the District of Columbia, at its fall meeting, for its consideration, namely:

"Isolated as a church may be, cut off from sister churches, having no ordained minister of the same Presbytery residing within forty miles, would it be competent for the elders, in the absence of the pastor, owing to the great inconvenience of procuring a Moderator, to meet and transact the ordinary business of the session, by organizing, without the presence of a minister of the Word, under Articles 3 and 4, Chapter IX., of the Form of Government?"

To this question the Presbytery replied in the negative.

Subsequently the Synod of Pennsylvania, to which the Presbytery belongs, was overtured for its ruling in the case, and reversed the decision of the Presbytery.

The Presbytery, believing that the ruling of the Synod establishes a precedent which may work to the injury of Presbyterian polity, and that the ruling of the Synod is contrary to the spirit and language of the Articles 3 and 4, Chapter IX., and believing that it is seldom impracticable, especially in our cities, to allow the presence of a minister in a session meeting, and believing that elders will not always be able to decide what "ordinary business" may be, and believing that ministers could equally as well consider it impracticable to convene their elders in sessional meeting; therefore, the Presbytery of the District of Columbia would respectfully overture the General Assembly through its Commissioner for its ruling in the case.

The Committee recommended the following response, which was adopted: [272]

The question proposed is limited to specified circumstances—namely, "In the absence of the pastor," and "the great inconvenience of procuring a Moderator," "having no ordained minister of the same Presbytery residing within forty miles."

The Form of Government, Chapter IX., section 3, provides, that, in "case of the sickness or absence of the pastor," another minister "belonging to the same Presbytery" may be invited "to preside." There is no provision for inviting any minister not "belonging to the same Presbytery," to preside over a meeting of the session, much less any minister of the Word.

Section 4 declares it to be "expedient at every meeting of the session, more especially when constituted for judicial business, that there be a presiding minister;" but, after providing for a Moderator, "where a church is without a pastor," and of course, in the case stated, section 3, it adds, "But where it is impracticable, without great inconvenience, to procure the attendance of such a Moderator, the session may proceed without it."

The Committee would, therefore, recommend that the answer to the Overture

be: That, in cases similar to that stated, the session, under its responsibility to the Presbytery, is the judge of the impracticability of procuring a Moderator.

The same Committee reported on the reception of Ministers from Foreign Bodies. The report was accepted and placed on the docket.

The same Committee reported the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Presbyteries be instructed to institute inquiries among the several churches under their care, as to the number of their communicants; so that it may be ascertained, that the utmost care has been taken to clear their church registers of all deceased, dismissed, and lost members; and that it may thus be known what is the actual membership of each of their churches.

A communication from the General Synod of the Reformed Church in America, proposing a National Council of Evangelical Denominations in the United States, was referred to the Rev. Howard Crosby, D. D., Rev. George M. Maxwell, D. D., and Hon. Joseph Allison, LL.D.

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

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, May 26th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and, in union with the General Assembly of the other branch, occupied an hour in devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved. [273]

The Standing Committee on Ministerial Relief presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee on Ministerial Relief respectfully present the following report:

The annual report of the Executive Committee, which has been submitted to this Assembly, sets forth facts and views worthy of general and earnest consideration. Like other reports on the same subject, it appeals powerfully, not only to the benevolence of all the members of our Church, but to their sense of justice. It is encouraging to see, that the efforts to awaken an interest in this important object have not been in vain. We do not indeed wonder, that facts so undeniable, and considerations so heart-stirring, have led to an increase of the contributions at the rate of 28½ per cent. during the last year. Nor are we at all surprised, that, in a day of rapidly increasing wealth and beneficence, one man, Mr. Henry M. Schieffelin, has given the sum of $8200 as an addition to the Permanent Fund, and has sought to induce twenty-four others to join with him, in order to establish a permanent fund of $200,000. The merits of the cause need only to be pondered, to incite to a vastly greater increase of contributions—need but to be laid to heart by wealthy and good men, to move many to do as that one has done.

But let us thank God and take courage for the advancement actually made. Let us hope, that the time is at hand, when the services of men of trained and sanctified intellect, who labor in word and doctrine, shall not be at an enormous discount; when the self-denial of home missionaries and pastors, who have kept themselves in poverty, and have worn themselves out in carrying light and salvation into the dark places of our land, shall be appreciated. The American people are willing to provide for the wants of disabled soldiers and sailors, and for the wants of the widows and orphans of those who have died in their country's service. It is well. It would be unjust as well as unbecoming not to do so. Let a nation, saved from disruption and ruin, be grateful to those who have imperiled life and health to preserve it. But, in respect to all that is good and cheering in the institutions and hopes

of this country, who have done more, or suffered more, than the ministers of Christ? Theirs it is, in self-impoverishment, to publish, and to urge upon souls, the words whose "entrance giveth light—giveth understanding unto the simple." Theirs it is to devote themselves wholly to a work, on which especially the Lord causes that civilization—that widely diffused combination of moral purity and intelligence—to wait, which alone can exalt a nation or save it from reproach and self-destruction. "The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose." What is there in their work that should lead those who are enjoying, in a large degree, the benign temporal results of their labors, to treat them in poverty and sickness, or amid the in[274]firmities of age, as unworthy of a solacing, needful benefaction? Various things have tended to enhance the claims of this cause of late; especially the increased cost of living and the great falling off in the purchasing power of our currency. The salaries of the majority of our ministers—always inadequate—have for the last eight years been oppressively insufficient.

This cause has other bearings than its direct one on those for whom relief is now sought.

A practical depreciation of the work of the ministry, by our prosperous laymen, will have a disastrous influence on the minds of young men who are considering the question of becoming preachers of the Gospel. Not a few will be stumbled at the expectation of so great a difference of consecration, between ministers and other Christians who also covenant to be wholly the Lord's.

The Relief Fund is evidently managed with a wise economy. The persons relieved appear to be eminently worthy of aid and kind regard. And the extracts from the letters of some of them contained in the report of the Executive Committee, evince a delicacy of feeling, and an unwillingness to be a burden to others, fitted to excite a most respectful sympathy.

In conclusion, the Committee beg leave to invite the attention of all concerned, to the resolution of the Assembly of 1867, requesting pastors and stated supplies to preach on the subject of Ministerial Relief at an early day, and declaring "That it be considered the duty of every church to take an annual collection for this cause."

The Mileage Committee were instructed to pay the traveling expenses of the members of the late Reunion Committee.

The Standing Committees on Home Missions, on the Work among the Freedmen, on Church Erection, and on Education, severally presented their reports, which were accepted.

Pending the consideration of these reports,

Adjourned until 2½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, May 26th, 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

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

The Rev. William Ormiston, D. D., the Delegate of the Synod of the Canada Presbyterian Church, addressed the Assembly, and was responded to by the Moderator. [275]

The unfinished business of the morning, the consideration of the reports of the Standing Committees on Home Missions, Freedmen, Church Erection, and Education, was resumed. Pending their discussion,

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9¾ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 27th, 9¾ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Committee to whom was referred the report of the Delegate to the Assemblies of the Free Church of Scotland and the Presbyterian Church of Ireland, presented a report, which was accepted. That part of the report which respects foreign correspondence was adopted, and the remainder placed on the docket.

The Mileage Committee, at their own request, were authorized to pay in full the necessary traveling expenses of the Commissioners entitled to be paid from the Fund.

The report of the Committee of Conference on the Reunion of the two branches of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, was presented, accepted, and considered until the hour of adjournment.

Adjourned until 2½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, 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 consideration of the report of the Committee on Reunion was resumed, and continued until 5½ o'clock, when, by a rising vote, the Assembly unanimously adopted the report, as follows:

Report of the Committee of Conference.

The Committee of Conference appointed by the two General Assemblies have attended to the duty assigned to them; and, after a very free interchange of views, with prayer to Almighty God for his guidance, are unanimous in recommending to the Assemblies for their consideration, and, if they see fit, their adoption, the accompanying three papers, to wit:

1. Plan of Reunion of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America; [276]
2. Concurrent Declarations of the General Assemblies of 1869; and
3. Recommendation of a Day of Prayer.

William Adams, *Chairman*,

G. W. Musgrave,	J. F. Stearns,
A. G. Hall,	R. W. Patterson,
Lyman H. Atwater,	S. W. Fisher,
Willis Lord,	James B. Shaw,
H. R. Wilson,	W. Strong,
Robert Carter,	Daniel Haines,
C. D. Drake,	William E. Dodge,
William M. Francis,	J. S. Farrand,
John C. Grier,	John L. Knight,

Henry Day, *Secretary.*

Plan of Reunion of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

Believing that the interests of the Redeemer's kingdom would be promoted by the healing of our divisions, and that the two bodies, bearing the same name, having the same Constitution, and each recognizing the other as a sound and orthodox body, according to the principles of the Confession common to both, cannot be justified by any but the most imperative reasons in maintaining separate, and, in some respects, rival organizations; we are

now clearly of the opinion that the Reunion of those bodies ought, as soon as the necessary steps can be taken, to be accomplished, upon the basis hereinafter set forth:

1. The Presbyterian Churches in the United States of America, namely, that whose General Assembly convened in the Brick church in the city of New York, on the 20th day of May, 1869, and that whose General Assembly met in the church of the Covenant in the said city, on the same day, shall be reunited as one Church, under the name and style of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, possessing all the legal and corporate rights and powers pertaining to the Church previous to the division in 1838, and all the legal and corporate rights and powers which the separate Churches now possess.

2. The Reunion shall be effected on the doctrinal and ecclesiastical Basis of our common Standards; the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments shall be acknowledged to be the inspired word of God, and the only infallible rule of faith and practice; the Confession of Faith shall continue to be sincerely received and adopted as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures; and the Government and Discipline of the Presbyterian Church in the United States shall be approved as containing the principles and rules of our polity.

3. Each of the said Assemblies shall submit the foregoing Basis to its Presbyteries, which shall be required to meet on or [277] before the 15th day of October, 1869, to express their approval or disapproval of the same, by a categorical answer to the following question:

Do you approve of the Reunion of the two bodies now claiming the name and rights of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, on the following Basis, namely: "The Reunion shall be effected on the doctrinal and ecclesiastical basis of our common Standards; the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments shall be acknowledged to be the inspired word of God, and the only infallible rule of faith and practice; the Confession of Faith shall continue to be sincerely received and adopted as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures; and the Government and Discipline of the Presbyterian Church in the United States shall be approved as containing the principles and rules of our polity"?

Each Presbytery shall, before the 1st day of November, 1869, forward to the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly with which it is connected, a statement of its vote on the said Basis of Reunion.

4. The said General Assemblies now sitting shall, after finishing their business, adjourn, to meet in the city of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on the second Wednesday of November, 1869, at eleven o'clock A. M.

If the two General Assemblies shall then find and declare, that the above-named Basis of Reunion has been approved by two-thirds of the Presbyteries connected with each branch of the Church, then the same shall be of binding force, and the two Assemblies shall take action accordingly.

5. The said General Assemblies shall then and there make provision for the meeting of the General Assembly of the united Church on the third Thursday of May, 1870. The Moderators of the two present Assemblies shall jointly preside at the said Assembly of 1870 until another Moderator is chosen. The Moderator of the Assembly now sitting at the Brick church aforesaid shall, if present, put all votes, and decide questions of order; and the Moderator of the other Assembly shall, if present, preach the opening sermon; and the Stated Clerks of the present Assemblies shall act as Stated Clerks of the Assembly of the united Church, until a Stated Clerk or Clerks shall have been chosen thereby; and no Commissioner shall have a right to

vote or deliberate in said Assembly, until his name shall have been enrolled by the said Clerks, and his Commission examined and filed among the papers of the Assembly.

6. Each Presbytery of the separate Churches shall be entitled to the same representation in the Assembly of the united Church in 1870, as it is entitled to in the Assembly with which it is now connected. [278]

Concurrent Declarations of the General Assemblies of 1869.

As there are matters pertaining to the interests of the Church when it shall have become re-united, which will manifestly require adjustment on the coming together of two bodies which have so long acted separately, and concerning some of which matters it is highly desirable that there should be a previous good understanding, the two Assemblies agree to adopt the following declarations, not as articles of compact or covenant, but as in their judgment proper and equitable arrangements, to wit:

1. All the ministers and churches embraced in the two bodies shall be admitted to the same standing in the united body, which they may have held in their respective connections, up to the consummation of the union.

2. Imperfectly organized churches are counseled and expected to become thoroughly Presbyterian, as early, within the period of five years, as may be permitted by the highest interests to be consulted; and no other such churches shall be hereafter received.

3. The boundaries of the several Presbyteries and Synods should be adjusted by the General Assembly of the united Church.

4. The official records of the two branches of the Church, for the period of separation, should be preserved and held as making up the one history of the Church; and no rule or precedent, which does not stand approved by both the bodies, should be of any authority, until re-established in the united body, except in so far as such rule or precedent may affect the rights of property founded thereon.

5. The corporate rights, now held by the two General Assemblies, and by their Boards and Committees, should, as far as practicable, be consolidated, and applied for their several objects, as defined by law.

6. There should be one set of Committees or Boards for Home and Foreign Missions, and the other religious enterprises of the Church; which the churches should be encouraged to sustain, though free to cast their contributions into other channels, if they desire to do so.

7. As soon as practicable after the union shall have been effected, the General Assembly should reconstruct and consolidate the several Permanent Committees and Boards, which now belong to the two Assemblies, so as to represent, as far as possible, with impartiality, the views and wishes of the two bodies constituting the united Church.

8. The publications of the Board of Publication and of the Publication Committee should continue to be issued as at present, leaving it to the Board of Publication of the united Church to revise these issues, and perfect a catalogue for the united Church so as to exclude invidious references to past controversies.

9. In order to a uniform system of ecclesiastical supervision, [279] those Theological Seminaries that are now under Assembly control may, if their Boards of Direction so elect, be transferred to the watch and care of one or more of the adjacent Synods; and the other Seminaries are advised to introduce, as far as may be, into their Constitutions, the principle of synodical or Assembly supervision; in which case, they shall be entitled to an official recognition and approbation on the part of the General Assembly.

10. It should be regarded as the duty of all our judicatories, ministers, and people in the united Church, to study the things which make for peace, and to guard against all needless and offensive references to the causes that have divided us; and, in order to avoid the revival of past issues, by the continuance of any usage in either branch of the Church that has grown out of former conflicts, it is earnestly recommended to the lower judicatories of the Church that they conform their practice in relation to all such usages, as far as is consistent with their convictions of duty, to the general custom of the Church prior to the controversies that resulted in the separation.

Recommendation of a Day of Prayer.

That the counsels of Infinite Wisdom may guide our decisions, and the blessing of the Great Head of the Church rest upon the result of our efforts for Reunion, it is earnestly recommended to the churches throughout both branches of the Presbyterian Church, that they observe the second Sabbath in September, 1869, as a day of fervent and united prayer to Almighty God, that he would grant unto us all "the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord," and, in the new relations now contemplated, enable us to "keep the unity of the spirit in the bonds of peace."

The Assembly then united in singing part of the 102d Psalm, and were led in thanksgiving by the Rev. Thomas H. Skinner, D. D.

The Hon. William Strong and Rev. William Adams, D. D., were deputed to inform the General Assembly, now in session at the Brick church, that the report of the Joint Committee of Conference with reference to the Reunion of the two bodies, has been unanimously adopted by this Assembly.

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

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 28th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and, in union with the General Assembly of the other branch, occupied an hour with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved. [280]

A preamble and resolutions adopted by the other General Assembly, with reference to the state of feeling between this country and Great Britain, was referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures.

The following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

Whereas, the Pope of Rome, called Pius the Ninth, did, on the 13th day of September, in the year of our Lord 1868, issue a certain letter or proclamation addressed to "all Protestants and non-Catholics" throughout the world, the import of which is to invite and urge all persons and organizations thus designated to "hasten to return to the only fold," meaning the Church of Rome; and,

Whereas, the said Pope, in the said letter, called "paternal and apostolic," has, in an unwonted manner, as if pleading at the bar of public opinion, assigned several and various reasons for its preparation and publication; and,

Whereas, among the reasons so mentioned is the assertion of his own supremacy over the human conscience as the "Vicar of Jesus Christ,"—"the authority to govern the persuasions of the human intellect, and to direct the actions of men, both in private and social life;" as also this, that the rejection of this authority and protest against it by so many have "promoted and nourished those perturbations in human affairs in this our day," which the said Pope pronounces "miserable and grievous," but which must be

regarded by every friend of his species as eminently hopeful and auspicious; and,

Whereas, all such claims and assertions on the part of the Pope of Rome are, to the last degree, unfounded in fact, contrary to truth, reason, scripture, and the whole genius of Christianity, and, if allowed, would prove subversive of all human rights and liberties; and,

Whereas, recent movements, especially in Austria and Spain—nations long in subjection to these monstrous pretensions of the Papacy—command the prompt recognition, sympathy, and support of all friends of humanity, freedom, and religion throughout the world: Therefore be it

Resolved, That the facts now recorded furnish and present a proper and fitting occasion for all Protestant Churches throughout Christendom, each in the mode which its own wisdom shall suggest, to prepare and set forth for general distribution, through the same channels which the Pope himself has chosen, a suitable response to his letter; which response shall contain a statement of the reasons why his claims can in no wise be recognized; as being inconsistent with a catholicity more catholic than Rome, the authority of infallible Scripture, and the glorious supremacy of Jesus Christ.

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed by this Assembly, whose duty it shall be, in co-operation with a similar Committee to be appointed by the General Assembly, now meeting at the [281] Brick church, to nominate and appoint, at the earliest time which is convenient, a Committee of Ten, who, if they deem it wise, shall prepare and publish such a reply, to the said letter of the Pope, as shall be regarded as expressive of the sentiments of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, concerning the matters therein contained, as of vital importance to all civil and religious liberty throughout the world, and to the salvation of the human race.

The Rev. William Adams, D. D., Rev. Caleb Mills, LL.D., and Mr. Daniel W. Ingersoll, were appointed the *Committee* named in the last resolution.

The Rev. George W. Musgrave, D. D., and Mr. Robert Carter, appeared on behalf of the General Assembly of the other branch, and announced that the report of the Joint Committee of Conference had been (almost unanimously) adopted by that body.

The Rev. Charles Brown, Secretary of the Ministerial Relief Committee, addressed the Assembly in behalf of that Committee.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church reported the following question:

Will the Committee on Church Polity consider the question of an amendment to the Standing Rules of the General Assembly, touching the reception of foreign ministers, so as to except from the application of these rules ministers coming directly from well-known charges or positions, and bringing satisfactory testimonials, where the Presbyteries into which they are to be received have previously signified their approval of the transfer from fields abroad to fields within their bounds?

The Committee recommend as an answer to this question, that so much of the regulations and provisions relative to the reception of foreign ministers (see Digest, p. 117) as regards the probation through which such ministers must pass, before the Presbytery come to a final judgment of their reception, may, at the option of any Presbytery, be waived in those cases in which the transfer is directly from a Presbytery in correspondence with this Assembly, and in which cases the approval of the transfer by such Presbytery has been previously signified.

The Presbytery receiving such a minister is strictly enjoined to make a careful record of all the facts in the case.

The report was adopted.

The same Committee reported an Overture of three elders, members of this Assembly, asking that some action be taken with reference to providing ministerial labor for unemployed ministers, and services in vacant churches. The Committee recommend that the paper be referred to a Special Committee of five to report to the next General Assembly. The report was adopted, and the following Committee was appointed: Rev. [282] Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., Rev. Henry Kendall, D. D., Rev. John G. Atterbury, D. D., Hon. William Strong, and Hon. Henry W. Williams, LL.D.

The same Committee reported the following Overture from the Commissioners of the Presbytery of Grand River Valley:

A minister belonging to the Presbytery of Grand River Valley, now editing a paper and not preaching, on account of throat difficulty, was solicited to accept the office of elder, by the First Presbyterian church of Grand Haven, Mich., was elected unanimously, accepted the office, and entered on his duties. The Presbytery, in reviewing the Records, declared it was irregular, but did nothing more. The pastor of said church brought the matter before the session, and, after considering the case, the session did nothing. This brother not being able to preach, and over 60 years of age, accepted the office of ruling elder, because he was willing to work in the vineyard of the Lord in a more humble capacity, but has not resigned the ministerial office, holding still his place as a member of the Presbytery of Grand River Valley.

The Committee recommended for answer, a reference to the report of the Special Committee on this subject, made to the Assembly of 1865, and found in the Minutes for that year, pp. 13–14.*

The report was adopted.

The Committee on communicating with "the Grand Army of the Republic" reported a paper which was adopted, and is as follows:

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church takes great pleasure in acknowledging the invitation of the Kings County Department of the Grand Army of the Republic to attend and take part in the ceremony of decorating the graves of our dead soldiers on Monday next.

It gives us great pleasure to observe that this ceremony is not to take place on the Sabbath; and we recommend that as many of the members of the Assembly, as can be spared from their other duties, shall engage in offering this beautiful and appropriate tribute of patriotic memory and love.

Your Committee recommend that this paper be communicated to the Kings County Department of the Grand Army of the Republic.

The Chairman of that Committee was requested to communicate this action to the representatives of the Grand Army.

The Rev. Elijah D. Murphy, in accordance with the recommendation of the Committee on Devotional Exercises, addressed the Assembly in behalf of the New York Port Society.

Resolved, That, with the concurrent action of the other Assem[283]bly, a Committee, consisting of the Joint Committee of Conference on Reunion, together with the Moderators of the two Assemblies, be appointed to prepare and send down to the Presbyteries and churches a Pastoral Letter in reference to the momentous question of reunion now submitted to their decision.

Resolved, That this Assembly does hereby submit to the Presbyteries in connection with it the Basis of Reunion adopted May 27th, 1869; and that the Presbyteries be required to meet on or before October 15th, 1869, to express their approval or disapproval of the same by a categorical answer to the following question:

* Reprint, p. 327.

Do you approve of the Reunion of the two bodies now claiming the name and rights of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, on the following Basis, namely: "The Reunion shall be effected on the doctrinal and ecclesiastical basis of our common standards; the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments shall be acknowledged to be the inspired Word of God, and the only infallible rule of faith and practice; the Confession of Faith shall continue to be sincerely received and adopted as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures; and the Government and Discipline of the Presbyterian Church in the United States shall be approved as containing the principles and rules of our polity"?

Resolved, That each Presbytery shall, before the first day of November, 1869, forward to the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly a statement of its vote on the said Basis of reunion.

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk be authorized to print as many copies of the above Overture as may be needed.

Adjourned to meet with the other Assembly, in a joint communion service, at the Brick church, at 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

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

The Assembly met at the Brick Presbyterian church, and united with the Assembly now in session at that church in the celebration of the Lord's Supper.

After the service, in accordance with previous order,

Adjourned until to-morrow morning at 8¾ o'clock. [284]

Saturday, May 29th, 8¾ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and occupied the opening hour with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee of Conference on Reunion reported the communication from a joint meeting of the Committees appointed by several Presbyterian bodies, at the request of a Convention held at Philadelphia, November, 1867, recommending that the Committee appointed in behalf of this Assembly (Minutes 1868, p. 59) be continued. The report was adopted.

On the recommendation of the Committee appointed by the last Assembly (p. 53) to memorialize Congress respecting the appointment of army and navy chaplains, it was

Resolved, That a Committee of Five be appointed to confer with such Committees as may be designated by other ecclesiastical bodies on the subject of chaplains in the army and navy, and endeavor to secure such action from Congress as, in their judgment, may be best.

The Rev. Samuel W. Fisher, D. D., the Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., the Rev. John C. Smith, D. D., Hon. William E. Dodge, and Mr. Edward Miller were appointed such Committee.

Pastor Ludwig B. Kaspar and Upper Church Counselor Hermann Von Tardy, a Deputation from the Bohemian Reformed Church, addressed the Assembly, and were responded to by the Moderator.

The subject-matter of the addresses of the deputation was referred for consideration and report to a Committee consisting of Rev. Daniel W. Poor, D. D., Rev. Robert Russell Booth, D. D., and Hon. William Strong.

The Mileage Committee presented their report, which was amended, adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee on the Mileage of Commissioners beg leave to report:

That they have received for Commissioners' Fund		$12,031.99
" " " " " Contingent Fund		88.82
		$12,120.81
They have audited bills for the necessary traveling expenses of Commissioners amounting to	$7941.00	
For contingent expenses	2100.00	
" incidental expenses of this Committee	12.57	
		$10,053.57
Balance		$2,067.24

[285]

Ninety-eight Presbyteries have paid their assessment in full, including three Presbyteries who paid at the rate of six cents per member, through ignorance of the increase in the rate of assessment, and nine Presbyteries who paid according to their present number of members, some of their churches having withdrawn from their watch and care.

Eight Presbyteries have paid but a part of their assessment—namely: Champlain, Troy, Onondaga, Tioga, Lyons, North River, Huron, and St. Joseph.

Six Presbyteries have paid a small amount to the Contingent Fund only—namely, St. Lawrence, Watertown, Oswego, Chenango, Meadville, and Franklin.

One Presbytery has paid nothing—namely, San Francisco, and is not represented in the Assembly.

Having received a sufficient amount of money from the Presbyteries, and having been granted the requisite authority by the Assembly, your Committee have paid the necessary traveling expenses of the Commissioners entitled thereto, in full.

While showing in the above statement a considerable surplus, above what is needed for the expenses of this Assembly, your Committee, in view of the necessary, constantly increasing expenditures, year by year, cannot, however, recommend a reduction of the rate of assessment from eight cents to six cents, as has been asked for by some of the Presbyteries.

To provide for the necessary traveling expenses of the Commissioners of this Assembly to the adjourned session to be held at Pittsburgh, Pa., in November next, your Committee would recommend the appropriation of the surplus now on hand, as shown above, and that a special assessment be made, on our churches, of four cents per member, for that purpose.

Your Committee would further recommend, that the compensation of the Stated Clerk of this Assembly be increased to two hundred dollars per annum, and that of the Permanent Clerk to one hundred dollars per annum.

The thanks of the Assembly were given to the Mileage Committee for their patient and faithful attention to the duties entrusted to them.

The Rev. Robert Russell Booth, D. D., and the Rev. Samuel W. Fisher, D. D., LL.D., addressed the Assembly in behalf of the work of the American and Foreign Christian Union.

The Rev. S. Irenæus Prime, D. D., addressed the Assembly in behalf of the Evangelical Alliance in the United States. In connection with these addresses, the Assembly

Resolved, That the principles of the Protestant Reformation, identified as they are with the progress of religious liberty, education, and Christianity in the earth, are increasingly precious in our eyes, and we call upon our

ministers and people to watch with [286] jealous care the progress of Romanism in the United States, and by the employment of all suitable means to resist the insidious efforts of Roman Catholics to obtain control in this country.

Resolved, That this Assembly has heard, with great satisfaction, the intelligence that the Evangelical Alliance of the United States has invited a conference of evangelical Christians of this country to meet at the city of New York the ensuing autumn, and a general conference of all evangelical Christians in all the world to assemble at the same city of New York in the autumn of 1870; and it will unite its prayers with those of Christ's people everywhere, that the Holy Spirit may guide their counsels, and lead to wise results for the advancement of the Redeemer's kingdom.

The following telegram was received from the Synod of the Welsh Calvinistic Methodists:

"NEWARK, OHIO, May 28th, 1869.

"To the General Assemblies of the Old and New School Presbyterians, meeting in the city of New York.

"The Synod of the Welsh Calvinistic Methodists greet the brethren, 2d Thessalonians 1 : 3, 4, and 2d Corinthians 13 : 11th and 13th verses.

"E. T. EVANS, *Moderator.*

"DAVID HARRIES, *Secretary.*"

The following reply was adopted:

The General Assemblies of the Presbyterian Church, now sitting at the city of New York, jointly return their cordial and Christian salutations to the Synod of Calvinistic Methodists, now sitting at the city of Newark, Ohio, and express to them our best wishes and desires, in the words of Moses to Hobab—Numbers 10 : 29.

The Rev. Theodore L. Cuyler, D. D., addressed the Assembly in behalf of the National Temperance Society.

The Rev. Wm. W. Atterbury and Mr. Norman White addressed the Assembly in behalf of the New York Sabbath Committee.

A communication was received from the other General Assembly, stating that the resolution from this body in reference to the preparation of a Pastoral Letter on Reunion had been immediately adopted by that body.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Bills and Overtures, it was

Resolved, That the Stated Clerks of the Presbyteries be instructed to insert the address of vacant churches in their annual Statistical Report to the General Assembly.

On the recommendation of the same Committee, it was

Resolved, That the General Assembly recommend to the minis[287]ters in their connection to deposit copies of their occasional publications, including historical discourses, theological essays, etc., in the libraries of our Theological Seminaries, and in the library of the Presbyterian Historical Society.

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

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 31st, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and occupied the opening hour with devotional exercises.

The Hon. Daniel Haines and the Hon. Joseph Allison, LL.D., were appointed to prepare and report a minute for the instruction of the Presbyteries, with reference to any change in their representation, at the adjourned meeting of this Assembly.

The Committee on supplying Presbyterian worship in the chief cities of Europe reported, that, as instructed, they have conferred with the American and Foreign Christian Union, and have learned that this Society, because of its exclusive missionary character, cannot undertake the enterprise. The Committee have not been able to hear of any other American agency, through which the desired objects can be secured; and, as they deem it inexpedient for the Assembly itself to undertake it, they recommend that the Free Church of Scotland, from whom the proposal was received, be respectfully informed, that the Assembly do not see their way clear to co-operate with them in this enterprise.

The report was adopted.

The Standing Committee on Nominations recommended the following as Delegates to Corresponding Bodies:

1. *General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church*—Rev. Isaac Emory, of the Presbytery of Union, principal; and Rev. Nathan Bachman, of the Presbytery of Holston, alternate.

2. *General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America*—Rev. E. Perkins Pratt, D. D., of the Presbytery of Scioto, principal; and Rev. George M. Maxwell, D. D., of the Presbytery of Cincinnati, alternate.

3. *Synod of the Canada Presbyterian Church*—Rev. Grosvenor W. Heacock, D. D., principal; and Rev. Albert T. Chester, D. D., alternate, both of the Presbytery of Buffalo.

4. *General Synod of the Reformed Church in America*—Rev. Peter Stryker, D. D., of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Third, principal; and Rev. Richard H. Allen, D. D., of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Fourth, alternate.

5. *General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in* [288] *North America*—Rev. Cornelius H. Taylor, D. D., of the Presbytery of Cincinnati, principal; and Rev. Joseph Chester, of the Presbytery of Cincinnati, alternate.

6. *General Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States*—Rev. Zephaniah M. Humphrey, D. D., of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Third, principal; and Rev. Herrick Johnson, D. D., of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Fourth, alternate.

7. *General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States*—Rev. Edward D. Morris, D. D., of the Presbytery of Cincinnati, principal; and Rev. James L. Robertson, of the Presbytery of Cincinnati, alternate.

8. *General Conference of the Congregational Churches of Maine*—Rev. Charles S. Dunning, of the Presbytery of Montrose, principal; and Rev. Augustus Seward, D. D., of the Presbytery of Hudson, alternate.

9. *General Association of New Hampshire*—Rev. John W. Mears, D. D., of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Third, principal; and Rev. George A. Howard, of the Presbytery of Catskill, alternate.

10. *General Convention of Vermont*—Rev. Theodore S. Brown, of the Presbytery of Brooklyn, principal; and Rev. George T. Everest, of the Presbytery of Champlain, alternate.

11. *General Association of the Congregational Churches of Massachusetts*—Rev. William Aikman, of the Presbytery of New York, Third, principal; and Rev. Thomas Street, of the Presbytery of New York, Third, alternate.

12. *General Association of Connecticut*—Rev. William E. Moore, of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Third, principal; and Rev. John Patton, D. D., of the Presbytery of Wilmington, alternate.

13. *Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin*—Rev. Arthur Mitchell, of the Presbytery of Chicago, principal; and Rev. Warren Mayo, of the Presbytery of Columbus, alternate.

The report was adopted.

On recommendation of the Committee on Bills and Overtures, the following preamble and resolution were adopted:

The Committee on Bills and Overtures recommend the passage of the following preamble and resolution:

Whereas, The Presbytery of Newark have commenced an institution, located in the City of Newark, under the direction of a Board of Trustees annually appointed by them, for the education of young men for the ministry among the Germans, called "The German Theological School of the Presbytery of Newark;" and,

Whereas, such an enterprise is demanded by the interests of the Church generally, and will require their co-operation in order to its success: Therefore,

Resolved, That the Assembly recommend this institution to the Presbyteries and churches under their care, and request them [289] to further its objects, by seeking and sending to it such young men within their bodies as may be approved by the Presbyteries or their Committees, furnishing funds at the same time for their support.

Written reports were presented from the Rev. Rollin A. Sawyer, Delegate to the General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States, the Rev. A. Bordman Lambert, D. D., Delegate to the General Conference of the Congregational Churches of Maine, and the Rev. A. Bordman Lambert, D. D., Delegate to the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America.

The Committee on the Bohemian Deputation presented their report in the form of resolutions, which were adopted, and are as follows:

Resolved, 1. That the Assembly, having listened with great gratification to the statements made by the deputation from the Bohemian Reformed Church, cordially commend the brethren, Rev. Hermann Von Tardy and Rev. Ludwig B. Kaspar, to the love and kindness of the pastors and churches within their bounds, and bespeak for the Church which they represent the active sympathies and pecuniary aid of all who desire to assist a reviving ancient sister Church, in acquiring strength and enlargement, throughout a land memorable for its struggles and martyrdoms in the cause of the Reformation.

Resolved, 2. That the Committee, to whom is intrusted the business of appointing Delegates to Foreign Bodies, be instructed to take special pains to secure, next year, a delegation to the Bohemian Reformed Church, and, in default thereof, to write and send an address to that Church, expressive of our pleasure at the visit of their deputation, and of our interest in the communication that they have made to us.

Resolved, 3. That the Assembly recommend the publication of the report of the deputation in all the religious papers connected with it.

Resolved, 4. That the Assembly earnestly commend the brethren from Bohemia, and the cause that they represent, to the cordial recognition and support of the American and Foreign Christian Union.

Resolved, 5. That the Moderator and Stated Clerk of this body be instructed to furnish the deputation with a circular letter, introducing them to such pastors and churches as they may desire to visit while in this country.

Resolved, 6. That a Committee of three be appointed, to render such assistance to these brethren, in the prosecution of their work in this country, as may be best adapted to this purpose.

The Rev. Robert Russell Booth, D. D., the Rev. Herrick Johnson, D. D., and Hon. William E. Dodge were appointed the *Committee* named in the above report. [290]

The Special Committee on the recommendation of a National Council of Evangelical Churches presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

Recognizing this proposal as a part of the great movement of our day, which is seeking better to express the essential unity of the Church of Christ, and to bring about that organic unity toward which we have just taken so important a step, we regard it as one eminently fitting to be entertained. So manifestly does the favor of God rest upon all such efforts, that we dare not even seem to stand in opposition. That favor has been shown in the outpouring of the Spirit upon the joint efforts of Christians in revivals of religion. Our own hearts have here felt most convincingly the influences of that Spirit, when in joint supplications for the Reunion of our separated Presbyterian family. Mutual love and confidence fill the hearts of believers. The spirit of wisdom seems to be imparted to our councils for Reunion, and from all branches of the Church the prayer is going up for a speedy realization of that oneness for which our Redeemer prayed. And when God so manifestly points the way, and opens the path where was a sea of difficulties before, it is for His people to go forward.

Great good may also result from the adoption of some such plan. In a common profession of the essentials of our common faith; in the promotion of wholesome discipline, and mutual co-operation therein; in devising measures of practical evangelism; in borrowing life from every part, and in diffusing it through all the members of the common body; in presenting a common front to a common foe; in such prospects of vast good accomplished, we see a motive for acceding to the proposal submitted. Therefore,

Resolved, That five representatives of this body, three ministers and two laymen, be appointed to meet similar representatives from other bodies on the third Tuesday of October, in the city of New York, provided the higher judicatories and Assemblies of sister Churches accede to the proposal.

The Rev. Grosvenor W. Heacock, D. D., Rev. Arthur Mitchell, Rev. Thomas S. Hastings, D. D., Hon. William Strong, and Hon. Daniel Haines were appointed the *Committee* above named.

The Committee on Instructing the Presbyteries concerning their representation at the adjourned meeting of this Assembly presented a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

Whereas, It has been questioned, whether this Assembly at the proposed adjourned meeting, in November next, at Pittsburgh, Pa., can be properly constituted of the principal or alternate Commissioners, not in attendance on the sessions of the body at this time; therefore,

Resolved, In the judgment of the Assembly, those Commissioners only who have presented their Commissions, and whose [291] names have been placed on the Roll, will be entitled to participate in the meeting of the Assembly in November, except in case of a vacancy, occasioned by death, resignation, refusal, or inability of any such Commissioner to attend, in which event it will be competent and proper for the Presbytery to supply the vacancy by a new election or appointment.

Adjourned until 2½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 31st, 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The report of the Standing Committee on Home Missions was adopted, and is as follows:

The considerations laid open by the report of the Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions are almost bewildering in their magnitude and importance. We can do them but faint justice. Our suggestions must be like those required on a mountain top, as to the details of engineering, while one is still overwhelmed by the grandeur of the view. We attempt the duty assigned to us, however, confining ourselves as far as possible to the points of the Committee's report, in their order.

National Development.

The call of Providence upon the Church is, Enterprise for Christ. Enterprise for commerce throbs in every vein of American society. Enterprise for Christ must throb in every vein of the Church. The gold and the silver are His. The golden spike, and the silver hammer which drove it to its place beside the last rail of the Pacific road were consecrated to Him by prayer. The commerce of the country must be subsidized by the Church, and used for God's glory. The world must not outshine the Church in its achievements. Its machinery must be used by the Church as fast as it is erected, for the upbuilding of Christ's kingdom.

Immigration.

This is declared to be largely and increasingly Protestant in its character. There is both hope and impulse in this declaration; hope, because of its prophecy as against Rome; impulse, because of the duty implied as to Protestantism. Statistics would seem to prove that this is to be, as it always has been, a Protestant land. But statistics are not wholly safe. Rome calculates on [292] success in America on other grounds than that of numbers. She relies on organization, on political ascendency through her unification, on a reaction from the materialism of our civilization, on a recoil from our national individualism. Her logic is, first, Protestantism, then infidelity, then refuge in her bosom. Already she hears, out of the heart of a Protestant Church, the cry that Protestantism is a failure, and the comment that the last three centuries constitute the dark ages of Christendom. So far, then, as immigration brings rationalism and infidelity to our shores, so far Rome welcomes it as in her interest. The two great types of nominal Christianity in America to-day are, ecclesiasticism, with its organic and life-giving Church, on the one hand, and individualism, with its personal relations to the Triune God, on the other. It is needless to say which type Presbyterianism represents. But Presbyterianism should not be blind to the dangers which beset its individualism, or to the expectations which are cherished by the ecclesiasticism to which it is opposed. The Presbyterian Church now occupies a most advantageous position, as between the upper and lower classes of society, able to reach the most intelligent and the least; able to reach those who would have most heart in their religion, and those who would have a creed most crystal clear. Its duty is, to provide all that is most helpful in church organization; all that is most satisfactory to those looking into the perfect law of liberty. It must welcome the converted Romanist to a better Church than he leaves, and convince the rationalist that he can find that rest in Christ which he can never find in philosophy. Its hand and heart should therefore be open to every emigrant who comes to our shores.

As to that new element in our immigration which comes eastward from China, our duty appears for the present to be, to watch and wait. Religious effort can soon be made to great advantage among the Chinamen of Califor-

nia. They are fast becoming affected by American civilization. They adopt our dress, they cut off their hair, which is like severing ancestral ties. They begin to be ashamed of being counted idolaters. Their rich men are giving up many of the tenets of their religious faith. They are accessible and teachable. In all the large towns of California, Sunday-schools for Chinamen are successfully conducted by Protestant denominations. At present, a missionary of the Foreign Board of the other branch of our Church is laboring among them with marked success. He should have our sympathy and our moral support. Very soon others should enter the field beside him.

The West.

Where is it? The question flies across the continent without an answer. The vast spaces it traverses, however, demand our most earnest attention.

The report of the Permanent Committee says, we want only the young and the strong for occupants of this field. But where are they to be found? Our theological semi[293]naries furnish scarcely enough men to occupy the more important of the vacant parishes on the Atlantic slope. Oh! for some seed, better but not less vital than dragon's teeth, to sow!

Feeble Churches in the East.

They must not be permitted to absorb any great portion of the slender streams which flow from our Seminaries. If young men only or chiefly are wanted in the so-called West, the feeble churches of the East must be encouraged to employ those still vigorous but older workers, now marked by the melancholy initials "W. C.," and who would gladly occupy their pulpits.

City Evangelization.

This includes the Christianizing of the rich as well as of the poor. If there are heathen in the lanes, there are heathen on the stately avenues also. We have, therefore, no words of condemnation for large and costly churches. Nor have we for large and wealthy organizations. They are necessary, both for the reaching of the wealthier class, and for gaining their riches for Christ. Our work cannot be carried on without money, and culture, and all such machinery of influence as is wielded by large churches in our cities.

Nor would we commend such a rapid church extension in any city as would deplete churches now strong, or fill spaces with feeble organizations, while two or three flourishing churches might practically occupy the same ground. That some strong men should go from the larger churches to fortify all new enterprises, we indeed believe; all care should be taken that each new church is a strong one, having at least all the vital elements of growth and prosperity.

The larger churches in our cities should also, in planting mission-schools, have especial reference to their development into churches. They should combine for the purpose of church extension, giving none the less to this general object through our Assembly's Committee, but concentrating all their wisdom, and laying under tribute their wealth, for common interests. A Presbyterian League already exists in at least one of our large cities.

Results of the Year.

Four hundred and sixty-two missionaries have been under appointment during the year. Two thousand four hundred conversions are reported as taking place under the ministry of three hundred and thirty-two of them—an average of about seven to a missionary.

The funds received from all quarters amount to $162,421. The number of our church-members in 1868 was 168,932. The amount gathered, therefore, from our whole Church, for the cause of Domestic Missions was less than one dollar per member. Too large a proportion of our churches give nothing to this object. [294]

What Must be Done.

Your Committee recommend:

1. That pastors and elders be requested to impress their churches anew with the magnitude of the work before us; and that to this end a prominent place be given to Home Missions in the Monthly Concert.

2. That the chronic want of more funds be so pressed upon all our churches and Sunday-schools—many of which have already done nobly—that the poorest shall not refuse to give out of their poverty one dollar per member. Shame!

3. That to render the missionary work less unattractive to young men, the standard of salary be kept at the highest reasonable point.

4. That Presbyteries be desired to appoint Committees of Supply, whose duty it shall be to find ministers for their vacant churches, and pulpits for their unemployed ministers.

5. That the establishment of mission-schools in cities be encouraged, so far as that may promote the spread of Protestant principles among the children of Romanists, and the ultimate formation of Protestant churches.

6. As to the Overture referred to us respecting mission-work among the Chinese emigrants, we recommend that no action be taken this year, further than to express our conviction of the importance of this work.

7. That so far as the conduct of labor among the Freedmen is concerned, the Assembly entrust the work to a Sub-committee of the Home Mission Committee; or, as suggested last year, to the direction of some competent person, to be selected by the Home Mission Committee.

8. That the office of the Associate Secretary, now residing in Philadelphia, be dissolved; and that the Committee be directed to appoint a proper District Secretary for the State of Pennsylvania, and neighboring States, at the discretion of the Committee.

9. That the following persons, whose term of service expires with this Assembly, be appointed for the usual term, namely: Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., Rev. Edward W. French, Rev. John DeWitt, Mr. George R. Lockwood, and Mr. Walter Edwards, the latter in the place of Alfred C. Post, M. D., declining a re-election.

We cannot close this report without adverting to the possibility that our whole work as a Church may soon undergo important modification by reunion with that branch of the Church from which we have been so long severed. By such reunion, the cause of Domestic Missions ought to be greatly promoted. The tide now setting should be caught in its flow, and made to turn many a useful wheel, rather than come in with grand but idle music.

If Reunion is harmoniously effected, we anticipate new life and [295] usefulness for our beloved Church. It will present a noble example of organic power, proceeding from a well-compacted system, based upon a creed and a polity unsurpassed, and quickened by the personal relations of our members to the strengthening Christ.

It is already no longer needed that one cry, as in the third watch, or the fourth watch, "What of the night?" The morning has come. The light gilds innumerable spires; it reveals also innumerable wastes. Our cry is,

"What of the day?" And the answer is, "To your tents, O Israel!" "Ephraim shall not envy Judah; and Judah shall not vex Ephraim!" "Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitations. Spare not; lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes; for thou shalt break forth on the right hand and on the left; and thy seed shall inherit the Gentiles, and make the desolate cities to be inhabited."

The report of the Standing Committee on Freedmen was adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee to whom was referred that part of the report of the Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions pertaining to the work among the Freedmen, respectfully report as follows:

They rejoice to find that the great work to which the Church was summoned by the last Assembly, and which those in charge of our missionary operations were then urged to carry boldly and swiftly forward, is fairly and successfully begun.

Your Committee, in common, no doubt, with all who have given any degree of attention to the situation and claims of the Freedmen, look with wonder and regret at the strange delay with which we were chargeable, as a Church, in entering upon a field of missionary labor whose claims were so peculiarly urgent and sacred, and which was at the same time, in all its aspects, so hopeful. But we rejoice that an earnest beginning has been made; that the work has now been wisely planned and thoroughly organized; that the call, loud and unmistakable, has been sent out over the length and breadth of the Church to bring in her offerings for the cause, and that already seven ordained missionaries and nearly one hundred teachers are in the field, pushing forward their work with energy, and with the evident blessing of God; while many other laborers are now under appointment, and every month is witnessing the enlargement of the contributions, and the extension of the labors which have been so energetically and hopefully begun.

Nearly every other denomination of evangelical Christians is in advance of us, in respect both to the promptness and the liberality with which they have entered upon this work of educating and evangelizing the Freedmen.

This remark applies, of course, only to our action as a Church; for, from the very first hour that opportunity was offered, the [296] Christian people in our New School Presbyterian churches have been contributing largely to this cause. Their gifts, however, have hitherto been placed at the disposal of numberless societies, working, some of them, directly in the interest of other denominations, and others working without supervision by any evangelical denomination whatever.

Probably almost every pastor in our body can testify, as those of your Committee certainly can, that no object, especially for the last four years, has enlisted such a quick and hearty sympathy in the bosoms of the people as the elevation and the thorough evangelization of the Freedmen. In some of our churches, as many as three or four collections, in the course of the year, have been cheerfully given for this cause. No other cause would have borne such a frequent presentation, and been met with such an unwearied and substantial welcome to the last. A word for the Freedmen has always been answered quickly and generously.

No step could have been taken by the Assembly more wise, and more fortunate, than the organization of a plan which shall turn upon the wheels of our own work this stream of generous and cheerful bounty. The day of desultory and scattered effort, we hope, has closed. Let the strength of the Church be concentrated. Let all the gifts of all our churches, in behalf of the Freedmen, be placed at the disposal of that veteran Missionary Commit-

tee whom we know and trust, and under whom so much has been accomplished in the evangelization of the populous North and West, and a new era will have begun in the work of missions to the Freedmen.

The Standing Committee desire to call particular attention to this point, and urge every pastor within our bounds to do his utmost, not only to secure contributions in behalf of the Freedmen, but to induce the donors to pour their gifts into that channel prepared and recommended by our branch of the Church. A column will be found in the next Minutes of the General Assembly, set apart particularly for a record of our contributions to this object; and, while we would not lessen, in the least degree, the zeal or the resources of any other evangelical denomination engaged in this work, but rather bid them "go forward" in God's name, we feel that the time has fully come for the New School Presbyterian Church to do something in behalf of the emancipated slaves, which shall be seen by the world to be correspondent with her wealth, her heart, and her history.

It is not strange, perhaps, that, during the past year, but a very few of our churches have contributed to the Freedmen's Fund of the Committee. The rank and file of our membership hardly know as yet what an enterprise has been begun. They have not learned of the vastness of its outline, nor of the completeness of its organization. It is hoped that the pastors will now acquaint their churches fully with these facts. One hundred and eighty-nine only of the more than 1600 churches of our body contributed last year to this cause—less than one-eighth of the whole; $15,000 [297] being the total of the receipts, and even this including sums of considerable importance contributed by the Freedmen's Bureau, benevolent persons in Great Britain, and others.

The Permanent Committee, in accordance with the instructions of the last General Assembly, have combined, so far as practicable, in their efforts for the Freedmen, both evangelism and education. They have been sending out ordained missionaries, by whom churches have been gathered and organized, some of which, on the 11th of the present month, (May, 1869,) were organized into "the Presbytery of South Carolina." But they are also sending out Christian teachers, both men and women, who are devoting themselves, in the true missionary spirit, to the work of instruction. Other societies, perceiving the advantages possessed by the Permanent Committee for a reliable prosecution and a permanent support of the work of education among the Freedmen, are already turning over their schools in large numbers to the Committee, while new schools are being opened continually by their own agents and missionaries.

In the judgment of the Standing Committee, the great want of the Freedmen to-day is a supply of competent pastors and teachers from their own midst and of their own race. The free admission of colored young men to all our Colleges and Seminaries will do much to enlarge the number of candidates for the ministry from that race; and the early establishment of normal schools in the Southern States can very soon raise up a large and competent corps of teachers. Your Committee entertain the hope that efforts will be made to secure both these ends.

They would also suggest that a certain portion of the pages of the *Presbyterian Monthly* be set apart, for the purpose of conveying to our churches full information and earnest appeals with regard to this branch of our missionary work.

It was recommended to the Assembly last year by the Standing Committee on Home Missions, in view of the necessities of a vigorous prosecution of this department of our work, that the Permanent Committee be authorized

to employ an "Assistant Secretary." The prospect already opening before us, of the very rapid extension of our work among the Freedmen, certainly the intrinsic importance of the work, and the efforts which should be made to arouse and direct the Christian enthusiasm of all our churches, cause your Committee to feel that this provision for an Assistant Secretary only is likely to be misinterpreted, and to be insufficient; and they recommend that the executive officer of this department of our Home Missions be known as "the Secretary for the Freedmen;" it being understood, that the work which he is called to superintend takes its place fully abreast of the largest and most important schemes which we are carrying forward as a Church for the evangelization of the world.

In conclusion, we most earnestly press once more upon the attention of the Assembly the vastness, and sacredness, and especially the hopefulness of the work, which we are called to under[298]take in behalf of the Freedmen. A more hopeful field for missionary effort is not to be found on the face of the globe than that among these millions of emancipated slaves.

Scarcely more than one-tenth of them are reached, as yet, by all the agencies which are combined for their elevation. It is estimated that nearly 2,000,000 are still unable to read.

They are in sad need; but they are conscious of it, and eager, intensely eager, for the blessings we propose to send. They wait for our evangelists and our Christian teachers. In them, Ethiopia is already in prayer stretching out her hands unto God. Your Committee beg leave to suggest to the Assembly, therefore, that it shall recommend, and urge upon the churches to raise during the coming year no less a sum than $100,000 for the purpose of carrying forward, not feebly, but boldly, swiftly, and vigorously, the work of educating and evangelizing the Freedmen.

The report of the Standing Committee on Church Erection was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee to whom was referred the fifteenth annual report of the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, and also Overtures from the Synod of Iowa and the Presbytery of Iowa City, respectfully report:

The facts exhibited and the suggestions made commend themselves to the thoughtful consideration of the Assembly.

Three things are put luminously before us by the facts of the report:

1. That the general regulations for the disposition of the fund are judicious, and comprehensive of the widest usefulness.

2. That the Church at large is by no means yet in full and intelligent sympathy with this cause of Church Erection.

3. That the present need of largely increased appropriations is pressing and imperative.

As to the general regulations for the disposition of the Fund, they are these: That the grant should complete the church edifice, and leave it free from debt; that the grant in every case should be secured to the denomination by reversionary lien; that the congregation thus helped should take up an annual collection for the cause of Church Erection. The wisdom of these regulations is too clear for question. The first is a constant stimulus to the best effort, and most promptly secures the completed structure. The second is simply a reasonable safeguard against possible transfer of denominational connection. The third adds so many churches each year to the list of contributors to the treasury of the Board.

As to the vital interests dependent on a vigorous prosecution of our Church Erection work, it is manifest that the Church at large has no thorough comprehension of them, from the fact that one thousand one hundred and sixty-

three churches have not given one dollar to this work during the last year. Thus more than a thou[299]sand of our churches have gone through the year as if no Church Erection cause were on our list. Worse than this. In four out of the five cases where direct applications were made for a hearing for this cause, there has been returned by the pastors of our churches either a positive refusal or no answer. This is a reproach and a shame. It is shutting the door in the face of a grave responsibility. It betrays either most lamentable ignorance, or most censurable indifference.

As to the pressing necessity of greatly increased appropriations, the facts speak with emphasis. The average amount given to each church the past year has been about $475. This makes it simply impossible for many of our homeless congregations, whose need is really the most imperative, and yet whose resources are the most straitened, to arise and build. The meagre offer of the Board is so far below the necessity of the unhoused flock, that it operates as a discouragement rather than a stimulus. Then again, if it be true, as stated, that there are single Synods where the entire $46,000 given to Church Erection could be judiciously invested, what a beggarly thing we are doing in attempting to meet, with that same sum, the wants of twelve or fifteen great States!

What is needed, therefore, with respect to contributions to this cause, is,

1st. Universality. The source of supply should be limited only by the number of our churches. This object should be down in every list of benevolences. We should wipe out the reproach of ignoring, by four-fifths of our denomination, a cause so vitally connected with the efficient prosecution of our evangelistic work.

2d. Regularity. Once down on the list of benevolent causes, every church should give it the same conscientious heed that is given to Home and Foreign Missions. Now, it is far otherwise. Church Erection seems to be regarded almost wholly in its material aspects. It is thought the spiritualities are all connected with the other causes. And hence, when necessity comes, and curtailments in contributions must be made, out of the list goes Church Erection first and always. It alone is commonly made to bear the deduction, and to bear it all. And the sufficient plea is, in answer to expostulation, "We have work at home." And this proves to be, as the report says, "anywhere from a hundred thousand dollar sanctuary down to a church fence or a coat of paint." Thus the Board of Trustees are left to great uncertainty as to what they may rely upon. If they make pledges, and fail to fulfil them, they put the church engaged in building in the worst of all possible positions before the community. For Church Erection involves business contracts, and bank notes, and promises to pay. And wherever a church fails to meet these, the cause of Christ suffers grievous hurt.

3d. Increased liberality is a third necessity. This cause should take its place in the sympathies and the generosities of our people, right by the side of the other leading causes. It should be lifted to a like conspicuity. It should go hand in hand with Home Mis[300]sions. It is a sister beneficence. Its claims are mission claims. Its success is evangelistic success. Its work, mission work. For it conserves mission work, economizes it, perpetuates it, gives it greatly increased efficiency. It is the visible and the structural about our Christianity. What could the soul do, in this world of sight and sense, without the body? What the body is to the soul, so is the church edifice to the church. Give a weak, struggling, houseless flock of God a sanctuary, and its effectiveness is almost immediately doubled; permanence is more certainly assured it; it passes straightway from a nursling, feeding at the

breast of the Home Mission cause, to a vigorous self-support, contributing to the vitalities of the entire church. Give every organized church a house, and every minister a pulpit, dedicated to God, and the Church will at once rally to itself the best material that surrounds it, and the man of God will not wear out the best years of his life in preaching without the helps and sanctities of the sanctuary. Give this Board of our Church funds enough, and it will annually lift scores of our feeble congregations out of helplessness into helpfulness. Every dollar given to Church Erection is ten times that saved to Home Missions.

Here is a continent, vast and populous, stepping to the lead of the world's affairs with the stride of a young giant. It has already had unparalleled development. But the possible marvels of its future are almost infinitely beyond the achieved marvels of its past. Cities are being built almost in a day. Towns are dotting our Western prairies and mountain sides as by magic. Godless institutions keep pace with this development. Up go the structures, and out hang the signals where pleasure and passion and lust hold high carnival. These do not wait the accumulation of wealth before they build. Even Rome anticipates the march of empire, and promptly rears her altars in the new settlements to call men to the worship of the Virgin. Shall not the Church of Jesus Christ hasten to construct the visible tokens of the march of another and better empire, and by her consecrated Christian temples summon men to the worship of a greater than the Virgin? More than one hundred and fifty flocks stretch out their hands to-day for shelter. Far more than every dollar of the balance in the treasury of the Board is already pledged. God says to this host of his elect, "Go forward." The call is urgent; the field vast; the need imperative. One hundred thousand dollars is the least we ought to devote the coming year to this department of our denominational work.

Your Committee would therefore recommend, as expressive of the sense of this Assembly, the following resolutions:

1. That the Presbyteries are enjoined to take special oversight of their respective fields in connection with the interests of Church Erection, securing as far as possible an annual collection from all the churches, and urging upon them the great importance of this cause in its near and vital relations to the work of God in our land. [301]

2. That the Board be allowed an enlargement of discretionary power with regard to the amount of grants, and the disposition of exceptional cases.

3. That all contributions to this cause, whether general or special, should be made, as far as possible, through the Board of Trustees of the Church Erection Fund.

4. That all special work, as well as the general appropriations of the Board, should be secured by lien, not only for the sake of security, but of denominational cohesion and stability.

The following persons are recommended to the Assembly to fill the vacancies reported by the Board: Rev. J. Fewsmith, D. D., Rev. Samuel D. Burchard, D. D., and Mr. Frederick G. Burnham, for the full term of three years; and Rev. Norman Seaver, D. D., for two years, in the place of Rev. Arthur Mitchell, resigned.

The report of the Standing Committee on Education was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee appointed to consider the annual report of the Permanent Committee on Education respectfully report:

That the death of the Rev. John J. Owen, D. D., LL.D., a member of the Permanent Committee, is a great calamity to them and to the cause of Edu-

cation for the Ministry, as well as to the cause of common school education, and especially to the cause of Biblical science. Next to the beloved and honored Barnes, who still survives, but who announces that his last work is done, Dr. Owen stood foremost in this Church as a scholarly and practical expositor of Scripture. Now that he is no more, it is a matter of devout gratitude that his valuable commentaries on the Gospels remain to perpetuate his wholesome influence.

The number of candidates for the ministry aided by the Permanent Committee, during the year now closed, is 210, five more than were aided during the previous year. Of these students, 63 were in Theological Seminaries, 103 in Colleges, and 44 in Academies.

The contributions received during the year by the Permanent Committee, from churches and individuals, were in all $24,037.97; $6,530.38, or 37 per cent. more than the amount received the year before.

The number of contributing churches was 372; a larger number than during any year since the Permanent Committee was instituted, and 95 churches, or 34 per cent., more than last year. But there still remain of non-contributing churches about three-fourths of the whole number of churches. But, notwithstanding this gratifying increase in the number of contributing churches and in the amount of contributions, the Permanent Committee found such a deficiency in their treasury, at the close of the year, that they could only make one-fourth of the final appropriation for the year to their students—ten dollars, for example, instead of forty to each of their theological beneficiaries. This is the only drawback to the otherwise very favorable record of [302] the Permanent Committee. But such a failure to meet the reasonable expectations of their students demands the prompt and serious consideration of the General Assembly. No fault is found, either with the Permanent Committee, or with their competent and efficient Secretary, and Treasurer. But it is easy to see, that repeated failures of this kind would quickly deprive the Church of all save the very small number of self-supporting candidates for the ministry. Religious young men, having a high sense of honor because they are religious, cannot long endure the pecuniary embarrassments to which such failures of necessity subject them. Moreover, they can not but feel that, when such failures are allowed to occur, they are treated by the Church of their affection with some degree of injustice, and so their confidence in that Church is weakened, and their respect for it diminished.

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

1. That the Permanent Committee be recommended so to arrange the business of the office, that the Secretary shall be at liberty to visit Synods, Presbyteries, and churches, and to use the agency of the press, in behalf of the important cause which he is appointed to represent.

2. That, since the engagement of the Permanent Committee with their students is of the nature of a contract, that Committee be authorized to borrow the money rather than to allow an appropriation either to be delayed or to fall short of the full amount promised.

3. That the Synods, Presbyteries, and churches be exhorted to remember, that the cause of Education for the Ministry is vital, not only to the welfare but to the very existence of the Church, as an external organization for the spread of the Gospel.

The Committee recommend the appointment of Rev. Dwight M. Seward, D. D., Rev. Daniel W. Poor, D. D., William W. Wicks, James H. Benedict, and D. Willis James, to fill the vacancies of Rev. John J. Owen, D. D., Rev.

Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., William W. Wicks, Jesse W. Benedict, and Charles Taylor, whose terms of office expire with this General Assembly; and the appointment of Henry Ide, and William H. H. Moore, in the place of Rev. Charles S. Robinson, D. D., and Fisher Howe, of the class of 1867, who have resigned.

The Rev. Joseph Fewsmith, D. D., Rev. Samuel D. Burchard, D. D., and Mr. Frederick G. Burnham were duly elected, by ballot, Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, to serve three years, and the Rev. Norman Seaver, D. D., in the place of Rev. Arthur Mitchell, resigned, to serve two years.

The Rev. Daniel March, D. D., Rev. Thomas J. Shepherd, D. D., Rev. William T. Eva, Mr. John C. Farr, and Charles S. Wurts, M. D., were duly elected, by ballot, Trustees of the Presbyterian House, to serve three years.

Messrs. Joseph F. Joy, Joseph W. Lester, and Tredwell [303] Ketcham were elected Auditors of the Church Erection Fund for the ensuing year.

The report on the communication of the Delegate to the Assemblies of Scotland and Ireland was taken from the docket. The previous action, by which a portion of this report was adopted, was reconsidered, and the whole recommitted for report to the adjourned meeting in November.

The following report of the Committee of Bills and Overtures was adopted:

At the instance of an Overture from the Presbytery of Humboldt on the subject of Systematic Benevolence, this General Assembly record their deep conviction of the importance, not less to the churches themselves than to the benevolent causes to be aided, that all our congregations contribute regularly to each of the several enterprises undertaken and carried on by us as a Church; and each Presbytery is hereby earnestly requested, at their next regular meeting to seek out and adopt some plan, such as may seem best suited to the condition of their churches, whereby this desirable benefit may be secured.

A paper reported by the Committee on Bills and Overtures on the subject of the Opera, the Theatre, the Dance, and Card-playing, was referred to a *Committee*, consisting of the Rev. Herrick Johnson, D. D., Rev. William E. Moore, and Mr. Alexander Whilldin, to report at the adjourned meeting.

Resolved, That the General Assembly recommend to its churches the observance of the week, beginning with the first Sabbath of January next, as a week of special prayer for the Conversion of the World.

Resolved, That the General Assembly recommend the observance of the day of special prayer for Colleges and Seminaries of learning.

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 bill for stationery and printing, the traveling expenses of the Delegates to Corresponding Bodies, and the salaries and traveling expenses of the Stated and Permanent Clerks, were ordered to be paid.

By a unanimous and hearty vote, the Assembly adopted the following resolution of thanks:

Resolved, That the hearty thanks of this General Assembly are hereby tendered to the citizens of New York, for the generous hospitality with which they have welcomed us to their homes, for the sympathy with which they have entered into our labors, and for the prayers with which they have supplicated the Divine blessing upon us and our sister Assembly. [304]

Also, to the Trustees of the church of the Covenant for the use of their house of worship; to the sexton; to the choir; and to the pastor; also to the Committee of Arrangements, who have so amply provided for our comfort.

Also, to the projectors of the social interview at Apollo Hall, and to all

who have honored us with invitations to the various entertainments which have added so much to the relief of our more exacting duties.

Also, to the conductors of the daily press, whose records of our proceedings have been so faithfully made.

Also, to the directors of the several railroad companies, who have so facilitated our comings and goings.

And to all who have put a Christian greeting into their welcomes, and will doubtless put a Christian prayer into their farewells.

The Rev. Frederick A. Noble, Rev. Peter S. Davies, and Messrs. Richard Edwards, Wm. C. Aughinbaugh, and William Thaw were designated as a Committee of Arrangements for the adjourned meeting at Pittsburgh, Pa.

Ordered, That the Presbytery of South Carolina be, agreeably to their own request, attached to the Synod of New York and New Jersey.

A communication was received, conveying the fraternal salutations of the Methodist Preachers' Meeting of this city to the two General Assemblies. The Permanent Clerk was directed to return an appropriate acknowledgment on behalf of the Assembly.

The Roll was called, and the following persons were found to be absent without excuse:

Ministers—Norman Seaver, D. D., John Patton, D. D., Frederick R. Gallaher, D. D., and John Fisher. *Elders*—Horatio G. Torbert, M. D., Owen R. Bacon, and Philetus Fales.

The Minutes of this session were read and approved.

In accordance with previous action, the Assembly, with prayer, and the apostolic benediction by the Moderator, adjourned, to meet at the Third Presbyterian church, in the city of Pittsburgh, Pa., on the second Wednesday of November, A. D. 1869, at 11 o'clock A. M.

J. GLENTWORTH BUTLER,
Permanent Clerk.

APPENDIX.

ANNUAL NARRATIVE

Of the State of Religion within the Bounds of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, May, 1869.

It is of deep moment that, as a Church, we should form a correct estimate of the state of religion within our bounds. Thus far we have been occupied largely in completing our organization, and in equipping ourselves for the work to which the Head of the Church has called us. We stand to-day thoroughly organized and prepared for aggressive efforts, a harmonious, energetic Church. The position is not without danger. We may be tempted to forget, in the development of plans and the perfection of machinery, the necessity of preserving the spirit of the Church pure from worldliness, free from self-confidence, fervent in devotion, ardent in labors. Against an error so injurious, so perilous, we need to guard. No perfection of apparatus can compensate for the lack of the true spirit of Christianity.

It is greatly to be regretted that so many of our Presbyteries have failed to report to the Assembly. Scarcely less is it to be regretted that, of the

ninety-six Presbyteries which have reported, with but few exceptions are these reports complete. Reports have been sent to this Assembly representing but five churches out of thirty-four, but thirteen out of twenty-two, but twenty out of thirty-four. Almost without exception, the churches, from which no reports have been received, are the weak ones of the flock; not only showing us that the Presbyteries have neglected the care of these feeble churches, but leaving us to form an over-estimate of the success of the year.

Growth.

With very few exceptions, the churches exhibit the most marked signs of outward prosperity. New edifices have been built in waste places. Old buildings have been enlarged and beautified, to accommodate increasing audiences, and to meet the requirements of becoming worship. Debts, that have long hindered growth and usefulness, have been paid during this past year. The number of parsonages has been increased, and the salaries paid to the ministers have, in not a few instances, been augmented. In nearly every Presbytery, it is reported that the number of attendants upon divine worship has increased, and that the utmost harmony prevails. Thus, though few marked and exterior revivals are recorded, we are called upon to bless God with devout gratitude for his favor.

Sabbath-schools.

The Presbyteries report, with the most remarkable unanimity, that increased attention is paid to the Sabbath-school, as a part of the work of the Church. Large additions have been made alike to the number of the schools and the scholars. The Catechism of our Church has been made the basis of the lessons of not a few schools, and the Church, through its officers—the pastor and the elders—has guarded and guided the interests of the young. Greater care has been exercised in the selection of teachers, not only possessed of a proper spirit, but of knowledge and aptness to teach. Teachers' Institutes have been organized in many places with the most happy success. The result already appears in more numerous conversions among the children, saving them not only from infidelity and sin, but for the Church. Instances are recorded of entire classes being brought to the Saviour. Trained from their youth in knowledge and in labors, we may expect efficient laborers, both in the ministry and eldership, from those thus brought into the fold.

The Eldership.

The reports of the Presbyteries indicate a growing sense of the importance and responsibilities of the eldership throughout the churches. Many sessions, no longer contented simply to sit as a board of counsel with the pastor, take an oversight of the Church of God, which has been committed to their care. Fairly applied, the system on which our Church is founded is proved to be just as efficient for its care and growth as it was under the Jewish economy, or in the first establishment of Christianity.

Personal Service.

Increasing attention has been paid to the development of Christian talent and zeal in good works. A growing feeling of obligation to serve Christ personally rests upon the minds of many members of our churches, which

has been cultivated and directed by faithful pastors. The Church has opened a field for the occupation of pious women in their noiseless, tireless efforts to do good, which they have filled with faithfulness and devotion. The prayer-meetings of the churches have been well sustained. It has been found eminently useful and successful in many churches to divide these meetings into classes, and train up the youth of the Church in smaller circles. Freed from embarrassment by the presence of older members, they are now ready to take part in the service, and thus are developed into useful and working members of their churches.

Temperance.

It is gratifying to note how generally the churches have been interested in the subject of Temperance. No uncertain sound has been uttered by the pastors, and no timorous measures adopted by the churches. It is one of the most hopeful evidences of success, that the churches are depending more on themselves, to prevent and control intemperance, than on societies having no connection with them. The Church needs no secret and unordained society to preserve herself from this growing evil. She possesses the power, if she will exercise it, to purify herself and to keep herself pure.

Reunion.

Most fervent prayers are offered and wishes expressed, in these reports, for a Union between the two great branches of the Presbyterian Church. This desire is most earnestly expressed by our brethren in the West, who meet difficulties in this sad division, of which those at the East are almost unconscious. As indications of what may be expected when, in obedience to our Lord's prayer and manifested leadings, we become one Church, in two instances where such a union has been effected between one of our churches and one of the other branch, a plentiful outpouring of God's Spirit has indicated the approval of the Head of the Church. Several churches, formerly united with us on "the Plan of Union," have, with more or less opposition, become wholly Presbyterian. Others, though a less number, have been lost to us.

Benevolence.

Allowing for the growth of the Church, in numbers and in wealth, the benevolence of the Church has not materially increased. But one Presbytery reports a decided increase of from fifty to one hundred per cent. upon former years, while the greater part of the churches preserve about the same proportion.

Conversions.

But little definite information can be gathered, from the reports, of the aggressive work of the Church. One Presbytery alone makes mention of an effort to bring the power of Christianity and the restraining influences of our Church to bear on our colored brethren. One Presbytery records a greatly advanced work among the Indians, while another records the complete failure of Indian missions in their bounds. Several Presbyteries make mention of successful labor among the Germans. Of the work of our brethren on the Pacific coast among the Chinese, no report has been received. The frontier Presbyteries speak most courageously and cheer-

fully of their determination, by the help of the Lord, to occupy the land lying before them. Thirty new churches are reported to have been organized, and two stricken from the Rolls as disbanded, thus making only an increase for the past year, as reported to us, of twenty-eight churches.* One hundred and forty-four churches have enjoyed revivals of greater or less extent, twenty of which have each received over fifty new members by profession. These churches thus revived have been almost without exception in our cities and towns. One church—that with which the writer is now associated—reports that scarce any above the age of twelve years are unconverted. Last year the conversions averaged six for every minister, and about seven for every church in our bounds. Is this a result with which we should be satisfied? Is it too much to expect that in a year every member of the Church should bring one other soul to Christ?

One cry comes from all the West—for men, men of courage, self-denial, devotion, piety; men who love to lay foundations; men who are consecrated to the work of saving souls. The field is white to the harvest, while the laborers are few.

The Pastorate.

By far the most discouraging feature of all the reports is the relation of the ministry to the several churches. The one crying evil, far and wide, which hinders the efficiency of the Church, and prevents the zealous and affectionate labors of the ministry, is the system of sustaining stated supplies instead of pastors. One Presbytery has not a single pastor in its bounds; out of another, composed of thirteen ministers, but three are pastors; out of another, having ten churches, but one has a pastor. These sad statistics could be swelled in like proportion. Last year, over three hundred vacant churches were reported, and over seven hundred and fifty had stated supplies. Thus it is seen that but a little over one-third of our churches are served by pastors. From these pastorless churches the most discouraging reports sent to the Assembly are received. It is true, many of these churches are weak; but a pastor can be sustained far more easily than a stated supply. More of a spirit of benevolence on the part of churches could secure a permanent pastoral relation. The evil has grown in the churches until not a few are unwilling to have a permanent pastor, as binding them to his support. But the difficulty in this saddening recital, lies also with the ministers themselves. Greater consecration, more self-denial, truer love for souls, would secure a willingness to link the lives and hopes of the ministers with these feeble flocks, to increase their numbers, develop these fields, and build up churches on which others have not expended labors.

Growing Evils.

Many of the churches mourn over a growing spirit of worldliness, manifested in neglect of church service on one half of the Sabbath, in recreation and indolence on that holy day, in yielding to the principles of the world in business, and in following the fashions and pleasures of the world. While we have reason to be encouraged, we ought to rejoice with trembling. If but the right spirit actuated the Church, what an influence could be brought to bear on the world! What records of growth and usefulness would come to us year by year! For this let us pray.

* The Home Mission Committee report 73 new churches for the year.

Decease of Ministers.

During the past year the Church has lost by death the following thirty-three ministers:

Name.	Age.	Date.	Place.	Presbytery.
Avery, Abraham S	76	Sept. 3, 1868.	Lawrenceburgh, Ind	Pataskala.
Babcock, Hiram A	65	June 6, 1868.	Wayne, Ohio	Grand River.
Bird, Thompson	65	Jan. 4, 1869.	Des Moines, Io	Des Moines.
Brayton, Isaac H	44	April 12, 1869.	Nevada City, Cal	San Francisco.
Campfield, Nathan P	30	Sept. 7, 1868.	Bellows Falls, Vt	Onondaga.
De Long, Ira O	43	May 30, 1868.	Palmyra, N. Y	Ontario.
Downey, Thomas J	41	Mar. 31, 1869.	Nelsonville, Ohio	Scioto.
Duffield, George, D. D	74	June 26, 1868.	Detroit, Mich	Detroit.
Dunning, Halsey	50	Jan. 11, 1869.	Baltimore, Md	District of Columbia.
Ewing, John C	65	Dec. 14, 1868.	Winterset, Iowa	Des Moines.
Fine, Lambert S	36	Mar. 5, 1869.	Troy, Pa	Geneva.
Fitch, Octavius	67	Feb. 24, 1869.	Lawrenceville, Pa	Wellsborough.
Freeman, George	73	July 27, 1868.	Parma, N. Y	Rochester.
Hall, Lemuel	74	April 9, 1868.	Geneva, Wis	Galena and Belvidere.
Kingsbury, Enoch	68	Oct. 26, 1868.	Danville, Ill	Wabash.
Lemon, Alexander	55	Nov. 15, 1868.	Ripon, Wis	Fox River.
Lippincott, Thomas	78	April 13, 1869.	Pana, Ill	Alton.
McCorkle, Frs. A., M. D	73	Mar. 17, 1869.	Greeneville, Tenn	Holston.
Moase, John	75	Dec. 8, 1868.	Middleburgh, N. Y	Catskill.
North, Alfred	62	Mar. 3, 1869.	Chilton, Wis	Genesee.
Owen, J. J., D. D., LL.D	65	April 18, 1869.	New York City, N. Y	New York, Third.
Palmer, David F	62	June 28, 1868.	Meadow Creek, Tenn	Holston.
Parmelee, Alvan	66	Mar. 19, 1869.	Middlefield Cen., N. Y	Watertown.
Peck, John	54	Nov. 24, 1868.	Paterson, N. J	New York, Fourth.
Porter, Stephen	86	Aug. 28, 1868.	Geneva, N. Y	Geneva.
Randolph, Benjamin F	30	Oct. 16, 1868.	Cokesburgh, S. C	Buffalo.
Reichman, John G., D. D	57	Nov. 16, 1868.	Kalamazoo, Mich	Kalamazoo.
Riggs, Zenas	73	April 13, 1869.	Candor, N. Y	Newark.
Taylor, Hutchins	78	Aug. 31, 1868.	Belvidere, Ill	Galena and Belvidere.
Vail, Franklin Y	71	June 23, 1868.	Cincinnati, Ohio	Cincinnati.
Walker, John	82	June 8, 1868.	Waverley, N. Y	Monroe.
Whiton, John	70	Nov. —, 1868.	Wolcott, N. Y	Lyons.
Woodruff, Jeremiah	68	July 25, 1868.	Lansing, Iowa	Dubuque.

The following Presbyteries have not reported to this Assembly: Catskill, Cedar Rapids, Chariton, Chicago, Hamilton, Kansas, Minnesota, Montrose, Newark, Ottawa, Ripley, St. Lawrence, San Francisco, San José, Nevada, Troy and Wilmington.

By order of the General Assembly.

PHILEMON H. FOWLER, *Moderator.*
EDWIN F. HATFIELD, *Stated Clerk.*

SUMMARY OF THE SCHEDULES.

I. Of the Synods and their Presbyteries.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	COMMUNIC'TS. Added on Exam.	COMMUNIC'TS. Added on Certif.	COMMUNIC'TS. Whole Number.	BAP'MS. Adults.	BAP'MS. Infants.	S.S. Member-ship.	FUNDS. Home Missions.	FUNDS. Foreign Missions.	FUNDS. Education.	FUNDS. Publication.	FUNDS. Church Erection.	FUNDS. Min. Relief.	FUNDS. Freedmen.	FUNDS. Gen. Assembly.	FUNDS. Congregational.	FUNDS. Miscellaneous.	STATED CLERKS.
I. Synod of Albany	1803	5	87	1	4	65	402	232	8,381	133	187	7,294	$8,692	$3,176	$732	$649	$2,708	$494	$236	$575 31	$118,427	$9,464	A.Bordman Lambert,D.D.
1. Champlain	1814	...	21	...	...	16	47	43	2,287	17	37	2,194	986	515	46	38	51	44	15	122 61	47,591	1,222	Edwin A. Bulkley, D. D.
2. Troy	1820	...	28	1	2	19	125	72	2,274	44	75	1,529	1,538	978	197	248	85	109	115	132 00	25,589	3,521	A.Bordman Lambert,D.D.
3. Albany	1791	...	18	...	...	10	68	60	1,629	16	34	1,847	4,910	600	352	215	2,225	100	25	126 80	19,992	1,176	Albert C. Bishop.
4. Columbia	1802	...	6	...	...	6	31	17	791	10	12	556	208	455	92	25	100	100	25	66 90	13,323	1,688	John McVey.
5. Catskill	1851	...	14	...	2	14	131	40	1,400	46	29	1,168	1,050	628	45	123	247	141	56	127 00	11,932	1,857	Alvin Cooper.
II. Synod of Utica	1829	4	71	3	15	72	354	258	7,398	137	161	7,435	10,031	4,483	411	1050	622	277	352	478 36	86,491	11,006	William E. Knox, D. D.
1. St. Lawrence	1818	...	8	...	1	8	15	23	849	4	13	455	460	212	58	22	12	25	.....	47 16	4,940	592	Baruch B. Beckwith.
2. Watertown	1822	...	18	...	5	19	106	63	1,806	45	32	2,070	957	726	111	106	183	100	.....	130 00	16,909	2,454	Richard G. Keyes.
3. Oswego	1823	...	6	...	...	9	25	11	812	7	8	729	285	311	9	208	141	.....	.....	33 06	6,330	3,131	Henry N. Millerd.
4. Utica	1842	...	39	3	9	36	208	161	3,931	81	108	4,181	8,329	3,234	233	714	286	152	352	268 14	58,312	4,829	Samuel W. Brace.
III. Synod of Onondaga	1855	4	70	15	16	63	292	167	8,273	159	64	5,569	6,060	4,827	1,012	489	963	180	557	537 95	111,841	15,849	Hiram H. Allen.
1. Onondaga	1810	...	13	...	...	21	63	33	2,445	34	15	1,210	2,588	1,868	462	160	299	96	352	130 90	13,204	10,802	John S. Bacon.
2. Cayuga	1810	...	32	13	16	20	143	76	3,010	70	31	2,356	1,904	1,540	356	205	330	64	201	233 36	80,309	1,683	Charles Hawley, D. D.
3. Cortland	1825	...	9	1	...	12	48	26	1,166	29	7	841	221	207	23	14	33	20	4	73 19	8,711	494	Huntington Lyman.
4. Tioga	1829	...	16	1	...	10	38	32	1,652	26	11	1,162	1,347	1,212	171	110	301	.....	.....	100 50	9,620	2,870	Solon Cobb.
IV. Synod of Geneva	1812	6	102	1	16	88	328	316	9,564	154	138	8,546	6,991	4,598	519	1111	1,112	408	528	701 34	120,069	7,543	Benjamin M. Goldsmith.
1. Geneva	1805	...	33	...	...	18	53	97	2,750	31	28	2,665	2,747	1,553	189	127	240	198	46	220 16	31,554	3,813	Benjamin M. Goldsmith.
2. Steuben	1817	...	14	...	4	18	81	46	1,517	38	19	1,318	302	485	85	64	131	8	29	121 32	20,994	498	William A. Niles, D. D.
3. Chemung	1836	...	17	...	...	16	57	64	1,801	22	50	1,308	824	1,085	49	597	242	25	65	133 00	21,200	715	Charles C. Carr.
4. Ithaca	1839	...	9	...	6	6	33	43	905	13	4	580	1,803	603	91	101	329	132	362	77 12	8,619	1,173	Theodore F. White.
5. Wellsborough	1845	...	12	1	1	13	15	11	657	5	8	563	39	48	26	15	17	10	18	33 00	3,958	45	James F. Calkins.
6. Lyons	1856	...	17	...	5	17	89	55	1,934	45	29	2,112	1,276	824	79	207	153	35	8	113 74	33,744	1,299	Arunah H. Lilly.
V. Synod of Susquehanna	1853	3	37	...	3	38	157	79	3,336	58	38	3,147	1,065	1,374	266	161	417	163	35	210 20	53,218	1,783	Samuel N. Robinson.
1. Otsego	1820	...	16	...	2	16	81	32	1,362	18	15	1,130	459	786	98	105	.....	68	.....	96 56	11,115	925	Charles Gillette.
2. Chenango	1826	...	11	...	...	11	46	23	1,013	28	7	1,101	419	357	82	12	15	33	35	63 64	12,727	500	William H. Sautelle.
3. Delaware	1831	...	10	...	1	11	30	24	961	12	16	916	187	231	86	44	402	62	.....	50 00	29,376	358	Leonard E. Richards.

VI. Synod of Genesee	1821	6	138	7	12	106	853	496	14,310	358	225	16,532	11,191	9,735	1,162	886	3,312	996	1666	1179	62	200,838	11,492	Timothy Stillman, D. D.
1. Buffalo	1817	...	46	2	6	27	184	160	3,830	51	72	5,407	4,522	3,421	293	132	499	230	386	352	00	94,936	3,941	Timothy Stillman, D. D.
2. Ontario	1817	...	23	1	2	11	41	48	1,654	25	26	1,438	740	735	156	176	108	116	.....	133	68	15,327	1,086	John Barnard, D. D.
3. Rochester	1819	...	27	4	4	17	382	145	3,824	169	55	4,298	3,950	3,545	551	406	2,438	307	602	289	68	41,264	2,374	Charles E. Furman.
4. Genesee	1819	...	12	...	...	15	68	38	1,299	39	12	1,429	704	926	105	63	70	160	110	113	50	14,243	2,094	Joseph W. Hubbard.
5. Niagara	1823	...	17	...	...	17	148	57	2,459	65	39	2,355	922	704	11	49	75	151	.....	192	56	20,901	1,631	Edward P. Marvin.
6. Genesee Valley	1828	...	13	...	...	16	27	48	1,244	9	21	1,605	353	404	46	60	122	32	568	98	20	14,167	363	Isaac G. Ogden.
VII. S. of N. Y. and N. J.	1788	10	308	41	60	174	1909	1616	35,763	623	982	37,240	44,449	42,080	10,029	2628	13,528	9873	3565	2866	62	724,250	137,824	Obadiah M. Johnson.
1. Hudson	1797	...	18	1	3	13	204	83	2,037	117	53	1,315	384	695	152	305	190	70	30	153	72	25,942	1,255	Obadiah M. Johnson.
2. North River	1819	...	23	1	...	16	100	45	1,947	60	19	1,306	536	678	580	42	625	34	.....	159	28	26,521	3,127	Francis B. Wheeler, D. D.
3. Long Island	1791	...	9	...	1	6	78	12	740	40	6	775	117	262	123	42	27	22	2	53	44	7,724	405	Epher Whitaker.
4. New York, Third	1831	...	63	14	18	20	421	331	7,647	96	206	9,258	6,585	7,174	1,705	326	1,140	8491	904	589	28	150,402	27,429	Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D.
5. New York, Fourth	1845	...	50	16	17	15	314	260	5,426	60	174	6,200	17,148	16,156	4,228	907	7,638	412	495	387	00	195,555	52,798	John Spaulding, D. D.
6. Brooklyn	1838	...	30	3	5	10	194	359	4,447	53	117	4,454	8,578	5,409	1,808	279	1,124	78	60	453	00	100,632	17,316	Theodore S. Brown.
7. Newark	1821	...	56	4	8	34	276	351	7,887	31	252	7,988	8,419	8,655	1,124	501	2,204	646	1760	643	20	142,513	30,820	J. Allen Maxwell.
8. Rockaway	1839	...	18	2	5	19	70	61	2,122	33	46	2,745	1,084	1,306	212	154	412	61	250	188	70	32,095	1,416	Burtis C. Mcgie.
9. Montrose	1832	...	34	...	3	34	187	107	2,894	114	69	3,199	1,593	1,745	97	72	168	56	59	239	00	42,266	3,258	Adam Miller.
10. South Carolina	1869	...	7	...	...	7	65	4	616	19	40	.....	5	.....	.....	...	.....	....	5	.....		600	.....	Thomas Thompson.
VIII. S. of Pennsylvania.	1838	5	124	7	18	95	1187	862	17,813	379	749	20,942	14,177	13,214	4,084	3314	3,965	3085	1759	1372	57	334,631	59,521	William E. Moore.
1. Wilmington	1832	...	19	...	2	18	117	62	1,849	46	59	2,741	1,388	854	343	228	784	270	.....	146	77	19,849	1,064	John Crowell, D. D.
2. Philadelphia, Third	1832	...	33	1	3	24	293	300	4,842	82	182	5,743	5,070	4,863	1,012	993	1,020	843	385	384	00	78,743	46,684	Beriah B. Hotchkin.
3. Philadelphia, Fourth	1845	...	49	2	6	35	612	356	7,825	206	354	8,985	3,841	4,303	1,730	768	1,269	1048	362	582	80	177,621	9,614	Thomas J. Shepherd, D.D.
4. Harrisburgh	1839	...	11	1	1	9	59	70	1,391	17	60	1,746	3,269	2,214	880	1203	839	543	1012	117	00	27,149	2,269	Conway P. Wing, D. D.
5. District of Columbia	1831	...	12	3	6	9	106	71	1,906	28	94	1,727	609	980	119	122	53	381	.....	142	00	31,269	890	George H. Smyth.
IX. Synod of West Penn.	1843	3	33	2	15	34	161	130	3,661	44	136	4,012	5,095	2,594	1,538	448	1,047	516	1681	272	99	72,597	11,864	George A. Lyon, D. D.
1. Erie	1801	...	17	...	5	14	65	67	1,756	20	28	2,224	512	919	134	105	202	118	264	145	52	27,414	911	Joseph Vance.
2. Meadville	1842	...	7	...	3	12	37	32	1,112	13	69	763	211	243	94	100	15	29	9	50	47	11,593	748	Richard Craighead.
3. Pittsburgh	1839	...	9	2	7	8	59	31	793	11	39	1,025	4,342	1,432	1,310	243	830	369	1408	77	00	33,590	10,205	Peter S. Davies.
X. Synod of Michigan	1834	9	130	6	10	133	745	678	11,468	282	269	13,165	6,647	3,666	1,229	670	3,966	318	652	846	81	221,372	9,636	William S. Taylor.
1. Detroit	1826	...	21	1	2	20	67	52	1,844	22	35	1,928	2,728	1,139	497	184	1,929	129	114	147	52	26,409	4,440	William A. McCorkle.
2. Monroe	1833	...	13	1	1	16	92	74	1,536	42	46	1,456	478	500	89	43	278	27	.....	90	12	26,943	282	William S. Taylor.
3. Marshall	1838	...	12	...	2	11	63	63	1,105	24	20	951	524	224	73	5	281	5	21	89	36	26,957	350	Loomis Chandler.
4. Washtenaw	1838	...	12	1	1	8	55	62	1,392	30	28	1,063	389	315	155	112	462	12	31	107	72	19,391	817	William J. Erdman.
5. Kalamazoo	1838	...	16	1	2	17	44	106	1,507	12	25	2,071	1,013	602	74	132	376	5	176	116	99	21,876	1,950	T. Dwight Hunt.
6. Coldwater	1856	...	12	1	...	12	108	83	1,341	57	21	1,720	349	227	59	45	47	62	200	99	76	34,402	363	Joseph A. Ranney.
7. Saginaw	1856	...	20	...	...	19	155	106	1,357	46	37	1,930	638	376	70	87	405	43	5	94	90	31,978	635	Henry H. Northrop.
8. Grand River Valley	1857	...	14	...	2	16	103	60	698	18	48	1,232	340	145	86	31	118	15	30	49	12	17,031	213	George Ransom.
9. Lansing	1866	...	10	1	...	14	58	72	688	31	9	814	188	138	126	31	70	20	75	51	32	16,385	586	J. Evarts Weed.
XI. Synod of W. Reserve.	1825	5	93	3	24	75	341	311	6,891	123	175	8,299	3,461	5,132	1,289	523	1,487	502	116	513	09	112,282	8,019	Xenophon Betts.
1. Grand River	1814	...	10	...	...	7	34	9	664	16	8	489	134	200	27	34	75	14	55	50	80	5,829	258	Dexter Witter.
2. Huron	1823	...	19	1	4	18	64	40	1,510	23	46	2,088	370	687	145	18	37	37	43	93	05	26,475	1,022	Alfred Newton, D. D.
3. Trumbull	1827	...	13	...	...	15	65	55	1,239	24	37	1,148	293	402	21	9	117	69	2	102	36	15,774	1,489	Xenophon Betts.
4. Cleveland and Portage	1830	...	42	2	20	22	82	123	2,314	24	56	2,861	1,399	2,825	616	155	513	202	10	186	88	48,826	2,633	James Shaw, D. D.
5. Maumee	1842	...	9	...	...	13	96	84	1,164	36	28	1,713	1,265	1,018	480	307	745	180	6	80	00	15,878	2,617	Perry C. Baldwin.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	COMMUNIC'TS. Added on Exam.	COMMUNIC'TS. Added on Certif.	COMMUNIC'TS. Whole Number.	BAP'MS. Adults.	BAP'MS. Infants.	S.-S. Membership.	FUNDS. Home Missions.	FUNDS. Foreign Missions.	FUNDS. Education.	FUNDS. Publication.	FUNDS. Church Erection.	FUNDS. Min. Relief.	FUNDS. Freedmen.	FUNDS. Gen. Assembly.	FUNDS. Congregational.	FUNDS. Miscellaneous.	STATED CLERKS.
XII. Synod of Ohio	1814	4	50	9	9	65	356	231	4,629	114	113	6,125	$2,822	$4,088	$1,285	$242	$973	$249	$170	$332 44	$81,223	$6,303	Addison Kingsbury, D. D.
1. Athens	1822	...	12	5	5	20	109	73	1,001	44	21	1,340	230	353	132	20	29	46	.....	71 44	11,405	275	Walter Mitchell.
2. Pataskala	1809	...	17	3	2	22	95	72	1,577	25	42	2,204	1,030	1,304	693	46	.....	63	.....	126 48	41,206	1,807	Samuel P. Hildreth.
3. Franklin	1835	...	13	1	2	13	86	46	1,165	19	25	1,137	569	706	291	101	308	17	40	67 48	17,755	2,119	Oren H. Newton.
4. Scioto	1845	...	8	...	...	10	66	40	886	26	25	1,444	993	1,725	169	75	636	123	130	67 04	10,857	2,102	Eli P. Adams.
XIII. Synod of Cincinnati	1829	4	57	1	12	48	296	247	4,214	95	172	4,694	2,267	3,454	799	369	3,553	408	50	335 72	53,160	21,411	Joseph Chester.
1. Cincinnati	1828	...	28	...	5	16	114	110	1,570	19	62	1,968	1,604	2,312	510	145	3,266	277	.....	135 00	25,527	10,394	Joseph Chester.
2. Ripley	1838	...	8	...	2	11	112	31	954	47	34	650	143	198	70	13	26	.....	10	71 52	3,606	300	Daniel E. Bierce.
3. Dayton	1838	..	10	...	3	11	53	86	1,007	25	53	1,453	369	790	183	168	210	120	40	73 60	16,962	10,479	Henry Calhoun.
4. Hamilton	1846	...	11	1	2	10	17	20	683	4	23	623	151	154	36	43	51	11	.....	55 60	7,065	238	John Hussey.
XIV. Synod of Indiana	1826	4	49	2	16	62	280	205	5,138	100	205	5,868	2,180	2,702	616	219	701	357	189	405 91	69,132	3,740	John M. Bishop.
1. Salem	1823	...	9	1	3	13	87	40	1,511	30	67	2,558	975	1,125	309	77	275	120	152	121 00	18,074	1,542	Irving I. St. John.
2. Madison	1825	...	11	1	5	14	28	9	1,076	10	33	776	343	367	97	15	155	86	.....	91 60	9,139	570	Edward C. Johnston.
3. Indianapolis	1830	...	18	...	6	19	113	111	1,654	41	64	1,842	604	903	178	95	249	124	35	126 48	35,492	1,216	Archibald S. Reid.
4. Green Castle	1850	...	11	...	2	16	52	45	897	19	41	692	258	307	32	32	22	27	2	66 83	6,427	412	Thomas S. Milligan.
XV. Synod of Wabash	1851	4	39	2	10	56	242	123	3,401	94	87	3,384	943	917	376	130	516	103	254	241 36	28,342	3,637	George C. Noyes.
1. Crawfordsville	1825	...	13	1	5	12	55	27	732	18	12	598	94	162	118	.....	16	19	.....	56 96	3,592	180	William N. Steele.
2. St. Joseph	1833	...	8	...	3	12	55	35	779	17	21	750	30	74	72	.....	20	.....	33	36 00	6,402	291	John B. Fowler.
3. Logansport	1835	...	10	1	2	21	64	28	1,273	23	33	1,256	538	484	72	70	290	16	206	99 92	11,729	2,996	Adolphus S. Dudley.
4. Fort Wayne	1845	...	8	...	...	11	68	33	617	36	21	780	281	197	114	60	190	68	15	48 48	6,619	170	William J. Essick.
XVI. Synod of Illinois	1831	4	88	4	18	101	424	414	6,475	150	179	9,097	3,308	2,402	661	743	813	248	129	500 42	85,713	7,029	George C. Wood.
1. Illinois	1828	...	20	2	3	18	89	83	1,812	39	59	1,958	860	1,110	341	309	136	72	120	146 88	16,407	1,976	George C. Wood.
2. Schuyler	1833	...	16	...	3	20	65	79	1,318	18	17	1,621	639	630	162	33	329	55	.....	100 26	19,766	707	Edwin L. Hurd.
3. Wabash	1833	...	16	...	2	18	111	87	1,016	45	36	1,675	403	377	34	10	33	33	5	72 88	13,029	762	Edwin Black.
4. Alton	1836	...	36	2	10	45	159	165	2,329	48	67	3,843	1,406	285	124	391	315	88	4	180 40	36,511	3,584	Augustus Norton, D. D.
XVII. Synod of Peoria	1843	5	106	3	11	68	429	565	7,649	158	195	12,259	8,453	4,808	2,066	367	2,011	199	143	571 71	167,993	18,698	Lewis H. Reid.
1. Ottawa	1834	...	13	...	...	9	59	20	60	22	9	780	117	93	31	13	60	17	7	52 55	6,715	463	Nahum Gould.
2. Knox	1836	...	15	...	3	6	40	43	722	13	24	975	286	305	19	87	35	24	8	58 60	16,580	492	Samuel Wyckoff.
3. Galena and Belvidere	1842	...	25	...	2	21	152	100	1,887	78	31	2,583	1,053	755	127	109	125	78	48	132 24	26,094	4,572	Eugene H. Avery.
4. Chicago	1847	...	46	3	6	21	137	321	3,466	33	99	6,672	6,607	3,452	1,838	142	1,632	7	80	252 80	95,160	12,880	David S. Johnson.
5. Bloomington	1847	...	7	...	...	11	41	81	971	12	32	1,249	390	203	51	16	159	73	.....	75 52	23,444	291	John Maclean.

XVIII. Syn. of Wisconsin...	1857	4	44	...	3	36	141	91	1,982	46	109	2,877	1,457	689	530	214	191	221	354	129 69	32,148	2,047	Benjamin G. Riley.
1. Milwaukee	1851		14	...	...	9	26	26	691	7	31	981	852	279	85	38	89	105	.....	36 85	8,851	308	George W. Elliott.
2. Fox River	1851		12	...	1	10	20	15	458	3	15	605	241	121	36	95	8	26	5	31 20	6,503	178	Silas H. Ashmun.
3. Columbus	1857		12	...	2	11	69	35	545	27	34	848	233	113	40	22	21	9	.....	39 64	5,765	126	Benjamin G. Riley.
4. Lake Superior	1857		6	...	...	6	26	15	288	9	29	443	131	176	369	59	76	81	349	22 00	11,029	1,435	George W. Lloyd.
XIX. Synod of Iowa	1853	7	64	2	9	73	164	332	3,395	52	116	4,412	725	479	512	59	324	55	32	263 69	76,940	2,365	Hannibal L. Stanley.
1. Des Moines	1845		5	1	2	7	18	64	372	13	8	470	50	40	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	32 10	6,389	561	Thomas O. Rice.
2. Keokuk	1852		6	...	...	5	12	19	302	3	15	480	93	74	27	.....	.....	14	4	25 20	3,120	353	Gamaliel C. Beaman.
3. Iowa City	1852		11	...	2	11	19	37	332	6	19	510	93	28	11	2	13	5	21	23 34	7,071	330	Samuel Storrs Howe.
4. Dubuque	1855		13	...	2	15	45	52	884	11	26	925	166	189	454	17	234	22	.....	70 96	13,904	458	Stephen Phelps.
5. Chariton	1857		5	...	...	8	28	15	387	7	9	255	88	20	.....	.....	11	14	7	29 60	1,592	90	Milton H. Dysart.
6. Cedar Rapids	1865		17	1	2	18	37	107	880	9	38	1,652	190	128	.....	26	66	.....	.....	71 84	18,524	573	James Knox.
7. Omaha	1867		7	...	1	9	5	38	238	3	1	120	45	.....	.....	14	.....	.....	.....	10 65	26,340	.....	Francis M. Dimmick,
XX. Synod of Minnesota...	1858	4	44	5	5	46	282	186	2,285	120	216	2,867	500	865	109	116	327	129	67	156 59	26,946	2,544	Jesse L. Howell. .
1. Mankato	1846		13	...	1	16	105	77	484	28	47	741	75	130	21	25	226	59	20	27 84	2,776	524	Moses N. Adams.
2. Minnesota	1850		15	...	...	13	53	43	670	15	43	1,261	302	588	58	81	68	52	43	48 91	17,745	1,573	John Mattocks.
3. Winona	1857		9	...	...	11	47	48	543	16	28	790	126	123	26	10	27	18	4	37 84	6,140	431	Joseph W. Hancock.
4. Dakota	1867		7	5	4	6	77	18	588	61	98	75	6	24	4	.....	6	.....	.....	42 00	285	16	John P. Williamson.
XXI. Synod of Missouri...	1832	4	44	2	7	51	132	233	2,017	48	100	3,576	1,183	468	163	84	434	161	40	137 46	22,084	6,888	Timothy Hill.
1. St. Louis	1831		14	...	1	12	57	43	919	16	56	1,916	756	310	112	29	376	161	25	67 88	13,368	644	Raphael Kessler.
2. Northern Missouri	1845		6	2	3	10	13	19	303	8	24	520	170	78	23	.....	18	.....	.....	23 04	621	.....	James A. Darrah.
3. Lexington	1842		16	...	3	14	30	105	535	10	12	485	128	80	28	50	31	.....	15	31 24	4,446	6,210	Elijah A. Carson.
4. Osage	1845		8	...	...	15	32	66	260	14	8	655	129	.....	.....	5	9	.....	.....	15 00	3,649	34	John M. Brown.
XXII. Synod of Kansas.....	1869	3	24	...	...	21	55	108	572	10	28	1,064	188	48	1	7	32	1	19	39 25	7,555	2,546	[None.]
1. Kansas	1859		10	...	...	11	17	26	297	1	10	315	63	26	.....	6	21	.....	.....	22 25	625	1,930	William H. Smith.
2. Humboldt	1868		7	...	...	4	18	53	111	5	4	384	64	5	.....	.....	5	.....	6	9 00	5,775	609	Theodore F. Jessup.
3. Smoky Hill	1868		7	...	...	6	20	29	164	4	14	365	61	17	1	1	6	1	13	8 00	1,155	7	Isaac T. Whittemore.
XXIII. Synod of Tenn'see.	1817	3	17	...	10	38	78	37	2,523	56	75	1,982	129	263	49	4	.....	23	.....	228 24	10,501	139	Thomas J. Lamar.
1. Union	1797		6	...	7	17	14	9	1,508	46	32	844	20	106	24	.....	.....	.....	.....	124 56	2,988	.....	William H. Lyle.
2. Kingston	1838		7	...	...	10	31	17	406	3	20	740	79	25	25	2	.....	.....	.....	50 00	5,052	93	William B. Brown.
3. Holston	1865		4	...	3	11	33	11	609	7	23	398	30	132	.....	2	.....	23	.....	53 68	2,461	46	Samuel V. McCorkle.
XXIV. Synod of Alta Cal.	1857	3	29	...	...	23	99	129	1,422	16	68	1,878	354	302	54	8	8	.....	.....	101 39	49,184	1,950	Edw'd B. Walsworth, D.D.
1. San Francisco	1849		11	...	...	6	47	61	556	11	29	876	206	190	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	37 00	40,933	1,913	David McClure.
2. San José	1857		9	...	...	10	37	48	412	4	27	627	71	57	.....	8	8	.....	.....	39 44	460	.....	Wilbur McKaig, D. D.
3. Nevada	1857		9	...	...	7	15	20	454	1	12	375	77	55	54	.....	.....	.....	.....	24 95	7,791	37	George Pierson.

SYNODS.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	COMMUNICANTS. Added on Exam.	COMMUNICANTS. Added on Certif.	COMMUNICANTS. Whole Number.	BAPTISMS. Adults.	BAPTISMS. Infants.	S.S. Membership.	FUNDS. Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	Church Erection.	Min. Relief.	Freedmen.	General Assembly.	Congregational.	Miscellaneous.
1. Albany	1803	5	87	1	4	65	402	232	8,381	133	187	7,294	$8,692	$3,176	$732	$649	$2,708	$494	$236	$575 31	$118,427	$9,464
2. Utica	1829	4	71	3	15	72	354	258	7,398	137	161	7,435	10,031	4,483	411	1,050	622	277	352	478 36	86,491	11,006
3. Onondaga	1855	4	70	15	16	63	292	167	8,273	159	64	5,569	6,060	4,827	1,012	489	963	180	557	537 95	111,844	15,849
4. Geneva	1812	6	102	1	16	88	328	316	9,564	154	138	8,546	6,991	4,598	519	1,111	1,112	408	528	701 31	120,069	7,543
5. Susquehanna	1853	3	37	...	3	38	157	79	3,336	58	38	3,147	1,065	1,374	266	161	417	163	35	210 20	53,218	1,783
6. Genesee	1821	6	138	7	12	106	853	496	14,310	358	225	16,532	11,191	9,735	1,162	886	3,312	996	1,666	1,179 62	200,838	11,492
7. N. York and N. Jersey	1788	10	308	41	60	174	1909	1616	35,763	623	982	37,240	44,449	42,080	10,029	2,628	13,528	9,873	3,565	2,866 62	724,250	137,824
8. Pennsylvania	1838	5	124	7	18	95	1187	862	17,813	379	749	20,942	14,177	13,214	4,084	3,311	3,965	3,085	1,759	1,372 57	334,631	59,521
9. West Pennsylvania	1843	3	33	2	15	34	161	130	3,661	44	136	4,012	5,095	2,594	1,538	448	1,047	516	1,681	272 99	72,597	11,864
10. Michigan	1834	9	130	6	10	133	715	678	11,468	282	269	13,165	6,647	3,666	1,229	670	3,966	318	652	846 81	221,372	9,636
11. Western Reserve	1825	5	93	3	24	75	341	311	6,891	123	175	8,299	3,161	5,132	1,289	523	1,487	502	116	513 09	172,282	8,019
12. Ohio	1814	4	50	9	9	65	356	231	4,629	114	113	6,125	2,822	4,088	1,285	242	973	249	170	332 44	81,223	6,303
13. Cincinnati	1829	4	57	1	12	48	296	247	4,214	95	172	4,691	2,267	3,154	799	369	3,553	408	50	335 72	53,160	21,411
14. Indiana	1826	4	49	2	16	62	280	205	5,138	100	205	5,868	2,180	2,702	616	219	701	357	189	405 91	69,132	3,740
15. Wabash	1851	4	39	2	10	56	242	123	3,401	94	87	3,384	943	917	376	130	576	103	254	241 36	28,342	3,637
16. Illinois	1831	4	88	4	18	101	424	414	6,475	150	179	9,097	3,308	2,402	661	743	813	248	129	500 42	85,713	7,029
17. Peoria	1843	5	106	3	11	68	429	565	7,649	158	195	12,259	8,453	4,808	2,066	367	2,011	199	143	571 71	167,993	18,698
18. Wisconsin	1857	4	44	...	3	36	141	91	1,982	46	109	2,877	1,457	689	530	214	194	221	354	129 69	32,148	2,047
19. Iowa	1853	7	64	2	9	73	164	332	3,395	52	116	4,412	725	479	512	59	324	55	32	263 69	76,940	2,365
20. Minnesota	1858	4	44	5	5	46	282	186	2,285	120	216	2,867	509	865	109	116	327	129	67	156 59	26,946	2,544
21. Missouri	1832	4	44	2	7	51	132	233	2,017	48	100	3,576	1,183	468	163	81	434	161	40	137 16	22,084	6,888
22. Kansas	1869	3	24	...	...	21	55	108	572	10	28	1,064	188	48	1	7	32	1	19	39 25	7,555	2,546
23. Tennessee	1817	3	17	...	10	38	78	37	2,523	56	75	1,982	129	263	49	4	.....	23	.....	228 24	10,501	139
24. Alta California	1857	3	29	...	...	23	99	129	1,422	16	68	1,878	354	302	54	8	8	.....	.....	101 39	49,184	1,950
		113	1848	116	303	1631	9707	8016	172,560	3509	4787	192,264	$142,377	$116,364	$29,492	$14,491	$43,013	$18,966	$12,594	$12,998 43	$2,866,940	$363,298