

[No page number: 1]

Seventeenth Session
of the
Rochester Yearly Conference,
held at
Yates, Orleans Co. New York
April 24 to 28, 1861.

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First Day, A. M. Session
Wednesday, April 24, 1861

The Ministers and Delegates constituting the Rochester Yearly Conference of the Wesleyan Methodist Connection met for their Seventeenth Session, with the Yates Church, on the Eagle Harbor and Yates charge, Orleans Co. N.Y. on Wednesday the 24th day of April, 1861, and were called by the President, John Johnston, who invited H. B. Knight to conduct the opening religious exercises.

The Secretary then called the Roll of Ministerial members, after which the Certificates of Delegates were called for and presented as follows: Richard Britton, from the Williamson and New Salem charge; Peter Dean, North Bradford, Levi Rogers, Elkland; Harry B. Odell, Lyndon; John Cain, Eagle Harbor; A. W. Bishop, Alleghany; H. W. Rathbun, Haskinville; [sic] Ira R. Weaver, Phillipsville; Wm Depue, Hopewell; Wesley Doughty, Canadice; John Powley, Ransomville.

On motion of Bro Slauson, the name of Willard Chase was transferred from the Unstationed to the Superannuated list, and Danforth Booth was enrolled as his Delegate

Voted to proceed to the election of

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17th Session held at [note: heading spans two pages throughout; continued on page 3]

Officers, Bros Inman and Depue being appointed Tellers.

John W. Labar, delegate from Chesnut [sic] Ridge and Royalton Ct, presented his certificate and his name enrolled; Also, Elisha Fay, a delegate from Forrestville [sic] and Ellington.

Tellers reported the ballot for President, as follows: Whole No of Votes cast 32; necessary to a choice 17; John Johnston had 14, M. Q. M^cFarland 13, Scattering 5; no election.

Second Ballott [sic] taken. Whole No of Votes cast 32; necessary to a choice 17; John Johnston had 18, M. Q. M^cFarland 11, Scattering 4; Bro Johnston was declared elected.

Proceeded to the election of Secretary: On first ballot, 34 Votes were cast; necessary to a choice 18; H. B. Knight had 30 of this No and was declared elected.

The appointment of Committees was then called for, when on motion the President of the Conf. was requested to constitute them.

Comm
On
Div. Conf.

Bro M^cFarland moved that a Special Committee of Seven, on dividing the Conf. as provided for by last Gen. Conf. Carried

M. Q. M^cFarland, S. D. Trembly, S. Phinney, Peter Dean, AWBishop, H. D. Inman, and John L. Bush were made such Comm,

The Chair announced as the "Committee on Religious Services during our Session P. S. Slauson and John Cain.

Conf. fixed on hour of 8 ½ o'clock a.m. for commencing, and 12 M. for closing, our daily Sessions,

Voted that when we adjourn it be to meet at 1 ½ o'clk, p.m. to day

The "Bar" of the House was fixed, after which communications were received and read from Chas Shultz, Enos Perry, W^m

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[continued from page 2] Yates, Orleans Co. New York

W. Jennings, and referred to the appropriate Committees.

5th
Quest.

Took up the 5th Question – "Who are the Superannuated Elders?" – Answered in "Disciplinary Recapitulation page [note: blank] this Journal.

J. W. Allen had his relation changed from the "Reserve" to the "Superannuated" List.

1st
Quest.

Took up the 1st Question – "What Elders are on the Stationed List?" The following names were called over, when brethren answered by giving an account of their labors, when their characters passed.; [sic]

Henry Norton, John Johnston, M.Q. M^cFarland, and A. N. Hudson.

The hour of adj^t arrived and after notices were given Conf adjourned. Prayer by Bro M^cFarland.

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First Day, P.M. Session
Wednesday. April 24, 1861

Conf. met at 1 ½ o'clock, President in the Chair. Opening religious exercises conducted by Bro Trembly

Roll called, Minutes of the morning Session read and approved.

The President announced the following Committees, pursuant to vote of Conf this morning;

On "Books and Periodicals," – Jon a. Sibley, D. E. Baker, J. W. Labar.

"Reforms." – H. Norton, M.Q. M^cFarland, B. D. Sniffin, Ric^d Britton, Levi Rogers.

"Division of Conf." – M.Q. M^cFarland, S. D. Trembly, S. Phinney, H. D. Inman, Peter Dean, J. L. Bush, A. W. Bishop.

"Pastoral Relations." – John Johnston, ex officio, C. C. Reynolds, G. L. Paine, A. N. Hudson, Elisha Fay, Ira R. Weaver, John Powley.

"Statistics" – Asahel Staples

"Sabbath Schools," – S. D. Trembly, L. P. Atwood.

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17th Session, held at...

"Orders and Itinerary" – H. B. Knight, M.Q. M^cFarland, D. B. Douglass, with power to add two Laymen.

1st Quest. Resumed the 1st Question. The names of G. L. Paine, S. Phinney, P. S. Slauson, S. D. Trembly, C. C. Reynolds, Jonas Sibley and E. P. Barnes, were called, an account of their labors given, and their characters passed.

Rev. Joub [sic] Streeter, a Fraternal Delegate from the Genesee Conf. of the M. P. Church, was introduced, his credentials read and placed on file.

1st Quest. 1st Question, continued. D. E. Baker, Geo. H. Scudder, John L. Bush, H. D. Inman, Harry Gregory and L. P. Atwood, names called, and account of their labor given, & their characters pass^d.

On motion by Bro. McFarland, a collection was here taken up for Bro Atwood, amounting to \$7.38, for which he expressed [sic] thanks.

B.D. Sniffin, L. S. Chamberlain, William G. Woodruff, Joseph Lott, Francis Strang, John L. Bush, S. Adams, John Broadhead, Alanson Bixby, Waldo Curtis, R. L. Ward, S. A. Leonard, G. M. Hardy, names called & characters passed

Case
of
G. S.
Lewis

On calling the name of Geo. S. Lewis, objections were made to his character, and his case was referred to a committee consisting of John Johnston, S. D. Trembly, Jona. Sibley, Ric^d Britton, M.Q. M^cFarland & W^m Depue.

Comm. in this case had liberty to retire for consultation.

L. M. Wright, O. D. Field, M. P. Grensward, [sic] names called & characters passed.

On motion, the name of Bro Greensward was transferred to the "Unstationed List."

Henry Benson, name called, and his case referred to the President for inquiry, and if need be, investigation.

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...Yates, Orleans Co. New York

Bro Prindle was here introduced to the Conf. and made some remarks in reference to the condition prospects of the Book Concern.

The President announced the "Committee on Missions," as follows: B. F. Bradford, G. M. Hardy, and Harvey B. Odell.

After giving out Notices, the Conf. adjourned, Benediction by Bro Prindle.

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Second Day, A. M. Session,
Thursday, April 25, 1861

Conf. met at 8 ½ o'clock, President in the Chair. Religious exercises conducted by Bro S. Phinney

Roll called, Minutes of yesterday's P.M. Session read and approved,

Comm. in case of Bro. Lewis, reported that in their judgment there were sufficient reasons for arresting the passage of his character.

On motion his case was referred for formal investigation to John Johnston, B. F. Bradford, C. C. Reynolds, John L. Bush, Wm. S. Briggs, Abner Bridgeman, and John Depue. The Chairman was Empowered to fill all vacancies.

The "Comm. on Division of Conf.," presented their Report, which was received, read, discussed, and adopted, as follows:

"Commencing at the mouth of Genesee River, on Lake Ontario, running South to Rochester, including the City of Rochester in the Eastern division; then following the Genesee Valley Canal to Mt. Morris; then the line of the Canal from Mt. Morris to Dansville, and from Dansville to the dividing line between Steuben and Alleghany Counties: following said line to the present Southern boundary

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17th Session, held at ...

of the Conf. in the State of Pennsylvania.

The Secretary then read a [sic] Communication from Enoch Honeywell, of Altay, Schuyler Co. N.Y. which was ordered on Record as follows:

Wesleyan Annual Conference:

Gentlemen: Elder Orson Medbury, (Wesleyan Minister), left a Will a few years Since, which will some day need the attention of our Society, and I suggest that Some Memorandum of the following clauses, be made on your Records, or otherwise, as found best, so that the gift may not finally be forgotten:

"After giving a third to his Widow, it reads thus: "Further, I will and bequeath as aforesaid, the use of the remaining two-thirds to her use, and [insert: enjoy] peaceably enjoy without let or hindrance during her natural life.

"Thirdly: I will and bequeath to the Wesleyan Conference that may embrace this territory, at that time, one fourth of the two-thirds last mentioned real estate, for the liberation or educating African Slaves, as they may lawfully do; considering themselves my agents under God, for this last mentioned benevolent purpose."

"This real estate is (total) 140 acres, in Tyrone. An equally good farm adjoining it Sold at \$45 per acre. (Donation, now, if due, worth \$1.000.) Mrs. Medbury now lives in Clinton Co. N.Y. – is over 50 years old. Eliphalet Price, has bought all her rights and lives on the farm. Said Will is on record in Schuyler Co

Enoch Honeywell."

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Altay, Schuyler Co. N.Y.
Jan 23d 1861."

(Above a literal copy). – H. B. Knight, Sec'y.

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...Yates, Orleans Co., New York

The Committee on "Itinerary and Orders", made their Report, which was read, and the following items adopted:

1 That W^m L. Warner, recommended by the State Line Quar. Conf. for Elders Orders, be so elected. He was So elected.

2 Asahel Staples, recommended by the Quar. Conf. of Ransomville and Olcott charge for the office of Elder, Comm. approve of his election. Elected.

3 Arden W. Staples, recommended by the Quar. Conf. of Howard charge for Elders Orders. Comm. approved and Conf elected him.

4 Emory Jones, recommended by the Quar. Conf. and Church, at Jamestown, for Elder's Orders. Comm approve his Election. Conf. concurred.

5 John M. Swick, recommended by Quar Conf of Hector Circuit for Elder's Orders. Comm recommend that he pursue his Studies another year. Conf. concurred.

6 Henry WBixby, [sic] recommended by Quar Conf, of Hornby charge for Elder's Orders, Comm suggested he pursue his Studies another year. Conf. concurred.

7 John J. Paine, recommended by Williamson and New Salem Quar Conf. to travel under direction of this body as a Licentiate. Comm approved, and Conf admitted him.

8 Chas W. Swift, recommended by the Quar Conf. of Phillipsville Ct as a proper person to travel as a Licentiate under the direction of this body. Comm, concur in such recommendations; He was So received.

9 That Wm Wing, E. P. Burdick, and M S. Harkness, Licentiates heretofore received, were not present for Examination. They are reported as not doing the work expected of them, and the Comm, recommend they be discontinued. Report adopted.

Bro Dexter Ward presented his Certificate as Delegate from Olcott and Hess Road

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17th Session, held at...

charge, and his name duly enrolled.

1st
Quest.

Resumed the 1st Question: B. F. Bradford, S. D. Prentice, D.B. Douglass, Enos Perry, W^m. P. Ray, H. B. Knight; names called, account of Labors given, and their characters passed.

2^d
Quest.

Took up the 2^d Question – "Who of the Elders are on the Unstationed List"? For answer, See Disciplinary Recapitulation, on page 15, of Journal.

3^d
Quest.

3^d Question – "Licentiates on Stationed list. See Dis. Recap. Page 15

4th
Quest

4th Question – "Who are on Reserve List?" See Dis Recap page 15

5th
Quest.

5 "Superannuated Elders?" See Dis. Recapit page 15

6th

6 "Who Deposed"? – Ans. None.

7th

7 "Withdrawn?" – Ans. None

Action
on
Divorce
41 x 0

On motion took up the action of the Gen. Conf. on the Subject of "Divorce." Conf concurred with such action, by a vote of 41 Yeas, no Nays.

Voted that when we adjourn, it be to meet at 3 o'clk, p.m.
Carried. Also that the hour of adjourning be hereafter at ¼ to 12, M.
After giving out Notices Conf. adj. with Singing and Benediction.

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Second Day – P.M. Sess.

Thursday, April 25, 1861

Conf. assembled at 3 o'clk, President in the Chair. Religious
exercises conducted by Bro. Prindle.

Roll called, and Minutes of the Morning Session read and
approved.

Daniel Adamy, as Delegate from

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...Yates, Orleans County, N.Y.

Catharine circuit, appeared, presented his credentials and had his name
enrolled.

Bixby
Elected
An Elder

On motion Voted to re-consider that part of the Report of the
Common "Orders and Itinerary" relating to Hery W. Bixby

Bro Inman, then moved that he be elected to Elder's Orders.

Carried

Swick
Do

The action in relation to John M. Swick was also
reconsidered, On motion Conf voted him the Office of and Elder.

Rice
Elected
an
Elder

The Comm on "Orders and Itinerary" further reported that
Wm Rice, recommended by the Quar Conf of Phillipsville Circuit, had
appeared before them, and briefly passed an examination. They moved
his election, which was carried.

Names
of
Conf'nces

On motion Conf voted that the Eastern territory set off by
action of this morning, for a new Conf. be called the "Rochester" – and
the Western portion the "Lockport."

The Comm on "Books and Periodical," which was received
and adopted. See page 16, of this Session's proceedings

Bro Bradford, on behalf of the Comm on "Missions", made
their Report, Adopted. See page 16, of this Sess. proc,

Voted that we proceed to take pledges for the Onondaga
Mission. Said pledge, amounted to \$71.75; and of this amount \$24.75
was paid in: both Pledges and Money were handed over to Bro. Prindle

On motion to 8 to morrow morning [sic]

Notices were given out, the doxology Sung, and Benediction
pronounced by Bro Prindle.

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17th Session held at ...

Third Day – A.M. Sess.

Friday, April 26, 1861

Conf. assembled at 8 o'clock, President in the chair. Religious exercises conducted by Bro A. Staples.

Roll called, Minutes of yesterday PM read and approved.

Comm. on "Itineracy and Orders" further reported: that Nathaniel Wheeler, recommended therefor by Quar Conf. of Orange Circuit, be received to travel as a Licentiate under the direction of this Conf. Report adopted.

Took up the action of the Gen. Conf. on the Subject of "Secret Societies", Sent to us for concurrence. On motion Conference concurred by a vote of 41 yeas, 6 nays.

The hour of adj^t having arrived, after voteing [sic] to have an afternoon Session at 1 ½ p.m. Sessed [sic] closed with Singing and Benediction.

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Third Day – P.M. Sess

Friday, April 26, 1861

Conf. assembled at 1 ½ o'clock, the President in the Chair.

Opening religious exercise conducted by Bro Hardy.

Roll called, Minutes of the Morning Session read and approved.

Bro O. Minter, who had previously been introduced to the Conf. addressed it on the Subjection of Christian Colony Emigration, to the West. He also presented the claims of that portion of Illinois lying along the Ill. Central Rail Road, as a

...Yates, Orleans County, N.Y.

Section toward which such emigration might look, for good homes and honorable purchase

On motion Conf. adjourned. After giving out Notices, Bro Miner pronounced the Benediction

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Fourth Day, AM Session

Saturday, April 27, 1861.

Conf assembled t 8 ½ o'clk, President in the chair. Religious exercises conducted by Bro B. T. Roberts.

Roll called, Minutes of the Session yesterday p m read and approved

The President then introduced to the Conf. Rev. B. T. Roberts, of the Free Meth. Church.

Bro Norton, on behalf of the Comm, on "Reformes," [sic] made a Report, which was read and Adopted. See page 20, of this sess. Proc.

The Secretary on behalf of that portion of our Conf. here after [sic] to be known as the "Rochester", presented the following nominations; they having been made by the brothers who would here after constitute such Conf.

For President – M. Q. M^cFarland

" Secretary – H. B. Knight

Committee on the Presidency – B. D. Sniffen, John L. Bush, Geo. S. Paine, H. W. Rathbun and Peter Dean.

Comm, on "Itinerary and Orders," – H. B. Knight, M. Q. M^cFarland, B. F. Bradford, with power to add two Laymen.

Time and Place of holding next Conf, Time, 4th Wednesday in April, 1862, place to be determined by Pres. & Sec.

Bro Decker, on behalf of that portion to be known as the "Lockport" Conf. presented the following nominations, similarly made.

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17th Session, held at ...

For President – John Johnston

" Secretary – D. B. Douglass.

Comm. on Presidency – P. S. Slauson, S. D. Trembly, Jon^a Sibley, Bro Shelly and John W. Labar.

Comm on "Itinerary and Orders" – H. Norton, Jno Johnston, Emory Jones, with power to add two Laymen.

Next Conf to be held at Belmont, Alleghany Co. N.Y. the 3d Wednesday in April, 1862.

Conf appointed S. D. Trembly and C. W. Swift as Fraternal Delegates to the next Session of the Genessee Conf, of the M.P. Church

John Johnston and M.Q. M^cFarland were constituted our Messengers to the next Conf of the Free Methodist Church, to be holden at Perry, Wyoming Co. N.Y.

The Comm on "Statistics" made their Report which was adopted. See page 23

A collection was taken up for Stationary, amounting to \$3.43, and handed the Sec.

On motion, Conf adj^d to 1 ½ o'clock [sic] p.m. Doxology was sung and benediction given

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Fourth Day ~ PM Sess.
Saturday, April 27, 1861

Conf assembled at 1 ½ o'clk, [sic] President in the chair. Religious exercises conducted by Bro Bush.

Roll called, and Minutes of the morning Session read and approved.

Bro. Trembly moved that the "Lockport" Conf have an Evangelist the coming year. Carried, and Bro Johnston was appointed as such.

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...Yates, Orleans Co. N.Y.

On motion Bro Trembly was re-appointed as Sabbath School Agent, and also as Missionary at large. See "Sabbath School Report," page 24.

The Conf voted Bro. W. P. Ray as Transfer to the Champlain Conf.

Took up the Report of the Comm. on "Pastoral Relations." First that part relating to the "Rochester Conf." which was read, amended and adopted, as follows: See page [blank]

That pertaining to the "Lockport Conf" was then read, amended and adopted. See page [blank]

Geo Riley was transferred from the Unstationed to the Superannuated list

On motion Bro Trembly was invited to extend his labors to within the bounds of the Rochester Conference

Bro Norton offered and the Conf adopted the following resolution:

"That we hail with joy, and hasten to reciprocate the fraternal regard and generous Sympathy, expressed for us as a body, by the Free Methodist Church, thro their worthy representation, Rev. B. T. Roberts. We welcome them in the name of our Common Lord, as our faithful coadjutors in the cause of Moral Reform, and as earnest fellow-laborers in the great harvest field of the World, so long as they maintain their present high position of opposition to all sin."

Bro M^cFarland offered, and Conf. adopted the following, by a rising vote:

"Resolved, that the most hearty thanks of this Conf. be tendered to the inhabitants of this place, for their hospitalities enjoyed during its Sessions."

The President invited Bro Roberts to make some remarks, which he did, much to our Edification, on "Trust in God."

Moved that the Rochester Conf. hold

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17th Session, held at ...

a "Camp Meeting" during the Month of June, and Bros M^cFarland, Geo L. Paine, and Geo. Dunkle, were constituted a Committee on time and place.

Also, that we hold one within the bounds of the ~~Rochester Conf~~ "Lockport Conf", and P. S. Slauson, Jno Johnston, and S. D. Trembly, were appointed a Comm on time and place.

Voted that we surrender out "Conf Scholarship" in the Leoni Institute, to its late Board of Trustees.

Thanks were given the President and Secretary, for the labors during the Session.

Notices were then given and Minutes read up and approved, when the Conference adjourned Sine die. with prayer & Benediction

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Fifth Day – April 28, '61
Sabbath Services:

These were as follows: Love Feast in the morning at 9 o'clock: at 11, the Secretary preached on "God's ideal of a Man," from Gene 5:1.

After which the following brethren were ordained to the work and office of Elders in the Church of God:

Asahel Staples, Arden W. Staples, W^m L. Warner, Emory Jones, Henry W. Bixby, John M. Swick, and W^m Rice,

In the Evening, Bro M^cFarland preached, and thus closed one of the best Conf. held within our bounds.

H. B. Knight

☞ End of Journal: }
For 1861 }

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Seneca Falls	}
May, 1861	}

Secretary
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... Yates, Orleans Co. N.Y.

Appendix, &c.

Doc. No. 1: -- Disciplinary Recapitulation

1 What Elders on Stationed List? – For answer, See page 23 this Session's Journal

2 Who are on the Unstationed List? For answer, see page 23 this Session's Journal

3 Licentiates on Stationed List? – Nathaniel Wheeler, Chas. W. Swift, John J. Paine.

4 Reserve List? – For answer see page 23 of this Session's Journal.

5 Superannuated Elders? For answer See page 23 of this Session's Journal.

6 Who deposed? – None.

7 Withdrawn? – None.

8 Joined this Year? – Asahel Staples, Arden W. Staples, W^m. L. Warner, Emory Jones,
H. W. Bixby, John M. Swick, W^m Rice, by Ordination

9 Died? Stephen Salsbury.

10 Contributed for Support of preaching, &c
See “Statistical Report,” page 24 of this Journal’s.

11 Nos. in Connection? Ans. 2807

12 Sunday Schools &c – See “Statistical Report page 23 this Sess. Journal.

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17th Session, held at...

13 Next Conf held? – See Report of “Committee on Pastoral Relations” page 23.

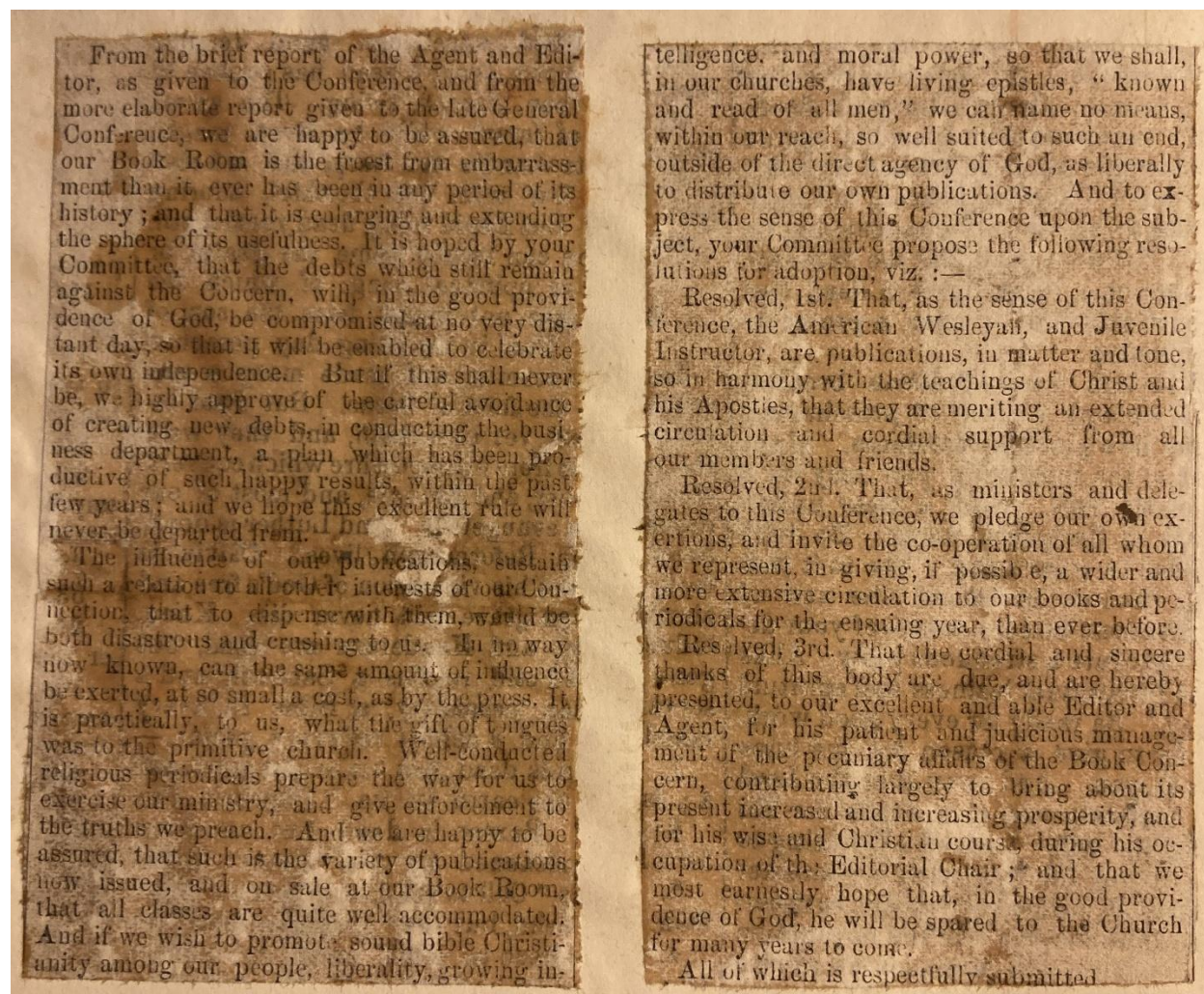
14 Work Supplied? See “Doc No 6”, on page 23, of this Sess. Journal.

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[See next page.]

Doc. No. 2 – “Books and Periodicals.”

[note: columns pasted in. Transcription below:]



From the brief report of the Agent and Editor, as given to the Conference, and from the more elaborate report given to the late General Conference, we are happy to be assured, that our Book Room is the freest from embarrassment than it ever has been in any period of its history; and that it is enlarging and extending the sphere of its usefulness. It is hoped by your Committee, that the debts which still remain against the Concern, will in the good providence of God, be compromised at no very distant day, so that it will be enabled to celebrate its own independence. But if

this shall never be, we highly approve of the careful avoidance of creating new debts, in conducting the business department, a plan which has been productive of such happy results, within the past few years; and we hope the excellent rule will never be departed from.

The influence of our publications, sustain such a relation to all other interests of our Connection, that to dispense with them, would be both disastrous and crushing to us. In no way now known, can the same amount of influence be exerted, at so small a

cost, as by the press. It is practically, to us, what the gift of tongues was to the primitive church. Well-conducted religious periodicals prepare the way for us to exercise our ministry, and give enforcement to the truths we preach. And we are happy to be assured, that such is the variety of publications now issued, and on sale at our Book Room, that all classes are quite well accommodated. And if we wish to promote sound bible Christianity among our people, liberality, growing intelligence, and moral power, so that we shall, in our churches, have living epistles, "known and read of all men," we can name no means, within our reach, so well suited to such an end, outside of the direct agency of God, as liberally to distribute our own publications. And to express the sense of this Conference upon the subject, your Committee propose the following resolutions for adoption, viz.: --

Resolved, 1st. That, as the sense of this Conference, the American Wesleyan, and Juvenile Instructor, are publications, in matter and tone, so in harmony with the teachings of Christ

and his Apostles, that they are meriting an extended circulation and cordial support from all our members and friends.

Resolved, 2nd. That, as ministers and delegates to this Conference, we pledge our own exertions, and invite the co-operation of all whom we represent, in giving, if possible, a wider and more extensive circulation to our books and periodicals for the ensuing year, than ever before.

Resolved, 3rd. That the cordial and sincere thanks of this body are due, and are hereby presented, to our excellent and able Editor and Agent, for his patient and judicious management of the pecuniary affairs of the Book Concern, contributing largely to bring about is present increased and increasing prosperity, and for his wise and Christian counsel during his occupation of the Editorial Chair; and that we most earnestly hope that, in the good providence of God, he will be spared to the Church for many years to come.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Jona. Sibley, Ch'n.

Doc. No. 3 – Report on "Missions."

The cause of Missions is the cause of God. The Gospel is emphatically a grand missionary Scheme, and Jesus Christ was the first great Missionary who inaugurated the Enterprise of enlightening the Race, and rescuing them from the dominion of error and Sin

The leading object and primary work of the Church and Ministry is, to take up and carry forward to final consummation the End contemplated in the advent of Christ,

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which is to fill the Earth with the knowledge of the Truth of God, and the Glory of God. In no age since the Apostolic has there been demanded greater promptness, liberal and earnest effort in prosecuting the cause of Missions, as the present.

Society and Governments in this country, and other parts of the world, seem upheaving, and are in a State of transition. There is to be a reconstruction upon Some basis, but none can be furnished that will be permanent, Secure justice, human progress and happiness – and that will make our land one of Liberty for the oppressed of all nations – and a living rebuke to all forms of tyranny – but those sublime and immutable truths unfolded to man in the teachings of the Bible.

But for the legitimate effect of these to be produced, they must be understood and received. Hence the necessity of a bold, earnest, and clear preaching of the Word, by a faithful, honest and holy ministry, Sustained by a pure church. As our Connection has taken the Christian view and position, on all human relations and the object of all human organizations, and the design of the Gospel in relation thereunto – it becomes us in order to be consistent with ourselves and principles, to devise large and liberal things, in the work of Missions

Therefore, Resolved, 1. That the work of Mission is the life and power of the Christian Church. That those Churches who are the most deeply imbued with the Mission Spirit, give evidence of being the most deeply imbued with the Gospel, and have the greatest degree of the elements of power and Success.

2 That the most Successful method for a Church to adopt to build itself up in graces, numbers ~~and~~ wealth, and influence

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17th Session, held at...

is to commit the membership largely to the Missionary Work.

3 That we hold on Friday evening of this week, a Conference Missionary meeting, in order better to learn our duty, Stir up our zeal, and to take such sums and pledges as those present may feel it a pleasure to give.

4 That each preacher pledge himself and Church, for such Sums as with their co-operation he will raise if possible, during the coming year.

5 That all Sums pledged be paid quarterly, or Semi-annually, to the Secretary of the Conf. Who with the President shall cause such money to be appropriated as in their Judgement the cause shall demand.

6 That, the Surplus of funds not demanded within the bounds of this Conf. be forwarded to the Rev. C. Prindle, to be appropriated by him in meeting the wants of the Indian Missions, and others in his direction.

7 That each preacher present the cause of Missions to his Church, earnestly, during the first quarter of the ensuing year.

B. F. Bradford.

Chairman

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Doc. No 4. – “Sabbath Schools.”

“Feed my Lambs.” –

“One prevention is worth many cures.”

These sentiments are as true and applicable morally, as physically.

As there is with agriculture, or art, a favorable period to prosecute them,
so there is

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...Yates, Orleans Co. N.Y.

a hopeful time, beyond which discouragements multiply, and Success is doubtful. “See ye the Lord while he may be found, and call upon him while he is near,” indicates circumstances and periods, when the soul may catch the whisperings, and interpret the language, of the Holy Spirit,

Imbued with an ardent desire for the Salvation of men, we may sometimes overlook and neglect childhood. Just as men over-run their farms and Select the grown timber, or gather the ripened grass, to supply present wants, without providing for the future – so, to confine our efforts to the adult community, will absorb our vitality and resources without permanency.

Without the intent to neglect children and youth, yet, it is often done by overlooking their peculiar claims and adaptations, to be led into harmony with Bible truths and christian [sic] faith.

We hail with gratitude the Sabbath School, as offering an opportunity to provide hopeful consciences, richer minds, and better hearts for future efforts; and we may expect to reap in the same ratio that we sow – to enjoy growth as we “feed the Lambs.”

To “feed,” we must give timely food, proper food, and give in wise quantities. We must reach children, i. e. meet their understanding, satisfy their inquisitiveness, and use the gleeful habits to make the Scriptures attractive, and Jesus lovely. In this work, the varied talent of the whole church may be used, and is called for; each to fill its proper place,

Much of the Sabbath School labor is lost, by disbanding during Winter. Here, again, we want to apply the wisdom of the farmer, who spends the Winter months in providing for, and taking care of, that which the past season has offered him. If we must adjourn our Schools at Autumn, (?) Then we ought to substitute something, lest the name, and

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17th Session, held at ...

habit be forgotten, or outgrown.

We could retain our hold of children and youth largely, by lecturing upon Scripture, History, Geography and Scenery, and by this process impart instruction, and form a firm attachment to Sabbath Schools. Let us take pains to do our utmost upon this point, knowing if sin prevails, it must have the youth; if the church continues, it must sow seeds in children's hearts, and grasp the rising generations.

From the considerations, we submit the following;

1st That from hence, we may go to our respective fields of labor, to renewedly [sic] enlist our souls and sympathies in Sabbath School Enterprises, to make them more attractive, instructive, and saving.

2nd That at all of our appointments, we will endeavor to organise [sic] a Sabbath School, preach upon the Subject, at least once during the Season, and urge their continuing the whole year.

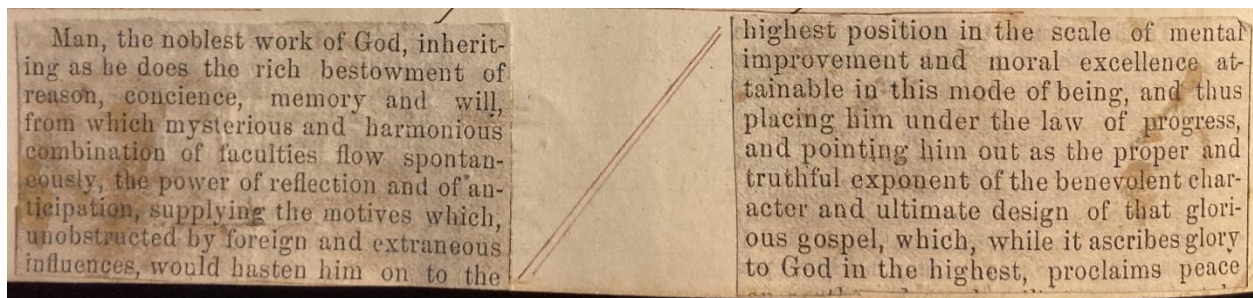
3rd That while we do feel like imparting Scripture Knowledge, as a preventative against crime, we nevertheless cannot be satisfied unless our Efforts have a Strong and wise reference to personal Salvation of the Lambs committed to our feeding.

S. D. Trembly
L. P. Atwood,
Com.^m.



Doc. No 5. – Report on “Reforms.”

[Note: Two columns have been pasted into this and the next page.]



Man, the noblest work of God, inheriting as he does the rich bestowment of reason, concience [sic], memory and will, from which mysterious and harmonious combination of faculties flow spontaneously, the power of reflection and of anticipation, supplying the motives which, unobstructed by foreign and extraneous influences, would hasten him on to the highest

position in the scale of mental improvement and moral excellence attainable in this mode of being, and thus placing him under the law of progress, and pointing him out as the proper and truthful exponent of the benevolent and ultimate design of that glorious gospel, which, while it ascribes glory to God in the highest, proclaims peace

on earth and good will to man, establishing a perfect and permanent rule of human conduct; so in harmony with all the elements which enter into his mental, moral and social nature, as to conform all those relations, political as well as moral and social, to the great central idea, the universal brotherhood of man. Hence he is to do good unto all men as he has opportunity, and as far as in him lies to live peaceably with all men; and yet with all these high and holy obligations, equally binding upon all our race, in all times and places. Ruthless war, in almost every age, has desolated the fairest portions of the earth, decimated our race, and trodden down and crushed out the strongest indications of social progress and moral improvement, which the patient and united effort of the pious and the good have left as their memorial to those that should come after them; and yet these aggressive wars are not so much to be deplored for what they have inflicted, as for what they have entailed upon society—they have produced and fostered up to gigantic proportions a most viperous brood; slavery, intemperance and licentiousness are the legitimate offspring of aggressive war. These cardinal evils, like the locusts of Egypt, have spread themselves over all the earth, and calling to their aid the indispensable auxiliaries of secret oath-bound combinations, have insinuated themselves into all the departments of society, polluting justice and perverting judgment at its fountain head, and desecrating the altars of christianity and prostituting its ennobling and elevating influences to the promotion of its selfish and debasing ends, and wherever it failed to insinuate itself, they have called upon their natural and faithful ally, mobocracy, to take the van and to impose by violence what they had failed to do by strategy, force their hated dogmas upon unwilling and unresistant communities, against the debasing and immoral tendency of these giant evils, under which the world has long groaned to be delivered, the spirit of liberty, and of social and civil progress, together with all the genial influences of christianity have arrayed themselves and denied the right of universal dominion to their enemies, and claimed the earth and its inhabitants as the heritage of God with the right to mould its institutions and direct its influences, so as to secure the happiness, and not the destruction of our race.

That liberty which emboldens and authorizes man to govern himself, and mould the institutions which are to give tone to his character, and control his social relations, had established herself upon this continent, with the hope that a long and peaceful reign awaited her, during which the arts and sciences would flourish, social and civil progress advance so as to attract the admiration of the world, and extort the confession that the mystic problem that had so long baffled the skill of the most profound political mathematicians of the old world—whether man is capable of self-government had here been fully wrought out, and here liberty and peace had found a congenial home, and here would they harmoniously dwell and reign forever. But hark, what discordant sounds are those which come up with painful distinctness from the southern portion of this otherwise hopeful and beautiful confederacy—'tis Slavery, with its slow but measured tread which has been stealthily seeking liberty's

last retreat where she had built her home for the free, and her asylum for the oppressed; but don't be alarmed, she only asks a temporary lodgment for herself and retinue on the coast of liberty where she may recruit her exhausted energies after her long and perilous voyage in the wake of freedom. But true to the instincts of her debased and corrupt nature, she claimed the right to share this wide domain with freedom, and now assumes the further right to extend indefinitely this God dishonoring and Man destroying system with impunity. To maintain these most unwarrantable and revolting assumptions, she has inaugurated a most unnatural and treasonable rebellion; planting her batteries upon the bleeding hearts and crushed hopes of nearly four millions of her subjects, she has aimed her engines of destruction at the citadel of freedom, and armed and marshalled her excited hosts, and with lighted torch, even now shouts for the battle, and madly rushes to the final destruction of the world's last hope, now enshrined in the Constitution and genius of the Government of these United States. A war based upon the total destruction of the best interests of man, and so ferocious and diabolical in its character, as to yield neither to the dictates of gratitude, nor the voice of reason, nor the claims of justice, must be repelled by force. Gratitude to God, fidelity to the sacred trust bequeathed by our father's love of kindred, and country, and all the high hopes of our oppressed race centered in and suspended upon the success of our free institutions, have impelled us to the above conclusion, therefore, as the sense of the Rochester Conference:—

Resolved, That as Ministers and members of the Wesleyan Methodist Connection of America, we occupy the position heretofore assumed by us, that all aggressive wars, and the spirit which instigates them, are repugnant to the peaceful genius and benign spirit of the Gospel of Christ, and ought to be discountenanced by every lover of social progress and human elevation. But having in the history of our country reached a new and anomalous crisis which reveals slavery in all its odious and revolting deformity as the sole cause of the fierce and diabolical rebellion now raging in our land, trampling beneath its impious feet the noblest Constitution of which any civilized nation on earth can boast, and defying all laws for protection and defence, is madly rushing on to the subversion and overturning of our free institutions which have so long and so nobly secured unto us the largest civil and religious liberty enjoyed by man, for the avowed purpose of setting up a reign of terror more revolting than that which deluged France in blood; In view of all of which we cheerfully take a position in advance of that heretofore occupied, and tender to the President of the United States in his constitutional efforts to suppress this unnatural rebellion, and to restore peace to our beloved but distracted country, our countenance, our sympathies, our prayers, and our united, moral, social and political influence; and may God write the doom of slavery, and stamp the broad seal of his approbation upon truth and right.

Resolved, That Intemperance and Licentiousness may justly lay claim to a common paternity, and may properly be assigned in the category of moral evils, a position second only to slavery itself, and

on earth and good will to man, establishing a perfect and permanent rule of human conduct; so in harmony with all the elements which enter into his mental, moral and social nature, as to conform all those relations, political as well as moral and social, to the great central idea, the universal brotherhood of man. Hence he is to do good unto all men as he has opportunity, and as far as in him lies to live peaceably with all men; and yet with all these high and holy obligations, equally binding upon all our race, in all times and places Ruthless war, in almost every age, has desolated the fairest portions of the earth, decimated our race, and trodden down and crushed out the strongest indications of social progress and moral improvement, which the patient and united effort of the pious and the good have left as their memorial to those that should come after them; and yet these aggressive wars are not so much to be deplored for what they have inflicted, as for what they have entailed upon society – they have produced and fostered up to gigantic proportions a most viperous brood; slavery, intemperance and licentiousness are the legitimate offspring of aggressive war. These cardinal evils, like the locusts of Egypt, have spread themselves over all the earth, and calling to their aid the indispensable auxiliaries of secret oath-bound combinations, have insinuated themselves into all the departments of society, polluting justice and perverting judgment at its fountain head, and desecrating the altars of christianity [sic] and prostituting its enobling, [sic] and elevating influences to the promotion of its selfish and debasing ends, and wherever it failed to insinuate itself, they have called upon their natural and faithful ally, mobocracy, to take the fan

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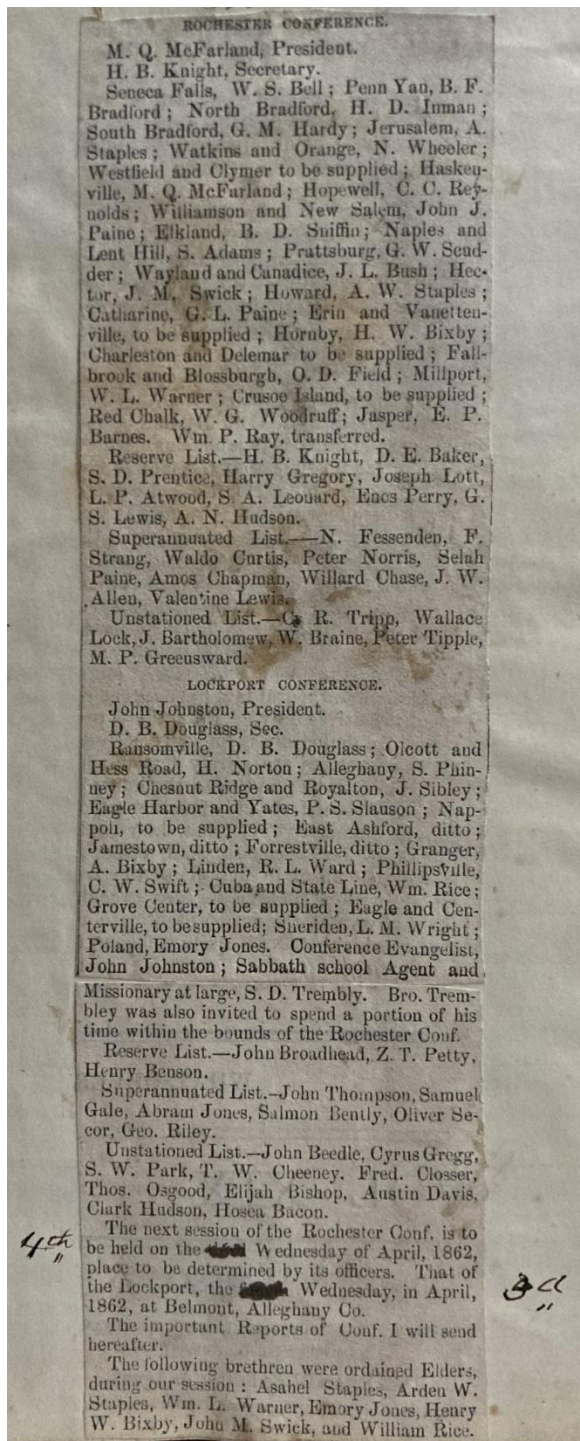
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Resolved, That Intemperance and Licentiousness may justly lay claim to a common paternity, and may properly be assigned in the category of moral evils, a position second only to slavery itself, and

17th Session, held at...

As engines of wholesale self-destruction, and wide-spread ruin in their desolating march deserve our unqualified condemnation."

Henry Norton, Ch'n.



Doc. No. 6. == "Pastoral Relations."

[Note: one column, pasted into the journal, with handwritten amendments.]

The ROCHESTER CONFERENCE

M. Q. McFarland, President.

H. B. Knight, Secretary.

Seneca Falls, W. S. Bell; Penn Yan, B. F. Bradford; North Bradford, H. D. Inman; South Bradford, G. M. Hardy; Jerusalem, A. Staples; Watkins and Orange, N. Wheeler; Westfield and Clymer to be supplied; Haskenville, [sic] M. Q. McFarland; Hopewell, C. C. Reynolds; Williamson and New Salem, John J. Paine; Elkland, B. D. Sniffin; Naples and Lent Hill, S. Adams; Prattsburg, [sic] G. W. Scudder; Wayland and Canadice, J. L. Bush; Hector, J. M. Swick, Howard, A. W. Staples; Catharine, G. L. Paine; Erin and Vanettenville, [sic] to be supplied; Hornby, H. W. Bixby; Charleston and Delemar [sic] to be supplied; Fallbrook and Blossburgh, [sic] O. D. Field; Millport, W. L. Warner; Crusoe Island, to be supplied; Red Chalk, W. G. Woodruff; Jasper, E. P. Barnes. Wm. P. Ray, transferred.

Reserve List.—H. B. Knight, D. E. Baker, S. D. Prentice, Harry Gregory, Joseph Lott, L. P. Atwood, S. A. Leonard, Enos Perry, G. S. Lewis, A. N. Hudson.

Superannuated List.—N. Fessenden, F. Strang, Waldo Curtis, Peter Norris, Selah Paine, Amos Chapman, Willard Chase, J. W. Allen, Valentine Lewis.

Unstationed List. – C. R. Tripp, Wallace Lock, J. Bartholomew, W. Braine, Peter Tipple, M.P. Greensward.

LOCKPORT CONFERENCE.

John Johnston, President.

D. B. Douglass, Sec.

Ransomville, D. B. Douglass; Olcott and Hess Road, H. Norton; Alleghany, S. Phinney; Chesnut [sic] Ridge and Royalton, J. Sibley; Eagle Harbor and Yates, P. S. Slauson; Napoli, to be supplied; East Ashford, ditto; Jamestown, ditto; Forrestville, [sic] ditto; Granger, A. Bixby; Linden, R. L. Ward; Phillipsville, C. W. Swift; Cuba and State Line, Wm. Rice; Grove Center, to be supplied; Eagle and Centerville, to be supplied; Sheridan, L. M. Wright; Poland, Emory Jones. Conference Evangelist, John Johnston; Sabbath school Agent and Missionary at large, S. D. Trembly. Bro. Trembly was also invited to spend a portion of his time within the bounds off the Rochester Conf.

Reserve List.—John Broadhead, Z.T. Petty, Henry Benson.

Superannuated List.—John Thompson, Samuel Gale, Abram Jones, Salmon Bently, Oliver Secor, Geo. Riley.

Unstationed List.—John Beedle, Cyrus Gregg, S. W. Park, T. W. Cheeney, Fred. Closser, Thos. Osgood, Elijah Bishop, Austin Davis, Clark Hudson, Hosea Bacon.

The next session of the Rochester Conf. is to be held on the [Note: crossed out, and inserted in left margin: “4th”] Wednesday of April, 1862, place to be determined by its officers. That of the Lockport, the [Note: crossed out, and inserted into right margin: “3rd”] Wednesday, in April, 1862, at Belmont, Alleghany Co.

The important Reports of Conf. I will send hereafter.

The following brethren were ordained Elders, during our session: Asahel Staples, Arden W. Staples, Wm. L Warner, Emory Jones, Henry W. Bixby, John M. Swick, and William Rice.

Doc. No. 7. – “Statistics.”

[Note: Table inserted for clarity.]

			Members	Salary	Sab. Schs	Sup.ts	Teachers	Schol.	Miss Mo.
Ransomville	//-	//-	34	200.00	1	1	08	40	12.00
Hess Road & Olcott			54	130.67	1	1	08	30	
North Bradford		//-	172	366.93	8	8	48	240	
South Bradford		//-	90	278.00	2	2	12	70	
Alleghany	//-	//-	72	200.00	2	2	10	60	
Phillipsville	//-	//-	80	150.00	2	2	13	70	

Penn Yan	//-	//-	140	400.00	2	2	12	60	
Jerusalem	//-	//-	65	100.00	2	2	12	60	
Seneca Falls	//-	//-	200	500.00	1	1	18	80	
Orange	//-	//-	22	34.00					
Chesnut [sic] Ridge & Royal ⁿ			100	200.00	2	2	26	90	
Westfield & Clymer			70	100.00	2	2	5	25	
Haskinville	//-	//-	86	140.00	2	2	5	25	
Hopewell & Cheshire			77	250.00	1	1	8	35	
Williamson & New Salem			50	350.00	1	1	4	20	
Eagle Harbor & Yates			130	578.80	2	2	16	70	
Napoli	//-	//-	52	220.00	1	1	4	20	
Elkland	//-	//-	70	250.00	1	1	8	40	
Naples & Lent Hill			65	140.00	1	1	8	40	
Sparta & Canadice			35	200.00					
Forrestville & Ellington			48	225.00	1	1	5	18*	
Granger	//-	//-	100	225.00	2	2	34	108	
Hector	//-	//-	82	115.00	1	1	8	40	
Howard	//-	//-	50	220.00	3	3	28	110	3,00,
Catharine	//-	//-	119	300.00	5	5	24	95	
Erin	//-	//-	10	10.00					
Jasper	//-	//-	105	243.00	4	4	10	95	
Charleston	//-	//-	50	140.00					
Linden	//-	//-	100	200.00	1	1	6	30	
East Springwater			28	130.00	1	1	6	25	
Sheridan	//-	//-	25	60.48	1	1	5	20	
Millport	//-	//-	55	280.00	1	1	8	30	
Red Chalk	//-	//-	15	73.00	2	2	8	55	
Havannah & Watkins			8						
Eagle & Connersville			34						
			2574						Over.

[*Note: This line was not clear. Erasures and over-writing.]

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17 Session, held at...

			Mem.	Salary	S. Schs	Supt	Tea	Schol.	Miss.
Brot over	//~	//~	2574						
East Ashford	//~		29	100.00	1	1	5	30.	
Pleasant Valley	//~		25	72.00					
Jamestown	//~		122						
Franklinville	//~		40						

Hornby	//~	//~	29	95.00	1	2	14	60	
Pultney	//~	//~		70.00	2	2	10	62	
Centerville	//~	//~	21						
State Line & Portland			13	147.00					
Cuba	//~	//~	14	60.00					

2807

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Committees holding Over.

Rochester Conf.

On Presidency – B. D. Sniffen, John L. Bush, Geo. L. Paine, H. W. Rathbun, and Peter Dean

On Itinerary & Orders. – H. B. Knight, M. Q. McFarland, with power to add two laymen.

==//==
Lockport Conf.

On Presidency – P. S. Slauson, S. D. Trembly, Jon a. Sibley, Bro Shelley and John W. Labar

On Itinerary & Orders. – Henry Norton, John Johnston, Emory Jones, with power to add two laymen,

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...Yates, Orleans Co. NY

Roll of Rochester Conf. for 1862.

[Note: Table inserted for continuity.]

-	M. Q. McFarland	Valentine Lewis. --	Elders
-	H. B. Knight	Wm. S. Bell	
-	B. F. Bradford	Peter S. Slauson.	
-	H. D. Inman	Licentiates	
-	G. M. Hardy	Nathaniel Wheeler	
-	Asahel Staples	John J. Paine	
-	C. C. Reynolds		
-	B. D. Sniffen		
-	S. Adams	==//==	
-	G. W. Scudder	For Unstationed List See	
-	John L. Bush	Page 23.	
-	John M. Swick		

-	Arden W. Staples		
-	Geo. L. Paine		
-	Henry W. Bixby		
-	O. D. Field		
-	Wm L. Warner	John Johnston,	President
-	Wm. G. Woodruff		
-	E. P. Barnes	H. B. Knight,	Secretary
-	D. E. Baker		
-	S. D. Prentice		
	Harry Gregory		
-	Joseph Lott		
-	L. P. Atwood		
-	S. A. Leonard		Finis
-	Enos Perry		
-	Geo. S. Lewis		
-	A. N. Hudson		
c	Nelson Fessenden		
-	Francis Strang		
-	Waldo Curtis		
-	Peter Norris		
-	Selah Paine		
-	Amos Chapman		
-	Willard Chase		
-	J. W. Allen		