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Minutes
Of
The sixth Session
Of
The Zanesville Annual Conference
Held in
Seneaville [sic] Guernsey Co OH
Commencing August 30 1854 9 O'clock A.M.

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[Margin: Preliminaries]

Minutes of the proceedings of the sixth session of the Zanesville Annual Conference of the Wesleyan Methodist Connection of America held in Senecaville Guernsey County Ohio Commencing August 30 1854 9 OClock A.M.

The Conference was called to order and briefly addressed by the President – Bro A. W. Sanders The 145 [insert: hymn] was announced and sung when all present knelt in silent devotion returning thanks for the preservation of their lives during eh past Conference year – this was followed by prayer from Bros Jones and Crooks.

In the absence of the Secretary – R. McCune – G. W. Bainum was called to act in his stead as Secretary pro tem

[Margin: Members present. Absent]

The following persons then appeared and took their seats as Ministerial members of this Conference

A. W. Sanders
S. D. Jones
E Thompson
A Crooks
L R Royce
G. W. Bainum

Absent

E. Smith
A N Hamlin
R McCune
R J Thompson
R Horton
Z P Disbrow
C Woodruff
Wm B Moody
Jesse McBride
Wm Sewell

D Wilson and
Isaac Moore

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[Margin: Delegates]

The following persons presented their credentials and took their seats as Lay
Members of Conference

| | | |
|------|------------------------|------------------------|
| From | Norwalk Circuit | Rufus Powers |
| | Huntington | Timothy Burr |
| | Deersville & Leesville | W Chapman – G. Johnson |
| | Zanesville | R Dymond |
| | Washington | A B Hicks |
| | Plymouth | Hiraim Cottle |
| | Deleware | J. B. Hunt |
| | Woodsfield | Alex: Leceper H Ford |
| | Sandusky | R Oats |
| | Mt Vernon | D L Travis |
| | Licking | J M Scott |

[Margin: Bar of Conf]

The 4th front seat was fixed as the bar of Conference.

[Margin: Invitations]

Bro Tressenrider of the Miami Conference was invited, by unanimous vote, to take a seat within the bar of Conference The Members on trial were likewise invited to a seat within the bar.

[Margin: Committee on Religious Services]

The hours for meeting and adjournment were fixed at 8 and 11 ½ A.M. respectively. A Committee on Religious services was ordered consisting of E Thompson A Leeper A Crooks. When on Motion Conference unanimously passed the following

[Margin: Resolution]

“Resolved That each minister in attendance be required to preach when called upon by this Committee unless they can offer a reasonable apology,”

In the absence of many members the appointing of Committees was deferred and the examination of character commenced.

[Margin: Examination of Character}

The name W. Sewell being called his character was considered and passed and at his request his name placed on the reserve list. The character of E Thompson

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Was considered and passed.

The characters of L. R. Royce and G. W. Bainum were considered and passed.

Adjourned to meet at 2 P.M.

2 OClock P.M. August 30 1854

[Margin: Examination of Character]

Conference met – President in the chair—Singing and prayer by Bro Tressenrider – roll called – minutes of the morning session read and approved.

Conference resumed the examination of character. The name of Jesse McBride was called when the President reported that Bro McBride had ~~been~~ removed [insert: his membership] by transfer to the Michigan Conference.

The name of S. D. Jones was called Bro Jones gave an account of the State of the work on his mission – when his character passed.

[Margin:// Death of J. C. Bacon; Committee on Obituary]

The name of Jarvis C Bacon being called The President announced that Bro Bacon had been called, by death, from labor to reward – and that his departure was peaceful and happy.

Whereupon A Crooks R McCune and S D Jones were appointed to prepare an obituary of our deceased brother for publication and insertion in the journals.

The character of A Crooks was considered and passed.

[Margin: S. Elliots name called; of character]

The name of S. Elliot was called but as he was not present his case was laid over till some information could be had of him.

The Characters of R. McCune, R Horton, W. B. Moody and Isaac Moore were severally considered and passed.

[Margin: Com on Reforms]

A Committee of three on reforms was ordered consisting of G. W. Bainum, E Thomspon and Joseph M. Scott.

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The election of Stationing Committee was made the order of the day for tomorrow morning

On motion Conference adjourned

Benediction from the president

Thursday Morning 8 O clock A.M. 1854

Conference met and was called to order by the president. Roll called Minutes of the previous Session read and approved. Singing and prayer by Bro Worth

[Margin: Application of B. Tressonrider to be received from Miami Conference]

The order of the day was, by Motion, laid over for the purpose of considering the application of Benjamin Tressonrider, to unite with thie Conference, by transfer from the Miami Conference.

The president questioned Bro: Tressonrider in relation to his views on Masonry and other secret organizations a neutral position was declared – this called out extended and interesting remarks from Bro Worth and others – the candidate expressed willingness and intention to seek light on this subject and the discussion on this point closed. Other inquiries were made when it was alledged [sic] that Bro Tressonrider had violated our disciplinary regulation on caste by making distinction between white and colored children in a Sabbath School in the City of Zanesville – The President made some inquiry in relation to this matter when On Motion the further consideration of the

case was postponed and a committee of 5 ordered to confer with Bro Tressonrider on this subject and report to Conference That Committee was then appointed by the Chair as follows – W Moody, Z P Disbrow; D L Travis, T Burr and [insert: turn over]

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[Margin: Com: on pastoral relations]

R. Yates. The order of the day was resumed and Conference proceeded to ballot for Committee on Pastoral relations R Thompson and R. Dymond acting as tellers.

The following were duly elected. Ministers A Crooks R Horton and S D Jones. Laymen G Johnson R Power and T Burr.

Conference then adjourned to meet at 3 P.M.

Prayer by Bro R J Thompson

3 O Clock PM Aug. 31st 1854

Conference met – president in the chair Singing and prayer by Bro Woodruff – Minutes of the morning session read and approved.

[Margin: Filling Examining Com.]

J McBride presented the claims of the Leoni School Conference proceeded to fill vacancies in the examining Committee S. D. Jones was elected to supply the place of J McBride. G W Bainum was chosen in place of A W Sanders whose term expires with the close of this Session.

[Margin: Report of Com. Of Conference with Bro Tressonrider]

The Committee of conference with Bro Tressonrider reported through their chairman as follows

“We the Committee to whom the case of Bro Tressonrider was refered [sic] – in relation to the difficulties in the Sabbath School in Zanesville beg leave to report That after an investigation of the case, we have come to the conclusion that the action he took in advising that the colored children be seated alone in the Sabbath School in the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Zanesville is contrary to the spirit of our Discipline and is calculated in its nature to oppress the Colored race – Nevertheless we consider him a thorough

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“Antislavery Man inasmuch as he regrets his mistaken policy and states that in similar circumstances he would pursue an entirely different course.”

W B Moody

D L Travis

R Yates

[Margin: Reception of B. Tressonrider]

The above was received and adopted when on Motion Bro Tressonrider was received by the Conference and his name enrolled accordingly.

G. W. Bainum was, by request, excused from serving on the Committee on reforms and Bro Tressonrider appointed in his stead.

[Margin: Instructions to Com: on Reforms]

By a resolution of Conference the above named Committee was instructed to bring in reports on the use of Tea, Coffee and Tobacco also on prejudice against color. Conference adjourned.

Friday Morning 8 A.M.
September 1st 1854

Conference met was called to order by the chair reading Singing and prayer by Bro Jones Minutes of previous Session read and approved

~~(An application of J. Markee to enter Conference as a Delegate [insert: for Woodsfield circuit] in place of H. Ford who had left, or to match E. Thompson who is on the superannuated list was presented but not entertained.)~~

[Margin: Examination of Character]

Conference resumed the examination of Character The name of E Smith was called he gave a brief account of his labors during the past year when his character passed.

[Margin: 2d Calling of S. Elliot's name]

Character of C. Woodruff considered and passed. The name of S. Elliot was called when a motion of R McCune his case was postponed indefinitely as certain—

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Claims of the Western-Branch Book Concern had been presented to him and he had refused to pay.

[Margin: Examination of Character of the Unstationed elders]

The name of R J Thompson was called he gave an explanation of his leaving the Circuit appointed him by the Conference when his character passed.

Z.P. Disbrow's name called Character considered and passed.

Bro Moody was called to the chair and the character of A W Sanders was considered and passed.

The Roll of Unstationed Elders was called with a view to ascertain their whereabouts etc.

The name of Geo Mackison reported as removed beyond our jurisdiction.

Judah B. Heart removed into the bounds of the Michigan Conference – On Motion a certificate of recommendation was to the above Conference was ordered for him.

The Character of A N Hamlin was considered and passed.

[Margin: Transfers to Thompson and Richey]

On Motion a certificate of transfer was given to Bro R.J. Thompson as he intends moving into the bounds of the Indiana Conference.

[Margin: Reception of I Embree]

Isaac Embree on recommendation of the Plymouth Circuit was received by this Conference as a member on trial and his name placed on the stationed list.

[Margin: Application of N Little]

It was certified by Bros Jones and Cottles that Nathaniel Little had been recommended to this Conference, by the Quarterly Conference of the Plymouth Circuit as a suitable person to be received on trial as a stationed preacher.

A Motion to receive was discussed for a time and then postponed for future action. Saturday 10 o'clock was fixed as the time to hear communications from the Agent of the Parent

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Book Concern Conference adjourned to meet at 3 P.M. prayer by Bro Horton

Friday September 1st 3 o'clock P.M.

President in the chair Singing by Bro Crooks prayer by Bro Johnson minutes of the Morning Session read and approved.

[Margin: Disposition of Case of N. Little]

The case of Bro Little was called up when the following was offered and adopted – “Resolved that the application of Bro N Little to be received by this Conference as a stationed preacher on trial be laid over until [sic] the next yearly Conference – and in the mean time the President is authorized to employ him on any Circuit that may desire his services.”

R. McCune

A Crooks

[Margin: Appointment of R McCune Assistant Editor]

Bro E Smith stated to the Conference that the Book Committee had appointed Bro R McCune assistant Editor of the Christian Statesman and asked the Conference to recognize him in their minutes as sustaining that relation which on Motion was agreed to.

[Margin: Apt of A W Sanders]

Bro Smith also stated the request of the Book Committee to appoint bro A.W. Sanders Antislavery Agent to travel sell our Books take subscriptions for our papers collect moneys etc which was granted.

[Margin: Case of Simon Elliot see also next page]

The case of Simon Elliot was called up when a communication from him was read by the Secretary whereupon, by Motion of E Smith his suspension was extended indefinitely

Conference then adjourned – prayer by Bro Joseph Markee

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Saturday September 2nd 1854 9 O'clock A.M.

House called to order by the President reading singing and prayer by Bro McBride Minutes of the morning Session read and approved

[Margin: Action in case of S. Elliot]

The action had yesterday on the case of Simon Elliot was reconsidered – And after a second reading of his letter to the Conference, the following was adopted

“Resolved That Simon Elliot be suspended from the ministry indefinitely, -- in view of the insults offered to Conference in his letter and the misrepresentations of Conference action contained in it – And that his communication be spread at large upon the Journals” which is copied as follows

[Margin: Simon Elliot’s Letter]

“August 25th

“To the members of the Zanesville Annual Conference

“Dear Brethren

“I take this opportunity to communicate to you a few thoughts. In the first place I have though and purposed for one year past that I would attend the present Conference but the Circumstances with which I am connected are of a very forbidding [sic] character at present – so much so that it is very doubtful about my attendance. And I regret it very much, for the following reason – namely I wished to say to the Conference fae to face, that I considered their act of suspending me to be anti-democratic, AntiChristian, Antimanly and mean from the fact that the act was done behind my back – without even an attempt to investigate the matter – so far as I have any knowledge. However it was in keeping with the acts of Conference towards others that were supposed to be blameworthy and

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“especially Bro Jones. I considered the acts of the Conference toward that afflicted brother to be without any mixture of brotherly love or kindness.

“Indeed the spirit manifested generally was to discourage a wrong doer rather than encourage and win them over to virtue and holiness.

“Here I will state the language of a spectator to me while returning from the Conference room during the voting operation. He approached me very gentlemanly and said ‘what do they want to do with you’ said he ‘ it is no use for some of them to say they are not mad’ and said he ‘I judge from your appearance and your manner of conducting yourself in Conference that you would be admitted into respectable society and be respected and be useful. And I never would stay with such a set of men as these appear to be.’

“Now brethren here is the conclusion of an impartial, disinterested spectator – and what is it when summed up.

“The accused is a respectable appearing man and the court that tries him partial, prejudiced and mad; and of course disqualified to impartially try the case. Now brethren it is no use for the Conference to deny this charge and why? Because it proves itself to be guilty – and how? In the first place the Conference decided that the testimony given in the lower court did not sustain the charges. And then what? Why the man is certainly guilty! Therefore Resolved that he is guilty of immorality. The motion proved it. Then an inquiry arose where is the evidence of guilt and there was none – well what is the next trouble? The Conference is in error and the resolution has to be rescinded to save the Conference – well what next? – the Council for the prosecution in his angry and abusive plea against the defendant asserted that he (the defendant) lied! and knew it and Crooks knew it and a new charge was

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"instituted -- for lying – this charge was referred to a committee and they reported that after hearing all the testimony they could get – did not see anything like an intentional lie.

"Well – what next? Whereas we have been unsuccessful in our predetermined purpose to kill this defendant we will not try what can be done without investigation – Therefore Resolved that he be suspended for one year upon the finding of the Committee -- and his disorganizing movements in that country.

"Now brethren you know that you done this in my absence – And now I ask you what conclusion an impartial observer would come to only the one the above-noticreed [sic] spectator came to.

"Brethren, as bad as my case may be I prefer it to that of the Conference.

"I will say in conclusion that you had better be very cautious how you proceed against me for as Bro Smith admitted last Conference I am no fool and if you don't do justly, I will be very likely to see it and then you will hear from me, for I am not going to give the matter up untill [sic] it is disposed of justly.

"I should be very glad to be with you and it may in the providence of God turn out so that I ~~can~~ will be with you towards the close of the Session.

"Yours with all the respect that is due to you

"Simon Elliot

"N.B. If I am considered worthy I ask a transfer to the Illinois Conference – the President please forward to my address

"River Styx Medina County, Ohio

"S. E."

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An invitation was received from the Rev. W. W. Rouss of the Methodist E Church for this body to fill his pulpit in this place and Hartford tomorrow Sabbath Sept 2d referred to the Committee on religious services

The Committee on Reforms reported and the report was adopted as follows

[Margin: Report on Reforms]

On Slavery

"Resolved That we are more than ever confirmed in the rightfulness of our well-known position on the heinous crime of Slavery and that we will not cease our labors on this question untill [sic] universal man shall be free."

Caste

"We feel it is our indispensable duty as members of the Wesleyan Methodist Connection to bear at all times a faithful testimony against that unreasonable and unchristian prejudice generally denominated 'caste' by the operation of which our colored brethren are driven into separate seats at churches excluded from Schools and Seperate [sic] classes in schools and in ways almost innumerable made to feel the brand of degradation -- all for no other or better reason than that they have 'a skin not colored as our own' – and we declare that we will continue to labor fatefully for the eradication of this sinful discrimination from the length and breadth of the land.

“Resolved that we hereby reaffirm our former opinions on the sins of War, Intemperance, Lust, covetousness and Secret Societies – namely that of unmingled abhorrence to those evils in all their various forms and practices and before God we pledge ourselves to labor zealously that we may secure their utter extinction from the Earth, that virtue, peace, righteousness, love and every principle of the Gospel may yet bless and happify mankind. [insert: turn over]

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“Resolved that it is the sense of the Zanesville Annual Conference – that the ordinary use of Tea and Coffee is without Justification and an abandonment of the same is hereby cordially recommended to all our people – believing as we do that health, prudence and economy require their discontinuance.

“Resolved That we condemn the use, raising, manufacture and sale of Tobacco as not consistent with the duties and obligations of Christians, and opposed to the well-being of our fellow-men and request our ministers and members to dissolve any connection they may have with these practices.

“Resolved That as light for the public mind is much needed, we urge upon our ministers to preach against these practices and to circulate ‘Alcott on Tobacco’ and the Lecture on Tobacco published by the Branch-Concern and other works on this subject.”

B Tressonrider
E Thompson
J M. Scott

The order of the day was taken up and Conference was then entertained with an interesting and encouraging report from the Agent of the Wesleyan Methodist Book Concern at Syracuse.

The Treasurer of the “Sinking Fund” Bro McCune reported \$600 deficiency in this Conference

Adjourned to meet at 2 1/2 o clock
Prayer by Bro Royce

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Saturday, 2 ½ PM Sept. 2 1854

Conference convened – President in the chair – devotional exercises conducted by Bro Moody. Minutes of the previous Sessions read and approved.

[Margin: Appointment of A N Hamlin]

A letter from Bro A. N. Hamlin asking an appointment as Conference Missionary was read by the Secretary and he was appointed accordingly.

[Margin: Report of Examining Com]

The Examining Committee reported that Three persons were before them – Joseph Smith, Isaac Embree and S Blanchard.

On Theology all were good – very good

Reforms – good

History – Deficient

Geography and Grammar S. Blanchard Good

Rheoric [sic] and Logic Deficient

A Crooks chm

[Margin: Inquiry of R Dymond in relation to our rule on Ancestry and Color]

By leave of Conference Bro Dymond – Delegate from Zanesville, made an inquiry of Conference concerning our rule on Ancestry and color

An opinion was given by Bro E Smith viz that said rule did not teach amalgamation And That although the Scriptures no where condemn [sic] the mingling of races, yet in this case it would not be expedient. Which opinion was adopted by Conference and he requested to write out and publish the same in our periodicals

[Margin: Examination of Preachers on Trial]

The characters of Preachers on Trial were examined.

A R Brooks passed and continued on trial

S. Blanchard passed and continued on trial

~~Conference adjourned~~

A B Hicks passed and continued on trial

Conference by resolution requested the Examining Committee to publish the course of study

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[Margin Election of J Smith]

On recommendation from Deersville Circuit Joseph Smith was received into Conference and Elected to Elders Orders as an exception to our rule requiring certain literary qualifications.

[Margin: Reception of J. Embree]

On recommendation from Plymouth Circuit Isaac Embree was received and elected to Elders Orders and his name placed on the Stationed List.

[Margin: Arrangements for next Session of Conference]

On Motion the 13 item of Discipline was taken up when Mt Vernon was fixed upo as the place for our next Annual Session and the time the last Wednesday in August 1855 Resolved That the President deliver an opening Sermon before Conference at that time.

Conference adjourned to meet at the school room at 7 ½ O Clock P.M.

Saturday evening 7 ½ O Clock AM [sic]

Singing and prayer by Bro McCune Minutes read corrected and approved

A Certificate of recommendation was voted to Bro Geo Richey who has removed into the bounds of the Indiana Conference

The following resolutions in regard to the collection of debts due within our bounds were passed.

[Margin: On Sinking Fund]

“Whereas the Zanesville Conference did at its last Session in Mount Vernon assume the responsibility of the debts due to the Parent Book Concern within its limits, for Books and periodicals, which it agreed to collect through the preachers within six months if possible or to raise the sum uncollected, by donations and whereas there remains yet unpaid the sum of \$538.56 or thereabout, which we are under obligation to obtain at the earliest possible period therefore Resolved

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“Resolved

“1st That the Secretary of the Conference be instructed to prepare and to report through the Wesleyan and Christian Statesman the sum allotted to each Circuit or station according to the number of members

“2nd That we hereby agree to do the utmost in our power to secure within the limits of our several circuits and stations the sums set down to them severally between this date and the first of January next.

“3rd That we agree to take up a public collection at each of our appointments sometime during the month of December next, which, with any donations that may be obtained from individuals, shall be forwarded to the Rev R McCune, by or before the first of January next”

R McCune

Numbers in Connection

The Secretary and Assistant were appointed to Committee to select and prepare minutes for publication Numbers in connection reported as follows

| Circuits | No. in Con | Paid for preaching | Sabbath Schools | Library worth | Scholars | Missionary fund |
|------------------------|------------|--------------------|-----------------|---------------|----------|-----------------|
| Norwalk | 100 | \$175 | 1 | \$3.00 | | \$18.36 |
| Huntington | 72 | \$340 | 1 | \$4.50 | 45 | |
| Deersville & Leesville | | \$400 | 1 | \$12.00 | 40 | |
| Zanesville | 32 | \$48 | 1 | \$35.00 | 105 | |
| Washington | 80 | \$170 | 2 | \$12.00 | 80 | |
| Plymouth | | | | | | |
| Deleware | 72 | \$262.36 | 4 | \$27.00 | 195 | \$8.75 |
| Woodsfield | 400 | \$400 | 3 | | 160 | \$10.00 |
| Sandusky | | | | | | |
| Mt Vernon | 30 | \$70 | 1 | \$20.00 | 60 | |
| Licking | | | 2 | | 75 | \$10.00 |
| Liverpool | 60 | \$161 | | | | |
| Strongsville | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | |
|------------------|-----|---------|--|--|-----|--|
| Marietta Mission | 37 | \$13.75 | | | | |
| TOTAL | 905 | | | | 760 | |

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[Margin: Various Reports]

Zanesville Mission and North Carolina [sic] not reported Committee on Boundaries reported the following changes Liverpool and Strongsville so changed as to take the centre Church at Liverpool and N. E. Brunswick an attach to Strongsville then take North Elyria from Strongsville and attach to what was Liverpool and call it Carlisle – adopted.

[Margin: Election of Officers]

Conference proceeded to the election of Officers for the ensuing year W. B. Moody and J M Scott acting as tellers

The following were duly elected

A. N. Hamlin – President

G. W. Bainum – Secretary

A Crooks}

R. McCune}

G. W. Bainum}

T Burr}

G Johnson} Committee on the Presidency

The Stationing Committee was made a Committee on boundaries also

The Stationing Committee reported and report was recommitted

On Motion the three years limitation rule was suspended to allow Bro Horton to serve the Woodsfield Circuit the 4th Year

A vote of thanks was tendered to the citizens of Senecaville for their kind entertainment of the members of this Conference

Conference adjourned to meet at 7 o clock Monday morning

Benediction by R McCune

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Monday Morning September 4th 1854

President in the chair Singing and Prayer by Bro Hunt Minutes read and approved.

[Margin: Case of Bro Wm McConnell]

R Horton moved to reconsider [sic] the action had two years ago in the case of Bro Wm McConnell whose name had been stricken from the list – Conference then supposing this to be his desire – whereupon Bro E Smith offered the following as a substitute which was adopted

“Resolved that Bro William McConnell’s name was stricken from the roll of the Ministry through mistake – as Bro McConnell claimes [sic] He thinks the representation was honest but was a misunderstanding of his intention

“And that his name be now reinserted in the Ministerial roll of the Conference.”

[Margin: Reception of Bro McPeak]

It was certified that Bro McPeak was present and willing to take work and that a circuit was willing to take him therefore Resolved That the President be authorized to employ Bro M on said circuit and requested to do this before the adjournment of this Conference.

A Statement from the Treasurer of the Missionary fund was given and received as a report whereupon E Smith was re-elected Treasurer of said fund Conference voted that the money now in the hands of said Treasurer be appropriated to the Liquidation of certain claims of the Book-Concern against our departed Bro Bacon

The names of D H Woodward and D Peachin were reported as debtors to the Book Concern within our bounds

After considdering [sic] the matter Conference resolved to return the bills to the Agent –

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Believing that they did not properly belong to this Conference

It appeared that certain bills against Bros Wilson and Sherwood – of North Carlinia [sic] – for Books bought of the Concern – were in the hands of the Treasurer of the Sinking Fund.

A Motion to return said “bills” to the agent, on the ground [insert: that] the Books were never received by those brethren – was laid on the table.

[Note: a piece of white cloth tape covers a large section of text here]

The Wilson and Sherwood bills were taken up as Bro Matlack the Agent was present And a motion to return them to the Agent was carried

The Stationing Committee reported as follows

| | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Sandusky City | L. R. Royce |
| Carlisle | Geo Candee |
| Strongsville | W. B. Moody |
| Granger | S Blanchard |
| Huntington | A Crooks |
| Washington | G. W. Bainum |
| Norwalk | Z. P. Disbrow |
| Zanesville and Mt Vernon | B. Tressonrider |
| Licking | D. L Travis |
| Deleware | to be supplied |
| Deersville | A R Brooks M B Adams |
| Leesville | William Smith |
| Woodsfield | R Horton |
| Plymouth | Isaac Embree |

Marietta Mission
Zanesville
North Carolina [sic]
Lawrence Mission

S D Jones
C Woodruff
D Wilson
Isaac Moore
Continued

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Agent of the Western Branch Book Concern and Editor of the Christian Statesman – E Smith

Assistant Editor R McCune

Conference Missionaries A N Hamlin and William McConnell

Conference Antislavery Agent A W Sanders

Above report stands as corrected and finally adopted by Conference
On Recommendation of Deersville Circuit George Candee was received on trial and his name placed on the stationed list

The Officers of all the benevolent Societies of the Conference were re-elected for the ensuing year

The Committee appointed to prepare an Obituary to the Memory of our departed Bro Bacon reported and the report was adopted unanimously as follows

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Memoir of the Rev. Jarvis C Bacon

The lamented subject of this memoir, Bro J. C. Bacon, was born in Randolph Portage County Ohio, the 25th of September 1812

His parents names were Chozens and Bathsheba, both were pious.

Bro Bacon lived without a saving knowledge of Christ till June 1833 in his 21st year. At which time he attended a Camp Meeting at Williamsfield Ashtabula Co where he sought and obtained the pardon of sin and its precious fruit—peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Before the meeting closed he joined the M E Church on probation; subsequently was received into full connection.

During his stay in that Church – which was eleven year, the esteem of his brethren which he enjoyed was evinced by his promotion to the stations of Class Leader, Exhorter, and Local preacher; in all of which capacities he labored with great zeal.

Returning to consider the oppressions done under the sun, he became deply sensible of the unscriptural position of the Church of his early choice, in that it received to its communion and elevated to its pulpits men guilty of the monstrous sin of holding, their fellow beings, the objects of Divine benignity and subjects of redeeming mercy – as property – Thus giving its power on the side of the oppressor

There was heard distinctly a voice from heaven saying “Come out of her my people that he be not partakers in her sins and

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Of her plagues" Have no fellowship with their unfruitful works of darkness but rather reprove them.

Not disobedient to the heavenly call our brother promptly withdrew from that populous Church and united with little band of despised Wesleyans

He came to the second session of the Allegheny Yearly Conference which was held in 1844, recommended to be received on trial in the travelling connection. Was received and appointed the first year to Mt Union Circuit. Second with Bro. J.B. Miller to Granger third to Allegheny Station, fourth to Northern Virginia

This year he was brought near the gates of the tomb, His disease was Typhoid fever. He was resigned and tranquil. – In mercy God raised him from this sickness to his post on the walls of Zion: it proved a dangerous one. The three years following he travelled the Grayson Circuit in South Western Virginia. His first appointment to this field was in 1848

Our Brother was not long there until [sic] Slavery resolved to make him its victim. So soon as the following April he was indicted for circulating E Smith's address on Slavery delivered in the third Presbyterian Church in Cincinnati [sic], and Douglass [sic] narrative – was brought before a court of Magistrate in Grayson County. This was not for trial but investigation. Mc – and Cook were counsel for the State: A Fulton and P S Buckingham for Bro Bacon.

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Cook especially was very abusive, with profane tongue railing the innocent.

Bro Bacon who was among lions was bound over for his appearance at the fall term of the superior Court, to be held the first of September, to answer to the charge of circulating the above named books with intent to incite persons of color to insurrection.

The penalty for such an offense against the laws of Slavery in Virginia, is imprisonment in the Penitentiary not less than one nor more than five years. Before this court R. Floyed prosecuted and A. Steward, P. S. Buckingham and A Fulton defended.

The trial lasted from Wednesday A. M. till Thursday P. M. The intervening night our lamb-like Brother as a convict, was confined in a filthy jail.

The cause was earnestly and ably argued, and verdict rendered of Not Guilty.

The Judge (Brown) was greatly displeased with the decision concerning the Narrative [sic] – declared his determination to burn it

The cruel demands of slavery are not yet satisfied – our Brother's soul is not sufficiently vexed. He was required to give bail in \$1,000 for good behavior 12 months - \$400 for his appearance at the spring term, to answer to a charge of Misdemeanor, in preaching that Masters have not right of property in their slaves: Also in \$200 to answer an indictment to be gotten up on the strength of R C – a Slaveholder's – oath.

Penalty for the Misdemeanor – confinement in the [insert: Co] jail not more than one year and for not to exceed \$500

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Mr. Floyed prosecuted again and Messrs Steward, Buckingham and Fulton defended The Jury rendered a verdict of guilty and fine \$42,62 ½. The term of imprisonment to be fixed by the Judge. Before this was done Bro Bacon's counsel asked for a new hearing, this being refused, an appeal was taken to the General Court

of Virginia. This court had to decide upon the legality of the proceedings of the Lower Court and if decided to be illegal, Bro Bacon was entitled to another hearing.

Mr. Cornet, a Slave Holder, and Bro Roberts gave their obligation in \$1000 for Bacon's appearance at the September term of the Superior Court of Grayson.

Mr. Cornet declared before the Court that "he [insert: would] bail Mr Bacon in any amount."

The foregoing trial was on the 2d of April 1852.

It was announced at the September term that the General Court decided the proceedings of the in April, illegal, whereupon – Floyd declining to prosecute further – the Clerk was ordered to record a nolle-prosequi

In the midst of all these perplexing litigations and the perils connected therewith – in the midst of numerous sanguinary threats of personal violence made by the lawless rabble – in the midst of all, through grace, Our Bro possessed his soul in peace and patience – Nor did his courage fail, for in the thickets of the danger, when interrogated, he said if he were to fall by cruel hands and murderous weapons – or if sentenced

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To serve in the penitentiary a series of years he should never regret coming to the South.

About the time the Conference was in Session which gave him a fourth appointment to that field, certain lewd fellows banded together for the purpose of taking his life if he remained – waylaid [sic] and commanded him to depart.

To his own – and to the mind of his friends – it was evident he could labor no longer there, that the law would not shield him. Duty was plain. He returned to his native state.

Coming home after the rise of the Conference, hence having no appointment, he spent most of the year preaching to his lay brethren in Lawrence Co., who with himself were exiled from Grayson.

But it was apparent to all that his "Labors more abundant" were fast wasting his life His frequent hacking cough and failing vigor – proclaimed too surely that Consumption had marked him for its victim.

Trembling with apprehension as to the result upon his health – the Conference appointed him to Plymouth Circuit.

He filled his appointment during the year with great suffering but entire satisfaction, and came to Conference at Mt Vernon, feeling his labors were well nigh ended.

In view of his extremely enfeebled health, and in harmony with the wishes of that Station – he was appointed to Zanesville.

From the Conference, a victim of suffering, he visited the last time his widowed mother in East Grumbull, Ashtabula County, started for Zanesville as far as Leesville

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Man proposes but God disposes:

Our Brother never got to his last appointed field. At Leesville he was attacked with hemorage [sic] from the lungs – recovered very partially – proceeded to Deersville – was taken such of Measles lay at the houses and received the attention of Bros

Sanders and Spiker and families – so far recovered as to be able to return to Leesville to Dr. Phillips. But the Physician's skill was unavailing – Here his sufferings were to end.

After a few weeks confinement by Tubercular Consumption, being 41 years 5 months and 2 days old, on the 27th of February 1854 1 O'clock P.M. the spirit of our Bro Bacon, laden and adorned with grace, dismissed its emaciate tenement and departed to God who gave it; to join the company of Patriarchs, Prophets, Apostles, Martyrs and Saints in singing unto him that loved them and washed them from their sins in his own blood.

You knew him in lie – hence we need not tell you ~~that~~ his death was peaceful. "Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright; for the end of that man is peace."

The 3d of March the mortal remains of Our Bro were interred in the old Graveyard at Hootville, and in a few weeks were taken to the new one, where they softly lie and sweetly sleep till waked to immortality.

His funeral sermon was preached by Joseph Albertson of the Allegheny Conference. Text "I have fought the good fight, etc" – Appropriate words.

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Bro Bacon, though a man of more than ordinary talent, was modest and unintrusive. His courage was commensurate with the occasion that tried it, his faith was strong in the eternal Rock – Zeal constant, untiring [insert: &] self consuming.

In labors – "more abundant" – Spirit Christ-like – Piety above suspicion – Charity without partiality or hypocrisy – not in profession but in practice.

As a friend of the Slave, he remembered those in bonds as bound with them. As a preacher he was fluent, pointed earnest successfull [sic]. The fruits of his labors abound. As a Christian and reformer he was worthy of imitation. But we need not praise him. His record is on high. His like shall not soon see.

While his loss we deeply feel, as of more than a brother, his bereaved and widowed Mother, with all his friends, have our sympathies and prayers.

"Thou art gone to the grave; we no longer behold thee,
Nor tread the rough path of the world by thy side
But peaceful is thy silent slumber
Peaceful is thy grave so low
Thou no more wilt join our number
Thou no more our songs shall know

Yet again we hope to meet thee
When the day of life is fled
Then in heaven with joy to greet thee
Where no farewell tear is shed"

Sept 4 1854

{A Crooks
{R McCune
{S D Jones

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When the reading of the above was concluded the members invoked the divine blessing and Conference Adjourned

A. W Sanders
President

R McCune
G W Bainum
Secretaries