

[Note: no page number 1. Headings are divided between pages.]

Nineteenth Session
of the
Rochester Yearly Conference:
held at
Millport, Chemung Co. N.Y.
April 22-26.

1863

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The President M.Q. McFarland called the body to order, and conducted the opening religious exercises, by reading the 12 chapter of Romans, giving out the 326th hymn and called upon Bros Bell and Knight to lead in prayer.

The Roll of Ministerial members then called by the Secretary, when the President announced that he had transferred Asahel Staples to the Lockport Conference, and George S Lewis, to the Alleghany.

Certificates of delegates being called for, Daniel Fanton elected by the Jasper Circuit, John M Bixby, by the Hornby and Isaac R Rathbun by the Haskinville, presented such, which were read accepted, and the names of these brethren duly enrolled

The President then announced the next business in order, was the election of officers

2 19th Session, held at. [Note: continued on next page]

On Motion of Bro Knight, this order was postponed to this P.M. Session.

Election of
Officers
post-poned

On Motion the chair was requested to appoint all committees that may be ordered during our Session except such as the Discipline requires to be otherwise appointed.

Vote
recon-
sidered

Bro Bell moved that the vote deferring the election of officers to this P.M. be reconsidered. After some debate the motion was put and carried.

Who
Tellers

Proceeded to the election of officers – Bros Bell and Warner acting as tellers On canvassing the ballot, it appeared there were 15 votes cast for President, of this number, M.Q. McFarland had 9 and was duly declared duly elected.

McFarland
President
and Knight
Sec.

The [insert: N^o] votes cast for Secretary was 16 – of this number Bro Knight had 15. And was, declared duly elected
On Motion of Bro Knight, Bro Bell was appointed assistant Secretary.

Lay
Delegates

Credentials of delegates, were again called for, when William Depue and John Benson from the Orange and Watkins Circuit, presented such, which were read and accepted, and their names enrolled.

Com. on
Presidency

Brethren H. Gregory, P. S. Slauson, B. D. Sniffen John Depue and John Bixby were appointed the Committee on the Presidency.

Letter from
Frink

A communication was then read from Bro Marshall Frink which was read and referred. To the appropriate committees, namely: those on

[Note: continued from page 2] Millport, Chemung Co. N.Y.

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1st
Question

Pastoral Relations and Statistics.

Took up the 1st Disciplinary Question, who of the Elders are on the stationed List?

W. S. Bell, G. M. Hardy, N M Wheeler, G L Paine P S Slauson B D Sniffen D E Baker H W Bixby W L Warner A W Staples – names called and an account of their labors, given and their characters passed.

Committees

The President then announced the following committees.

On “Religious Services” W L Warner, C G Kelton.

“Reforms” W S Ball. P. S Slauson and Wm Depue.

“Education” G. M. Hardy and Joseph Benson.

“Book Concern” Harry Gregory and John Depue.

“State of Country” H B Knight and Daniel Fanton

“Missions” B. D. Sniffen G. L. Paine and J. M. Bixby.

“Statistics” A W Staples

Hour of
meeting
&c.

On Motion, the hour of meeting was fixed at 8 Oclock A.M. and that of adjournment at ¼ to 12, A.M.

Conf voted to have three religious services per day, and that our afternoon Session be subject to the call of the Pres.

Adjourned by expiration of the hour, appointments were given out, when Bro Rodgers closed the Session by Prayer

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19th Session, . held at

Wednesday, April 22, 1863.

First Day, P.M. Session.

Conf met, pursuant to adjournment at one and a half O'clock President in the chair. Religious exercises conducted by Bro Galen M. Hardy.

Delegate
from W.
Addison

Roll called, Minutes of morning Session read and approved.
Certificates ~~were~~ of delegates were called for when Solomon C Smith presented one deputing himself as a delegate to this body from the church at West Addison Hill who was received as such, and enrolled Also John Furguson from the South Bradford charge; and Enoch Merrill the North Bradford, who were likewise enrolled

Chubbuck
and Dorsey
introduced

On Motion, the Rev. Mr Chubbuck of the M E Church, and the Rev. Mr Dorsey of the Presbyterian, in this village, were invited to honorary seats with us.

1st Question

Resumed the first question: H D Inman C C Reynolds Wm G Woodruff. Levi Rodgers Geo W Scudder, Harry Gregory M Q McFarland H B Knight, names called and characters passed.

5th Question

Sylvester Gardener
delegate from Westfield and Clymar charge presented his certificate of election, which was read and his name enrolled.

Quest 5: Who are the superannuated Elders? Francis Strang Waldo Curtis, Peter Norris Selah Paine Willard Chase Valentine Lewis names called,. characters passed

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5.

and relation continued

After giving out
appointments Conf adjourned for public Service

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Second Day A.M. Session

Thursday April 23 1863.

Conference assembled at 8 O clock, President in the chair.
Religious exercises, conducted by Bro H Gregory.

Booth and
Britton Del.

Roll was then called, minutes of yesterday's P.M. Session read and approved

Bro Danford Booth as delegate from the New Salem charge, and Richard Britton from the Williamson presented their certificates, which were read and their names enrolled.

Hardy
Transf^d

Bro G M Hardy asked, and had voted him a Transfer to the Syracuse Conference, to take effect at the close of the Session.

1st Question

Resumed the 1st Question: John J Payne, Sylvester Adams, S. A Leonard O.D Field, Joseph Lott, A N Hudson S D Prentice, names called and characters passed,

5th Question

Question 5th "Superannuated Elders" Nelson Fessenden, character passed, and a renewal of his traveling Letter granted Amos Chapman, character passed and relation continued

3rd Question

Look up 3rd Ques, "Licentiates on Stationed List – S J Lackey, relation discontinued, and his name ordered returned withdrawn.

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19th Session, held at

Whitney
reported by
Committee
on Orders,
&c.

Geo. C. Whitney and name called when the "Committee on Orders and Itinerary" reported in his case, that he appeared before them, was examined on many of the branches of study prescribed and showed commendable progress They recommended, so far as his scholarly attainments are concerned a continuance of his relation.

Report adopted and Bro Whitney's relation continued, also in case of

Baird
received to
travel

James R Baird, late a Licentiate in connection with the Wesleyan Body in Canada, but now sustaining a Similar relation to us on Hornby Circuit, and recommed [sic] therefrom as a proper person to be received to travel under the direction of this Conf, appeared before them. Though but slightly acquainted with our usages, and Discipline or with general Scholarship, yet if well reported of otherwise, Committee recommed [sic] a favorable disposition of his application.

Fanton
Do.

Report adopted, and Bro Baird received to travel under our direction. Also Daniel Fanton – recommended from the Jasper Circuit as a proper person to be received to travel under this body – appeared before them at a late period. He showed some familiarity with our usages, and without knowing his general attainments yet the Committee judge him a safe person to be received according to his application.

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7.

Report adopted, and Bro Fanton received to travel as a Licentiate.

Case of
D. W.
Marvin

The Secretary called the attention of the Conf to the case of D. W Marvin late a minister in connection with this body and who with drew [sic] during the pending of the charge against him, when it was ordered that Bros McFarland and Knight be a committee to present an appropriate minute in his case for the action of this body.

On Motion Conf adjourned to 1 ½ O clock PM. Prayer
by Bro Lott

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Second Day P M Session
Thursday April 23 1863.

Conf assembled at 1 ½ O'clock pursuant to adjournment. President in the chair Religious exercises conducted by Bro D E Baker.

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

Owen and
Reed
Delegates

Certificates of delegates being called for D. N. Owen and Samuel Reed from the Catharine charge, and Andrew J Kress, from the Valley church charge presented theirs which were read and their names enrolled;

Report on
"State of
Country"

Reports being in order Bro Knight on behalf of the "Committee on the State of the Country", Submitted theirs, The Report was received, read and ordered to lie on the table, Afterward adopted [insert: See Doc No 1. Page 17.] On motion adjourned.

8.

Third Day AM Session.

Friday April 24, 1863.

Conf assembled at 8, O clock, President in the chair.

Religious exercises conducted by Bro Fessenden.

Hull
delegate
from
Wayland

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

W. H. Hull delegate from the Wayland and Candice [sic] charge presented his credentials which were read and accepted and his name enrolled.

13th
Question

Bro Bell, on behalf of the "Committee on Reforms" made a report which was read and adopted (See Doc No 1 page.)

Question 13th "When and where next Conf. be held?" – Ans at Hopewell, Ontario Co. N.Y.

Getting to
Conf. late

On Motion of Bro Sniffen the Conf voted that those brethren who shall fail to be at Conf at its opening by regarded as censurable, except they be able to render a valid excuse.

Comm. on
"Orders and
Itinerary."

Bros McFarland, H. B. Knight B. D. Sniffen, and two layman from the charge, where the Conf shall sit be the Committee on Itinerary and Orders.

On Motion the President was requested to appoint the usual standing Committees, called for by our usages, to report next year

1st
Question

Resumed Question 1st – John L Bush name called, and his case referred to a committee, consisting of P. S. Slauson Harry Greory and John Depue.

John M Swick, names called and character passed.

W.W.
Jennings
elected
Elder

Resumed Quest 3rd Wm W Jennings, Committee on "Itineracy and Orders" made a report in his case when on motion he was elected to Elders Orders, and his name placed on the stationed list.

On motion Conf adjourned to 1 ½ O'clock P.M.

Appointments were given out and the Session closed with prayer by Bro Rathbun

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Third Day P.M. Session
Friday April 24 1863

Conf assembled at 1 ½ O'clock pursuant to adjournment President in the chair. Religious exercises conducted by Bro G W Scudder.

Roll called, minutes of morning session, read and approved

Kelton
delegate

C. G. Kelton as delegate from the Millport charge, presented his credentials and his name enrolled.

Report in
case of J. L.
Bush

The Com in case of John L. Bush, made their report, which was read and adopted, as follows:

"Your Committee to whom was referred the case of Bro John L. Bush, would respectfully report – That after a careful exam=

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19th Session, held at

-ination of the objections to his ministerial character, they find nothing against him on this-wise."

Signed P. S. Slauson
H. Gregory
John Depue.

Reports
&c

In connection with the adoption of the Report in the case of Bro Bush, it was moved that his character pass. Carried

The Committee on Education submitted their Report, which was read, and after some discussion, recommitted for revisal.

The President made the following appointments of Committees to hold over and report next year. Viz.

On "Reforms" – H. B. Knight, A. W. Staples, and the delegate from Seneca Falls.

"Missions," – H. D. Inman, W. L. Warner, and Delegate from Bradford North.

"Sabbath Schools" – B. D. Sniffen, N. M. Wheeler, [insert, in pencil: J. J. Payne] and Delegate from Orange

"Education" – Jno. L. Bush, J. J. Payne; and Delegate from Wayland.

"Book Concern" – H. Gregory, and the Delegate from Hopewell.

"State of the Country" – H. B. Knight and Delegate from Seneca Falls.

Conf. then took a Recess of one hour, preaching by Bro Bush.

At 3 ½ o'clock Conf resumed its Session President in the Chair.

Report on
"Book
Concern"

Committee on Book Concern, then made their Report, which was read, and pending its adoption Bro Prindle addressed the Conf. on the condition and prospects of

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11.

of the interest committed to his charge

Report adopted, for which See Doc No 4. Page 19, Appendix.

Sabbath
Services

On motion Conf. ordered that the services on Sabbath evening next, be those of a Missionary occasion; and those of to-morrow Evening, (Saturday) relate to the subject of Temperance.

After giving out appointments, Conf adjourned, Prayer by Bro. Slauson.

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Fourth Day. AM Session
Saturday, April 25, 1863.

Conf assembled at 8 o'clock, President in the chair.

Religious exercises conducted by Bro. C. Prindle

Roll called, minutes of yesterday's PM Session, read and approved.

13th Quest.

Conf reconsidered its action on Quest 13th and changed the Seat of its next session from Hopewell, Ontario Co. to Wayland, Steuben County, N.Y.

Time, 4th Wednesday in April, 1864, at 1 ½ o'clock, P.M.

Camp
Meetings
ordered

Voted to have two Conf. Camp Meetings, and Bros.
M^cFarland, Sniffen, Knight, Slauson and Inman were made a Committee
to locate and arrange for them

Said Comm. empowered to associate such other brethren
with them at the points where said Meetings might be held as they
deemed desirable

Bro Rogers had leave of absence granted him during the
remainder of the Session.

12. 19th Session, held at

Comm. on
"Education"
Report

Bro Hardy, on behalf of the Comm. on Education, made a
Report, which was read and adopted. See Doc No. 2 Appendix, page
17.

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The Committee to prepare a minute in the case of D. W.
Marvin, made their Report which was read and adopted, as follows:

Case

"Whereas, D. W. Marvin, late a minister in connection with
this Conf. did while charges were pending against him, withdraw from us

of

DW Marvin

— And where as [sic] said charges were for immoral and
unchristian conduct, and in our judgment regularly and christianly [sic]
made —

how

disposed

of

&c

Therefor, Resolved 1. That while recognizing the possibility
of a man's withdrawing from us, even when under arrest; yet for our own
protection we desire to place it on record that we regard said D. W.
Marvin unworthy the confidence of the public as a christian [sic] man or
minister

2 We regard

his act of withdrawal as irregular, and as a design to evade justice; and
record the fact that in our best belief the charges against him were true
and could be substantiated. And our duty is to treat him as if he had
~~been~~ Stood his trial and been formally expelled, as he deserved to have
been."

Comm. on
"Missions"

Bro Sniffen, on behalf of the Committee on Missions, made
their Report, which was read, discussed, and adopted, See Doc No 3,
appendix, pages, 18, 19,

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13.

2^d

Question

Took up Question — "Elders on Unstationed List" — C. R.
Tripp, Peter Tipple, M. P. Greensward, names called and characters
passed.

J. Bartholomew, name called and by his request, transferred
to Superannuated List.

2^d
Question

Wm. Braine, name called, and the President directed to ask him, on behalf of the Conf. to Surrender his credentials and withdraw from us.

Enos Perry, name called and ordered returned withdrawn by connecting with the Baptist denomination

Committee
on Lee's
works.

On motion, Bro. Prindle was requested to write, and publish an article, in the Wesleyan, on "Usury," or unlawful interest

Per request of Bro.. [sic] Prindle, a Committee consisting of Brn. Gregory, Slauson, Bush, Booth and Britton, were appointed a ~~Comm~~ to confer with him as to the propriety of purchasing the plates, Copy rights, [sic] &c of Dr. Lee's works, to become the property of the Connection

On motion, adjourned, Prayer by Bro. J. L. Bush.

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Fourth Day, PM Session
Saturday, April 25, 1863.

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

Religious exercises by Bro C. C. Reynolds.

Roll called, Minutes of Morning session read and approved.

Com. on
Missions

Bro. Sniffen, on behalf of the Committee on Missions, made a supplementary Report, for which, as a while, See Doc No 3. Appendix, pages, 18, 19.

14. 19th Session, held at

The Comm. to confer with Bro C. Prindle in regard to Dr. Lee's works, reported favorably to such purchase. Adopted.

Temperance
Meeting

Bros. Prindle, Sniffen, Knight, M^cFarland, Chubbuck and Dorsey, were invited to address the Meeting this Evening, in the Subject of Temperance.

Missionary
Meeting

The chair was requested to appoint a Committee to arrange for the Missionary meeting to-morrow [sic] Evening, which he did, consisting of Bros. Prindle, Slauson and Britton.

Evangelist

On motion of Bro. Hardy, Conference voted to have a Conf. Evangelist, and Bro M^cFarland now constituted such.

Recess.

Conf. then took a Recess in order to afford the Committee on Pastoral Relations opportunity to finish their labors.

Comm. on
"Pastoral
Relations"

3 ½ o'clock: Conf. resumed its sittings, President in the chair. Comm on "Pastoral Relations," then made their Report which was read and adopted. See Doc. No 5, Appendix, page 20.

On motion

Thanks for
Entertain-
ment

“The cordial thanks of this Conf. are hereby tendered to the families of this vicinity, who have so very kindly entertained us during the present session. We shall hold their hospitality in grateful remembrance, and pray that the blessings of God may rest upon them, in body and Soul, basket and store. Also to the Pastor and members of the M. E. Church, in whose house our session have been held.”

“Statistics.”

The Committee on “Statistics” made their Report. Read item by item and

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adopted. See Doc. No. 7, appendix, page 22

Conf.
Recapitula-
tion

The President then called over the Disciplinary questions, and the answers as ascertained by the doings of Conf. read by the Secretary.

Voted, that should a case occur during the interim of our Conf. which in the judgment of the President calls for a Missionary appropriation, he be authorised [sic] to apply for such of the Parent Society.

Bro. Prindle offered the following paper, which was read and adopted: viz

“Whereas many of our ministers are so circumstanced as to compel them to make their chief reliance upon Self-culture and Education:

And whereas we all intend, as far as possible, to obey the Apostolic injunction, to be “workmen that needeth [sic] not to be ashamed,” &c

And as we may under assistance to each other in our association at Conference,
Therefore Resolved,

1st That at our next Session, brethren who may be selected therefor, be requested to deliver Lectures to the members of this Conf. upon the following Subjects.

First – One upon ministerial qualifications, embracing the Science of Language.

Second – Systematic Theology, noting such books as may be most suitable.

Third – The Duty and Mode of exercising the Pastoral Office, including Pastoral Theology.

Fourth – Our Business Transactions, embracing as full a range of Facts and Duties as may be thought fitting, including such Compositions as are desirable for publication.”

Bro. Prindle was invited to lecture

Conf. on Self-Improvement

16. 19th Session, held at

before us on Subjects 3d and 4th, Bro Knight on Subject 1st, and Bro McFarland on Subject 2d.

The Committee on Missionary Services to-morrow [sic] Evening, reported Bros. Prindle, McFarland and Staples, as Speakers.

Coll. For
Sec.

A collection was taken up for the Secretary, amounting to \$1.89.

The President then made some appropriate remarks, when Conf. adjourned *Sine die*.

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Fifth Day.

Sabbath, April 26.

By appointment a Love Feast was held in the morning at 9 o'clock.

Ordination
of W. W.
Jennings
&
Sabbath
Services

At 10 ½, Bro. Prindle preached, after which, Wm W. Jennings was set apart for the office and work of an Elder, by the imposition of hands, and prayer.

The Secretary preached at 3 o'clock, and in the Evening a Missionary meeting was held, at which a collection was taken up, amounting to \$14.68

Pledges to the amount of \$130.,73 cts. Were obtained to be paid before or at next Conf.

H. B. Knight.

Secretary

Millport, Chemung Co. N.Y.

17.

Appendix, &c.

[Note: the following reports were pasted into the journal. Because of poor quality of readability, they are transcribed in columns below. The scans are located at the end of this document.]

Doc. No. 1. – Report on “State of the Country.”

As a Conference of christian [sic] men and ministers, and on behalf of the Churches we represent, we are happy to embrace the opportunity to

profess anew our belief in a God of Providence, and in his overruling hand in the present condition of our beloved country.

Passing through, as we are, Nationally, a great *moral* and *political* Revolution – one destined to change, radically, our current opinions and

usages, as also our states among other people – we submit that it is no time for hesitation, equivocation or doubtful loyalty, either to the Truth of God or the “powers that be” over us.

We, are for God and our country, and this without evasion, condition or exception. Hence, the “limping patriotism” which here and there crops out, and says “we are for the Union as it was and the Constitution as it is” “we regard as disloyalty to the *living present*, and an ignoring of that Providential progress which has changed the type of our National life.

We, are for our country “as it is” struggling with traitors North as well as South – “as it is” in its purpose to subdue Rebellion—“as it is” in its policy to confiscate the property of Rebels—“as it is” in its aim to transform bondmen into freedmen—“as it is” in its labors, by force of arms, to vindicate its right to Unity, its right under the Constitution to elect Abraham Lincoln, President—its right to have him respected as such from Maine to Georgia, from the Atlantic to the Pacific—its right to realize a National condition described by the words “one People and one Destiny.”

*Resolved:--*1. That while regretting the necessity of an appeal to arms, in behalf of the truth, here recited—yet we justify such appeal, and while offering our prayer, for the further success of our arms, we at the same time invoke the blessings of a God of grace upon the imperilled [sic] soldier, his family, and those who offered their loved ones to be slain in battle or to die of disease incident to the camp.

2. That we tender to President Lincoln, his Cabinet, and all in authority, act harmoniously with him, our thanks for their honest, patriotic and Providential administration of the affairs of this Government; and we invoke for them “grace, mercy and peace,” as well as future success herein commensurate with the needs of our early yet honorable and enduring cessation of our physical strife.

3. That we congratulate ourselves, and hitherto oppressed among us, and the friends of freedom everywhere – that however much the cost, the sacrifices, and the inconvenience attending this second Revolution now in progress among us -- the end thereof is certain to

restore our Government to the Faith of the Father, one whose purpose was to “form a more perfect Union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, and *secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity.*”

4. That it is a matter of special congratulation to us, as a denomination, that in all our churches fidelity to Truth, to Freedom, and to Government, is not only the rule, but o this rule there can be disciplinarily, no exception. And if any poor “copperhead,” in religion or politics, has so far forgot his *affinities* as to stray toward us, we admonish him to “take up his bed and walk” from us, and thus save us the necessity of further imposition, and of disciplinary measures for his removal.

5. That while, in the language of another, other denominations are obliged to look upon the spectacle of “brother going to war with brother—Methodist with Methodist, Baptist with Baptist, Presbyterian with Presbyterian, &c.,--we are saved such fratricidal phenomena, for Wesleyans are, as they ever have been, every where, [sic] a unit in their

loyalty, and only for the
Union, as against rebels
for the sake of Slavery.

H. B. KNIGHT, Chn.

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Doc. No. 2. – Report on “Education.”

The benefits derived from Education can hardly be estimated. It refines, elevates and ennobles man, and is the friend and companion of religion. Ignorance lays the foundation for moral and spiritual night, but knowledge prepares the mind for spiritual truth.

The bursting forth of light from the night of the dark ages, was mainly accomplished through the instrumentality of the revival of learning. The publication of the Greek Testament, by Erasmus, prepared the way for the Great Protestant Reformation. And the education of the son of the German miner, under the Providential guidance of God, brought forth that Reformation in its beauty and power.

The translation of the Bible into the different languages of the Earth (called by the Papists, the *vulgar tongues*,) has

enlightened millions of human beings, and there will be reason for devout thanksgiving forever. These are some of the benefits which the church has derived from Education, And as the enemies of Christ are educated men, so also should the ministers of the Cross be. Therefore,

Resolved 1, That as Wesleyan Methodism had its origin in intelligence, we, the members of the Rochester Yearly Conference, should be, and are, the friends of Education, and will sustain our institution of learning.

Resolved 2. That we hail with delight the liberality of our brethren, in their support of Adrian College and we rejoice in its prosperity. As ministers of this Conference, we will preach a sermon at each of our appointments, on this subject, and solicit aid for said Institution.

G.M. HARDY, Ch’n

18. 19th Session, held at

Doc. No. 3. – Report on “Missions.”

God is not sitting, as some suppose, in majestic quietude, unobservant, and indifferent to what is passing among men, but is everywhere present, and his power all controlling.

In all the throes and convulsions of kingdoms and nations, He sits at the helm of human affairs, and renders all subservient to his purposes. The world and its glories may pass away, but the Word of the Lord abideth forever.

The whole word seems to be opening and loudly calling for the gospel. “Universal man,” says a late distinguished writer, “is gasping for the word of life.” In the Providence of God, the way is fast opening for extensive usefulness among the Freedmen of the South, and we need not say any longer “yet four months and then cometh the harvest, but look upon the field, already white for the harvest.” And now is the time for Anti-slavery

christians [sic] to make the most zealous exertions to occupy this important field of evangelic enterprise.

It should not be forgotten that this moral ascendancy connects with its corresponding obligations. The constant knell of tottering kingdoms and falling hierarchies, is but the signal for a general onset upon the powers of darkness. "The field," says Christ, "is the world." – and the world is now our field—Those portions of it hitherto inaccessible are rapidly opening; and the period has already arrived, when the word of God may be circulated in India, China, the isles of the sea, France, Germany, Prussia, and even in Rome itself. In all these places, and in many others, the living missionary may carry the bread of life to the starving multitudes.

In our own country the sphere of missionary labor is almost without limits.—Besides hundreds of thousands of foreign emigrants scattered over the national domain, there are also tens of thousands of our own population, who, up to the present time have not been brought to Christ, and who may never come to him unless the commission to "go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature" be carried out. We must search for the sinner, whether in city, village, or country; whether inhabiting palace or cottage.—The missionary must not give over his work, if he fail to collect them at his public place of worship, but must visit them at their houses, and even go into the streets and lanes, penetrate the high ways [sic] and hedges, in search of starving and perishing souls, and bring them to the gospel feast. There is enough for all, of every nation, tongue and people.

Although more than eighteen hundred years have passed since the glorious Missionary College was organized at Jerusalem, by Him who said, "this gospel of the kingdom shall be

preached in all the world," yet there are thousands of our fellow men in the world, and around us, and even in our midst, who are destitute of salvation. Can the church remain indifferent or idle, innocently? Can the ministry sit at ease when the purchase of the blood of Christ is in the way to destruction—neglecting to give warning, or pointing to the Lamb of God – and its garments not be stained with their blood? We fear not.

Already, then, the field for missionary labor is vast, and is constantly and rapidly enlarging. Only a few years ago and the heathen world was almost inaccessible to christian [sic] instrumentality. Now, there is scarcely a nation, country or tribe, in which we may not circulate the Holy Scriptures, and where the missionary of the Cross may not plant the standard of salvation and proclaim the unsearchable riches of Christ to a "perishing world." The revolutions and changes, both in the Old World and in the New, have been of the most astounding character. Stirring events have succeeded each other, during the few years last past, with such suddenness and rapidity, that they have almost ceased to be startling. In all this "speaking of the nations," we must not overlook the invisible Lord, nor assign to second causes what is evidently both extraordinary and Divine.

And now, in commencing a new missionary year, and in full view of the overwhelming magnitude of the work before us, and our obligation to prosecute it with renewed vigor, let us continue to labor on with increased fidelity. Trusting alone in Him who has said, "Lo, I am with you alway," [sic] let us inscribe on our banner, "Christ for the world, and the world for Christ."

Your committee recommend the organization of a Conference Missionary Society, so that we as a body may be

better able to interest and call for men and means to compass the glorious result contemplated by the origin of our Connection, viz., "to spread scriptural holiness over these lands." And, in order to make practical these views, we recommend the following Constitution for our government as a Conference.

ART 1. This Society shall be called the *Rochester Conference Missionary Society*, auxiliary to the Missionary Society of the Wesleyan Methodist Connection of America.

ART 2. The President and Secretary

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19.

Report on "Missions," continued.

of the Conference, and the Committee on Pastoral Relations, shall be the Officers of said Society, with the addition of a Treasurer.

ART 3. The funds collected for, and paid into the hands of this Society, shall be handed over by the Treasurer thereof to the Treasurer of the Parent Society.

ART 4. The Officers of this Society shall recommend such

appropriations as they judge called for within their own bounds, from year to year, to the Parent Society.

ART 5. The annual payment of funds into the Treasury of this Society, shall constitute membership therein.

ART 6. It is earnestly urged upon all pastors to preach upon the subject of missions, at all their appointments, and take up collections, therefor.

B. D. SNIFFEN, Ch'n

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Doc. No. 4. – Report on "Book Concern."

Your committee on the "Book Concern," would Report: That our confidence in the usefulness and stability of the same, are increasing under the management of the present Agent and Editor, Rev. Cyrus Prindle. It deserves the patronage of every Wesleyan.

Therefore –

[Note: the next part was pasted in.]

Resolved 1. That we will use our influence to have each Wesleyan family take the American Wesleyan, and in each such family, if composed of children and young persons, the Juvenile Instructor. Also, to have the Instructor taken by all Sabbath Schools.

Resolved 2. That we will buy our S. S. Libraries at our own Book Room, preferably to other places; also all other books needed, and procurable thereat.

Resolved 3. That we congratulate
Bro Prindle on his success in the
purchase and almost payment of a Press,
Engine, and Building for a Publishing
House, for our Connection. We will do all
in our power to restrain him in his efforts
to complete these objects.

H. GREGORY, Ch'n.

20

19th Session, held at

Report No. 5. – On “Pastoral Relations.”

[Note: This report was pasted in. Transcribed due to discoloration.]

Seneca Falls, H. H. Knight; Penn Yan, to be supplied; North Bradford, H. D. Inman; South Bradford, W. L. Warner; Watkins and Orange, N. M. Wheeler; Westfield and Climar, [sic] G. W. Scudder; Haskinsville, [sic] G. L. Paine; Hopewell, A. W. Staples; Williamson, J. J. Payne; New Salem, P. S. Slauson; Elkland, B. D. Sniffin; Naples and Lent Hill, W. W. Jennings; [sic] Prattsburgh, [sic] supplied by D. E. Baker; Wayland and Canadice, J. L. Bush; Hector, J. M. Swick; Howard, C. C. Reynolds; Catharine, supplied by H. Lounsbury; Erin and VanEttenville, [sic] to be supplied; Jerusalem, D. E. Baker; Millport, H. Gregory; Red Chalk, to be supplied; Jasper, J. R. Baird; East Little Lake, to be supplied; West Addison Hill, E. P. Burdick; Hilltown, supplied by W. W. Jennings; Crusoe Island, to be supplied; Valley, supplied by N. M. Wheeler; West Warren and North Orwell, supplied by M. Frink; State Road and Athens, to be supplied; Towanda, supplied by S. Cooper. M. Q. McFarland, Conference Evangelist.

RESERVE LIST

Levi Rogers, O. D. Field, W. G. Woodruff, S. D. Prentice, Joseph Scott, A. N. Hudson, W. S. Bell, S. Adams, S. A. Leonard, G. C. Whitney, Daniel Fenton.

SUPERANNUATED LIST

N. Fessenden, Francis Strang, Waldo Curtis, Willard Chase, Valentine Lewis, Peter Norris, Selah Paine, J. Bartholomew.

Geo. S. Lewis, transferred to the Allegany Conference; Asahel Staples, to the Lockport; and Galen M. Hardy to the Syracuse.

OFFICERS OF THE CONFERENCE

M. Q. McFarland, President; Post Office Address, Prattsburgh, [sic] Steuben Co., N.Y.; H. B. Knight, Secretary, Seneca Falls, N.Y.

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Doc. No. 6. – “Disciplinary Recapitulation.”

1 Elders on Stal List: -- See Report on “Pastoral Relations.”

2 Retired to Unsta. List: -- C. R. Tripp, Wm.

Millport, Chemung Co. N.Y.

21

Braine, Peter Tipple, M. P. Greensward.

3 Licentiatees on Sta. List: -- Geo C. Whitney, Jas. R. Baird, Daniel Fanton.

4 Reserve List: -- See Report on “Pastoral Relations.”

5 Superannuated: -- See Report on “Pastoral Relations.”

6 Deposed: -- None

7 Withdrawn: -- S. J. Lackey, Licentiate: Enos Perry, Elder, by connecting with Baptists, B. F. Bradford, gone to M. E. Church.

8 Joined this Year: -- Wm. W. Jennings, by ordination; Jas. R. Baird, Daniel Fanton, as Licentiatees to travel under direction of Conf.

9. Died: -- John W. Wallen, in peace; Enos P Barnes, while in W. S. Service, as a Volunteer.

10. Contributed for Preaching, &c – See Report on “Statistics.”

11. Nos. in Connection: -- See Report on “Statistics.”

12. Sunday Schools. – See Report on Statistics.”

13 Next Conf. – To be held at Wayland, Steuben Co. N.Y. the 4th Wednesday in April, 1864, at 1 ½ O'clock. P.M.

14 How Work Supplied: -- For answer, See Report of “Committee on Pastoral Relations.”

H. B. Knight,

Secretary

22 19th Session, held at

Doc. No 7. – “Statistics.”

[Note: Table inserted for clarity.]

	Mem.	Salary	S.S.	Sup.	Tea.	Scho.s	Miss.	Ch.Prop
Seneca Falls	150	400.	1	2	24	140		6000.
Howard	64	170.	1	1	3	12		
Jerusalem	33	206.	2	2	12	44		
Hopewell	63	284.	1	1	9	54	2.50	14,00
East Little Lake	15							
Watkins and Orange	30	85.	2	2	16	72		
Valley Church	19							
Williamson	58	307.	2	2	16	87		800.
Elkland	75	275.	2	2	8	60		150,
South Bradford	75	220.	2	2	15	100		
Catharine	84	206.	4	4	24	98		1400
Hornby	38	122,	1	3	16	84		
Millport	26	130.	1	3	10	50		
Jasper	55							
Penn Yan	75.							
South Bradford	140	350.	5	8	30	140		400.
Westfield & Climer	58	160.	4	4	22	105		
Haskinville	83	255.	4	6	25	100		
Naples and Lent Hill	70	180.	4	2	40	100		
Prattsburgh	28	124.						
Wayland and Cana.	27	290	2	2				
Hector	75	125.						
Tuscarora	15							
Red Chalk	15							
Erin & VanEttenville	10							
Fall Brook & Bloss. ^h	20							
Crusoe Island	5							
Charleston & Dele.	50							
New Salem	36	259.						1000.
Hilltown	18	100.	1	2	8	30		
	1530	4248	39	48	278	1276		1150.00

For other "items" See Report on file with
Secretary

Millport, Chemung Co. N.Y.

23.

Doc. No. 8. – Conf. Roll for 1864.

M. Q. McFarland
H. B. Knight
W. S. Bell
H. D. Inman

N. M. Wheeler
Geo. W. Scudder
Geo. L. Paine
Arden W. Staples

John J. Payne
Peter S. Slauson
Benj. D. Sniffen
D. E. Baker
John L. Bush
John M. Swick
C. C. Reynolds
S. Adams
Henry W. Bixby
S. A. Leonard
Wm S. Warner
O. D. Field
Joseph Lott
A.N. Hudson
Nelson Fessenden
Francis Strang
Waldo Curtis
Willard Chase
Valentine Lewis
Wm. W. Jennings

S. D. Prentice
Harry Gregory
Peter Norris
Selah Paine
Amos Chapman
J. Bartholomew
Wm. G. Woodruff
Levi Rogers -- Elders

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Geo. C. Whitney
Jas R. Baird
Daniel Fanton
Licentiates

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Finis

Committee on Itineracy and Orders for 1864 – M. Q. McFarland [insert: H. B. K.] B. D. Sniffen, and two laymen from charge where Conf. is to sit.

Committee on Presidency – Harry Gregory, Peter S. Slauson, Benj. D. Sniffen, John Depue, and John Bixby.

[Note: the following pages are photographs of the reports as they were pasted into the journal.]

As a Conference of christian men and ministers, and on behalf of the Churches we represent, we are happy to embrace the opportunity to profess anew our belief in a God of Providence, and in his overruling hand in the present condition of our beloved country.

Passing through, as we are, Nationally, a great moral and political Revolution—one destined to change, radically, our current opinions and usages; as also our states among other people—we submit that it is no time for hesitation, equivocation or doubtful loyalty, either to the Truth of God or the powers that be over us.

We, are for God and our country, and this without evasion, condition or exception. Hence, the "limping patriotism" which here and there crops out, and says "we are for the Union as it was and the Constitution as it is" we regard as disloyalty to the living present, and an ignoring of that Providential progress which has changed the type of our National life.

We, are for our country "as it is" struggling with traitors North as well as South—"as it is" in its purpose to subdue Rebellion—"as it is" in its policy to confiscate the property of Rebels—"as it is" in its aim to transform bondmen into freedmen—"as it is" in its labors, by force of arms, to vindicate its

right to Unity, its right under the Constitution to elect Abraham Lincoln, President—its right to have him respected as such from Maine to Georgia, from the Atlantic to the Pacific—its right to realize a National condition described by the words "one People and one Destiny."

Therefore, **Resolved:**—1. That while regretting the necessity of an appeal to arms, in behalf of the truth, here rectified, yet we justify such appeal, and while offering our prayer, for the further success of our arms, we at the same time invoke the blessings of a God of grace upon the imperilled soldier, his family, and those who offered their loved ones to be slain in battle or to die of disease incident to the camp.

2. That we tender to President Lincoln, his Cabinet, and all in authority, acting harmoniously with him, our thanks for their honest, patriotic and Providential administration of the affairs of this Government; and we invoke for them "grace, mercy and peace," as well as future success herein, commensurate with the needs of our early yet honorable and enduring cessation of our physical strife.

3. That we congratulate ourselves, the hitherto oppressed among us, and the friends of freedom everywhere—that however much the cost, the sacrifices, and the inconvenience attending

this second Revolution now in progress among us—the end thereof is certain to restore our Government to the Faith of the Father, one whose purpose was to "form a more perfect Union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity."

4. That it is a matter of special congratulation to us, as a denomination, that in all our churches fidelity to Truth, to Freedom, and to Government, is not only the rule, but to this rule there can be, disciplinarily, no exception. And if any poor "copperhead," in religion or politics, has so far forgot his affinities as to stray toward us, we admonish him to "take up his bed and walk" from us, and thus save us the necessity of further imposition, and of disciplinary measures for his removal.

5. That while, in the language of another, other denominations are obliged to look upon the spectacle of "brother going to war with brother—Methodist with Methodist, Baptist with Baptist, Presbyterian with Presbyterian, &c.,—we are saved such fratricidal phenomena, for Wesleyans are, as they ever have been, every where, a unit in their loyalty, and only for the Union, as against rebels for the sake of Slavery.

H. B. KNIGHT, Sec'y.

Doc. No. 2. — Report on "Education".

The benefits derived from Education can hardly be estimated. It refines, elevates, and ennobles man, and is the friend and companion of religion. Ignorance lays the foundation for moral and spiritual night, but knowledge prepares the mind for spiritual truth.

The bursting forth of light from the night of the dark ages, was mainly accomplished through the instrumentality of the revival of learning. The publication of the Greek Testament, by Erasmus, prepared the way for the Great Protestant Reformation. And the education of the son of the German Emperor, under the Providential guidance of God, brought forth that Reformation in its beauty and power.

The translation of the Bible into the different languages of the Earth (called by the Papists, the *vulgar tongues*.) has enlightened millions of human beings,

and there will be reason for devout thanksgiving forever. These are some of the benefits which the church has derived from Education. And as the enemies of Christ are educated men, so also should the ministers of the Cross be. Therefore,

Resolved 1. That as Wesleyan Methodism had its origin in intelligence, we the members of the Rochester Yearly Conference, should be, and are, the friends of Education, and will sustain our institution of learning.

Resolved 2. That we hail with delight the liberality of our brethren, in their support of Adrian College and we rejoice in its prosperity. As ministers of this Conference, we will preach a sermon at each of our appointments, on this subject, and solicit aid for said Institution.

G. M. HARDY, Ch'n

God is not sitting, as some suppose, in majestic quietude, unobservant, and indifferent to what is passing among men, but is everywhere present, and his power all controlling.

In all the throes and convulsions of kingdoms and nations, He sits at the helm of human affairs, and renders all subservient to his purposes. The world and its glories may pass away, but the Word of the Lord abideth forever.

The whole world seems to be opening and loudly calling for the gospel. "Universal man," says a late distinguished writer, "is gasping for the word of life."

In the Providence of God, the way is fast opening for extensive usefulness among the Freedmen of the South, and we need not say any longer "yet four months and then cometh the harvest, but look upon the field, already white for the harvest." And now is the time for Anti-slavery christians to make the most zealous exertions to occupy this important field of evangelic enterprise.

It should not be forgotten that this moral ascendancy connects with its corresponding obligations. The constant knell of tottering kingdoms and falling hierarchies, is but the signal for a general onset upon the powers of darkness. "The field," says Christ, "is the world,"—and the world is now our field.—Those portions of it hitherto inaccessible are rapidly opening; and the period has already arrived, when the word of God may be circulated in India, China, the isles of the sea, France, Germany, Prussia, and even in Rome itself. In all these places, and in many others, the living missionary may carry the bread of life to the starving multitudes.

In our own country the sphere of missionary labor is almost without limits.—Besides hundreds of thousands of foreign emigrants scattered over the national domain, there are also tens of thousands of our own population, who up to the present time have not been brought to Christ, and who may never come to him unless the commission to "go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature" be carried out. We must search for the sinner, whether in city, village, or country; whether inhabiting palace or cottage.—The missionary must not give over his work, if he fail to collect them at his public place of worship, but must visit them at their houses, and even go into the streets and lanes, penetrate the high ways and hedges, in search of starving and perishing souls; and bring them to the gospel feast. There is enough for all, of every nation, tongue, and people.

Although more than eighteen hundred years have passed since the glorious Missionary College was organized at Jerusalem, by Him who said, "this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world," yet there are thousands of our fellow men in the world, and around us, and even in our midst, who are destitute of salvation. Can the church remain indifferent or idle, innocently? Can the ministry sit at ease when the purchase of the blood of Christ is in the way to destruction—neglecting to give warning, or pointing to the Lamb of God—and its garments not be stained with their blood? We fear not.

Already, then, the field for missionary labor is vast, and is constantly and rapidly enlarging. Only a few years ago and the heathen world was almost inaccessible to christian instrumentality. Now, there is scarcely a nation, country or tribe, in which we may not circulate the Holy Scriptures, and where the missionary of the Cross may not plant the standard of salvation, and proclaim the unsearchable riches of Christ to a "perishing world." The revolutions and changes, both in the Old World and in the New, have been of the most astounding character. Stirring events have succeeded each other, during the few years last past, with such suddenness and rapidity, that they have almost ceased to be startling. In all this "speaking of the nations," we must not overlook the invisible Lord, nor assign to second causes what is evidently both extraordinary and Divine.

And now, in commencing a new missionary year, and in full view of the overwhelming magnitude of the work before us, and our obligation to prosecute it with renewed vigor, let us continue to labor on with increased fidelity. Trusting alone in Him who has said, "Lo, I am with you alway," let us inscribe on our banner, "Christ for the world, and the world for Christ."

Your committee recommend the organization of a Conference Missionary Society, so that we as a body may be better able to interest and call for men and means to compass the glorious result contemplated by the origin of our Connection, viz., "to spread scriptural holiness over these lands." And, in order to make practical these views, we recommend the following Constitution for our government as a Conference.

ART 1. This Society shall be called the Rochester Conference Missionary Society, auxiliary to the Missionary Society of the Wesleyan Methodist Connection of America.

ART 2. The President and Secretary

Resolved 1. That we will use our influence to have each Wesleyan family take the *American Wesleyan*, and in each such family, if composed of children and young persons, the *Juvenile Instructor*. Also, to have the *Instructor* taken by all Sabbath Schools.

Resolved 2. That we will buy our S. S. Libraries at our own Book Room, preferably to other places; also all other books needed, and procurable thereat.

Resolved 3. That we congratulate Bro. Prindle on his success in the purchase and almost payment, of a Press, Engine, and Building for a Publishing House, for our Connection. We will do all in our power to restrain him in his efforts to complete these objects.

H. GREGORY, Ch'n.

of the Conference, and the Committee on Pastoral Relations, shall be the Officers of said Society, with the addition of a Treasurer.

ART 3. The funds collected for, and paid into the hands of this Society, shall be handed over by the Treasurer thereof to the Treasurer of the Parent Society.

ART 4. The Officers of this Society shall recommend such appropriations as they judge called for, within their own bounds, from year to year, to the Parent Society.

ART 5. The annual payment of funds into the Treasury of this Society, shall constitute membership therein.

ART 6. It is earnestly urged upon all pastors to preach upon the subject of missions, at all their appointments, and take up collections, therefor.

B. D. SNIFFIN, Ch'n

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OFFICERS OF THE CONFERENCE.

M. Q. McFarland, President; Post Office address, Prattsburgh, Steuben Co., N. Y.; H. B. Knight, Secretary, Seneca Falls, N. Y.