

Fifteenth Ses.ⁿ

OF THE

Rochester Yearly Conference, of

the

Wesleyan Methodist Connection,

Held at

Odessa, Schuyler Co. N.Y. April 27, to May 1st 1859

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First Day, A.M. Session

Wednesday, April 27, 1859

The Fifteenth Session of the Rochester Yearly Conference of the Wesleyan Methodist Connection of America, commenced its Sittings, pursuant to adjournment, at Odessa, Schuyler Co., New York, Wednesday, April 27th 1859.

In the absence of the President, Henry Norton, the Secretary called the Conf to order, when on motion, M. Q. M^cFarland was called to the Chair, pro. tem, and conducted the opening religious exercises.

The Secretary, H. B. Knight, then called the Roll, when the following Ministerial members answered to their names. – G. L. Paine, S. Adams, M. Q. M^cFarland, S. A. Leonard, S. D. Trembly, Geo. Pegler, S. D. Prentice, A. Bixby, P. S. Slauson, D. E. Baker, Joseph Lott, S. Phinney, John Johnston, H. B. Knight, Z. T. Petty, G. S. Lewis, N Fessenden, A. Chapman.

The Chair then called for the credentials of Delegates, when those of Geo. Metcalf, from Seneca Falls, Luther Brown from Eagle Harbor and Yates, H. W. Bixby from Hornby, R. S. Hays, from Jasper, James Seeley, from Bradford, North, Emory Jones, from Jamestown, W. H. Hull, from Sparta and Canadice charges, were presented, and said brethren awarded seats.

Bro Knight presented the Transfer of L. P. Atwood, from the New England Conference to this, which was accepted, and he admitted to membership in the Conf.

Geo. Dunkle presented his certificate of election to this body, as Delegate from Hopewell and Cheshire

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Charge, and David Carlough as his Reserve. The question of which was entitled to a seat was referred to a Committee consisting of W. H. Hull, R. S. Hays, and S. A. Leonard.

Delegates
Received

John A. Reed, from Catharine, Alvah Hurlbut from Hector charges. Presented their certificates of election as Delegates to this body, and were duly recognised [sic] and enrolled as such.

Comm on
Orders

On motion, John Johnston, was appointed Chairman of the Committee on "Orders and Itinerary," in place of D. B. Douglass, absent by reason of Sickness.

Comm on
Rel. Serv.

John L. Bush, P. S. Slauson, and John A. Reed, were constituted the "Committee on Religious Services", during our session.

Bro Pegler
Preaches

In the absence of the President, who was to have preached an opening sermon, Bro. George Pegler was invited to become his substitute

The Bar of the House was fixed at the Sixth Slip from the Altar.

On motion Conference adjourned to listen to a sermon from Pegler, voting to hold a session in the afternoon, to commence at 1 ½ o'clock, Adj.'^d.

First Day, P.M. Sess.

Wednesday, Apr 27, '59

Conf. assembled at 1 ½ o'clock, the President, H. Norton, who had arrived, in the Chair, conducted the opening religious exercises

The Secretary then called the Roll, when the name of Waldo Curtis, was added thereto, as a ministerial member of the Conf.

Minutes of the morning session, were then read and approved.

The names of Elisha P. Burdick, from Westfield, Geo W. Merritt, from Forrestville, Isaac

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Delegates

Schuyler and Chemung Miss., Joseph Benson, from Orange, Emulous Stacey, from Ransom ville [sic] and Olcott, Richard M. Jones, from Penn Yan, Chas. Carns, from Jerusalem, and A.C.Carpenter, from Howard, charges, presented their certificates of election to Seats in the Conf. and were so recognised. [sic]

Received

A.N. Hud-son
Rec.^d by
Transfer

Rev. A. N. Hudson presented his transfer from the Michigan Conf. to this, which was read and accepted, and his name duly enrolled.

Election of
President
M.Q. McFarland

Election of
Secretary

Election of Committees
"Reform" – "Presidency" --&c

The Comm. in the case of Delegates from Hopewell and Cheshire charge, reported in favor of Geo. Dunkle, which was adopted.

C. W. Swift, delegate from Lyndon charge, appeared, was recognised [sic], and took his seat.

Proceeded to the election of perm anent [sic] officers of the Conference, Bros. Johnston and Leonard, acting as Tellers.

On the third balloting [sic] therefor, [sic] M.Q. McFarland was elected President; the whole No of votes cast, being 43. Bro McFarland having 28 of the number

On balloting [sic] for Secretary, 42 votes were cast, and H B. Knight having received 38 of that number, was declared duly elected.

The Conference then proceeded to elect the "Committee on Pastoral Relations", as follows: M. Q. McFarland, ex-officio, John Johnston, Jno. Broadhead, & H. D. Inman, Mins.—Geo W. Merritt, W^m H Hull, and Alvah Hurlbut, lay.

Ditto on "Reforms." – Geo. Pegler, Henry Norton, B. F. Bradford R. M. Jones, E. Stacey, and Geo. Dunkle.

On the "Presidency" – H. B. Knight, P. S. Slauson, Alanson Bixby, Geo. Dunkle, Geo. Metcalf.

"Books and Periodicals" – B. F. Bradford, John Broadhead, G. W. Merritt

"Statistics" – W^m S. May & Jo^s. Benson.

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"Union"

Sab. School.

1st

Question
Up

Five
Minutes
Reports

Of
Brs. & Del.

"Union" – H. B. Knight, McFarland, and Emory Jones.

"Sabbath Schools" – D. E. Baker, E. P. Barnes, Isaac Kelley.

The Conf. fixed on 9 o'clock, A.M. as the hour for com men cing [sic], and 12. M. for closing our regular daily Sessions; and for the hour of the P.M. Sessions, be governed by our necessities.

On motion, took up the 1st Question, in connection with passage of character. Fixed on 1 o'clock, to-morrow for its consideration

Voted, that when taken up, Six minutes be allowed each Minister, and five each Delegate, in giving an account of the work in each charge.

Henry Norton was appointed a committee-man on "Orders and Itinerary," in place of M.Q. McFarland excused.

After giving out Notices, on Motion Conf. adj^d. Prayer by Bro Slauson.

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Second Day, A M Sess.
Thursday, April 28, '59

Conf. assembled at 9 o'clock, President in the Chair.
Religious exercises were conducted by Bro. Pegler.

The Roll was then called, Minutes of yesterday P.M. read,
corrected & approved.

On motion, Simeon Hall, a superannuated preacher of this
body, had a Transfer granted him, from this to the Illinois Conference

Bros. Justin Ives, from the Phillippsville, and Elisha Andrus,
from the South

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Bradford, Pa. charges, presented their credentials, which were accepted,
and they admitted as Delegates.

Took up 13th Question – “Where and when shall our next
Conf. be held?” – When Seneca Falls, N.Y. and the 4th Wednesday in
April, 1860, were the time and place, fixed upon.

On motion, J. Sibley, H. B. Knight, and Luther Brown, were
constituted the “Com mittee [sic] on Education.”

The Comm. appointed to visit the Methodist New Connection
Conf. at its last session held at Toronto, Ont., made their Report – “That
owing to circumstances, which at the time could not be controlled, they
were unable to fulfil the duties of their appointment.

Report accepted, the Committee exhonored [sic] from
blame and discharged.

Comm. appointed in the case of DW. Marvin, made their
Report – That they met, tried, and suspended said brother. Report
received and laid on the Table.

Took up 6th Question – “Who have been deposed this year?”
Ans. D. C. Lane, where case was referred to a Comm, consisting of
John Johnston, Chⁿ, B. F. Bradford, H. Norton, P. Norris, G. W. Merrit, R.
M Jones, Emory Jones, who reported as follows:

“That they have had the care of D. C. Lane under
consideration, the complaint against him being presented by J. Sibley,
dated April 22, 1858. The charge is – Immorality – the specifications
these two: 1st Neglecting his family; & Vain and improper conduct, and
using indecent language to females.

The following persons, all reliable and worth members of the
Wesleyan Church, on Napoli Ct., testified to the charge and
specifications – Joseph Rogers, Belinda Rogers, Emma S. Vickery,
Lemuel A. Rogers, Hiram Young,

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S. Hall
Transferred
to
Ill. Conf.

13th
Question
Taken
Up

Comm on
Education

Delegates to
Meth.N.
Com. Report

Comm in the
case of
DW Marvin

6th
Question
Who
“Deposed”
In

Case of
D.C. Lane

Considered
and
he expelled

Amanda Mills, Emeline Cobb, G. W. Cobb

In view of these facts, your Committee recommend the adoption of the following Resolution – That the name of D. C. Lane be returned as deposed from the Ministry among us.

Signed Jno Johnston Chair^m

Report adopted.

D.W.Marvin
Withdrawn
under
censure

Took up the 7th Question – “Who has withdrawn this Year?”

Ans. D. W. Marvin, while under censure, and during the existence of a committee to investigate his case.

Question 9 – “Who have died this Year?” Ans. –Thomas Tomlinson, Thos. Ewing

On motion of Bro Johnston, a Comm. on Necessitous Cases,” in the Conference, was appointed consisting of Bros. Sibley & Andrus.

After giving out Notices, Conf. adjourned, with prayer by Bro Broadhead.

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Second Day, P.M. Sessⁿ

Thursday, April 28. '59

Conf was called to order, pursuant to adjournment, at 1 o'clock, President in the chair

Religious exercises conducted by Bro. S. A. Leonard. After which the Roll was called, when the Minutes of the Morning Session were read and approved.

1st
Question
Elders
Examined
and
passed.

Took up the 1st Question – “What Elders are on the stationed List?” – Ans. G. L Paine, M.Q. M^cFarland, Z. T. Petty, B. F. Bradford, H. B. Knight, D. E. Baker, Jno Johnston, S. D. Trembly, P. S. Slauson, L. V. Atwood, D. B. Douglass, J. Sibley, Waldo Curtis, Henry Norton, John Broadhead, G. W. Scudder, G. S. Lewis, Alanson Bixby, H. D. Inman, C. C. Reynolds, John L. Bush, S. Phinney, Joseph Lott, S. D. Prentice, E. P. Barnes, S. A. Leonard, R. L. Ward, F. Strang, Wm S.

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May. Geo. Pegler, names called, an account of their labors given, and characters passed.

“State Line”
Church
transferred

It being reported that the “State Line” church had attached itself to the Alleghany Conf. on motion it was voted that it be dropped from our List.

John J. Davenport, Reserve Delegate from the Erin Ct. presented his Certificate, and was admitted to a Seat in the Conf.

"Sugar Grove"
Church
Do

On calling the name of "Sugar Grove" it was reported as being supplied by the Alleghany Conf. and ordered stricken from our List.

Case of
G.L. Lewis,
referred

When the name of "East Springwater" Ct. was called, a letter was read from John Winch, reflecting on the character of Bro. G. L. Lewis. Said communication was referred to a Comm. consisting of S. Adams, Z. T. Petty, and Chas Carnes.

After giving out "Notices," Conf. adjourned, with benediction by the President.

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Third Day, A.M. Sess.

Friday, April 29, '59

Conf. was called to order at 9 o'clock, the President in the Chair

Religious exercises conducted by Bro Gregory. Roll was called, Minutes of Yesterday's P.M. Session read and approved.

1st
Question

Resumed the 1st Question – "What Elders are on the Stationed List?" Ans. A. Chapman, S. Adams, whose names were called, an account of their labors given, and their characters passed.

5th
Question

Took up the 5th Question – "Who are the superannuated Elders?" Ans. – Peter Norris, Selah Paine, Nelson Fessenden, John Thompson, Samuel Gale.

Bro. Cyrus Prindle was here introduced to the Conference, and made a statement of

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Bro
Prindle

the condition and prospects of the "Book Concern," urging continued efforts to promote the sale of its Book issues, and the circulation of its periodical publications.

The President also introduced to the Conf. Rev. Mr. Gray, of the Baptist Church, and Rev. Mr. Bronson, of the M. E. Church; also Bro G. M. Hardy of the Syracuse Wes. Conf.

On motion, the name of Harry Gregory, was transferred to the stationed List, from that of the Unstationed.

2^d
Question

Took up the 2^d Question – "Who are on the Unstationed List?" For answer see "Disciplinary Recapitulation", page 23

Case
of Hiram
Thompson
Referred

On calling the name of Hiram Thompson, reports derogatory to his character, were adduced, and on motion his case was referred to the nearest Elder in charge, for examination. The case of W^m Braine, was likewise so referred.

4th
Question
Wm Price
Removed

JW Allen's
Case
referred to
Comm

Took up the 4th Question – “Who are on the Reserve List?”
Ans. – W^m Price; reported as having removed into the bounds of another
Conf. and his name ordered dropped, and the President of the
Conference Within whose bounds he resides notified of this our action

J W Allen, on same List, had his case referred to a
Committee consisting of Jno Broadhead, Ch’n, J. Sibley, S. W. Parks,
Austin Davis, Mins, James Wells, Seth M^cDonald, and Sam^l. Shannon
laymen.

For answer in full to Quest 4, see the “Disciplinary
Recapitulation,” page [note: left blank.]

On motion, Conference voted to adjourn to 1 ½ o’clock, P.M.

Benediction by
the President

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Third Day, P.M. Sessⁿ

Friday, April 29, ‘59

Conf met at 1 ½ o’clock, President in the Chair. Religious
exercises conducted by Bro Ward.

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

Resumed the 4th Question – “Who are on the Reserve List?”
For ans. see “Dis. Recapit,” page [note: left blank.]

The Committee on “Union”, made their Report as follows:
(See page 17.)

On motion, said Report was received and acted on, Item by
Item.

Item I. Gen. Div. read and adopted. ~~Sub~~ Item II Gen Div,
read when sub. Items there of, for 1, 2, 3, & 4, were adopted. Sub Item
5, was laid on the Table. Sub-Item 6. adopted.

Item III, Gen. Div. not adopted. Item IV Gen. Div. read and
adopted. The Report as a whole with above exception, was then
adopted.

On motion Conf. adj, Prayer by Bro Sibley.

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Fourth Day. AM Sess.

Saturday, April 30. ‘59

Conf. assembled at 9 o’clk, President in the Chair. Religious exercises
conducted by Bro. A.Chapman

Report
on
“Union”
made
and how
Disposed
of

Report
of
Comm.
On
"Orders"

Roll called, Minutes of Yesterday [sic] afternoon's Session, read and approved.

The Report of the "Committee on Orders and Itinerary" was presented, read and acted on as follows:

1 Geo. S. Servis, recommended for Elder's Orders. Laid on the Table

2 Enos Perry, recommended for Elder's Orders. Report in his care, adopted, and he elected to office of Elder.

3 Laurel Chamberlain, recom-

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Report
On
"Orders," &c
Con-
tinued and
how
disposed of

-mended for admission to travel under the direction of Conf. as a Licentiate. Report adopted, and he admitted

4 Levi M. Wright, recommended to travel as a Licentiate; Report adopted and he admitted [sic]

5 Henry W. Bixby, recommended [sic] to travel as a Licentiate; Report adopted

6 O. D. Field; recommended to travel as a Licentiate; Report adopted

Committee on "Sabbath Schools" made their Report as follows:

"Whereas the Institution of Sabbath Schools is one that should engage the attention of the Christian World, inasmuch as it is the Nursery of the Church, in that most of those who join the Church in early life and become useful members there of, [sic] are those who have received Sabbath School instruction – Therefore

Resolved 1. That it shall be the duty of each member of this Conference, to call attention of their respective Congregations by preaching or lecturing, to this Subject, and organising [sic] Schools as each their appointments, if any way practicable.

2. That we will introduce the "Juvenile Instructor," & our S. S. Book, wherever it is feasible so to do.

3. That it be the duty of each Pastor, to report to our next Conference the number of Schools, Superintendents, Teachers, and Scholars, within the bounds of his Circuit, or charge

Respectfully submitted,

D. E. Baker, Chm

After much interesting remark, from various persons the Report was adopted by a unanimous vote.

The Comm. on "Necessitous Cares",

Report on "Sabbath Schools" made.

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made their Report, as follows:

Resolved 1. That a Collection be taken up to-morrow, [sic] at close of the morning and evening services, for the benefit of Bros. Thompson and Fessenden; to be equally divided between them.

2 That the Ministers of this Conference be requested to take up a collection at each appointment on their various charges, for the benefit of "Necessitous Cases," and that said collection, be brought to our next Conf. for disbursement as it may then be directed.

3 That said Collections be taken up during the month of November next.

4 That the Conf. Secretary be requested to call attention to this subject, by a timely notice in the Wesleyan.

A collection was here taken up to pay for parchments and other stationary, amounting to \$1.60, which was paid the Secretary.

Bro Johnston asked and obtained leave of absence, after 4. P.M, of to-day [sic]

On motion, the use of the Conference Scholarship, in the Michigan Union College, was granted Sybrandt Nelson, for another year.

The hour of 1 ½ o'clock, PM, was fixed upon as the one to receive and act upon the Report of the "Committee on Reforms." When,

On motion, Conf. adjourned, with Benediction by the President

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Fourth Day, P M Sess.

Saturday, April 30, '59

Conf. met at 1 ½ o'clock, President in the chair. Religious exercise [sic] conducted by Bro. S. D. Trembly.

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

Bro Slauson asked that the orders of the day be postponed, in orders [sic] that he might introduce the case of H. M. Boothe, formerly a member of this Conf. – looking to a restoration of said Bro. to membership with us.

On motion, re-considered the action of this Conference, in his case, and referred it to a Committee of five to be appointed by the Chair.

Report on "Necessitous Cases".

Case
Of
H.M. Boothe
Action of
Former
session
reconsidered

Took up the order of the day, viz, the Report of the
"Committee on Reforms, which was read, discussed and adopted [sic].
In that part relating to "Secret Oath-Bound Societies, [a]dopted by Yeas
and Nays as follows:

Yeas – G. L. Paine, S. Adams, L. D. Trembly, Wm S. May,
Geo Pegler, L. D. Prentice, G. W. Scudder, J. Sibley, P. S. Slauson, D. E.
Baker, Jo^s Lott, Jno Johnston, J. L. Bush, Z. T. Petty, H. D. Inman, E. P.
Barnes, R. L. Ward, Peter Norris, N. Fessenden, Waldo Curtis, N.
Hudson, Harry Gregory, Enos Perry, Luther Brown, R. S. Hays, Jno.
Seely, Emory Jones, W. H. Hull, Jno A. Reed, E. P. Burdick, Jo^s Benson,
E. Stacey, Cha^s Carns, Geo. Dunkle, C. W. Swift, E. Andrus, Myron
Atwell, J. J. Davenport – 37

Nays – B. F. Bradford, M.Q. M^cFarland, John Broadhead, H.
B. Knight, L. P. Atwood, E. Jones, Alvah Hurlbut – 7

Total votes – 44. For Report, *in extenso*, see page 181.

The "Committee on Statistics" made their Report which was
read and adopted. For it, (See page 22.)

Report in case of Bro S. Lewis was made, through its
chairman, in these words: viz –

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"That circumstances unfavorable to the character and
standing of bro. Lewis, h'our [sic] appeared before us, in evidence, such
as in our opinion, should be a sufficient barrier to his election to Elder's
Orders, at present."

Signed, S. A. Leonard, Chⁿ

Report was adopted.

The "Committee on Education" made their Report as follows:

"This is an age of Progress, Among the masses there is a
general diffusion of Literature and Science, This creates the necessity
that We as a People give proper attention to the cause of Education.
Such is the boldness of our position, on the subject, of Christian Reform,
that we in a great degree, Sustain the relation of an Educator to the
public mind.

The great Question of the Day, thro [sic] destiny of Suffering
millions, is measurably thrown into our hands. If we meet this
responsibility, and rectify Public Sentiment, God will be honored and
Man disenthralled. The success of this great Moral Enterprise depends
much upon our having erected a high Standard of Literacy and Scientific
attainment in our midst.

It becomes our duty, then, as Ministers, to labor to create an
interest in the mind, of our People, commensurate with our
responsibilities: Therefore

Resolved [sic] 1. That we are happy to learn that honorable and praiseworthy Efforts are being made by our friends and brethren at Leoni and Wheaton, to erect Suitable Buildings and sustain Schools of a High grade in their midst, answerable to the demand of our young and growing

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-ing Denomination.

2. That they have our cordial Sympathy, as a Conf., in all their embarrassments, and Struggles; and we recommend to those among us holding \$25 and \$50 Scholarships, in the College at Leoni, who are able to do so to pay any balance due on the same, and Surrender them up to the Trustees for their relief. And any Donations they may judge demanded by the circumstances, be added, in order to vindicate their honor as a Board of Trustees.

During the pendency of the discussion of this Report, on motion, Conf. adjourned to 7 o'clock this Evening.

Benediction by the President

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Fourth Day – Eve Sessⁿ

Saturday, April 30. '59

Conference assembled, pursuant to adjournment, President in the Chair. Religious exercises conducted by Bro. Fisk

Roll called, Minutes of Afternoon's Session, read and approved.

Resumed the consideration of the Report on "Education." On motion said Report was adopted.

Proceeded to appoint the Committee on "Orders and Itinerary," viz John Johnston, M.Q. M^cFarland, H. B. Knight, Joseph Metcalf and J. G. Palmer.

Moved that the "Course of Study," adopted by the New York Conference, at its late Session, be that upon which candidates for the Ministry in this Conf. Shall be examined.

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Moved that the Secretary have discretionary power to publish such parts of our doings as he judges to be of general interest.

The Report of the Committee on "Missions" was presented, read and adopted, as follows:

"Education" Report

Report on
"Education"

Com.on
"Orders"

"Course of
Study"
Fixed.

~~"Whereas the Subject of~~ Missionary efforts, in our opinion, are best adapted to open the way to more lasting and Systematic religious organizations, as the early history of the Church Will Show; and whereas our church is in its infancy, and many of our local churches are unable to sustain themselves, or to Support a Pastor, Therefore

Resolved 1. That we will endeavor according to our ability, to establish a Missionary Fund, Subject to the pleasure and disposition of this Conf, for Missionary Purposes within our bounds.

And Whereas many of our Infant Churches, are unable to support a Pastor, we recommend

2 That this Conference re quest [sic] our our [sic] Ministers to take up a collection for the aid of Such Churches, subject to the order of the Conf. Respectfully submitted

A.Chapman, Chⁿ

On motion the thanks of this Conf. be tendered to the brethren and friends of this place, for their cordial and hospitable entainment [sic] of its members, during its session; and that this our action be read from this Pulpit on the morrow, at close of public Service.

A vote of thanks was also tendered the Offi cers [sic] of the Conf. for their labors in conducting its business, during our present Session

Voted, That if Bro S. Nelson does not want the use of the Conference Schol=

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Nelson and
"Scholarship".

-arship in the Michigan Union College, that the President be authorised [sic] to direct to whom its priviledge [sic] shall be extended.

The Comm. on "Pastoral Relation," Submitted their Report, Which was read and adopted. See page 23.

Took up the "Disciplinary Re capitulation," [sic] which was read and approved. See page 25.

Voted that the President preach, as an opening exercise, at our next Session, at 10 o'clock, A.M.

Moved that we celebrate the Lord's Supper, to-morrow [sic] P.M. at close of the Public Service.

Comm On
"missions"
ap.^d

On motion, Voted that we raise a "Committee on Missions and Missionary efforts," to report at our next Session. HB Knight, M Q McFarland & Jo^s Metcalf, were constituted such Committee.

When take up
Miss Coll.

Voted, That the month of February next, be the one in which to take up the collections for Missionary purposes within our bounds.

Coll. For
Leoni Agt.

A Collection was here taken up on behalf of the Michigan Union Colledge, [sic] amounting to \$2.14. Paid to Bro M Fisk

On motion, Conf adjourned, since die, Prayer by Bro Pegler.
and Benediction by the President.

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Fifth Day, May 1. '59
Sabbath Services.

In the morning at 9 o'clock a Conference Love Feast was
held, followed by Public exercises. The Presi=

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-dent, M Q M^cFarland preached, and then ordained to the work of the
Gospel Ministry, other Elders assisting, Bro. Enos Perry.

Bro M. Fisk, agent of the Michigan Union College, preached
at 2 o'clock, and the Secretary, H. B. Knight, at 8 in the Evening.

Public collections were taken up, morning and evening for
Bros Fessenden and Thompson, in all amounting to \$40.60

This was divided equally between them, Sister Fessenden
receiving \$20.30, and Bro H. Norton \$20.30 for Bro Thompson.

Attest H. B. Knight, Sec.

Sabbath Services, who
Preached, &c.

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Appendix, &c.

Doc. No 1 – See page 9. – Report on “Union.”

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of Union between the
Methodist Protestant Church, North and the Wesleyan Methodist Connection, beg leave
to Report:*

I That we recommend to this Conference for their approval and
practical application the “Plan of Co-operation” agreed upon by the Committees of the
aforesaid bodies, at Pittsburgh, and published in the “Wesleyan,” March 2, 1859.

II That this Conf. labor to promote a “Union” of the two
Denominations, on the following basis, to wit:

- (1) That the Discipline governing the United Body, shall be made to
conform in principle to that of the Wesleyan Meth. Connection, wherein
it makes the Local Churches self-governing, and in regard to the
Pastoral Relation, as found in Sec 7. pps. 35-37, Par 6. Sub-Part.
1.2,3.4.5.
- (2) That our Gen. Rules on the subjects of Intemperance and Slavery, be
adopted & Enforced.

- (3) That the item in the M.P. Discipline, giving the President jurisdiction over the Pulpit, when present in any charge, be stricken out.
- (4) That the office of Deacon, as a grade in the Ministry, in M.P. Church, be abolished.
- (5) That legislation on the Subjects of Faith and morals be prohitod [sic] the Gen. Conf. of the United Bodies, if desired, and referred to as Delegates Convention called therefor; yet on economic and other grounds, we prefer that the Gen. Conf. with the concurrence of the Yearly Conferences, having jurisdiction over these, as now provided for among us.

III That this our action be referred to the Local churches within our own, and the bounds of the M. P. Conf. occupying same Territory, for their approval; inviting our next Gen. Conf. in case such approval, by a 3/4ths vote, be given, to take such steps as its wisdom may suggest, to make one of those God has made such in Faith and Practice.”

Respectfully subd
M.Q. McFarland
H. B. Knight
Emory Jones.

*[Note: auto-format could not be ignored for this section. Thus, it does not conform to the actual page of transcription.]

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Doc. No. 2 – See page 13 – On “Reforms.”

The principles of the Divine Government are uncreated. They are emanations [sic] from the bosom of the Infinite Father, and are the embodiments [sic] of those changeless attributes of his nature, Wisdom, Justice, and Holiness. These cardinal principles are entirely consonant with the nature and relations of things.

Were they clearly apprehended by the understanding, adopted by the heart, and practised [sic] by the life, there would be as complete harmony in the various relations sustained by man on the Earth, as is now manifest in the Physical Universe, or as necessarily exists amid the Angels in

Heaven. All the evils that now scourge humanity, result directly or indirectly, from the violation of God’s Will. And the ultimate purpose of God, in the Mission of Christ, is to bring man back from his alienation to Him, to rescue him fully from the dominion of error and sin, and subjugate him to in heart and life, to the Supreme control of the Divine Law. This grand end is accomplished by unfolding these truths the intelligence, thro’ the

written word, and transferring their intent, by the Spirit, to the soul, developing therein the elements of submission, and holiness to God.

Of this class of regenerated ones, God constitutes his Church on Earth. Such Souls are one in purpose and spirit, with Christ. As he came to “destroy the works of the Devil,” they by their positions, teachings and lives, aim to consummate the great purpose of his Mission. As he breathed peace and good will to all, and was a friend and Redeemer to all, Such will be the Spirit emanating [sic] from his Church. As a Connection of Christ; Churches, by virtue of our union with him, we are in uncompromising conflict with all that is derogatory to the honor of God, or that degrades and crushes, or wrongs man.

We therefore reiterate our Protest against all Tyranny, especially that as seen in the barbarous System of American Slavery. A system which robs nearly 4000.000 of beings of all that is ennobling and sacred to man, and classes him with the brute. Upon a re view [sic] of our position, after the lapse of nearly Sixteen years, we are more than ever convinced of the wisdom and righteousness of the movement that gave us an existence as a Denomination. We hail as indications of hope, the struggles in other bodies, their aroused [sic] objects fully sanctioning our course. These come to us as harbingers, making sure the ultimate tri=

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-umph of the cardinal principles of our Connection ion. We pledge ourselves anew to God and Man, never to compromise this question, so long as there is a Slave to sigh for Freedom, on the face of the whole Earth.

On the question of Temperance, we stand where we have ever stood – utterly opposed to the system of licensing men to commit crime. We regard it as a System of indulgences. As ministers and churches. We shall never fault [sic] until the people of this Commonwealth repose safely under the broad aegis of an efficient Prohibitory Law.

Our Gospel being one of Peace, and good will to men, we look with abomination and pain upon that system that Annually squanders three fourths of the revenue of all nations – that teaches the art of human butchery – that carries desolation to thousands of families – and hurries, in a moment, millions of beings, red with crime, to the inflexible bar of a just God. The voice of our Connection upon this momentous question, shall be heard, till that day, shall dawn, when men shall “beat their swords into plough shares [sic] and spears into pruning-hooks, and Nations shall learn War no more.”

Having received a Gospel of Purity, we look with entire approbations upon the vigilant, untiring, & self-sacrificing efforts, of Christians and philanthropists, in the city of New York and elsewhere, in behalf of this cause. It is supposed that in the city alone, 5000 houses of prostitution exist. From there go out an influence which permeates and corrupts all parts of our country, and all classes of Society. Thirty thousand are supposed to die annually, as the result of licentious practices. We

recommend that our ministers preach at least once a year, upon this subject, and encourage so far as is practicable, the circulation of the “advocate & Guardian.”

And finally, we pray that the time may

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be hastened when all our ministers and brethren [sic] shall be so thoroughly purified from the “filthiness of the flesh and Spirit,” as to find it a pleasure to abstain entirely from Tobacco. It seems wrong to consume on our lusts, means, which if directed into channels of benevolence, would make the widows heart to Sing for joy, and the Orphan’s tear to flow with gratitude.

Whereas, it is a settled principal [sic] of our Discipline, that holding connection with “Secret Oath=Bound Societies,” is inconsistent with our duties to God and Christianity; And whereas the strongest arguments in favor of Such Societies, are not founded on on [sic] expediency; And whereas, in the Word of God, We are commanded to “shun the appearance of evil,” – “to have no fellowship with the works of darkness” – and to “let our light shine before men” – And whereas Oaths, administered and taken in Secret, unless by the legally constituted authorities, to Say the least, is of doubtful propriety, and may be attended with much evil – Therefore

Resolved 1. That after Sixteen years of Denominational experience, we are more than ever convince that it is not only safe and expedient, but in perfect accordance with the genius of Christianity, and with the pecepts [sic] of the Bible, to maintain inviolate our Rule, in reference to Said Societies.

Res. 2 That while we hail with grateful emotion, the delightful prospect of a “Union” between the M. P. Church, North, and the W. M. Connection; or a similar fusion with any other Reforming body of Christians; yet we never can consent to abate our opposition to such Societies, in order to consummate such “Union,” however desirable on other accounts.

Res. 3. That the reasons demanded

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the enactment of our Rule on this subject, remain with unabated force, and are the more clear and permanent, as the Evil deprecated is on the increase. And if it is right to abandon our opposition to one moral evil, in order to add to our numerical strength, then may we safely cease our opposition to every other moral evil, that have been the distinguishing features of our Organization

Geo. Pelger	}	
Henry Norton	}	
B. F. Bradford	}	
Emory Jones	}	Comm.
E. Stacey	}	
Geo. Dunkle	}	

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Doc. No 3 – Page 12 – “Statistics.”

[Note: Table inserted for clarity.]

		Members	Salary	S.Sch	Sup ^t	Schol	Ch Prop
Ransomville & Olcott	//--	175	400.				2000.
North Bradford	//--	115	305	3	3	100	1500
South Bradford	//--	81	230	1	1	60	250
Alleghany	//-- //--	71	110	2	2	25	
Phillipsville	//-- //--	80	157	1	2	25	
Penn Yan	//-- //--	125	400	1	2	25	
Jerusalem	//-- //--	40	85				
Seneca Falls	//-- //--	197	500	1	1	100	3500
Orange	//-- //--	12	50	1	1	25	
Chesnut Ridge & Royalton		88	300	2	2	80	2000
Westfield & Clymer	//--	75	110	3	3	100	
Haskinville	//--	75	110	3	3	100	
Hopewell & Cheshire	//--	84	353	2	2	50	1800
Williamson	//--	60	338	2	2	52	1000
Eagle Harbor & Yates		125	400	2	2	60	4000
Napoli	//-- //--	35	200	1	1	30	
Elkland	//-- //--	81					135
Franklinville & Ashford		40	129	2	2	25	200
Naples	//-- //--	33		2	2	30	1000

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Jamestown	//-- //--	122		1	1	50	2000
Lent Hill	//-- //--	60	165				
Sparta & Canadice	//--	30	230	1	1	10	
Forrestville	//-- //--	50	150	3	3	57	
Granger	//-- //--	147	300	2	2	76	1000
Hector	//-- //--	92	290	2	1	50	1700
Howard	//-- //--	50	150	1	1	20	
Catharine	//-- //--	125	375	2	2	55	1300
Erin	//-- //--	29	20				
Hornby	//-- //--	41	100	1	2	16	30
Pleasant Valley	//-- //--	30	120				
Elkland & Centerville		24	80				
Jasper	//-- //--	86	195	3	3	70	
Fillmore	//-- //--	30	146	1	1	25	1200

Charlestown	//--	//--	40	100	2	2	100	
Lyndon	//--	//--	86	195	3	3	70	
Potter Mission	//--	//--						
Schuyler & Chemung			50	400	1	2	16	
Farmington Mission			20	221	1	1	20	1000
East Springwater	//--		14	92				
Blossburgh	//--	//--	25	20	1	1	25	
Pultney	//--	//--	12	60	1	1	40	
Ward & Sullivan	//--		31	12	2	2	45	
Sheriden	//--	//--	15	20				
			2801:	7591:	55:	58:	1617:	288.15

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Doc. No 4 – page 16 – “Appointments.”

Ransomville & Olcott, A. N. Hudson
North Bradford, G. L. Paine
South Bradford, M. Q. M^cFarland
Alleghany, S. Phinney
Phillipsville, W^m Rice, Lic.
Penn Yan, B. F. Bradford
Jerusalem, supplied by M. Q. M^cFarland
Seneca Falls, H. B. Knight
Orange, Supplied by P. S. Slauson

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Chesnut Ridge & Royalton, I. Johnston
Westfield & Clymer, F. Strang
Haskinville, S. D. Trembly
Hopewell & Cheshire, C. C. Reynolds.
Williamson & Ontario, S. Adams
Eagle Harbor & Yates, D. B. Douglass
Naples, to be supplied.
Elkland, do
Franklinville, Austin Davis, Lic.
Napoli, J. Sibley
Jamestown, Sup. by Henry Benson
Lent Hill, to be supplied
Sparta & Canadice, E. P. Barnes.
Forrestville, John Broadhead
Granger & Fillmore, A. Bixby
Hector, D. E. Baker
Howard, G. W. Scudder,

Catharine, J. L. Bush
Erin, to be supplied, by E. Perry.
Hornby, H. W. Bixby, Lic
Pleasant Valley, Waldo Curtis
Eagle & Centerville, Z. T. Petty
Jaspar, S. D. Prentice
Charleston; to be supplied
Lyndon, R. L. Ward
Potter Mission, Sup. by F. Strang
Millport, H. D. Inman
Farmington Miss. Geo. Pegler
East Springwater, Jos Lott,
Blossburgh, A. Chapman
Ward & Sullivan, O. D. Field, Lic
Wayne, Supplied by Wm Woodruff
Sheriden, Levi M. Wright, Lic.

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Reserve List. – J. W. Allen, Henry Norton, Harry Gregory, L. P. Atwood,  
Wm. S. May, S. A. Leonard,  
Elders. ~~ Geo. S. Lewis, L. Chamberlain, Wm Wing  
Licentiates ~ Wm Price, gone West. Referred to Conf of Iowa.

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Doc. No 5 – page 16 – “Disciplinary Recapitulation.”

1      What Elders are on the Stationed List? Answer,  
A.N. Hudson, G. L. Paine, M.Q. McFarland, S. Phinney, B. F. Bradford, H. B. Knight, P.  
S. Slauson, John Johnston, F. Strang, S. D. Trembly, C. C. Reynolds, S. Adams, D. B.  
Douglass, J. Sibley, E. P. Barnes, John Broadhead, A. Bixby, D. E. Baker, G. W.  
Scudder, John L. Bush, Waldo Curtis, Z. T. Petty, S. D. Prentice, R. L. Ward, H. D.  
Inman, Geo. Pegler, Joseph Lott, A. Chapman. – 28

2      Who retired to Unstationed List? Ans. Cyrus Gregg, Valentine  
Lewis, Geo Riley, C. R. Tripp, Wallace Lock, J. Bartholomew, Stephen Salisbury, Willard  
Chace, Solomon Bentley, Oliver Secoy, S. W. Parks, Tho. W. Cheney, Abram Jones,  
Homer Blake, Frederick Closser, Wm Braine, Tho. Osgood, Elijah Bishop, Hiram  
Thompson, Peter Tipple. – 20

3      Licentiates on the Stationed List – ✓Laurel Chamberlain, ✓Levi M  
Wright, ✓Henry W. Bixby, ✓O D. Field, Wm Wing,

4      Reserve List – Answer, See page 24 – “Stations”

5 Superannuated Elders – Peter Norris, Selah Paine, Nelson Fessenden, John Thompson, Samuel Gale

6 Deposed – D. C. Lane

7 Withdrawn – D. W. Marvin, under censure.

8 Joined this year – Enos. Perry, by ordination, and L. P. Atwood and A.N. Hudson, by Transfer.

9 Died – Thos Tomlinson, Tho Ewing

10 Contributed for Preaching &c – See pages 22 & 23, under head of “Statistics.”

11 Numbers – 2801. – gain 917!

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15<sup>th</sup> Session at Odessa, N.Y. 1859.

12 How many Sunday Schools, &c. – For Answer See pages 22 & 23, head of “Statistics.”

13 Next Conference to be held at Seneca Falls, N.Y. 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday in April, 1860.

14 How Work supplied – See pages 23 & 24, under head of “Appointments [sic]

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Committees holding over – 1<sup>st</sup> Prsidency: H. B. Knight, P. S. Slauson, Alanson Bixby, Geo. Dunkle and Geo. Metcalf. – 5

Examination for Orders &c – John Johnston, M Q McFarland, H. B. Knight, Joseph Metcalf, J. G. Palmer

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Roll for 1860 – Names.

Elders --  
✓ Peter Norris  
✓ Selah Paine  
✓ Nelson Fessenden  
✓ John Thomspon  
Samuel Gale.  
A.N. Hudson  
G. S. Paine

Elders --  
D. E. Baker  
G. W. Scudder  
John L. Bush  
Waldo Curtis  
Z. T. Petty  
S. D. Prentice  
R. L. Ward

M.Q. McFarland  
S. Phinney  
B. F Bradford  
H. B. Knight.  
P.S. Slauson  
John Johnston  
F. Strang  
S. D. Trembly  
C.C. Reynolds  
S.Adams.  
D.B. Douglass  
J.Sibley  
E.P. Barnes  
John Broadhead  
Alanson Bixby

H. D. Inman  
Geo. Pegler  
Joseph Lott  
A.Chapman  
J.W. Allen  
Henry Norton ✓  
Harry Gregory ✓  
Wm S May  
L. P. Atwood ✓  
S. A. Leonard,  
Enos Perry – 40  
Licentiates – L. Chamberlain,  
Levi M. Wright, H. W. Bixby, O. D. Field,  
Wm Wing, --

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