

50 The Minutes

**MINUTES**

OF

**THE SYNOD**

OF

**SOUTH CAROLINA AND GEORGIA**

*AT THEIR SESSIONS*

IN MILLEDGEVILLE, (GA.)

*November 1836.*

WITH

**AN APPENDIX.**

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# SYNOD

## OF SOUTH CAROLINA AND GEORGIA.

MILLEDGEVILLE, (GA.) Nov. 24, 1836. }  
½ past 6 o'clock, P. M. }

The Synod of South Carolina and Georgia met in the Presbyterian Church, according to adjournment, and was opened, in the absence of the Moderator, with a sermon by the Rev. Professor Howe, from 1 Cor. 2, 14: "For the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God; for they are foolishness unto him; neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned."

The Moderator still being absent, Rev. N. Hoyt, the former Moderator, was called to the chair. Constituted with prayer.

### PRESENT.

#### *From the Presbytery of South Carolina.*

MINISTERS—Hugh Dickson, I. W. Waddel, David Humphrys, S. B. Lewers.

ELDERS—Dr. N. Harris, Willington Ch.; J. W. Simpson, Laurens C. H.

#### *From the Presbytery of Hopewell.*

MINISTERS—Henry Reid, S. S. Davis, A. Church, D. D., S. K. Talmage, N. Hoyt, C. P. Beman, S. J. Cassels, Wm. Quillin, H. C. Carter, C. W. Howard, F. R. Goulding.

ELDERS—J. H. Lumpkin, of Lexington Ch.; L. L. Newton, Athens; S. Rockwell, Milledgeville; Wm. Shear, Augusta; E. A. Nisbet, Madison; S. W. Robbins, Louisville; E. Mays, Marietta; J. McDowell, Goshen; M. Montgomery, Rome.

*From the Presbytery of Harmony.*

R. W. James, George Howe, G. H. W. Petrie, A. G. Peden, Wm. M. Reid, A. M. Egerton, M. D. Frazer.

ELDERS—G. T. Snowden, from the Ch. at Columbia; L. Prince, Cheraw.

*From the Presbytery of Charleston Union.*

A. W. Leland, D. D., W. A. McDowell, D. D., B. Gildersleeve, Thos. Smyth, J. A. Mitchell, A. Gilchrist, E. T. Buist, E. Hopkins.

ELDER—Samuel Clark, Beach Island Ch.

*From the Presbytery of Georgia.*

MINISTERS—R. Quarterman, C. C. Jones.

ELDER—E. S. Rees, from Darien.

*From the Presbytery of Bethel.*

MINISTERS—J. B. Davis, J. LeRoy Davies, P. E. Bishop, J. H. Thornwell.

ELDER—Dr. Dunlap, Lancaster Ch.

*Presbytery of Flint River.*

MINISTERS—Thos. Goulding, D. D., R. Chamberlain, J. S. Wilson, M. Dickson, J. C. Patterson, A. M. Mooney, J. Warnock.

ELDERS—J. McBride, Hopewell Ch.; M. T. Caldwell, Forsyth; J. Bonner, Ephesus; A. Livingston, Covington; T. Russell, McDonough; R. K. Marks, Columbus.

Additional members reported.

*From the Presbytery of Georgia.*

MINISTER—Washington Baird.

*From the Presbytery of Bethel.*

MINISTER—J. Douglas.

*From the Presbytery of Flint River.*

MINISTER—Telemachus F. Montgomery.

ABSENT.

*Presbytery of South Carolina.*

Samuel Davis, M. Waddel, D. D., J. B. Kennedy,  
V. H. Barr, D. D., R. B. Cater, A. W. Ross, J. L.  
Kennedy, J. Boggs, B. D. Dupree, Wm. Carlile.

*Presbytery of Hopewell.*

John Brown, D. D., Edw. Pharr, Rt. McAlpin, H.  
afford, J. Harrison, J. W. Reid, S. P. Pressley,  
P. C. Shelman, T. M. Dwight, L. B. Clinton, J.  
Likins.

*Presbytery of Harmony.*

John Cousar, Geo. Reid, R. W. Bailey, J. Wither-  
poon, D. D.; Wm. Brearly, C. L. R. Boyd, T. R.  
nglish, Rt. Means, J. Harrington, J. McFarland,  
Leighton Wilson, C. Blodgett, R. S. Gladney,  
J. DuBose, R. C. Campbell.

*Presbytery of Charleston Union.*

B. M. Palmer, D. D., E. White, Z. Rogers, W. S.  
ee, J. Dickson, A. Buist, Edward Palmer, J. B.  
anDyke, G. W. Boggs, J. F. Lanneau, J. B. Adger,  
L. Merrick, James Lewers, D. Ball, I. S. K.  
xson, I. S. K. Legare.

*Presbytery of Georgia.*

Wm. McWhir, D. D., H. S. Pratt, N. A. Pratt,  
B. Burroughs, Horace Galpin, H. F. Blodget,  
H. Snowden, and Thomas Alexander.

*Presbytery of Bethel.*

R. B. Walker, A. Williams, J. S. Adams, C. John-  
n, Wm. B. Davies.



*Presbytery of Flint River.*

E. Holt, T. F. Scott, Jas. Gamble, J. Y. Alexander, W. B. Richards, W. K. Patton, and J. Stratton. Rev. C. C. Jones was chosen Moderator, and Gildersleeve, Temporary Clerk.

Synod then adjourned to meet to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

*Friday Morning, Nov. 25—9 o'clock.*

Synod met according to adjournment, and was constituted with prayer.

Present as last evening, together with J. Mosell, Elder of the Church at Washington, Hopewell Presbytery, and Stephen Clay King, of Bethel, Glynn.

The minutes of the last meeting were read.

The Moderator announced the appointment of following Committees :

*Committee on Bills and Overtures*—Thos. Smyth, I. W. Waddel, S. K. Talmage, R. Chamberlain, Ministers ; J. McBride, E. S. Rees, Elders.

*On arrangements for Religious Services of Synod*—Dr. Goulding, H. Dickson, and A. Gilchrist.

*Judicial Committee*—J. H. Lumpkin, S. Clark, Elders ; R. Quarterman, Dr. Goulding, S. J. Cass, Ministers.

*On the Narrative*—S. J. Cassels, R. W. James, E. A. Nisbet.

*On Religious exercises as connected with the Congregation*—Mr. Howard and Mr. Patterson.

## ON PRESBYTERIAL RECORDS,

*On those of South Carolina Presbytery*.—S. Davis, C. P. Beman, J. McBride.

*On those of Hopewell Presbytery*—S. B. Lewis and T. Russell.

*On those of Harmony Presbytery*—J. A. Mitchell and Dr. Dunlap.

*On those of Charleston Union Presbytery*—J. Roy Davis, J. Bonner.

*On those of Georgia Presbytery*—Wm. Quillin and M. T. Caldwell.

*On those of Bethel Presbytery*—E. T. Buist, and G. T. Snowden.

*On those of Flint River Presbytery*.—F. R. Goulding, and Dr. Harris.

Rev. Francis Bowman, of the Synod of Virginia, being present, was invited to sit as corresponding member.

Letters were read from Rev. J. J. Du Bose, E White, and J. G. Likins, offering excuses for absence which were sustained.

Excuses were also offered in behalf of M. Waddel, D. D. W. S. Lee, Jas. Lewers, and D. Ball, which were sustained.

A letter was read from Rev. Dr. Palmer, assigning reasons for absence which were sustained; and tendering his resignation as one of the Directors of the Theological Seminary, which was accepted.

A Committee was appointed to examine the records of the General Assembly, and to report what items, if any, demand the attention of this Synod, consisting of Dr. McDowell, and J. Le Roy Davis.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a Committee consisting of one Minister and one Elder from each of the Presbyteries of this Synod, be appointed to take into consideration the present state of the Presbyterian Church and to report.

It was moved and adopted that the Presbyteries be called upon, in order, to lay before Synod what action if any, the Presbyteries have had on the state of the Church, before the announcement of the committee.

The Presbyteries of S. Carolina, Harmony, Charleston Union, and Bethel, responded to the call, and presented documents which were read. From the Presbyteries of Hopewell, Georgia and Flint River, no written documents were presented.

The Moderator then announced the following

*Committee on the State of the Church.*

MINISTERS—Alonzo Church, D. D., B. Gildersleeve, D. Humphrys, R. W. James, J. B. Davies, R. Quarterman, R. Chamberlain.

ELDERS—J. H. Lumpkin, Saml. Clarke, Dr. N. Harris, G. T. Snowden, Dr. Dunlap, E. S., Rees, R. T. Marks.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the foregoing Committee avail themselves of the Circular issued by the minority of the General Assembly, and other documents issued by them.

A reference from Charleston Union Presbytery was read before the Synod, and referred to a Committee, consisting of Dr. Goulding, Dr. McDowell, S. S. Davis, and E. A. Nisbet.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures were directed to meet this morning immediately after the rising of this body, and afterwards on their own adjournments.

Rev. Dr. Brown, of Hopewell Presbytery, being present, assigned reasons for not coming sooner, which were sustained.

It was made the order of the day for this afternoon at 3 o'clock, to hear the narratives of the Presbyteries on the state of religion, and to receive statistical reports.

The Committees appointed last year for the several Presbyteries to procure the circulation of the Tracts of the Presbyterian Tract Society of the Synod of Philadelphia, particularly Nos. 1, 2, and 3, severally reported that the duty had been in some measure attended to.

The members of Synod were severally called upon to report how far they have carried into effect the resolution of this body at its last meeting, respecting preaching on the subject of Foreign Missions—and also the resolution on the Assembly's Catechism—and also the resolution on the Eldership; and from their several reports, the gratifying intelligence was com-



icated that the members had very generally attended to the duty which had been enjoined upon them. Rev. H. Safford, a member of Hopewell Presbytery appeared in Synod, and offered satisfactory reasons not coming sooner.

The members of Synod who were absent at the last meeting of Synod, were severally called upon for the reasons of their absence ; when their respective excuses were sustained.

Synod then had a recess to meet at three o'clock afternoon.

*Three o'clock, P. M.*

Synod met.

The order of the day was taken up, which was to read the narratives of the state of religion from the Presbyteries, and to receive statistical reports. Written narratives were read from all the Presbyteries, except Flint River, and were referred to the Committee on the Narrative.

Statistical reports were received from all the Presbyteries, of which the following is an abstract :

The Presbytery of South Carolina reported that they consist of fourteen Ministers, and have under their care two licentiates, thirty-six congregations, one Foreign Minister, and four candidates for the Ministry.

The Presbytery of Hopewell reported that they consist of twenty-two members, and have under their care forty-two churches, three Licentiates, and five candidates for the Ministry that on the 9th of July, 1836, they ordained Rev. J. George, and installed him Pastor of the church at Monticello—that on the 31st of July, they dissolved the pastoral relation between Rev. S. K. Talmage, and the church of Augusta—that on the 27th of August, they licensed Mr. James M. By— that on the 25th of August they dissolved the pastoral relation between the Rev. C. W. Howard, and the church at Milledgeville—that they have received two organized churches under their care, viz : Ebenezer, at Chatooga, Walker Co. ; and Sardis, in

Floyd Co. Geo.—and that on the 29th of Sept. the Rev. S. P. Pressley departed this life.

The Presbytery of Harmony reported that they consist of 21 members, and have under their care 26 churches, 5 licentiates, and 4 candidates for the Ministry—that they have organized a church in Kershaw District, named Mount Moriah, and another by the name of Scion, in Fairfield District—that on the 13th of January, they dismissed Mr. William C. Dana to put himself under the care of the Presbytery of Charleston Union—that on the 7th of April they dismissed Mr. Richard Hooker, to put himself under the care of Hopewell Presbytery—that on the 9th of April they received Mr. J. C. Coit as a candidate for the Ministry—that they have removed the sentence of suspension from the Rev. John Rennie, and dismissed him to the Presbytery in Missouri, within whose bounds he resides—that they have licensed Messrs. Angus Johnson, Donald McQueen, and R. Colden Ketchum—that they have received the Rev. Philip Pearson from the Presbytery of Orange, and took Mr. Mitchell Peden under their care as a candidate for the Ministry—that they have licensed Mr. J. C. Coit, and Thomas Hunscombe Legare—and that within the past year, Rev. Geo. Reid, and Rev. Rt. Means have departed this life.

Charleston Union Presbytery reported that they consist of 27 members, and have 2 licentiates, and 3 candidates, and 8 churches under their care—that they have ordained Rev. Wm. B. Yates—that they have dismissed Mr. Washington Baird to put himself under the care of Georgia Presbytery—that they have received Wm. C. Dana, a licentiate of Harmony Presbytery, and ordained and installed him Pastor of the 3d Presbyterian Church, Charleston—that they have received Rev. Joseph Wallace, a member of the Associate Reformed Presbytery of Philadelphia.

The Presbytery of Georgia reported that they consist of 9 Ministers, and have 9 churches under their care—that they have received Mr. W. Baird, a licentiate

of Charleston U. Presbytery, and have ordained him to the work of the Ministry—and that the Rev. T. Alexander has departed this life.

The Presbytery of Bethel reported that they consist of 12 members, and have under their care 20 congregations—that they have ordained Alex. R. Banks as an Evangelist—that they have also ordained John Douglas, and installed him as Pastor of the churches of Purity and Concord—that they have ordained Rev. Wm A. Gray as an Evangelist, and installed the Rev. J. H. Thornwell, Pastor of Waxhaw and Six Mile Creek Churches, in connexion with Lancasterville—and the Rev. C. Johnson as Pastor of Bethesda Church.

The Presbytery of Flint River reported that they consist of 15 members, and have under their care 4 Licentiates and 28 Churches, three of which have been formed since the last meeting of Synod—that they have ordained Rev. Joseph L. Jones and Rev. T. F. Montgomery—that they have installed Rev. T. Goulding, D. D. as pastor of the 1st Presbyterian Church in the city of Columbus—that they have dismissed the Rev. Edwin Holt to join the Presbytery of Newburyport, and have licensed Richard T. Marks, and Daniel Engles as probationers for the Gospel Ministry.

The Committee on the minutes of the General Assembly, presented their report, in which they recommend that the decision of the General Assembly in the case of Albert Barnes, the decision on Dr. Miller's resolutions, the decision on the subject of Slavery, and the decision on the transfer of the Western Foreign Missionary Society, be referred to the Committee on the State of the Church, which was concurred in.

A letter was received from Rev. J. H. Gray, of the Synod of Alabama, read and referred to the Committee on the State of the Church.

Synod then called on the Churches to know how far they had complied with the order adopted last year to take up contributions for the contingent fund of the Theological Seminary.

Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Baird were appointed to elect from the Presbyteries the Stated Clerk's salary.

Rev. Dr. Waddel's resignation as Stated Clerk of Synod was tendered and accepted, and a Committee consisting of Messrs. Hoyt and Howe were appointed to bring in a suitable minute expressive of the feelings of Synod, touching his services, and the cause which has led to his resignation.

The Board of Missions reported the names of members of the Board of Missions whose term of office ends with the present meeting of Synod, and Lewers, J. L. R. Davies, and Mr. Gilchrist were appointed a Committee of Nomination to fill the vacancies.

Synod then proceeded to elect a Stated Clerk when I. W. Waddel was duly chosen.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures reported Overtures No. 1, 2, 3 and 4, which were read and ordered to be put on the docket.

Adjourned to meet to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock. Concluded with prayer.

*Saturday, Nov. 26—9 o'clock, A.*

Synod met according to adjournment, and was constituted with prayer. Present as last evening. Minutes were read.

The Committee appointed last year to prepare the printing of the Minutes of 1834 and 1835, reported that they had attended to that duty, —that five hundred copies were printed and distributed, and that the cost of publication was seventy-five dollars, for the payment of which it is left to Synod to provide.

On motion this subject was referred to the Committee appointed to collect the Stated Clerk's salary.

*Resolved,* That the Stated Clerk's salary be \$100 per annum.

A letter from the Rev. E. P. Swift, by order of the Executive Committee of the Western Foreign Missionary Society, was read before Synod, and referred



Special Committee consisting of Mr. Talmage, Dr. Goulding, Mr. Smith, S. C. King, and G. T. Snowden. Rev. Mr. Stratton, from Flint River Presbytery appeared in Synod, and offered reasons for not coming sooner, which were sustained.

The Committee appointed to nominate persons to vacancies in the Board of Missions, made their report which was accepted, and some additional nominations were made by members of the Synod, when it was

*Resolved*, That it be made the order of the day for this afternoon at 3 o'clock—to elect persons to fill the vacancies in the Board of Missions.

The Committee to make arrangements for the religious exercises of this morning reported an order of exercises which was adopted.

Overture No. 1. was taken up and adopted, and is as follows, viz :

*Resolved*, That as a standing rule the Synod call upon its members at its regular sessions to report their efforts on the Foreign Missionary cause and the instruction of their Churches in the distinctive doctrines and discipline of the Presbyterian Church.

Overture No. 2, was taken up and adopted and is as follows.

*Resolved*, That this Synod regards as of the highest importance to the interests of the Church, the compilation of a correct history of its origin and progress; and while they would urge upon our General Assembly to use all efforts for hastening the publication of a general history of the Church, they would now proceed to appoint a Committee on the history of the Presbyterian Church within our own bounds, and require the Stated Clerk or some other member appointed by each Presbytery to communicate to such Committee all necessary materials for the history of the Church within our own bounds.

Whereupon the following Committee was appointed, viz :—Thos. Smith, B. Gildersleeve, J. Witherspoon, D. D., S. S. Davis, T. Goulding, D. D., and J. S. Wilson.



Overture No. 3, was taken up, considered and adopted, and is as follows, viz :

*Resolved*, That this Synod regard a permanent pastoral relation as of essential importance to the well being of both pastor and people, and the plea for temporary or stated supplies to be, when not absolutely necessary, of a disorganizing tendency, they vote therefore, affectionately urge upon all their Ministers and congregations, their duty as good Presbyterian and sound Christians to make all efforts to establish themselves in such a permanent relationship.

Overture No. 4, was taken up, considered and adopted and is as follows, viz.

*Resolved*, That this Synod do earnestly recommend to its Ministers, Elders and members, a Quarterly view entitled the Biblical Repertory, published at Princeton, and supporting the peculiar doctrines, discipline, and government of our Church.

The period having come when, by standing order, the Synod have agreed to engage in religious exercises when two hours, (viz.) from 11 o'clock, A. M. to 1 P. M. were spent in prayer, reading the Scriptures, singing, and exhortation, in the order prescribed by the Committee.

Synod then proceeded to the nomination of members of the Board of Directors of the Theological Seminary to supply the place of those whose term of office expires at this meeting, (viz.) six Ministers and Laymen, and also one to supply the place of Dr. Palmer, D. D., resigned.

The nomination having been made, it was ordered that a list be made out of those nominated, and posted upon the door, and that it be the order of the day at ten o'clock, on Monday morning to go into an election.

Synod then had a recess to meet this afternoon at 3 o'clock.

*Three o'clock, P. M.*

Synod met.

Mr. Safford obtained leave of absence after this meeting.

The order of the day was taken up which was to go to an election for members of the Southern Board to supply the place of those whose term of office expires at the present meeting of Synod—and Mr. Buist and Gilchrist were appointed to collect the votes and give the result.

The Committee on the records of the Presbytery of South Carolina presented their report, recommending that the book be approved to page 88, which was adopted.

The Committee on the records of the Bethel Presbytery presented their report, recommending that the same be approved, which was adopted.

The Committee appointed to collect the Stated Clergy's salary, reported that the duty had been discharged; their report was accepted. Also the same committee authorized to settle the account for the printing the Minutes of the last Synod reported, which report was accepted, and is as follows, (viz.) an assessment on the Presbytery of South Carolina of \$13—Newell \$13—Harmony \$13—Charleston Union \$13—Georgia \$8—Bethel \$8—Flint River \$7.

The Committee appointed to count the votes, for members of the Southern Board of Foreign Missions, reported that the Rev. Thomas Smith and J. H. Rawell, as Ministers, and G. T. Snowden, and J. W. Simpson as Laymen from South Carolina, and B. Pratt and Samuel K. Talmage, as Ministers, with Joseph H. Lumpkin, and R. K. Hines, as Laymen from Georgia, were duly elected.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures, presented resolutions No. 5 and 6, which were ordered on the next meeting.

Resolution No. 5 was taken up, considered and adopted and is as follows.

*Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to report at the next meeting of Synod, on the causes which operate to hinder the spiritual prosperity and increase of our Zion, especially among our more feeble Churches. This Committee are Mr. Hopkins and Mr. S. S. Lewis.

Overture No. 6 was taken up and adopted, and is as follows, viz :

Whereas the violation of the Sabbath by travel on that day in public carriages exists to an alarming extent among members of the Church, therefore

*Resolved*, That our Presbyteries be directed to take this evil into consideration, and adopt such measures of prevention as their wisdom may dictate.

The Committee appointed to draft a minute expressive of the feelings of this body, touching the causes which have led to the resignation of their Stated Clerk offered the following which was adopted.

Whereas the resignation of the Rev. Dr. Wagoner as our Stated Clerk has been formally announced to this Synod, accompanied with the assurance that his health is such that he can no more discharge the duties of his office, therefore

*Resolved*, That his resignation be accepted, and our warmest thanks be presented to him for the faithful manner in which he has served as Stated Clerk for twenty years.

In passing this resolution, the Synod would express to this venerable Father in the Ministry, the warm affection we have ever felt and do still feel towards him, our respect for his many virtues, our sense of his services as one of the founders of the Presbyterian Church within the bounds of this Synod; and our deep sympathy in his present affliction. May the Great Head of the Church give him patience in suffering, and sustain him in his last days, with the precious consolation of our holy religion.

The Committee on the State of the Church presented their report which was accepted, and the order of the day for Monday morning immediately after the election of Directors for the Seminary.

The Committee on the communication from the Western Foreign Missionary Society, presented their report which was read and laid on the table.

By leave of Synod a resolution was introduced for the division of this body by the line which

es South Carolina from Georgia, which after some discussion was left undecided by a motion for adjournment which prevailed.

Synod then adjourned to meet on Monday morning 9 o'clock. Concluded with prayer.

*Monday Morning, Nov. 28, 1836.*

Synod met, and was opened with prayer. The minutes of Saturday were read.

The unfinished business was taken up, viz. the division of Synod when leave was given to withdraw the resolution upon this subject.

*Resolved*, That when the Synod adjourn it adjourn to meet in the Presbyterian Church in the city of Augusta on Thursday before the second Sabbath in November 1837, at half past 6 o'clock, P. M.

The Presbytery of Hopewell further reported that on the 26th of November 1836, they ordained the Rev. John W. Baker, and installed him as pastor of the church at Milledgeville. Mr. Baker being present took his seat as a member.

Rev. J. George, and Rev. J. W. Reid of Hopewell Presbytery, being present, offered reasons for not commencing sooner which were sustained.

Rev. Mr. Atkinson of the Synod of Virginia, being present, was invited to sit as a corresponding member.

Rev. Mr. Davis, by leave of Synod introduced the following resolution which was adopted.

Whereas there are many vacant Churches within the bounds of this Synod, and that a very inadequate number of young men known to be in any stage of study preparatory to the Ministry, and whereas the demand for a thoroughly educated native ministry is rendered peculiarly urgent by our peculiar circumstances, therefore

*Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to prepare a report on the subject for the special consideration of this body.

The Committee on this resolution are Professor Wm. Shear, S. K. Talmage, S. S. Davis, E. L. Newton,

Mr. Robbins and Mr. M'Dowell, Elders, obtain leave of absence.

The order of the day was taken up which was to go into an election for members of the Board of Directors of the Theological Seminary, and it was committed to Mr. Quillin, and G. T. Snowden to collect the votes and declare the result.

Synod then proceeded to the next order of the day which was to take up the report of the Committee on the State of the Church.

The Report was again read when a substitute was submitted by Mr. Gildersleeve for the whole report which was also read.

The discussion however was arrested to receive the report of the Committee on the reference from the Charleston Union Presbytery. The report was read and considered, and on motion the subject was referred back to the Presbytery without any advice or decision on the principles involved in the case.

Mr. Lumpkin had leave to introduce the following resolution which was adopted.

*Resolved*, That on account of the love and sin of the world which have come in like a flood upon the church, the Ministers within our bounds be directed to deliver to their respective charges, on the Sabbath in January next, a discourse suitable to that occasion, especially that they hold forth prominently the sinfulness of expending so much in luxury to gratify the lusts of the flesh, and the pride of life, and so little in charity to extend the Redeemer's Kingdom through the world.

A letter from Rev. J. E. Welch, addressed to the Moderator, in relation to the Sunday School examination prize, was read and laid on the table.

The Committee appointed to count the votes, and declare the result of the election for Directors of the Theological Seminary, reported that the following members were duly elected for three years, viz :

MINISTERS—R. W. James, J. B. Davies, S. K. Mage, H. S. Pratt, C. C. Jones, A. Gilchrist.



**LAYMEN**—G. T. Snowden, Joseph Cumming, Rt. Birmingham, T. R. Vardell.

And that I. W. Waddel was elected to supply the place of B. M. Palmer, D. D. resigned.

The report of the Committee on the state of the church was resumed; when it was moved to take the substitute. After adopting a part of the preamble of the substitute, it was referred to a Committee consisting of E. A. Nisbet, T. Smith, and S. C. King, bring in an amendment to a part of the substitute. Synod then had a recess, to meet at three o'clock in the afternoon.

*Three o'clock. P. M.*

Synod met.

The Committee appointed to collect the Stated Clerk's salary, reported that they had collected fifty-five dollars, and paid it into the hands of the present stated clerk, to be paid to the former stated clerk; and that they had also collected seventy-five dollars, and paid it over to the temporary clerk, in payment for printing the minutes of Synod for 1834, and 1835.

The Committees on the records of Harmony, and Georgia Presbytery, reported that the books had not been put into their hands; and they were discharged.

Dr. Church, E. A. Nisbet, J. S. Wilson, J. Moseley, T. Caldwell, Thos. Russell, S. B. Lewers, N. Harmon, J. W. Simpson, and Dr. Goulding, obtained leave of absence after this evening.

The unfinished business of the morning was taken up, which was the substitute for the report of the Committee on the state of the church. The Committee brought in an amendment to a part of the substitute, reported that certain words which had been erased, be restored; and that an additional resolution, which they submitted, be appended to the substitute. Their report was concurred in.

The remaining part of the substitute, with the additional resolution reported by the Committee, was then read, article by article, and adopted; and finally adopted unanimously as a whole—and is as follows:

Whereas, the General Assembly is designed to embody and express the sentiments of the whole Church on all questions of doctrine, order, or discipline, which may be regularly and constitutionally submitted to their decision:

And whereas the proceedings of the last General Assembly, evince a radical difference in the views of its members, on subjects of vital importance, touching the appropriate powers of the Church, her doctrinal standards, and the legitimate exercise of her discipline:

And whereas the continuance of these discordant views must necessarily defeat one of the main designs of the Assembly, which is to "constitute the bond of union, peace, correspondence, and mutual confidence among all our Churches;"

It is, therefore, manifestly proper for the inferior Judicatories to take the subjects which now agitate the Church, under their particular and prayerful consideration, and adopt such measures as in their judgment will tend to arrest existing evils, confirm believers in the truth and order of the Gospel, and promote the great object for which the Church on earth was instituted.

These premises receiving the full and united concurrence of this Synod, they advert to the proceedings of the last General Assembly, and would express, not the spirit of acrimony and disorganization, but of meekness, fidelity and love, their decided conviction upon the following topics:

### 1. *As it relates to the Missionary Cause.*

This Synod deem it entirely competent to the General Assembly to conduct the work of Missions both Foreign and Domestic, by Boards of their own appointment, and under their own supervision and control—that as the Church, by the appointment of its grand lawgiver and judge, is constituted the grand instrument of diffusing abroad the knowledge of salvation, should they refuse to do it, they will fail to accomplish

at object of their organization—one great duty which we owe the world, one of the main obligations imposed upon them by the God of Missions—that on a variety of accounts, which it is not important to specify, an *Ecclesiastical* is preferable to a mere *voluntary* organization for Missionary purposes, but especially, because it more effectually embodies the energy of the Church, and calls forth her resources on established principles, and through its own appointed responsible officers; and because such an organization partakes of the spirit of the Church, receives and imparts spiritual life, and in perpetuity runs parallel with the Church without depending upon extraneous aid—that the present condition of the Church and world demands such an organization not only on ground of duty but of expediency. For let the Church be united in the Missionary cause—let her meet the claims of a perishing world upon her energies and her prayers, and no power on earth can dissolve the bond of union between her members. Her members will then see eye to eye on other subjects, and much of the discord which has abounded will be forgotten, and the causes of it removed by the cultivation of the spirit of charity—the spirit of the Gospel—the spirit of Missions. And finally that the last General Assembly were under special obligations to ratify a contract which had been made, by the direction and authority of the preceding Assembly, with the Western Foreign Missionary Society, and that in refusing to do this they not only wounded the feelings of many of the Churches, but kindled afresh the flames of discord, and exposed themselves to the imputation of having violated a most solemn pledge.

*As it relates to the case of the Rev. Albert Barnes.*

By the decision of the last General Assembly in sustaining the appeal of Mr. Barnes, and especially in the rejection of Dr. Miller's resolutions, there is an implied approval of "Barnes' Notes on the Romans"—an approval, which, in the judgment of this Synod, should

never have been given, either in direct terms or fair implication. These "Notes," in the opinion of a large minority of the Assembly, and in the opinion of this Synod, are not only in frequent collision with themselves, affirming and denying the same sentiments but in frequent collision with the standards of the Church upon essential doctrines—such as original sin—total depravity—the doctrine of imputation, and justification by faith in the Redeemer—and as such they merit reprehension of our ecclesiastical Judicatories. At such events no Commentary should receive an implied approval of the Church which is liable to such an interpretation, or which leaves it even in the slightest degree doubtful whether the sentiments of the author are in unison with our standards. A Commentary and one prepared with a special reference to the yeomanry of our congregations, should be above suspicion—should be so clear, explicit, and decided, that he who reads may read—and not require for its defence explanation upon explanation, and note upon note. And what more confirms the impression that this work is radically unsound, is the fact that the attempts to defend it are in perfect keeping with the manner in which heresy has been broached and advocated in all ages of the Church. For these and other reasons involving the merits of the controversy into which Synods should bear entering, it is the decided conviction of this body that the proceedings of the Assembly in the case of the Rev. Albert Barnes are adapted to countenance errors of a most dangerous tendency.

### 3. *As it relates to Petitions and Memorials on the subject of Slavery.*

So long as petitions and memorials denouncing the enemies of God and of man, the Ministers and members of the Church who hold slaves, are suffered to be introduced or agitated in the meetings of the Assembly, so long will there be just cause of complaint, as such a course inevitably tends to the dissolution of those bonds by which the Church is united.

gether by a common faith. Should this subject ever again be brought before the Assembly in any form, this Synod regard it as due to truth and justice, and required for the peace, the harmony, and the good of the Church, to settle it definitively and forever by adopting a resolution declarative of the sentiment that *the Church has no authority to legislate on this subject.* A rigid adherence to this position is imperiously demanded, and will teach such petitioners and memorialists as mistake the powers of the Church and are determined to agitate the question, be the consequences what they may, that our civil and domestic institutions are not under Ecclesiastical control.

The Synod of South Carolina and Georgia having thus briefly expressed their views upon the three main questions in controversy unanimously concur in the following resolutions:

1. *On the Subject of Missions.*

*Resolved 1,* That the Church, by the very elements of her Constitution, is a Missionary Society—that it is enjoined upon her as a duty to impart to others the blessings which she herself has received—that the Great Head of the Church has constituted her the appropriate channel through which the light of the Gospel is to be diffused among the nations of the earth, and that her organization is such as to embody her strength and set forth her resources and bring them to bear to the best advantage upon the world's conversion to God.

*Resolved 2,* That the refusal of the last General Assembly to engage in the work of Foreign Missions, under all the circumstances of the case, was an outrage upon the feelings of those Churches which prefer an ecclesiastical to a voluntary organization, and highly dishonorable, as it was in violation of what is very properly termed, good faith.

*Resolved 3,* That this Synod approve of the principles upon which the Western Foreign Missionary Society is founded, and rejoice in its prospects of great and extensive usefulness, and would have regard-



ed it as a propitious event had it been transferred, on the terms of the compact, to the management of the General Assembly, so that our whole Church might have engaged in the work of Foreign Missions, under one general organization.

*Resolved 4,* That we commend this subject to the consideration of the next General Assembly, with the assurance that as a Synod we hold ourselves ready to co-operate with them in this good work whenever they shall effect such an organization as the minority of the last Assembly labored in vain to procure.

*Resolved 5,* That the Southern Board of Foreign Missions is now an Ecclesiastical organization—that its Missionaries are under the jurisdiction of the several Presbyteries to which they belong, and that no existing relation with any other Board, impairs, in the slightest degree, our privilege or our authority as an ecclesiastical body.

## 2. *The Case of Mr. Barnes.*

*Resolved 1,* That the refusal of the last General Assembly to adopt the resolutions that were introduced by Dr. Miller, touching “Barnes’ Notes on the Romans” has led to the inference, that in their judgment, they contained nothing radically erroneous—an inference false in point of fact, but an inference which, under all the circumstances of the case, it was impossible to avoid.

*Resolved 2,* That this work belongs to the public, and as efforts have been made to palm it upon the world as a true exposition of Presbyterian doctrines, we as a Synod feel it a duty which we owe to our Churches, to our standards, to our character, and to truth, to avow our solemn conviction that it contains radical errors on essential points of Christian doctrine—and such errors as are sufficient to exclude all those who hold them from our communion.

*Resolved 3,* That as the progress of error is most usually silent and furtive in its incipency, and till it acquires such power as to inspire confidence of success

in its abettors, we as a Synod and individuals will guard with vigilance the doctrines of each other, and of candidates for the Ministry, not with the eye of suspicion and of jealousy, but in the spirit of brotherly love, and of love to the truth as it is revealed in the word of God, and as our standards expound it.

### 3. *On Anti-Slavery Petitions and Memorials.*

*Resolved,*, 1. That as the relation of Master and Slave is a civil and domestic institution, it is one on which no Judicatory of the Church has the right or the power to legislate.

*Resolved,* 2, That the Presbyteries constituting this Synod be requested to instruct their Delegates to the next General Assembly to vote upon no proposition in relation to the institution of Domestic slavery, unless it be in favor of the truth, that it is a civil institution, upon which the Judicatories of the Church have no right to legislate. And to instruct, them further to withdraw from the Assembly, should that body take any action which, in their opinion, asserts the right of legislation upon that subject.

### CONCLUSION.

The foregoing resolutions clearly exhibit the position which this Synod sustain, in reference to the leading questions which have greatly agitated some portions of our church. They commend themselves to our consciences and judgment as in accordance with the word of God, and those standards of doctrine and discipline which we have solemnly adopted; and we now make this record, and we publish it to the world with the solemn conviction that it will be reviewed and approved at the Judgment of the last day.

Synod then adjourned to meet to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

*Capitay Morning, Nov. 29—9 o'clock.*

Synod met and was opened with prayer.

The Committee to review the minutes of Charleston Union Presbytery presented their report, recommending that with certain specified exceptions, the records be approved ; their report was adopted.

Mr. Patterson, Mr. Quarterman, and Dr. Brown, were appointed to define the line between Flint River and Georgia Presbytery, and report.

Mr. Warnock and Mr. Montgomery obtained leave of absence.

The Board of Directors of the Theological Seminary presented their minutes as their report, which was accepted.

Synod then took up that part of the report which relates to the action of the Board in urging Rev. C. C. Jones to retain the appointment of Professor of Church History and Polity in his hands, which he had declined, till the present meeting of Synod—When, on motion, it was

*Resolved, unanimously,* That this Synod approve of the course pursued by the Board, and that it is still their wish that Mr. Jones be retained, and enter as early as possible upon the duties of the office.

A Committee was appointed, consisting of Rev. Thos. Smyth, J. H. Thornwell, and G. Howe, to take into consideration the establishment of a Theological Review.

Mr. T. F. Montgomery obtained leave of absence.

The report of the Committee on the communication of the Western Foreign Missionary Society, was called up, accepted and adopted, and is as follows :

*Western Foreign Missionary Society.*

The Committee appointed to take into consideration, a letter from the Western Foreign Missionary Society, reported the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted :

*Resolved*, That this Synod do heartily approve of the Western Foreign Missionary Society : and particularly as it is an Ecclesiastical organization, conducted by the Judicatories and through the Sessions of the Presbyterian Church.

*Resolved, further*, That we wish this Board every success, and earnestly hope that it will, ere long, become the Board, not of the Western Synod merely, but of the Presbyterian Church.

*And be it further Resolved*, That this Board is fully recommended to the confidence and support of any of our churches or members who may conscientiously or decidedly prefer it to our own Board of Missions : and that this Board be instructed to forward the contributions of the churches to their designation, whether to the Western, or the A. B. C. F. M.

*Resolved*, That this Synod instruct the Southern Board of Foreign Missions to communicate with the Synod of Tennessee at its next meeting and with its Missionaries now in the field, that in case of the organization of a General Assembly's Board of Missions, this Synod may be prepared to enter into it without any further delay.

It is at the same time *Resolved*, That inasmuch as the Southern Board of Foreign Missions is, in its present organization perfectly independent, as it regards the distribution of its funds and as it regards the supervision of the judicatories over its Missionaries—since it is wholly ecclesiastical in its organization and mode of operations—and since it has never been interfered with in any way by the Executive Committee of the A. B. C. F. M. in the exercise of its preferences and plans—since it is pledged to Missionaries from among ourselves, who are Presbyterians, who have gone forth with our assurances of support, and who are now located in fields of great importance, and of heavy expense, and who have not been consulted on this subject, and whose support demands an amount greater than we can raise, and which the A. B. C. F. M. is engaged to see met—and since it is not yet absolutely certain that the

whole South may not be required to act independently in this cause—the Synod do not think it expedient, at present, to alter the relations of the S. B. F. M.

Mr. S. B. Hunter, Elder of the Church in Macon, Flint River Presbytery, appeared in Synod, and offered satisfactory reasons for not coming sooner.

On motion, the following additional resolutions were ordered to be appended to the action of the Synod on the State of the Church.

*Convention on the State of the Church.*

*Resolved*, That in view of the errors in doctrine and discipline which extensively prevail in the Presbyterian Church, it becomes the solemn and imperative duty of all our Judicatories to bear a decided, and unyielding testimony in favor of the truth, and to take effectual measures to separate, as speedily as possible, from the communion of the Church all who are disaffected towards our standards of doctrine and polity.

*Resolved, further*, That should the Presbyteries composing this Synod, think it advisable to call a convention to be composed of delegates from orthodox Presbyteries, and minorities of Presbytery, clothed with full powers to deliberate on the state of the Church, and to take such measures in the premises as they may think proper and expedient, they have the sanction of this Synod to do so.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a Committee consisting of Messrs. Smith and Gildersleeve, and Dr. McDowell, be appointed, with instructions to print and circulate five thousand copies of the report on the state of the church, together with the report of the Committee on the communication of the Western Foreign Missionary Society.

A Committee was appointed, consisting of J. LeRoy Davis, I. W. Waddel, G. T. Snowden, T. R. Vardell, W. Baird, J. George, and R. Chamberlain, to raise the means for the publication of the same.



The Committee appointed to bring in a minute in relation to vacant churches, in connexion with educating young men of piety and talents for the Ministry, reported the following, which was adopted :

Whereas, there are within the bounds of this Synod, 170 churches, and only about 100 settled Ministers, and 40 young men known to be in any stage of preparation for the ministry ; and whereas the demand for a thoroughly educated native Ministry to supply our own wants and to maintain the honor of our Church in a community fast increasing in intelligence and the means of education, is exceedingly great ; and whereas the vast wastes of the South and South West will always draw largely on us for ministerial supplies, and should be considered by us in all our plans for theological education.

Therefore *Resolved*, That it be earnestly and solemnly enjoined upon all our Churches, and especially upon the Ministry and Eldership, to give this subject a place in their thoughts and efforts, and to seek out pious, humble, and prudent young men, and lead them forward to the Ministry.

*Resolved 2dly*, That Christian parents ought to consider it an honor to themselves and their sons, *conferred upon them by the Great Head of the Church*, when the inclination of their children is turned by the Spirit and providence of God towards the holy Ministry : and if the notions of their children seem pure, and their character for talent and piety suitable, they ought by all means to encourage them to proceed, lest they be found fighting against God.

*Resolved 3dly*, That as this Synod has once declared itself auxiliary to the Assembly's Board of Education, and as the Presbyteries under our care have nearly all, by their separate action, connected themselves with the same Board, it is earnestly enjoined upon them that they complete this organization by appointing an efficient Committee to attend to this subject within their bounds, and that they report annually the

number of candidates under their care, and the amount of funds raised for the purpose of Education, to the General Agent of said Board residing within the bounds of Synod.

*Resolved 4thly,* That it be the duty of the General Agent of the Assembly's Board to make annually a full and ample report to this body, of whatever may have been done in the course of the year on this subject.

*Resolved 5thly,* That a Committee of four be appointed to correspond with the Synod of Alabama on the subject of union with us in the support and management of the Theological Seminary located at Columbia, and that this Committee be required to report at the next Synod; and further,

*Resolved,* That some member of this Committee or some other person selected by them, be commissioned to attend at the next session of the Synod of Alabama, and lay this subject before that body.

The Committee appointed under the 5th Resolution, are George Howe, S. J. Cassels, J. L. R. Davies, R. W. James.

The Committee on the boundary line between Flint River and Georgia Presbytery, reported that it be a right line from the Ocmulgee to the Flint River, commencing at the corner of Telfair and Irwin Counties, opposite Jacksonville and running to the mouth of Flint River, which was adopted.

*Resolved,* That this Synod regards with unabated increased interest the progress of the Temperance cause, that they urge upon all in their communion to give their countenance and efficient co-operation to whatever measures may in their judgment seem best adapted to further this important enterprise, and especially that the members of this Synod be requested to circulate the Temperance Permanent Documents, a volume which has been compiled with the greatest ability, and which contains a mass of information on this subject, which cannot fail deeply to impress every candid mind.

A letter was received from Rev. H. S. Pratt, containing his excuse for absence which was sustained.

*Resolved*, That this Synod become auxiliary to the General Assembly's Board of Missions, and that a Committee be appointed to devise plans to lay before our Presbyteries and before the Churches, calling their attention to this subject, and enjoining prompt and energetic action.

The Committee appointed on this resolution are Dr Witherspoon J. B. Lewers, J. Le Roy Davis, Henry Reid, Edw. T. Buist, W. Baird, Mr. Gildersleeve, Mr. Smyth, and Mr. Dana.

*Resolved*, That the salaries of the Professors in the Theological Seminary at Columbia, be increased to two thousand dollars.

Rev. Mr. Atkinson, General Agent of the American Bible Society, by leave of Synod, addressed the meeting, when the following resolutions were offered and adopted, viz :

*Resolved*, That this Synod regard with undiminished approbation and affection, the American Bible Society, and its various auxiliaries and feel a deep interest in the extension and successful prosecution of all their efforts to fill the world with the knowledge of the glory of God.

*Resolved*, That in the judgment of this Synod, (whilst undoubtedly we ought to afford our just proportion of the pecuniary means necessary for sending the Gospel to the heathen and other benighted nations,) it is one of the most pressing duties now incumbent on us as Patriots, as Philanthropists, and as Christians to keep the growing population of our own country continually supplied with the word of God.

*Resolved*, That it is expedient that one Bible Society at least should be formed in every county or district, within the bounds of this Synod, and that it hereby is affectionately recommended to all our Ministers, Church members and friends, to take prompt and efficient measures for effecting this object, even in ca-

ses in which it may be impracticable for an agent to visit them.

*Resolved*, That this Synod recommend to all the Elders and Ministers in our Churches, the sermon of the Rev. T. Smith, on the condition and character of the Eldership.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this body be presented to the inhabitants of Milledgeville, for their hospitality to the members of Synod, and that the Rev. Mr. Baker be requested to communicate the same in any form which he may select.

The Committee on the Minutes of Flint River Presbytery presented their report, recommending that the book be approved which was concurred in.

The Committee on the Narrative of the State of Religion, presented their report which was read, adopted, and is as follows:

#### *Narrative of the State of Religion.*

In presenting the present narrative to their churches, Synod would remember with devout thanksgiving to God, the many mercies of the past Synodical year.— Blessings, both temporal and spiritual, have been multiplied among us, not for our righteousness sake, but through the sovereign goodness of our Heavenly father. To his most holy name be all the glory.

*Deaths.*—To remind us, however, that “here have we no continuing city,” and to excite in our hearts still stronger desires for that “rest which remaineth for the people of God,” not only has the Lord translated to his heavenly Kingdom many of his saints from our various churches, but he has also been pleased to call to their eternal reward some of those beloved Ministers who stood laboring by our side in his great vineyard.—The names of Reid, Means, Presley, and Alexander, remind us only of the blest in Heaven. Once, with us, these dear spirits wept, and prayed, and toiled—but now, with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and the Prophets and Apostles, and Martyrs and Saints, they sing the song of Moses and the lamb.—

May we have grace to follow, with patience, those who have gone before us, and are now inheriting the promises.

*Increase of Members.*—The reports from the Presbyteries, though containing accounts of no great revivals, yet furnish evidence that there has been, during the past year, a gradual enlargement of the Kingdom of Christ among us. A few more laborers have been introduced into the harvest. A few additional churches have been organized—and a few souls, in most of our congregations, have been added to the Lord by public profession of their faith.

*Character of piety.*—Receiving into our churches none but those who make a creditable profession of religion; and requiring, as we do, in all our members, a godly walk and conversation, it is to be presumed, that most of those in our churches who profess godliness, are in truth the genuine disciples of Christ.—The doctrines which, as Ministers, we have taught, and which our people have received, are those grand truths, which, under the Ministry of Prophets, and Apostles, and of Christ, have, in past ages, been so effectual, through the Spirit, of calling and sanctifying the elect of God. For these doctrines our Ministers are growing in veneration, and their happy influence in confirming believers and glorifying the Saviour, is more extensively perceived among our churches.—As *action* is the watchword of the age, the character of piety among us, is more of an *active* than of a *contemplative* kind. That depth of religious truth, and that richness of Christian experience which characterized the days of the reformation, have *too much* given place to the stirring spirit of Christian beneficence and the love of religious excitement. We do not intend to say that we are *too active*, but that we are not enough *experimental*.

*Benevolent operations.*—While some of the benevolent enterprizes of the day have declined, and some others appear to be stationary, the most of them have decidedly advanced during the past year. To the cause



of Foreign Missions, *twice* the amount subscribed last year has been collected this.—And although the number of students in our Theological Seminary has not been so large as previously, yet has a literary Institution, under the care of one of our Presbyteries, one design of which is to supply the want of students of Divinity, been so far endowed by subscription, as to warrant its managers to appoint several of its officers, and to take measures for both its permanent endowment and the erection of its buildings. And it is firmly believed that when Carolina and Georgia shall be perfectly united in their Christian efforts; when they shall come up in all their strength to the help of the Lord; when Oglethorpe University and the Theological Seminary at Columbia, shall be in harmonious and powerful exercise, then will there be no lack of Theological Students, or Pastors, or Evangelists, or Missionaries among us—Then will none of our churches sit in disconsolate widowhood, weeping that their children are destitute of the bread of life—and then will the heathen feel, in distant parts, the existence of the power of our Synodical Association. The healthful influence of the present plans of the Assembly's Board of Domestic Missions, has also begun to be felt within our bounds. The permanent settlement of Pastors over our churches, now nearly entirely destitute of preaching, cannot but be hailed by all with pleasure. And the time is shortly coming, we trust, when this system will be efficiently extended over all the now needy portions of our Zion. There are a number of churches, mainly in the lower sections of the two States, that are reported to be engaged in the work of instructing the Negroes. Catechetical instruction among the children of our churches is also becoming more prominent than formerly.

*General tendency.*—The general tendency of our church is evidently towards a higher orthodoxy in doctrine, a stricter Presbyterianism in form, and greater enlargement and concert in action. A higher standard is evidently going up among us, not only in refer-

ence to our peculiarities as Presbyterians, but in reference to our excellencies as Christians. We are putting on greater power, going into a larger field, and expecting more signal success. While our Ministry is gradually increasing in number, it is also advancing in ministerial furniture—While our churches are slowly augmenting, they are falling under a more rigid discipline—and while our efforts for the cause of benevolence is slowly extending, the walls which separate man from man are falling down, and we are beginning to realize that “the field is the world.”

*Abatements.*—While, however, this brightening prospect before us cheers and animates the heart; and while the ever-attentive goodness of God crushes us under a sense of his adored grace, we still feel, and have cause to feel, that we are “unprofitable servants.” That there should be among us, as a band of Christian Ministers and Churches, any want of fraternal affection, any lack of devotedness to the work, any ill success in the conversion of souls, *any, any* deficiency in the full discharge of all our duties to the Saviour, is cause enough for deep humiliation and brokenness of heart. If then, under the want of even a little in the completion of our work, we should have reason to mourn a reform, how much greater is the demand for repentance and reformation, when so very little has been done in our great and arduous work? It is probable that *fewer* souls have been added to the Lord under our Ministry, during the past year than during several previous years. Now, although the state of the Church is not always to be tested by the number converted from the world, yet do we feel sure that religion cannot exist in a healthful state in the hearts of God’s people, for any length of time, without the conversion of sinners following as a consequence. If then, we had but this *one feature* of declension among us in vital godliness, it were enough to make us examine, and purge, and humble ourselves before God. No Christian Minister, no evangelical church, can, or ought to be satisfied, while destitute of the converting

influences of the Spirit. With multitudes around us, hastening on to the retributions of eternity unprepared; with an unexcitable sloth, and invincible worldliness and an uncontrollable disregard of religion ever before our eyes, how can we help exclaiming in the language of the lamenting Prophet of Jerusalem, "Oh that my head were waters, and my eyes fountains of tears, that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people." Yes, Brethren, *never, never* must we regard with self-applause and ease our religious condition, while sinners among us are perishing with an accumulation of guilt upon them, more alarming than that which pressed upon the souls of the inhabitants of Sodom and Gomorrah.

*Causes of ill success.*—In looking for the causes of Ministerial ill success, during the past year, it is evident that they are to be found, not in the invincible hardness of the sinner's heart—such hearts have, in all ages, bowed to the power of the Gospel and not the weakness of Divine truth—such truth is mighty, through God, to "the pulling down of the strong holds" of the enemy; not in the unwillingness of Christ to bestow his blessing—for he has said "Lo I am with you always even unto the end of the world"—but they are to be found in plain and obvious causes existing among ourselves. One of these causes is the fact that we have not made the conversion of sinners assume that prominence which it demands. Because some previous excitements have proved to be spurious; because some who profess conversion, have proved themselves unconverted; and because the measures formerly adopted in revivals have been sometimes ridiculed, often censured, and frequently suspected; from these several causes, our moral courage in the conquest of sinners to Christ, has unquestionably abated of late in no inconsiderable degree.—In other respects, we may have become even more faithful than before. We have put our ramparts into a better posture for defence—we have inspected and drilled our soldiers—we have burnished with more care

our armour—and we have thrown over the whole fortification a greater vigilance—but there be the enemy just over the walls, strong and spirited, unassailed, unsubdued—The assault we dread—from the struggle we shrink—and we seem to prefer the contemplation of the long and waving banner of the Cross, with orthodoxy upon it, and the invincible strength of doctrinal fortifications, and the regular march of well trained Presbyterianism, and the glittering brightness of our burnished armory, to the rapid flight of our foes, and the universal sovereignty of Christ over men. Let us remember, then, that if we have made heretofore an injudicious assault upon men, we are now to make a *judicious* one. We are not to shrink from the conflict, because we have once fought amiss.

*A secularized Ministry* is another cause of ill success. Ministers are the servants of Christ, the *workmen* of Christ—The *preaching of the Cross* is *their one great work*. From this, nothing, nothing should divert them; and it is only when devoutly aged in the appropriate work that we can expect them to be successful. When then, we see the number of Ministers among us, who are neither Evangelists nor Pastors' can we wonder that so little good has been done?

Nor can we fail to mention as a cause of declension a vital godliness among us, a *worldly spirit* which has crept into the Church, through prevailing worldly affluence—"The love of money is the root of all evil," says an inspired Apostle. Surely, then, with such a disposition in the Church at present to worldly prosperity, we could but expect a correspondent state of spiritual declension.

In concluding our report, therefore, while we urge it upon our Ministers and churches to *stand fast* "in the things whereunto they have already attained," we must urge upon them the removal of the present hindrances to the success of the ministry. See then, to it, Brethren, that as ye abound in every other good work, ye abound also in the conversion of sinners to God.

In reference to the present state of our church, while

we would recommend *orthodoxy* to all, and firmness in the maintainance of our standards, we insist upon brotherly love, mutual forbearance, and the spirit of Christ. We would urge upon Ministers their duty of being entirely devoted to the work of the Ministry—and we would urge it upon our churches to support their Ministers—to support them and their families, not as a charity, but as a *debt* both to them and to Christ. And we would recommend to all great gratitude to God for past favors, deep repentance for past offences, and an entire consecration of both Ministers and churches to the one great work of glorifying Christ in the sanctification of his elect.

Ordered that Mr. Gildersleeve and Mr. Smith be a Committee of publication, and that 500 copies of these minutes, together with an abstract of the proceedings of the Board of Directors of the Theological Seminary, be published and distributed among the Ministers and Churches of this Synod.

C. C. JONES, *Moderator.*

B. GILDERSLEEVE, *Temporary Clerk.*



## APPENDIX.

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### THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY OF THE SYNOD.

The Board of Directors of the Theological Seminary of the Synod of South Carolina and Georgia, met in Milledgeville, according to adjournment, on the 23d of November, and continued their meetings at such intervals as the business of Synod would permit, till the evening of the 29th, when they finally adjourned to meet in the city of Augusta, on the Wednesday evening preceding the 2d Thursday in November 1837.

There were present at this meeting the following Ministers, viz:—S. S. Davis, Vice-President; B. Gildersleeve, Secretary; W. A. McDowell, D. D., Alonzo Church, D. D., John B. Davies, Robert W. James, S. K. Talmage, Nathan Hoyt, Thomas Smyth, C. C. Jones, and S. J. Cassels, and towards the close of the sessions, Adam Gilchrist and Isaac W. Waddel, newly elected members, and also the following Laymen, Jos. Henry Lumpkin and Gilbert T. Snowden.

It was reported to the Board that one of their members the Rev. Robert Means, had departed this life since their last annual meeting; whereupon it was

*Resolved*, That the Board, while they deeply lament this bereavement, will cherish the remembrance of the discretion and prudence and zeal which their departed brother ever exhibited in the management of the Seminary under their direction."

At an early part of the meeting the usual Committees were appointed, to whom was referred the Reports of the Treasurer, of the Investing Committee, of the Librarian, of the Professors—and other matters requiring the action of the Board.

The Auditing Committee to whom were referred the Treasurer and Investing Committee's reports, on examining their vouchers reported that they found them correct.

The condition of the funds may be seen in the annexed statement from the Report of the Committee of Ways and Means.

In reference to the Maybank legacy, it is proper to remark, that on account of some informality, the transfer of this legacy has not yet been made to the Board in legal form. But the Executors are persuaded it will be done at the next session of the Supreme Court for Liberty County, Ga.

A Scholarship founded by the Congregational and Presbyterian Female Education Society of Charleston, has been transferred to the Board during the year, and consists of twenty one hundred dollars, invested in thirty six Shares of the Union Bank, Charleston, and four hundred dollars in cash, paid into the hands of the Investing Committee which the Board have directed to be invested for the object specified by the donors.

Rev. S. S. Davis, a voluntary agent of the Board, reported that he had collected during the year \$1400, on subscriptions for Georgia Professorships. Reports were also received from Rev. Mr. James, and Rev. Mr. English, from which it appeared that they had paid over to the Treasurer the monies they had received. The Secretary to whom some monies had been paid rendered in his account to the Board, and the balance of monies in his hand viz. \$103 81 $\frac{1}{4}$  were paid over to Mr. Snowden, by order of the Board to be remitted to the Treasurer.

The condition of the Library may be known from the annexed report of the Librarian. An appropriation of \$1500 was made by the Board last year, for the Library, and Rev. Mr. Smyth was appointed Chairman of the Committee, for the purchase of books under this appropriation. The Executive Committee in order to facilitate the objects of the Board, availed themselves in part of uninvested funds to meet this appropriation, and to enable the purchasing Committee to forward their orders to London. The books thus ordered had just arrived in Charleston; and the Committee had succeeded in getting them through the Custom House free of duty; but were sorry to add that on opening them they appeared to be damaged, and are now awaiting the return of the Committee that they may be surveyed and proper measures taken to recover the damages.\* This importation of books was designed to add greatly to the value of the Library.

Specific donations have been made for the Library which serve in part to replace the sum drawn from the uninvested funds to meet the appropriation, and other donations are anticipated for the same object; and so confident were the Board of success in this respect, that they appointed a Committee consisting of the Rev. Messrs. Smyth, White and Gildersleeve, who after having already paid the debt incurred in the purchase

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\* The damage was less than was at first supposed. The damaged books have been returned, to be sold for the benefit of the underwriters; and full remuneration has been made for the loss, as per invoice, together with interest and difference in exchange.

of books, are authorized to purchase other books to any amount of funds they may be able to collect for that specific object.

We annex so much of the Professors Report as relates to the Students in the Seminary last year. Other parts of the Professors Report were referred to appropriate Committees.

The Committee on Laws and Regulations to whom so much of the Professors' Report as relates to vacations, &c. had been referred, submitted a report which was adopted, and is as follows, viz:

That the Theological year begin on the 18th of October, and end on the 18th of July, and that there be but one vacation during the year, namely, three months from 15th July to 15th October.

The Board had an interview with the Professors in relation to certain parts of their report which had been referred to a special Committee, when by order of the Board the following minute was made.

"The Board having heard that rumors were circulating, unfavorable to the soundness of the Professors, and having had submitted to them certain published pieces, charging them with unsoundness in the faith; and bringing other serious charges against them—they have felt themselves called upon, in faithfulness to the Professors, and in the discharge of their duty to the Seminary, to institute an inquiry into this matter, and as, in their view the best mode of obtaining satisfaction in regard to this matter, they invited a personal interview with the Professors. In this interview which was protracted, the Board used great plainness and candor with the Professors, and the result has been, an entire conviction on the part of the Board, that our Professors are sound in the faith, that they receive our standards in their plain and obvious import, and in their instructions will conscientiously adhere to our excellent standards.—Under this conviction they are prepared unhesitatingly to recommend the Seminary and its Professors to the continued and increased affections, and confidence of the Church."

The special Committee to whom so much of the Professors' Report was referred as relates to the small number of students, suggested that a Circular be prepared and sent to all the Churches on this and other subjects affecting the vital interest of the Seminary; when it was referred to the Executive Committee to issue such a circular in accordance with the suggestion of the Committee. The same Committee also recommended Professor Howe's Appeal to the young men of the South, and it was referred to the Executive Committee to adopt the necessary measures for an extensive circulation of this work. In accordance also with their suggestion it was agreed that a sermon on this subject be preached at every meeting of Synod Professor Howe was appointed to deliver this sermon next year.

The Executive Committee reported that early in the year they received a letter from the Rev. C. C. Jones, declining the Professorship of Church History and Polity, and that in reply they had urged Mr. Jones to re-consider his decision in this case, and to hold the call in his hands, as no election could take place till another meeting of Synod, and as meanwhile Providence might open the way for his acceptance of the appointment, and that to this request Mr. Jones had assented.

Mr. Jones was called upon by the Board to give his final answer whether he accepted or not the Professorship to which he had been elected at the last meeting of Synod, when he replied—that after the Board had declined receiving his answer in the negative, and had urged him to retain the appointment in his own hands till the present meeting of Synod, circumstances had led him to think more favorably of it, and that he should be prepared to give a definitive answer, if Synod approved of the course which the Board had pursued in his case and were still willing to retain him.

The Report of the Board brought this subject before the Synod, when the course pursued by the Board was unanimously approved by that body, and the desire expressed that he should as soon as convenient enter upon the duties of his office.

Mr. Jones then signified his acceptance of the appointment, and it was left with the Executive Committee to confer with him, and to make the necessary arrangements for his installation.

A standing building Committee was appointed, consisting of G. T. Snowden, D. Ewart, and Wm. Law, who were instructed to have the necessary repairs made on the buildings, to an amount not exceeding the cost of three hundred dollars.

Rev. Robert W. James was appointed Special Agent with a view to the full endowment of the Institution. Mr. James positively refusing to have any salary annexed to his office—though peculiarly laborious and self-denying, the Board resolved to pay his travelling expenses, and also to pay the supply whom Mr. James might select for his pulpit, while he should be engaged in the agency.

An Executive Committee was appointed, consisting of Rev. Messrs. Thomas Smyth, B. Gildersleeve, E. White, A. Gilchrist, Mr. Thos. Legare, and Mr. T. R. Vardell.

Mr. Gildersleeve and Mr. Smyth were appointed a Committee of publication with instructions to embody the proceedings of the Board and have them published in connexion with the Minutes of Synod.

*Officers of the Board.*

THOS. LEGARE, President.  
 S. S. DAVIS, Vice-President.  
 B. GILDERSLEEVE, Secretary.  
 WM. LAW, of Columbia, Treasurer.

*Investing Committee for South Carolina.*—G. T. Snowden, David Ewart, and Jas. Adger, Esqs.

*Investing Committee for Georgia.*—Rt. Campbell, Bayard E. Hand, and Wm. Dearing, Esqs.

*Members of the Board for three years.*

*Ministers.*—R. W. James, J. B. Davies, S. K. Talmage, H. S. Pratt, C. C. Jones, Adam Gilchrist.

*Laymen.*—G. T. Snowden, of Columbia; Joseph Cumming, of Savannah; Robt. Cunningham, of Laurens; T. R. Vardell, of Charleston.

*For Two Years.*

*Ministers.*—M. Waddel, D. D., John Cousar, E. White, N. Hoyt, Samuel J. Cassels, J. Witherspoon, D. D.

*Laymen.*—Thos. Legare, of Charleston; Jos. H. Lumpkin, of Lexington, Ga.; Wm. Dearing, of Athens, Ga.; B. E. Hand, of Savannah, Geo.

*For One Year.*

*Ministers.*—W. A. McDowell, D. D., A. Church, D. D., B. Gildersleeve, S. S. Davis, Thos. Smyth, I. W. Waddel.

*Laymen.*—D. Ewart, of Columbia; Dr. Thomas Wells, of do.; J. K. Douglass, of Camden; Barrington Kings, of ———.

*Professors.*

Rev. GEO. HOWE, Professor of Biblical Literature.  
 A. W. LELAND, D. D. Do. of Christian Theology.  
 Rev. C. COLCOCK JONES, Do. of Church History and Polity.



The following are the extracts of Reports referred to in the preceding article.

## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF WAYS AND MEANS

### FUNDS.

#### *Permanent Fund in South Carolina Invested.*

202 Shares Commercial Bank, S. C.	\$7,272 00
9 Do. Charleston do.	1,395 00
100 Do. Columbia Bridge Stock,	10,000 00
* 50 Do. Insurance Com. Columbia,	6,000 00
25 Do. Rail Road Stock,	2,875 00
In G. T. Snowden's hands,	322 57
In Mr. James Adger's hands,	75 97
* 36 Shares Union Bank,	2,412 00
† 50 Do. South Carolina Bank,	3,000 00
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	\$33,352 54

#### *Invested in Georgia.*

Mr. R. Campbell—invested,	\$6,515 00
Do. in hand, not invested,	1,200 00—7,715 00
Mr. B. E. Hand—invested,	5,400 00
Do. in hand, not invested,	4,121 58—9,521 58
W. Dearing—invested,	1,625 00
Do. in hand, not invested,	1,482 25—3,107 25
Maybank Legacy,	5,000 00
Nephew Scholarship,	2,500 00
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	\$27,843 83
	33,352 54
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	\$61,196 37

Add for Buildings and Land, valued at 15,000 00

Total, \$76,196 37

#### *Add to the preceding:*

Due on subscriptions for Northern Professorship,	\$7,500 00
On subscriptions obtained by Rev. Mr. James,	8,500 00
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	\$16,000 00

\* Invested for a Scholarship by the Congregational and Presbyterian Female Association of Charleston.

† Lanneau Scholarship—founded by Rev. J. F. Lanneau, Charleston.

## LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

The Librarian of the Theological Seminary begs leave to present the following, as his annual Report.

The whole number of volumes in the Library at the date of the last report was 2,425. During the past year there have been added 587 volumes, making the whole number 3012.

Of these, 42 have been *presented*, and 445 *purchased* within the year with funds contributed by friends of the Institution. The books have been marked with appropriate labels according to the direction of the Board at its last sessions; and a catalogue has been prepared with great labour by Mr. Ketchum who has acted as assistant Librarian. The additions made to the Library include works of great value and importance to the Student of Theology. Others are expected soon, which have been ordered from Europe by the Committee of the Board appointed for that purpose.

The Librarian has obtained in the past year funds for the increase of the Library to the amount of \$538, and has collected \$460, on the subscriptions of the preceding year. Those funds have been appropriated to the payment of debts contracted for the Library previous to the last meeting of the Directors, and up to the present time. And there is now a deficit of \$30 72 cts. due the Librarian as will be seen from his accounts herewith transmitted.

The Librarian congratulates the Board of Directors on the rapid increase of the Library, and trusts the Directors will not stop in their efforts until every book needed by the Students or Professors shall be within their reach, and until our Institution shall vie with any other in the country in the literary treasures it possesses. If the past year furnishes sufficient data to judge of the next, the room at present appropriated to the Library will not be sufficiently large to accommodate it at the next annual sessions of the Board.

Which is respectfully submitted.

GEO. HOWE, *Librarian.*

## "PROFESSORS' REPORT."

The Professors of the Theological Seminary of the Synod of South Carolina and Georgia, beg leave to present to the Board of Directors their 6th annual report.

The whole number of Students who have been regularly connected with the Seminary the last year is seventeen.-- Their names are as follows;

*In the Senior Class.*

James C. Cosby, of Athens, Geo., a graduate of Franklin College, and Licentiate of the Presbytery of Hopewell.

Angus Johnson, of Cheraw, a Licentiate of the Presbytery of Harmony.

R. Colden Ketchum, of Augusta, a graduate of Franklin College, and Licentiate of the Presbytery of Harmony.

Thomas H. Legare, of Charleston, a Licentiate of the Presbytery of Harmony.

Donald McQueen, of Cheraw, a graduate of South Carolina College, and Licentiate of the Presbytery of Harmony.

*In the Middle Class.*

Julius L. Bartlett, of Cummington, Mass. a graduate of Williams College, and Candidate of the Presbytery of Charleston Union.

Edwin Cater, of Pendleton, a graduate of Franklin College, and Candidate of the Presbytery of South Carolina.

James F. Gibert, of Abbeville District, a graduate of Franklin College, and Candidate of the Presbytery of South Carolina.

Thomas Hobby, of Augusta, a Candidate of the Presbytery of Hopewell.

James H. Saye, of Gwinnett County, Geo., a graduate of Franklin College, and Candidate of the Presbytery of Hopewell.

D. McNeil Turner, of Charleston, a graduate of Charleston College, and Candidate of the Presbytery of Harmony.

John Winn, of Liberty County. Geo., a graduate of Amherst College, and Candidate of the Presbytery of Harmony.

*In the Junior Class.*

Donald J. Auld, of Charleston, a graduate of Charleston Union.

Samuel R. Brown, of Monson, Mass., a graduate of Yale College.

Samuel Donnelly, of Chester District, a graduate of South Carolina College, and Candidate of the Presbytery of ———

William W. Eells, of Middletown, Con., a graduate of Yale College.

Mitchell Peden, of Spartanburg, a Candidate of the Presbytery of Harmony.