

**Journal of a Convention
of the
Protestant Episcopal Church in the States of
New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware,
Maryland, Virginia, and South Carolina
1785**



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JOURNAL

OF A

CONVENTION

OF THE

Protestant Episcopal Church

IN THE STATES OF

NEW YORK,
NEW JERSEY,
PENNSYLVANIA,
DELAWARE,

MARYLAND,
VIRGINIA,
AND
SOUTH CAROLINA;

HELD IN

CHRIST CHURCH,

IN THE

CITY OF PHILADELPHIA,

FROM

SEPTEMBER 27th to OCTOBER 7th, 1785.

LONDON:

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M.DCC.LXXXIX.

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L I S T

O F T H E

Members of the Convention.

[97] *From the State of NEW YORK.*

THE Rev. Samuel Provost, A. M. Rector of Trinity Church, New York; the Hon. James Duane, Esq.

From the State of NEW JERSEY.

The Rev. Abraham Beach, A. M. Rector of Christ Church, New Brunswick; the Rev. Uzall Ogden, Rector of Christ Church, Sussex; Patrick Dennis, Esquire.

[98] *From the State of PENNSYLVANIA.*

The Rev. William White, D.D. Rector of Christ Church and St. Peter's, Philadelphia; the Rev. Samuel Magaw, D.D. Rector of St. Paul's Church, Philadelphia; the Rev. Robert Blackwell, A.M. Assistant Minister of Christ Church and St. Peter's, Philadelphia; the Rev. Joseph Hutchins, A.M. Rector of St. James's Church, Lancaster; the Rev. John Campbell, A.M. Rector of York and Huntingdon; Richard Peters, Esquire, Jasper Yates, Esquire, Stephen Chambers, Esq., Samuel Powell, Esquire, Thomas Hartley, Esquire, Edward Shippen, Esquire, John Clark, Esquire, William Atlee, Esquire, Mr. Andrew Doz, Mr. Edward Duffield, Mr. Joseph Swift, Mr. Nicholas Jones, Mr. John Wood.

From the State of DELAWARE.

The Rev. Charles H. Wharton, Rector of Emanuel Church, New-Castle; the Hon. Thomas Duff, Esquire, James Sykes, Esquire, Mr. John Reece, Mr. Joseph Tatlow, Mr. Alexander Reynolds, Mr. Robert Clay.

From the State of MARYLAND.

The Rev. William Smith, D.D. Principal of Washington

College, and Rector of Chester Parish; the Rev. Samuel Keene, D.D. Rector of Dorchester Parish; the Rev. William [100] West, D.D. Rector of St. Paul's, Baltimore Town; the Rev. John Andrews, D.D, late Rector of St. Thomas's, Baltimore, (and now) Principal of the Academy of the Protestant Episcopal Church, Philadelphia; the Rev. James Jones Wilmer, Rector of St. George's, Harford County; Dr. Thomas Cradock, Mr. Joseph Couden.

From the State of VIRGINIA.

The Rev. David Griffith, Rector of Fairfax Parish; John Page, Esquire.

From the State of SOUTH CAROLINA.

The Rev. Henry Purcell, D.D. Rector of St. Michael's, Charleston; the Hon. Jacob Read, Esquire, the Hon. Charles Pinkney, Esquire.

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etc., etc.

[101] TUESDAY, 27th of September, 1785.

CLERICAL and Lay Deputies from several of the States assembled; and judging it proper to wait the arrival of the Deputies from the other States,

Adjourned until to-morrow at ten o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, 28th of September, 1785.

The Convention met, according to adjournment; and the Rev. Dr. Keene, by desire, read prayers.

The Rev. David Griffith was unanimously chosen Secretary.

[102] On motion, *Resolved*, That a President be now chosen by ballot, and that each State have one vote; which being done, and the ballots counted, it appeared that the Rev. William White, D.D. was unanimously chosen.

Ordered, That the Deputies from the several States produce the testimonials of their appointment; which being done, and the testimonials read,

Resolved, That the testimonials produced from the church in the several States, viz. in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, and South Carolina, are satisfactory.

The Resolutions of a Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church, held in the city of New York, on the 6th and 7th of October, 1784, were read.

Ordered, That the same lie on the table.

Adjourned to six o'clock this evening.

[103] WEDNESDAY EVENING, Six o'clock.

The Convention met, according to adjournment.

Ordered, That the proceedings of a former Convention at New York be again read; which being done, and the different articles considered,

Resolved, That the first, second, and third articles proposed as fundamental by the said Convention, are approved of.

The fourth article being read, it was, on motion, *Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed, consisting of one Clerical and

one Lay Deputy from the Church in each State, to consider of and report such alterations in the Liturgy, as shall render it consistent with the American revolution and the Constitutions of the respective States: And such further alterations in the Liturgy, as it may be adviseable for this Convention to recom-
[104] mend to the consideration of the Church here represented.

Resolved, That the fifth, sixth, and seventh of the aforesaid articles, proposed as fundamental, are approved of; the sixth article being first explained and understood, as meaning that the Deputies are to vote according to the States from which they come, and not individually.

Resolved, That a Committee, to be composed as aforesaid, prepare and report a draft of an ecclesiastical constitution for the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America.

A Committee was appointed accordingly, viz. the Rev. Mr. Provost and the Hon. Mr. Duane, for New York; the Rev. Mr. Beach and Mr. Dennis, for New Jersey; the Rev. Dr. White and Mr. Peters, for Pennsylvania; the Rev. Dr. Wharton and Mr. Sykes, for Delaware; the Rev. Dr. Smith and Dr. Cradock, for Maryland; the Rev. Mr. Griffith and Mr. Page, for Vir-
[105] ginia; and the Rev. Dr. Purcell and the Hon. Mr. Read, for South Carolina.

Resolved, That the preparing the necessary and proposed alterations in the Liturgy be referred to the same Committee.

The Convention adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

THURSDAY, 29th of September, 1785.

The Convention met, according to adjournment, and the Rev. Dr. Magaw read prayers.

Resolved, That a person be appointed to assist the Secretary, and to officiate in his stead when he shall be employed in the business of the Committee; and Mr. Clarke was appointed accordingly.

The Rev. Dr. Smith, as Chairman of the Committee for revising and altering the Liturgy, &c., reported, that the Committee had made some progress in the business referred to
[106] them, but not having completed the same, desired leave to sit again; which being agreed to,

The Convention adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

FRIDAY, 30th of September, 1785.

The Convention met, according to adjournment, and the Rev. Mr. Provost read prayers.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Committee for revising and altering the Liturgy, &c., do also prepare and report a plan for obtaining the consecration of Bishops, together with an address to the Most Reverend the Archbishops and the Right

Reverend the Bishops of the Church of England, for that purpose.

The Rev. Dr. Smith, from the Committee for revising, &c., reported that they had made further progress in the business [107] referred to them, but not having finished the same, desired leave to sit again; which was agreed to.

The Convention adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

SATURDAY, 1st of October, 1785.

The Convention met, according to adjournment; and the Rev. Dr. Smith read prayers.

The Rev. Dr. Smith, from the Committee for revising, &c., reported, that they had prepared a draft of the alterations to be made in the Liturgy; and that they had also prepared a draft of a General Ecclesiastical Constitution, which he was ready to report.

Ordered. That the same be now received; which being done, and the report read,

Ordered. That the said report lie on the table for the perusal of the members.

The Rev. Dr. Smith, from the same Committee, reported, [108] that they have had under consideration the further alterations to be proposed in the Liturgy, and were ready to report in part.

Ordered. That the report be now received and read; which being done,

Ordered. That the report last read, lie on the table.

Ordered. That so much of the revised Liturgy as respects the American revolution and the constitutions of the States be again read, and considered by paragraphs; which being done,

Ordered. That the alterations in the Liturgy to be proposed to the Church be again read, and considered by paragraphs; which being done in part,

The Convention adjourned to six o'clock this evening.

SATURDAY EVENING, Six o'clock.

The Convention met, according to adjournment.

[109] *Ordered.* That the report from the Committee be resumed, and the remainder of it read, and considered by paragraphs; which being done,

The Convention adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday morning.

MONDAY, 3d of October, 1785.

The Convention met, according to adjournment; and the Rev. Dr. West read prayers.

The Rev. Dr. Smith, from the Committee for revising, &c.,

reported, that they had made further progress in the business referred to them, and were ready to report.

Ordered, That the report be now received, and that the same be read and considered by paragraphs; which having been done in part,

The Convention adjourned to six o'clock this evening.

[110] MONDAY EVENING, *Six o'clock.*

The Convention met, according to adjournment.

Ordered, That the report of the Committee for revising, &c., be resumed, which was accordingly done; and the Convention having made further progress therein,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

TUESDAY, *4th of October, 1785.*

The Convention met, according to adjournment; and the Rev. Mr. Ogden read prayers.

Ordered, That clerks be employed to transcribe, under direction of the Chairman of the Committee for revising, &c. all the alterations proposed, and other matters agreed on by the Convention.

Ordered, That the draft of an Ecclesiastical Constitution be [111] read and considered by paragraphs, which was done; and the Convention, having made some progress therein,

Adjourned to six o'clock this evening.

TUESDAY EVENING, *Six o'Clock.*

The Convention met, pursuant to adjournment.

Ordered, That the consideration of the General Ecclesiastical Constitution be resumed, and that the same be read and considered by paragraphs; which being done, and the blanks filled up, was agreed to, and is as follows, viz.

[112] *A General Ecclesiastical Constitution of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in the United States of America.*

WHEREAS, in the course of Divine Providence, the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of *America* is become independent of all foreign authority, civil and ecclesiastical:

And whereas, at a meeting of Clerical and Lay Deputies of the said Church, in sundry of the said States, viz. in the States of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and Maryland, held in the City of New York, on the 6th and 7th days of October, in the year of our Lord 1784, it was recommended to this Church, in the said States represented as aforesaid, and proposed to this Church in the States not represented, that [113] they should send Deputies to a Convention to be held in

the City of Philadelphia, on the Tuesday before the Feast of St. Michael, in the present year, in order to unite in a Constitution of Ecclesiastical Government, agreeable to certain fundamental principles expressed in the said recommendation and proposal :

And whereas, in consequence of the said recommendation and proposal, Clerical and Lay Deputies have been duly appointed from the said Church in the States of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia and South Carolina :

The said Deputies being now assembled, and taking into consideration the importance of maintaining uniformity in doctrine, discipline, and worship, in the said Church, do hereby determine and declare,

I. That there shall be a general Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, which shall [114] be held in the city of Philadelphia, on the third Tuesday in June, in the year of our Lord 1786, and forever after, once in three years on the third Tuesday of June, in such place as shall be determined by the Convention; and special meetings may be held at such other times and in such places as shall be hereafter provided for; and this Church, in a majority of the States aforesaid, shall be represented before they shall proceed to business; except that the representation of this Church from two States shall be sufficient to adjourn; and in all business of the Convention freedom of debate shall be allowed.

II. There shall be a representation of both Clergy and Laity of the Church in each State which shall consist of one or more Deputies, not exceeding four, of each order; and in all questions the said Church in each State shall have one vote; and a majority of suffrages shall be conclusive.

[115] III. In the said Church in every State represented in this Convention, there shall be a Convention consisting of the Clergy and Lay Deputies of the congregations.

IV. "The Book of Common Prayer, and Administration of the Sacraments, and other Rites and Ceremonies of the Church, according to the use of the Church of England," shall be continued to be used by this Church, as the same is altered by this Convention, in a certain instrument of writing passed by their authority, entitled, "Alterations of the Liturgy of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in the United States of America, in order to render the same conformable to the American revolution and the constitutions of the respective states."

V. In every State where there shall be a Bishop duly consecrated and settled, and who shall have acceded to the articles [116] of this General Ecclesiastical Constitution, he shall be considered as a member of the Convention *ex officio*.

VI. The Bishop or Bishops in every State shall be chosen agreeably to such rules as shall be fixed by the respective Conventions; and every Bishop of this Church shall confine the exercise of his episcopal office to his proper jurisdiction; unless

requested to ordain or confirm by any church destitute of a Bishop.

VII. A Protestant Episcopal Church in any of the United States not now represented, may at any time hereafter be admitted, on acceding to the articles of this union.

VIII. Every Clergyman, whether Bishop or Presbyter, or Deacon, shall be amenable to the authority of the Convention in the State to which he belongs, so far as relates to suspension or removal from office; and the Convention in each State shall institute rules for their conduct, and an equitable mode of trial.

[117] IX. And whereas it is represented to this Convention to be the desire of the Protestant Episcopal Church in these States, that there may be farther alterations of the Liturgy than such as are made necessary by the American revolution; therefore the "Book of Common Prayer, and Administration of the Sacraments, and other Rites and Ceremonies of the Church, according to the use of the Church of England," as altered by an instrument of writing, passed under the authority of this Convention, entitled, "Alterations in the Book of Common Prayer, and Administration of the Sacraments, and other Rites and Ceremonies, of the Church, according to the use of the Church of England, *proposed and recommended* to the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America," shall be used in this Church, when the same shall have been [118] ratified by the Conventions which have respectively sent Deputies to this General Convention. •

X. No person shall be ordained or permitted to officiate as a Minister in this Church, until he shall have subscribed the following declaration, "I do believe the holy scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be the word of God, and to contain all things necessary to salvation; and I do solemnly engage to conform to the doctrines and worship of the Protestant Episcopal Church, as settled and determined in the Book of Common Prayer, and Administration of the Sacraments, set forth by the General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in these United States."

XI. This General Ecclesiastical Constitution, when ratified by the Church in the different states, shall be considered as fundamental; and shall be unalterable by the Convention of the Church in any State.

[119] The Hon. Mr. Duane, from the Committee for revising, &c. reported, that they had, according to order, prepared a plan for obtaining the consecration of Bishops, and a draft of an address to the Most Reverend the Archbishops and the Right Reverend the Bishops of the Church of England, and were ready to report the same.

Ordered, That the plan and draft now offered be received; which being done, and the same twice read and considered by paragraphs, was ordered to be transcribed.

The Convention then adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

WEDNESDAY, 5th of October, 1785.

The Convention met, according to adjournment; and the Rev. Mr. Provost read prayers.

Ordered, That the transcribed copy of the "Alterations in [120] the Liturgy, to render it consistent with the American "revolution and the Constitutions of the respective States." be read and considered by paragraphs; which being done,

Resolved, That the Liturgy shall be used in this Church as accommodated to the revolution, agreeably to the alterations now approved of and ratified by this Convention.*

On motion, *Resolved*, That the fourth of July shall be observed by this Church for ever as a day of thanksgiving to Almighty God, for the inestimable blessings of religious and civil liberty vouchsafed to the United States of America.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the first Thursday in November in every year for ever, shall be observed by this Church as a [121] day of general thanksgiving to Almighty God for the fruits of the earth, and all the other blessings of his merciful providence.

Ordered, That a Committee be appointed to prepare a form of prayer and thanksgiving for the fourth of July; and a Committee was accordingly appointed, viz. the Rev. Dr. Smith, the Rev. Dr. Magaw, the Rev. Dr. Wharton, and the Rev. Mr. Campbell.

Ordered, That the alterations in the Liturgy to be proposed to this Church be read and considered by paragraphs; and the Convention made some progress therein.

The Rev. Dr. Smith, from the Committee, to prepare a form of prayer and thanksgiving for the fourth of July, reported that they had prepared the same.

Ordered, That it be now received and read.

[122] *Ordered*, That the said report be read and considered by paragraphs; which being done,

Resolved, That the said form of prayer be used in this Church on the fourth of July for ever.

Then the Convention adjourned to six o'clock this evening.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, Six o'Clock.

The Convention met, according to adjournment.

Ordered, That the consideration of the proposed alterations in the Liturgy be resumed.

Ordered, That the same be again read and considered by paragraphs; which being done, and the alterations agreed to,

Resolved, That the said alterations be *proposed and recommended* to the Protestant Episcopal Church in the States from which there are Deputies to this Convention.

[123] *Ordered*, That the alterations made in the articles be again read; which being done,

* Neither these nor the other alterations afterwards proposed are printed in the Journal, as they will appear in the Book of Common Prayer, now in the press.

Ordered, That the same be read and considered by paragraphs; which being done, and some time spent thereon,

Resolved, That the articles, as now altered, be *recommended* to this Church, to be by them adopted in the next General Convention.

Ordered, That the plan for obtaining Consecration and the Address to the Archbishops and Bishops of the Church of England, be again read; which being done, the same were agreed to, and are as follow :

First, That this Convention address the Archbishops and Bishops of the Church of England, requesting them to confer the episcopal character on such persons as shall be chosen and recommended to them for that purpose, from the Conventions of this Church, in the respective States.

[124] *Secondly*, That it be recommended to the said Conventions, that they elect persons for this purpose.

Thirdly, That it be farther recommended to the different Conventions, at their next respective sessions, to appoint committees, with powers to correspond with the English Bishops, for the carrying of these resolutions into effect; and that, until such committees shall be appointed, they be requested to direct any communications which they may be pleased to make on this subject, to the committee, consisting of the Reverend Dr. White, President, the Rev. Dr. Smith, the Rev. Mr. Provost, the Honourable James Duane, Esq, and Samuel Powell and Richard Peters, Esquires.

Fourthly, That it be recommended to the different Conventions, that they pay especial attention to the making it appear to their Lordships, that the persons who shall be sent to them for consecration, are desired in the character of Bishops, as [125] well by the Laity as by the Clergy of this Church, in the said States respectively; and that they will be received by them in that character on their return.

Fifthly, And in order to assure their Lordships of the legality of the present proposed application, that the Deputies now assembled be desired to make a respectful address to the civil rulers of the States in which they respectively reside, to certify that the said application is not contrary to the constitutions and laws of the same.

Sixthly, And whereas the Bishops of this Church will not be entitled to any of such temporal honours as are due to the Archbishops and Bishops of the parent Church, in quality of Lords of Parliament; and whereas the reputation and usefulness of our Bishops will considerably depend on their taking no higher titles or stile than will be due to their spiritual employments; that it be recommended to this Church in the [126] States here represented, to provide that their respective Bishops may be called "The Right Reverend *A. B.* Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in *C. D.*" and, as Bishop, may

have no other title; and may not use any such stile as is usually descriptive of temporal power and precedency.”

*To the Most Reverend and Right Reverend the Archbishops of
Canterbury and York, and the Bishops of the Church of Eng-
land.*

WE, the Clerical and Lay Deputies of the Protestant Episcopal Church in sundry of the United States of America, think it our duty to address your Lordships on a subject deeply interesting, not only to ourselves and those whom we represent, but, as we conceive, to the common cause of Christianity.

Our forefathers, when they left the land of their nativity, did not leave the bosom of that Church, over which your Lord-
[127] ships now preside; but, as well from a veneration for Episcopal Government, as from an attachment to the admirable services of our Liturgy, continued in willing connection with their Ecclesiastical Superiors in England, and were subjected to many local inconveniences, rather than break the unity of the Church to which they belonged.

When it pleased the Supreme Ruler of the Universe, that this part of the British empire should be free, sovereign and independent, it became the most important concern of the members of our communion to provide for its continuance: And while, in accomplishing of this, they kept in view that wise and liberal part of the system of the Church of England, which excludes as well the claiming as the acknowledging of such spiritual subjection as may be inconsistent with the civil duties of her children, it was nevertheless their earnest desire and resolution to retain the venerable form of Episcopal Gov-
[128] ernment, handed down to them, as they conceived, from the time of the Apostles; and endeared to them by the remembrance of the holy Bishops of the primitive Church, of the blessed Martyrs who reformed the doctrine and worship of the Church of England, and of the many great and pious Prelates who have adorned that Church in every succeeding age. But however general the desire of completing the orders of our Ministry, so diffused and unconnected were the members of our communion over this extensive country, that much time and negotiation were necessary for the forming a representative body of the greater number of the Episcopalians in these States; and owing to the same causes, it was not until this Convention, that sufficient powers could be procured for the addressing your Lordships on this subject.

The petition which we offer to your venerable body, is— that from a tender regard to the religious interests of thousands
[129] in this rising empire, *professing the same religious principles with the Church of England*; you will be pleased to confer the Episcopal character on such persons as shall be recommended by this Church in the several States here represented: Full satisfaction being given of the sufficiency of the persons recom-

the present application; that however we are far from apprehending the opposition or even displeasure of any of those honorable personages; and finally, that in this business we are justified by the constitutions of the States, which are the foundations and controul of all our laws. On this point, we beg leave to refer to the enclosed extracts from the constitutions of the respective States of which we are citizens, and we flatter ourselves that they must be satisfactory.

Thus, we have stated to your Lordships the nature and the grounds of our application; which we have thought it most respectful and most suitable to the magnitude of the object, to address to your Lordships for your deliberation, before any person is sent over to carry them into effect. Whatever may be the event, no time will efface the remembrance of the past services of your Lordships and your predecessors. The Archbishops of Canterbury were not prevented, even by the weighty concerns of their high stations, from attending to the interests of this distant branch of the Church under their care. The Bishops of London were our Diocesans: and the uninterrupted although voluntary submission of our congregations, will remain a perpetual proof of their mild and paternal government. All the Bishops of England, with other distinguished characters, as well ecclesiastical as civil, have concurred in forming and carrying on the benevolent views of the Society for propagating the Gospel in foreign parts; a society to whom, under God, the prosperity of our Church is in an eminent degree to be ascribed. It is our earnest wish to be permitted to make, through your Lordships, this just acknowledgment to that venerable society; a tribute of gratitude which we the rather take this opportunity of paying, as while they thought it necessary to withdraw their pecuniary assistance from our Ministers, they have endeared their past favors by a benevolent declaration, that it is far from their thoughts to alienate their affection from their brethren now under another government; with the pious wish, that their former exertions may still continue to bring forth the fruits they aimed at of pure religion and virtue. Our hearts are penetrated with the most lively gratitude by these generous sentiments; the long succession of former benefits passes in review before us; we pray that our Church may be a lasting monument of the usefulness of so worthy a body; and that her sons may never cease to be kindly affectioned to the members of that Church, the Fathers of which have so tenderly watched over her infancy.

For your Lordships in particular, we most sincerely wish and pray, that you may long continue the ornaments of the Church of England, and at last receive the reward of the righteous from the great Shepherd and Bishop of souls.

We are, with all the respect which is due to your exalted and venerable characters and stations,

Your Lordships

Most obedient, and

In Convention,

Most humble Servants,

Christ Church, Philadelphia, October 5th, 1785.

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to publish the Book of Common Prayer with the alterations, as well those now ratified in order to render the Liturgy consistent with the American revolution, and the constitutions of the respective states, as the alterations and new offices recommended to this Church; and that the book be accompanied with a proper Preface or Address, setting forth the reason and expediency of the alterations; and that the Committee have the liberty to make verbal and grammatical corrections; but in such manner, as that nothing in form or substance be altered.

The Committee appointed were the Reverend Dr. White, (President) the Reverend Dr. Smith, and the Reverend Dr. Wharton.

Ordered, That the said Committee be authorised to dispose of the copies of the Common Prayer when printed; and that after defraying all expences incurred therein, they remit the nett profits to the Treasurers of the several Corporations and Societies for the relief of the widows and children of deceased Clergymen in the states represented in this Convention; the profits to be equally divided among the said Societies and Corporations.

Resolved, That the same Committee be authorised to publish, with the Book of Common Prayer, such of the reading and singing psalms, and such a Kalendar of proper lessons for the different Sundays and Holy-days throughout the year, as they may think proper.

Resolved, That the same Committee be authorised to publish the Journal of this Convention.

Ordered, That the Journal and all the proceedings of the Convention be lodged in the hands of the President.

On motion, *Resolved,* That the Reverend Dr. Wharton, having preached a sermon last Sunday on the Duties of the Ministerial Office, highly satisfactory to this Convention and the whole audience, be requested to publish the same.

On motion, *Resolved,* That the Reverend Dr. Smith be requested to prepare and preach a sermon suited to the solemn occasion of the present Convention, on Friday next; and that the Service be then read, as proposed for future use.

On motion, *Resolved,* That the thanks of this Convention be given to the President, for his able and diligent discharge of the duties of his office.

On motion, *Resolved,* That the thanks of this Convention be given to the Reverend Dr. Smith, for his exemplary diligence, and the great assistance he has rendered this Convention as Chair-

solemn occasion of the present Convention, on Friday next; and that the Service *be then read, as proposed for future use.*

On motion, *Resolved*, That the thanks of this Convention be given to the President, for his able and diligent discharge of the duties of his office.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the thanks of this Convention be given to the Reverend Dr. Smith, for his exemplary diligence, and the great assistance he has rendered this Convention as Chairman of the Committee, in perfecting the important business in which they have been engaged.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the thanks of this Convention be given to the Reverend Mr. Griffith, for his ability and diligence in the discharge of his duty as Secretary.

Then the members present of the Convention signed all the [137] acts and instruments, and afterwards adjourned, to meet on Friday, ten o'clock, at the Academy of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in order to attend divine service and sermon.

FRIDAY, 7th of October, 1785.

The Convention met, according to adjournment, and attended divine service in Christ Church; when the Liturgy, *as altered*, was read by the Rev. Dr. White, and a suitable sermon was preached by the Reverend Dr. Smith; after which the Convention adjourned, to meet this evening, at seven o'clock, at the Academy of the Protestant Episcopal Church.

FRIDAY EVENING, *Seven o'Clock.*

The Convention met, according to adjournment.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the thanks of this Convention be [138] given to the Reverend Dr. Smith, for his sermon preached this day before them; and that he be requested to publish the same.

Resolved, That the President be requested to preach at the opening of the next Convention.

The Convention then adjourned.

Signed, by Order of the Convention,

WILLIAM WHITE, *President.*

Attest. DAVID GRIFFITH, *Secretary.*