

**Journal of a Convention  
of the  
Protestant Episcopal Church in the States of  
New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware,  
Maryland, Virginia, and South Carolina  
1786**



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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

**July 28th to August 8th, 1789.**

## LIST OF THE MEMBERS OF THE CONVENTION.

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**THE** Right Rev. William White, D. D. Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of Pennsylvania, and President of the Convention.

*From the State of New York.*

**The Rev. Abraham Beach, D. D.**  
**The Rev. Benjamin Moore, D. D.**  
**Mr. Moses Rogers.**

*From the State of New Jersey.*

**The Rev. William Fraser.**  
**The Rev. Uzal Ogden.**  
**The Rev. Henry Waddel.**  
**The Rev. George H. Spieren.**  
**John Cox, Esquire.**  
**Robert Strettel Jones, Esquire.**  
**Samuel Ogden, Esquire.**

*From the State of Pennsylvania.*

**The Rev. Samuel Magaw, D. D.**  
**The Rev. Robert Blackwell, D. D.**  
**The Rev. Joseph Pilmore.**  
**The Rev. Joseph G. J. Bend.**  
**The Hon. Francis Hopkinson, Esquire.**  
**Samuel Powel, Esquire.**  
**Dr. Gerardus Clarkson.**  
**Tench Coxe, Esquire.**

*From the State of Delaware.*

**The Rev. Joseph Couden.**  
**The Rev. Stephen Sykes.**  
**James Sykes, Esquire.**  
**Thomas Duff, Esquire.**  
**Mr. Philip Reading.**

*From the State of Maryland.*

**The Rev. William Smith, D. D.**  
**The Rev. Thomas John Claggett, D. D.**  
**The Rev. Colin Ferguson, D. D.**  
**The Rev. John Bisset.**  
**Richard B. Carmichael, Esquire.**  
**Dr. William Frisby.**

*From the State of Virginia.*

**Robert Andrews, Esquire.**

*From the State of South Carolina.*

**The Rev. Robert Smith.**  
**William Ward Burrows, Esquire.**  
**William Brisbane, Esquire.**

# JOURNAL, &c.

TUESDAY, *July 28th, 1789.*

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 to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

WEDNESDAY, *July 29th, 1789.*

The Convention met.

The Right Rev. Dr. White, President, *ex officio.*

The Rev. Dr. Claggett read prayers.

The Right Rev. Dr. Provost, who was to have preached on the opening of the Convention, being absent through indisposition, the Rev. Dr. Smith preached, agreeably to request made yesterday.

The Hon. Mr. Hopkinson was unanimously chosen Secretary; but being indisposed, Mr. Tench Coxe was requested to officiate.

*Ordered,* That the members present produce the testimonials of their respective appointments, which, being produced, were read, and deemed satisfactory.

Mr. Andrews, Lay Deputy from Virginia, informed the Convention, that the Rev. Dr. Griffith, the Clerical Delegate from the said state, was in town, but detained by sickness from the Convention.

A certificate of the consecration of the Right Rev. William White, D. D. Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the state of Pennsylvania, and the Right Rev. Samuel Provost, D. D. Bishop of said church in the state of New York, signed by Robert Jenner, Notary Public, and dated February 4, 1787, was produced and read; also a certificate of the consecration of the Right Rev. Dr. White, signed by his Grace, the Archbishop of Canterbury, and countersigned by his Grace, the Archbishop of York, and the Right Rev. the Bishops of Bath and Wells and of Peterborough.

Mr. Andrews communicated to the Convention the following extract from the minutes of the Convention of this church in the state of Virginia.

*In Convention, May 8, 1789.*

*Resolved,* That the Deputies appointed to attend the next General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church be desired to notify to the General Convention, that the Rev. Dr. Griffith, Bishop elect of the said church in this state, has relinquished the said appointment, and that no person has been elected in his room.

A copy from the Journal of the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Virginia, held from May 6, to May 9, 1789, inclusive.

**ROBERT ANDREWS**, *Secretary of the  
Protestant Episcopal Convention in Virginia*

The Rev. Dr. Moore, Mr. Hopkinson, and Mr. Andrews, were appointed a committee to prepare rules of order.

An invitation from the University of Pennsylvania to the Convention, to attend a Commencement, was presented by the Rev. Dr. Magaw, which was unanimously accepted, and the President was requested to signify the same in writing to the Trustees and Faculty.

Adjourned to five o'clock, P. M.

WEDNESDAY, July 29th, 1789. P. M.

The Convention met.

Mr. Hopkinson remaining indisposed, the Rev. Mr. Bend was requested to officiate during his indisposition.

*Ordered*, That the Rev. Dr. Smith, the Rev. Dr. Moore and Mr. Ogden, be a committee, to prepare an address to the President of the United States.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the letters of consecration of the Right Rev. Dr. White, and the Right Rev. Dr. Provost, and the notarial certificate thereof, be recorded.\*

*Ordered*, That the Secretary procure a book for recording the minutes and papers of the General Convention.

*Ordered*, That the Rev. Dr. Smith, the Rev. Dr. Beach and Mr. Andrews, be a committee, to prepare an address of thanks to the most Reverend the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, for their good offices in procuring the consecration of the American Bishops.

The Deputies from the several states, being called upon to declare their powers, relative to the object of the following resolution of the Protestant Episcopal Church, viz:—*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Conventions of this church, in the several states represented in this Convention, that they authorise and empower their Deputies to the next General Convention, after we shall have obtained a Bishop or Bishops in our church, to confirm and ratify a general constitution, respecting both the doctrine and discipline of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America,"—gave information, that they came fully authorised to ratify a Book of Common Prayer, &c. for the use of the church.

*Ordered*, That the Journal of the last General Convention be read, and that a copy of the Journals of the Convention be procured for each member.

\* See Appendix.

**Resolved**, That the thanks of this Convention be given to the Rev. Dr. Smith for his sermon, and that he be requested to publish the same.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

THURSDAY, July 30th, 1789.

The Convention met.

The Rev. Dr. Beach read prayers.

The Rev. Mr. Sykes, the Rev. Mr. Couden, James Sykes and Thomas Duff, esquires, Deputies from Delaware, produced the credentials of their appointment, which being read and approved, they took their seats in the Convention.

The aforesaid Deputies were requested to state their powers relative to the ratification of a Book of Common Prayer, &c. which were deemed sufficient.

The Hon. Mr. Hopkinson, a Deputy for Pennsylvania, took his seat in Convention.

The committee appointed to prepare rules for the orderly conduct of the Convention, reported the same, which were adopted.

On motion, *Ordered*, That a committee, consisting of a Deputy from each state, be appointed, to take into consideration the proposed constitution of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and to recommend such alterations, additions and amendments, as they shall think necessary and proper.

The Rev. Dr. Moore, Mr. Jones, the Rev. Dr. Blackwell, Mr. Sykes, the Rev. Dr. Smith, Mr. Andrews, and the Rev. Mr. Smith, were appointed accordingly.

An act of the Clergy of Massachusetts and New Hampshire, recommending the Rev. Edward Bass for consecration, was laid before the Convention by the Right Rev. Dr. White, and is as follows :

THE good Providence of Almighty God, the fountain of all goodness, having lately blessed the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, by supplying it with a complete and entire ministry, and affording to many of her communion the benefit of the labours, advice and government of the successors of the Apostles ;

We, Presbyters of said church in the states of Massachusetts and New Hampshire, deeply impressed with the most lively gratitude to the Supreme Governor of the universe, for his goodness in this respect, and with the most ardent love to his church, and concern for the interest of her sons, that they may enjoy all the means that Christ, the great shepherd and bishop of souls, has instituted for leading his followers into the ways of truth and holiness, and preserving his church in the unity of the spirit and the bond of peace ; to the end that the people committed to our respective charges may enjoy the benefit and advantage of those offi-

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ces, the administration of which belongs to the highest order of the ministry, and to encourage and promote, as far as in us lies, a union of the whole Episcopal Church in these states, and to perfect and compact this mystical body of Christ, do hereby nominate, elect and appoint the **Rev. Edward Bass**, a **Presbyter** of said church, and **Rector** of **St. Paul's**, in **Newburyport**, to be our **Bishop**; and we do promise and engage to receive him as such, when canonically consecrated, and invested with the apostolic office and powers, by the **Right Reverend** the **Bishops** hereafter named, and to render him all that canonical obedience and submission, which, by the laws of **Christ** and the constitution of our church, is due to so important an office.

And we now address the **Right Reverend** the **Bishops** in the states of **Connecticut**, **New York** and **Pennsylvania**, praying their united assistance in consecrating our said brother, and canonically investing him with the apostolic office and powers. This request we are induced to make, from a long acquaintance with him, and from a perfect knowledge of his being possessed of that love to **God** and benevolence to men, that piety, learning and good morals, that prudence and discretion, requisite to so exalted a station, as well as that personal respect and attachment of the communion at large in these states, which will make him a valuable acquisition to the order, and, we trust, a rich blessing to the church.

Done at a meeting of the **Presbyters**, whose names are underwritten, held at **Salem**, in the county of **Essex**, and commonwealth of **Massachusetts**, the fourth day of **June**, Anno Salutis, 1789.

**Samuel Parker**, Rector of **Trinity Church**, **Boston**.

**T. Fitch Oliver**, Rector of **St. Michael's Church**, **Marblehead**.

**John Cousens Ogden**, Rector of **Queen's Chapel**, **Portsmouth**, **New Hampshire**.

**William Montague**, Minister of **Christ's Church**, **Boston**.

**Tillotson Brunson**, Assistant Minister of **Christ's Church**, **Boston**.

A true copy.

Attest. **Samuel Parker**.

At the meeting aforesaid,

*Voted*, That the **Rev. Samuel Parker** be authorised and empowered to transmit copies of the foregoing act, to be by him attested, to the **Right Reverend** the **Bishops** in **Connecticut**, **New York** and **Pennsylvania**; and that he be appointed our agent, to appear at any convocation to be holden at **Pennsylvania** or **New York**, and to treat upon any measures that may tend to promote an union of the **Episcopal Church** throughout the **United States of America**, or that may prove advantageous to the interest of said church.

**EDWARD BASS**, *Chairman*.

A true copy.

Attest. **Samuel Parker**.

A letter was also read from the Right Rev. Dr. Seabury, Bishop of the church in Connecticut, to the Right Rev. Dr. White, and one from the same gentleman to the R. v. Dr. Smith.

Upon reading the said letters, it appearing that Bishop Seabury lay under some misapprehensions concerning an entry in the minutes of a former Convention, as intending some doubt of the validity of his consecration,

*Resolved unanimously*, That it is the opinion of this Convention, that the consecration of the Right Rev. Dr. Seabury to the episcopal office is valid.

Mr. Burrows obtained leave of absence for Thursday.

Adjourned to eight o'clock to-morrow morning.

FRIDAY, July 31st, 1789.

The Convention met.

The Rev. Mr. Smith read prayers.

Dr. William Frisby produced his credentials, as a Lay Deputy from the state of Maryland, which being approved, he took his seat.

The Rev. Dr. Ferguson, a Deputy from Maryland, and Mr. Philip Reading, a Deputy from Delaware, took their seats.

The Convention then went in procession to the German Reformed Church, in consequence of the invitation received from the Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania, to attend the commencement.

FRIDAY, half past one. P. M.

The Convention having returned, they proceeded to business.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a committee, consisting of one Deputy from each state, be appointed, to prepare a body of canons for the government of this church; and

The Rev. Dr. Beach, the Rev. Mr. Ogden, the Rev. Mr. Pilmore, the Rev. Mr. Couden, the Rev. Dr. Claggett, Mr. Andrews and Mr. Brisbane, were appointed accordingly.

*Resolved*, That on Monday next this Convention will resolve themselves into a committee of the whole, for the purpose of taking into consideration the proposed Book of Common Prayer and Administration of the Sacraments.

Mr. Duff had leave of absence given him.

*Resolved*, That the application of the Clergy of Massachusetts and New Hampshire to the Right Rev. Doctors Seabury, Provost and White, be considered to-morrow in a committee of the whole.

Mr. J. Cox and Mr. Ogden obtained leave of absence from Saturday evening till Monday.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.



**SATURDAY, August 1st, 1789.**

The Convention met.

The Rev. Mr. Ogden read prayers.

The Rev. Dr. Smith, from the committee appointed to take into consideration the proposed constitution of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and to recommend such alterations, additions, or amendments, as they shall think necessary and proper, reported a constitution for the same.

*Ordered,* That the said constitution be read.

*Ordered,* That it be read a second time.

Samuel Powel, esquire, a Deputy from Pennsylvania, took his seat in the Convention.

The constitution was then debated by paragraphs.

*Resolved,* That the 1st, 2d, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th articles be adopted, and stand in this order, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 ;— that they be a rule of conduct for this Convention; and that the remaining articles be postponed for the future consideration of this Convention.

The order for the day being called, the Convention resolved itself into a committee of the whole, on the application of the clergy of Massachusetts and New Hampshire, to the Bishops in the states of Connecticut, New York and Pennsylvania.

The Rev. Mr. Smith was called to the chair.

The committee, having made some progress in their business, rose, and reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.

Adjourned to Monday morning, nine o'clock.

**MONDAY, August 3d, 1789.**

The Convention met.

The Rev. Mr. Waddel read prayers.

The President having informed the Convention, by message, that the melancholy event of the death of the Rev. Dr. Griffith, which happened at his house this morning, necessarily detained him at home, the Rev. Dr. Smith was chosen President pro tempore.

*Ordered,* That the Rev. Dr. Moore, the Rev. Mr. Smith, Mr. Andrews and Mr. Tench Coxe be a committee, for settling the manner in which the Convention shall attend the funeral of the Rev. Dr. Griffith.

The committee, after an adjournment of a few minutes, made the following report:

*Resolved,* That the senior clergyman of the deputation of each state, except Virginia, attend the funeral of the Rev. Dr. Griffith as a pall-bearer, and that the other members of this convention attend as mourners, and that a sermon be preached on the occasion.

*Resolved,* That the clergy of all denominations within this city be invited to attend the funeral.

This report was agreed to, and the Rev. Dr. Smith was appointed to preach the funeral sermon.

*Resolved*, That the Right Rev. Dr. White, and Mr. Andrews, Lay Deputy from Virginia, be requested to walk as chief mourners, and direct all other matters relative to this melancholy event. Adjourned to Tuesday, nine o'clock, A. M.

TUESDAY, August 4th, 1789.

The Convention met, and adjourned to the house of their President, to attend the funeral of the Rev. Dr. Griffith.

After the funeral, the Convention assembled, and adjourned to four o'clock, P. M.

TUESDAY, August 4th, P. M.

The Convention met.

On motion, *Resolved unanimously*, That the thanks of this Convention be given to the Rev. Dr. Smith, for his sermon preached at the funeral of the Rev. Dr. Griffith, and that he be requested to furnish the convention with a copy for publication.

The convention resolved itself into a committee of the whole, on the application of the clergy of Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

The committee having spent some time on the business, rose, and reported progress, and asked leave to sit again.

Dr Claggett having been necessarily obliged to leave the convention, the Rev. Mr. Bisset was appointed in his stead, a member of the committee for preparing a set of canons.

The order for Monday being called up, it was, on motion, made the order of the day for Wednesday.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

WEDNESDAY, August 5th, 1789.

The convention met.

The Rev. Mr. Spieren read prayers.

The order of the day being called up, it was postponed.

The convention then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, on the application from the clergy of Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

The Rev. Dr. Smith, in order to bring the business before them to a conclusion, offered the following resolves, viz.

“ The committee of the whole, having had under their deliberate consideration the application of the clergy of Massachusetts and New Hampshire, for the consecration of the Rev. Edward Bass, as their Bishop, do offer to the convention the following resolves :

1st. *Resolved*, That a complete order of Bishops, derived as well under the English as the Scots line of Episcopacy, doth now subsist within the United States of America, in the persons of the Right Rev. William White, D. D. Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal church in the state of Pennsylvania ; the Right Rev. Samuel Provost, D. D. Bishop of the said church in the state of New York, and the Right Rev. Samuel Seabury, D. D. Bishop of the said church in the state of Connecticut.

**2d. Resolved,** That the said three Bishops are fully competent to every proper act and duty of the episcopal office and character in these United States, as well in respect to the consecration of other Bishops, and the ordering of Priests and Deacons, as for the government of the church, according to such rules, canons and institutions, as now are, or hereafter may be duly made and ordained by the Church in that case.

**3d. Resolved,** That in christian charity, as well as of duty, necessity and expediency, the churches represented in this Convention ought to contribute, in every manner in their power, towards supplying the wants, and granting every just and reasonable request of their sister churches in these states; and, therefore,

**4th. Resolved,** That the Right Rev. Dr. White and the Right Rev. Dr. Provost be, and they hereby are, requested to join with the Right Rev. Dr. Seabury, in complying with the prayer of the Clergy of the states of Massachusetts and New Hampshire, for the consecration of the Rev. Edward Bass, Bishop elect of the churches in the said states; but that, before the said Bishops comply with the request aforesaid, it be proposed to the churches in the New England states to meet the churches of these states, with the said three Bishops, in an adjourned Convention, to settle certain articles of union and discipline among all the churches, previous to such consecration.

**5th. Resolved,** That if any difficulty or delicacy, in respect to the Archbishops and Bishops of England, shall remain with the Right Rev. Doctors White and Provost, or either of them, concerning their compliance with the above request, this Convention will address the Archbishops and Bishops, and hope thereby to remove the difficulty."

These resolves were unanimously agreed to, as the report of the committee.

The committee, having finished the business committed to them, rose, and reported to the Convention the above resolves.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Andrews, this report was unanimously agreed to.

**Ordered,** That the different committees appointed by this Convention, which have not yet reported, be called upon to report.

The committee for preparing an address to the Most Reverend the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, informed the Convention that they were not yet ready to make a final report.

The committee for preparing an address to the President of the United States reported, that they had not yet finished the business committed to their care.

**Ordered,** That Mr. T. Coxe be added to the above committee.

The committee on the canons reported certain canons, which were ordered to be read.

On motion, the Convention resolved themselves into a committee of the whole on the said canons; the Rev. Mr. Smith in the chair.

The committee, having made some progress in the business

committed to them, rose and reported, and asked leave to sit again to-morrow.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

THURSDAY, *August 6th, 1789.*

The Convention met.

The Rev. Mr. Couden read prayers.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Rev. Dr. Magaw, Mr. Tench Coxe and Mr. Jones, be a committee to assist the Secretary in revising and publishing the minutes of the Convention.

The committee for preparing an address to the President of the United States. presented a draught, which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The Convention then resolved themselves into a committee of the whole, on the canons.

The committee, having spent some time on the business, rose, and reported.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the report of the committee lie on the table.

The address to the President of the United States was then read a second time.

It was afterwards read by paragraphs, and ordered to be engrossed, for signing.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

FRIDAY, *August 7th, 1789.*

The Convention met.

The Rev. Mr. Frazer read prayers.

The Rev. Dr. Smith laid before the Convention, "Proposals for printing, by subscription, a body of sermons upon the most important branches of practical christianity, together with an address upon the same subject," which here follow.

*Philadelphia, August 5, 1789.*

*To the Right Reverend and Reverend the Clergy, and the worthy and honourable Lay Members of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in the states of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia and South Carolina, now assembled in General Convention.*

My worthy Friends and Brethren,

THE Sermons and Discourses whereof the Texts and Titles follow, are the result of the Author's labours, as a Preacher of the blessed Gospel, for near forty years past. Sundry of them, which were composed and delivered on special public occasions, have been already printed, and have passed through several editions, in Europe as well as America; but the main body of them were composed and delivered in the character of a Parish Minister, viz. in the years 1764 and 1765, at Christ Church and St. Peter's

in the city of Philadelphia; from thence forward to the year 1780, in the churches of the Oxford mission, in the county of Philadelphia; and from the latter part of the year 1780, to July 1st, 1789, in Chester parish, Kent county, Maryland.

During the foregoing long period of ministerial service, the author hath frequently been solicited to print or to give manuscript copies of many of the Sermons; and hath, as his leisure would allow, so often indulged some of his too partial friends and hearers in the latter way, that copies of sundry Sermons have been multiplied in manuscript, and circulated in a condition not only very incorrect, but wholly without those last improvements and touches, which the best of them stand much in need of, and which the Author had always designed to bestow on some of them, and bequeath them as a legacy to his surviving friends and hearers, if health and opportunity should permit; and if that should not be the case, he had directed those few, together with the whole remainder in the following list, to be suppressed from public view, as hasty and unfinished compositions.

But the late change in the Author's situation, the resignation of his parochial as well as collegiate charge in the state of Maryland, and his return to his former station in the college of Philadelphia (added to the consideration of his advanced age) rendering it probable that he can never again engage in any stated parochial duty; the applications of some of his former friends and hearers have been renewed for the publication of sundry of those Sermons, which had long since been delivered before them, and of which some of them had been supplied with manuscript copies.

In some late conversations with judicious and worthy persons, both of the Clergy and Laity, respecting the present state of our churches and people in America, it hath been further suggested, that the cause of religion and truth might be much promoted by the publication of a sufficient number of sermons, or discourses, digested, as nearly as possible, into a system or body of divinity; comprehending the most useful and important articles of the christian doctrine; treated of in a scriptural and evangelical way; in an easy, affectionate, and correct style; suited to the minds and apprehensions of the young and those of inferior capacity, as well as edifying to those of riper years and more improved understanding; not running out into learned niceties or debates, to disturb common readers or hearers; but avoiding all speculative and controversial subjects, or touching upon them only to improve them, as far as possible, towards the purposes of practical godliness and vital christianity.

Although the author hath not the vanity to imagine that the following Sermons are wholly sufficient to this good design, yet they may lay the foundation of a more perfect work; and he finds, upon an arrangement of them under proper heads, that, in order to form a tolerably complete system, only a few Sermons would be wanting, and those chiefly upon such speculative and

controversial points, as the author hath ever avoided in the pulpit; but which (if thought necessary in a work of this kind) might be selected from some of the ablest and most orthodox divines of our church.

Indeed, it may be said that a complete body of sermons and divinity might be selected or compiled in this way; and attempts of that kind have been made with good effect. But, as every age and country is best pleased with its own forms, compositions and phrases of speech, the author flatters himself, that if it should please God to enable him to finish those sermons in the way he proposes, they will be at least acceptable to those who have desired the publication of any of them. He further trusts, that if his design should meet with that approbation and countenance which he affectionately solicits from the members of the convention, they will be of use to all well disposed christians, and especially to those of the following descriptions, viz.

1. To heads of families, who may think it their duty to devote the evenings of the Lord's day to the instruction of their own households.

2. To pious and well disposed persons (remote from places of public worship, or unprovided with ministers or pastors) who may wish to collect their neighbours and friends to spend some parts of a Sunday in public worship, and in reading sermons and books of devotion.

3. To young clergymen and preachers, who, being ill supplied with books, or a variety of sermons on proper subjects, may be assisted in their earlier compositions by the present work; which, it is proposed to comprise in about four octavo volumes, in the same sized paper and letter as this address; two volumes to be published yearly, at the rate of one dollar per volume, on the delivery of the same to the subscribers.

**WILLIAM SMITH.**

**On motion of Mr. J. Cox,**

*Resolved unanimously,* That the members of this convention, being fully persuaded that the interests of religion and practical godliness may be greatly promoted by the publication of a body of sermons, upon the plan proposed above, and being well satisfied of the author's soundness in the faith, and eminent abilities for such a work, do testify their approbation of the same, and their desire to encourage it, by annexing their names thereto as subscribers. [Here the names are subscribed.]

The convention then took up the report of the committee of the whole upon the canons, which were read, and engrossed.

The said canons were then adopted, and ordered to be signed by the President and Secretary. They are as follow :

*Canons for the Government of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, agreed on and ratified in the General Convention of said church, held in the city of Philadelphia, from the 28th day of July to the 8th day of August, 1789, inclusive.*

**Canon 1.** IN this church there shall always be three orders in the ministry, viz. Bishops, Priests and Deacons.

**Canon 2.** Every Bishop elect, before his consecration, shall produce to the Bishops, to whom he is presented for that holy office, from the Convention by whom he is elected a Bishop, and from the General Convention or a committee of that body, to be appointed to act in their recess, certificates respectively, in the following words, viz.

*Testimony from the Members of the Convention in the State, from whence the Person is recommended for Consecration.*

WE, whose names are underwritten, fully sensible how important it is, that the sacred office of a Bishop should not be unworthily conferred, and firmly persuaded that it is our duty to bear testimony on this solemn occasion without partiality or affection, do, in the presence of Almighty God, testify, that A. B. is not, so far as we are informed, justly liable to evil report, either for error in religion, or for viciousness of life; and that we do not know or believe there is any impediment or notable crime, for which he ought not to be consecrated to that holy office. We do moreover jointly and severally declare, that, having personally known him for three years last past, we do in our consciences believe him to be of such sufficiency in good learning, such soundness in the faith, and of such virtuous and pure manners and godly conversation, that he is apt and meet to exercise the office of a Bishop, to the honour of God, and the edifying of his church, and to be an wholesome example to the flock of Christ.

*Testimony from the General Convention.*

WE, whose names are underwritten, fully sensible how important it is, that the sacred office of a Bishop should not be unworthily conferred, and firmly persuaded that it is our duty to bear our testimony on this solemn occasion without partiality or affection, do, in the presence of Almighty God, testify, that A. B. is not, so far as we are informed, justly liable to evil report, either for error in religion or for viciousness of life; and that we do not know or believe there is any impediment or notable crime, on account of which he ought not to be consecrated to that holy office, but that he hath, as we believe, led his life, for three years last past, piously, soberly and honestly.

**Canon 3.** Every Bishop in this church shall, as often as may be convenient, visit the churches within his diocese or district, for the purposes of examining the state of his church, inspecting

the behaviour of the clergy, and administering the apostolic rite of confirmation.

**Canon 4.** Deacon's orders shall not be conferred on any person until he shall be twenty-one years old, nor Priest's orders on any one until he shall be twenty-four years old; and, except on urgent occasion, unless he hath been a Deacon one year. No man shall be consecrated a Bishop of this church, until he shall be thirty years old.

**Canon 5.** No person shall be ordained either Deacon or Priest, unless he shall produce a satisfactory certificate from some church, parish or congregation, that he is engaged with them, and that they will receive him as their minister and allow him a reasonable support; or unless he be engaged as a Professor, Tutor, or instructor of youth, in some college, academy, or general seminary of learning, duly incorporated; or unless the standing committee of the church in the state, for which he is to be ordained, shall certify to the Bishop their full belief and expectation, that he will be received and settled as a Pastor by some one of the vacant churches in that state.

**Canon 6.** Every candidate for holy orders shall be recommended to the Bishop by a standing committee of the Convention of the state wherein he resides, which recommendation shall be signed by the names of a majority of the committee, and shall be in the following words:

**WE**, whose names are here underwritten, testify, That **A. B.** for the space of three years last past, hath lived piously, soberly and honestly: nor hath he at any time, as far as we know or believe, written, taught or held, any thing contrary to the doctrine or discipline of the Protestant Episcopal Church. And moreover we think him a person worthy to be admitted to the sacred order of Priest. In witness whereof, we have hereunto set our hands. Dated the —— day of ——, in the year of our Lord ——.

But, before a standing committee of any state shall proceed to recommend any candidate, as aforesaid, to the Bishop, such candidate shall produce testimonials of his good morals and orderly conduct for three years last past, from the minister and vestry of the parish where he has resided, or from the vestry alone, if the parish be vacant; a publication of his intention to apply for holy orders having been previously made by such minister or vestry.

**Canon 7.** In every state, in which there is no standing committee, such committee shall be appointed at its next ensuing Convention; and in the mean time, every candidate for holy orders shall be recommended according to the regulations or usage of the church in each state, and the requisitions of the Bishop, to whom he applies.

**Canon 8.** No person shall be ordained in this church until he



shall have satisfied the Bishop and the two Presbyters, by whom he shall be examined, that he is sufficiently acquainted with the New Testament in the original Greek, and can give an account of his faith in the Latin tongue, either in writing or otherwise, as may be required.

Canon 9. Agreeably to the practice of the primitive church, the stated times of ordination shall be on the Sundays following the Ember week; viz. the second Sunday in Lent, the Feast of Trinity, and the Sundays after the Wednesdays following the fourteenth day of September, and the thirteenth of December.

Canon 10. No person, not a member of this church, who shall profess to be episcopally ordained, shall be permitted to officiate therein, until he shall have exhibited to the vestry of the church, in which he shall offer to officiate, a certificate signed by the Bishop of the diocese or district, or, where there is no Bishop, by three Clergymen of the standing committee of the Convention of that state, that his letters of orders are authentic, and given by some Bishop whose authority is acknowledged by this church, and also satisfactory evidence of his moral character.

*Signed by order of the Convention,*

**WILLIAM WHITE**, Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and President of the Convention.

**Francis Hopkinson**, Sec'y.

**Mr. Andrews** moved the following resolve :

Whereas it appears that sundry other canons are necessary for the good government of the church,

*Resolved*, That the **Right Rev. Dr. White**, the **Rev. Dr. Smith**, **Rev. Dr. Magaw**, **Rev. Mr. Smith**, **Mr. Hopkinson**, **Dr. Clark-son**, and **Mr. T. Coxe**, be a committee, to prepare and report to the next meeting of this Convention, such additional canons, as to them shall seem necessary.

Which was agreed to.

The Convention took into consideration the two articles of the constitution which had been postponed, and which they amended and agreed to.

*Ordered*, That the constitution be engrossed, for signing.

The engrossed address to the President of the United States was read, and signed by the Convention.

*Ordered*, That the **Right Reverend Dr. Provost**, the **Rev. Mr. Smith**, **Mr. Andrews**, **Mr. John Cox**, **Mr. Brisbane**, the **Rev. Dr. Beach**, the **Rev. Dr. Moore**, **Mr. Rogers**, the **Rev. Mr. Ogden**, **Rev. Mr. Spieren**, the **Rev. Mr. Waddel**, and the **Hon. M. Duane**, with such other gentlemen as have been deputed to this Convention, who may be in New York, be requested to present the same to the President of the United States.

*Resolved*, That the said address, with the answer that may be received thereto, be printed in the journals of the adjourned meeting of this Convention.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

SATURDAY, *August 8th*, 1789.

The Convention met.

The Rev. Mr. Bisset read prayers.

The engrossed constitution of the Protestant Episcopal Church was then read, and signed by the Convention, and is as follows :

*A General Constitution of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America.*

ART. 1. THERE shall be a General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America on the first Tuesday of August, in the year of our Lord 1792, and on the first Tuesday of August in every third year afterwards, in such place as shall be determined by the Convention ; and special meetings may be called at other times, in the manner hereafter to be provided for ; and this Church, in a majority of the states which shall have adopted this constitution, shall be represented, before they shall proceed to business, except that the representation from two states shall be sufficient to adjourn ; and in all business of the Convention, freedom of debate shall be allowed.

ART. 2. The Church in each state shall be entitled to a representation of both the Clergy and the Laity, which representation shall consist of one or more deputies, not exceeding four of each order, chosen by the Convention of the state ; and in all questions, when required by the clerical or lay representation from any state, each order shall have one vote ; and the majority of suffrages by states shall be conclusive in each order, provided such majority comprehend a majority of the states represented in that order : The concurrence of both orders shall be necessary to constitute a vote of the Convention. If the Convention of any state should neglect or decline to appoint clerical deputies, or if they should neglect or decline to appoint lay deputies, or if any of those of either order appointed should neglect to attend, or be prevented by sickness or any other accident, such state shall nevertheless be considered as duly represented by such deputy or deputies as may attend, whether lay or clerical. And if, through the neglect of the Convention of any of the churches which shall have adopted, or may hereafter adopt this constitution, no deputies, either lay or clerical, should attend at any general convention, the church in such state shall nevertheless be bound by the acts of such Convention.

ART. 3. The Bishops of this church, when there shall be three or more, shall, whenever general conventions are held, form a house of revision, and when any proposed act shall have passed in the general convention, the same shall be transmitted to the house of revision, for their concurrence. And if the same shall be sent back to the Convention, with the negative or non-concur-

rence of the house of revision, it shall be again considered in the General Convention, and if the Convention shall adhere to the said act, by a majority of three-fifths of their body, it shall become a law to all intents and purposes, notwithstanding the non-concurrence of the house of revision; and all acts of the Convention shall be authenticated by both houses. And in all cases, the house of Bishops shall signify to the Convention their approbation or disapprobation, the latter with their reasons in writing, within two days after the proposed act shall have been reported to them for concurrence, and in failure thereof it shall have the operation of a law. But until there shall be three or more Bishops, as aforesaid, any Bishop attending a General Convention shall be a member *ex officio*, and shall vote with the Clerical Deputies of the state to which he belongs: And a Bishop shall then preside.

**ART. 4.** The Bishop or Bishops in every state shall be chosen agreeably to such rules, as shall be fixed by the Convention of that state: And every Bishop of this Church shall confine the exercise of his Episcopal office to his proper diocese or district, unless requested to ordain, or confirm, or perform any other act of the Episcopal office, by any Church destitute of a Bishop.

**ART. 5.** A Protestant Episcopal Church in any of the United States, not now represented, may, at any time hereafter, be admitted, on acceding to this constitution.

**ART. 6.** In every state, the mode of trying Clergymen shall be instituted by the Convention of the Church therein. At every trial of a Bishop, there shall be one or more of the Episcopal order present; and none but a Bishop shall pronounce sentence of deposition or degradation from the ministry on any Clergyman, whether Bishop, or Presbyter, or Deacon.

**ART. 7.** No person shall be admitted to holy orders, until he shall have been examined by the Bishop, and by two Presbyters, and shall have exhibited such testimonials and other requisites, as the canons, in that case provided, may direct. Nor shall any person be ordained, 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 in these United States." No person ordained by a foreign Bishop shall be permitted to officiate as a minister of this church, until he shall have complied with the canon or canons in that case provided, and have also subscribed the aforesaid declaration.

**ART. 8.** A Book of Common Prayer, Administration of the Sacraments, and other Rites and Ceremonies of the Church, articles of religion, and a form and manner of making, ordaining and consecrating Bishops, Priests and Deacons, when established by this or a future General Convention, shall be used in the Protestant Episcopal Church in these states, which shall have adopted this Constitution.

**ART. 9.** This Constitution shall be unalterable, unless in General Convention, by the Church in a majority of the states, which may have adopted the same; and all alterations shall be first proposed in one General Convention, and made known to the several State Conventions, before they shall be finally agreed to or ratified in the ensuing General Convention.

*In General Convention, in Christ Church, Philadelphia, August the eighth, one thousand seven hundred and eighty nine.*

**William White, D. D.** Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and President of the Convention.

*New York.* **Abraham Beach, D. D.** Assistant Minister of Trinity Church, in the city of New York.

**Benjamin Moore, D. D.** Assistant Minister of Trinity Church, in the city of New York.

**Moses Rogers.**

*New Jersey.* **William Frazer,** Rector of St. Michael's Church in Trenton, and St. Andrew's Church, in Amwell.

**Uzal Ogden,** Rector of Trinity Church, Newark.

**Henry Waddell,** Rector of Shrewsbury and Middletown, New Jersey.

**George H. Spieren,** Rector of St. Peter's, Amboy.

**John Cox.**

**Samuel Ogden.**

**R. Strattell Jones.**

*Pennsylvania.* **Samuel Magaw, D. D.** Rector of St. Paul's, Philadelphia.

**Robert Blackwell, D. D.** Senior Assistant Minister of Christ Church and St. Peter's, Philadelphia.

**Joseph Pilmore,** Rector of the United Churches of Trinity, St. Thomas, and All Saints.

**Joseph G. J. Bend,** Assistant Minister of Christ Church and St. Peter's, Philadelphia.

**Francis Hopkinson.**

**Gerardus Clarkson.**

**Tench Coxe.**

**Samuel Powel, Esquire.**

*Delaware.* **Joseph Couden, A. M.** Rector of St. Anne's.

**Stephen Sykes, A. M.** Rector of St. Peter's and St. Matthew's, in Sussex county.

**James Sykes.**

*Maryland.* **William Smith, D. D.** a Clerical Delegate for Maryland, appointed in a Convention as Rector of Chester parish, Kent county.

**Colin Ferguson, D. D.** Rector of St. Paul's, Kent county.

**John Bissert, A. M.** Rector of Shrewsbury Parish, Kent county.

**Richard B. Carmichael.**

**William Frisby.**

*Virginia.* Robert Andrews.

*South Carolina.* Robert Smith, Rector of St. Philip's Church, Charleston, and Principal of Charleston College.

William Brisbane.

W. W. Burrows.

Proposals for an edition of the Holy Bible, by Mr. Isaac Collins, of Trenton, were laid before this Convention, and satisfactory information was given them, as to the proposer's abilities for the execution of the work.

Whereupon, *Resolved*, on motion of Mr. Jones,

That the members of this Convention will assist Mr. Collins in the procuring of subscriptions.

The committee for preparing an address to the most Rev. the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, reported an address, which was read and adopted.

*Ordered*, That it be engrossed, for signing, and that it be signed by the members of the Convention, as their address, and by the President officially.

*Ordered*, That it be published in the journal of the adjourned meeting of this Convention.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Right Rev. Dr. White, Rev. Dr. Smith, Rev. Dr. Magaw, Hon. Mr. Hopkinson, Mr. T. Coxe and Mr. Burrows, be a committee to forward the above mentioned address; to prepare and forward the necessary answers to the Rev. Mr. Parker and the Clergy of Massachusetts and New Hampshire, respecting their application for the consecration of the Rev. Edward Bass, their Bishop elect; to answer, as far as may be necessary, the Right Rev. Dr. Seabury's letters; to forward the minutes and proceedings of this Convention to the English Archbishops and Bishops, and also to the Right Rev. Dr. Seabury, and to the eastern and other churches, not included in this union; to notify to them the time and place to which this Convention shall adjourn, and request their attendance at the same, for the good purposes of union and general government; and to call such special meetings of the Convention, as may be necessary.

*Resolved*, That this Convention adjourn, to meet at Philadelphia, on Tuesday, the 29th of September next, and that the Right Rev. Dr. Provost be requested to open the Convention with a Sermon.

*Signed by order of the Convention,*

WILLIAM WHITE, Bishop of the Protestant  
Episcopal Church in the commonwealth of  
Pennsylvania, and President of the Convention.

FRANCIS HOPKINSON, Secretary,

## APPENDIX.

*To all Persons to whom these presents shall come, or whom the same shall or may in any wise or at any time concern, we, John, by Divine Providence, Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, Primate of all England, and Metropolitan, send Greeting—*

**WHEREAS** by an act of Parliament passed at Westminster, in the twenty-sixth year of the reign of our sovereign lord George the third, King of Great Britain, France and Ireland, entituled “ An act to empower the Archbishop of Canterbury, or the Archbishop of York, for the time being, to consecrate, to the office of a Bishop, persons being subjects or citizens of coun-  
“ tries out of his Majesty’s dominions,” it is enacted, that it shall and may be lawful to and for the Archbishop of Canterbury, or the Archbishop of York, for the time being, together with such other Bishops as they shall call to their assistance, to consecrate persons, being subjects or citizens of countries out of his Majesty’s dominions, Bishops, for the purposes aforesaid, without the King’s licence for their election, or the royal mandate under the great seal for their confirmation and consecration, and without requiring them to take the oaths of allegiance and supremacy, and the oath of due obedience to the Archbishop for the time being. Provided always, that no persons shall be consecrated Bishops in the manner herein provided, until the Archbishop of Canterbury, or the Archbishop of York, for the time being, shall have first applied for and obtained his Majesty’s licence, by warrant under his royal signet and sign manual, authorising and empowering him to perform such consecration, and expressing the name or names of the persons so to be consecrated, nor until the said Archbishop has been fully ascertained of their sufficiency in good learning, of the soundness of their faith, and of the purity of their manners. Provided also, and be it hereby declared, that no person or persons consecrated to the office of a Bishop in the manner aforesaid, nor any person or persons deriving their consecration from or under any Bishop so consecrated, nor any person or persons admitted to the order of Deacon or Priest by any Bishop or Bishops so consecrated, or by the successor or successors of any Bishop or Bishops so consecrated, shall be thereby enabled to exercise his or their respective office or offices within his Majesty’s dominions. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That a certificate of such consecration shall be given under the hand and seal of the Archbishop who consecrates, containing the name of the person so consecrated, with the addition, as well of the country whereof he is a subject or citizen, as of the

church in which he is appointed **Bishop**, and the further description of his not having taken the said oaths, being exempted from the obligation of so doing by virtue of this act.—Now know all men by these presents, that we, the said **John Lord Archbishop of Canterbury**, having obtained his Majesty's licence, by warrant under his royal signet and sign manual, did, in pursuance of the said act of Parliament, on Sunday, the fourth day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven, in the Chapel of our palace, at Lambeth, in the county of Surry, admit our beloved in Christ **William White, Clerk, D. D.** a subject or citizen of the state of Pennsylvania, in North America, and Rector of Christ Church and St. Peter's, in the city of Philadelphia, in the said state, of whose sufficiency in good learning, soundness in the faith, and purity of manners, we were fully ascertained, into the office of a **Bishop** of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in the state of Pennsylvania aforesaid, to which the said **William White** hath been elected by the Convention for the said state, as appears unto us by due testimony thereof by him produced, and him the said **William White** did then and there rightly and canonically consecrate a **Bishop**, according to the manner and form prescribed and used by the church of England, his taking the oaths of allegiance, supremacy, and canonical obedience only excepted, he being exempted from the obligation of taking the said oaths by virtue of the above recited act. Provided, that neither he the said **Bishop**, nor any person or persons deriving their consecration from or under him, nor any person or persons admitted to the order of **Deacon** or **Priest** by him, or his successor or successors, shall be enabled to exercise his or their respective office or offices within his Majesty's dominions. In testimony whereof we have caused our Archi-Episcopal seal to be affixed to these presents.—Given at Lambeth House, the day and year above written, and in the fourth year of our translation.

**J. (L. S.) CANTUAR.**

We, **William Lord Archbishop of York**, **Charles Lord Bishop of Bath and Wells**, and **John Lord Bishop of Peterborough**, were present and assisting at the consecration within mentioned.

**W. EBOR.**

**C. BATH AND WELLS.**

**J. PETERBOROUGH.**

The signatures of the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, and of the Bishops of Bath and Wells, and Peterborough, were made in my presence, February 4th, 1787.

**WM. DICKES,**

(Copy.)

Secretary to the Archbishop of Canterbury.

**ON** Sunday, the fourth day of **February**, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven, and in the fourth year of the translation of the most Reverend Father in God, **John**, by Divine Providence, Lord Archbishop of **Canterbury**, Primate of all **England**, and Metropolitan, in the Chapel at the Palace at **Lambeth**, in the county of **Surry**, the said most Reverend Father in God, by virtue and authority of a certain licence or warrant from his most gracious Majesty, and our sovereign lord **George the Third**, by the grace of God, of **Great Britain**, **France** and **Ireland**, King, Defender of the Faith, and so forth, to him, in this behalf, directed, the most Reverend Father in God, **William**, by the same Providence, Lord Archbishop of **York**, Primate of **England**, and Metropolitan, and the Right Reverend Fathers in God, **Charles**, by divine permission, Lord Bishop of **Bath** and **Wells**, and **John**, by divine permission, Lord Bishop of **Peterborough**, assisting him, consecrated the Reverend **William White**, Doctor in Divinity, Rector of **Christ Church** and **St. Peter's**, in the city of **Philadelphia**, a subject or citizen of the **United States of North America**, and the Reverend **Samuel Provost**, Doctor in Divinity, Rector of **Trinity Church**, in the city of **New York**, a subject or citizen also of the **United States of North America**, to the office of a Bishop, respectively, the rites, circumstances and ceremonies anciently used in the Church of **England** being observed and applied, according to the tenor of an act passed in the twenty-sixth year of the reign of his said Majesty, entituled "An act to empower the Archbishop of **Canterbury**, or the Archbishop of **York**, for the time being, to consecrate to the office of a Bishop, persons being subjects or citizens of countries out of his Majesty's dominions," in the presence of me, **Robert Jenner**, Notary Public, one of the Deputy Registers of the province of **Canterbury**, being then and there present the Reverend and Worshipful **William Backhouse**, Doctor in Divinity, Archdeacon of **Canterbury**, the Rev. ——— Lort, Doctor in Divinity, the Rev. ——— Drake, Doctor in Divinity, **William Dickes**, Esquire, Notary Public, Secretary to his grace the said Lord Archbishop of **Canterbury**, with many others in great numbers then and there assembled. Which I attest.

**RT. JENNER,**

Notary Public, Actuary assumed.

(Copy.)

**AND** we, the underwritten Notaries Public, by royal authority duly admitted and sworn, residing in **Doctor's Commons**, **London**, do hereby certify and attest, to all whom it may concern, that **Robert Jenner**, whose name is subscribed to the foregoing act, was and is a Notary Public, and one of the Deputy Registers of the province of **Canterbury**, and that the letters,



name and words "**Rt. Jenner, Notary Public,**" thereto subscribed, were and are of the proper hand writing and subscription of the said **Robert Jenner**, and that we saw him sign the same, and that full faith and entire credit is and ought to be given to all the acts, subscriptions and attestations of the said **Robert Jenner**, as well in judgment as out. In testimony whereof we have hereunto subscribed our names, to serve and avail as occasion may require, at **Doctor's Commons, London**, this fifth day of **February**, in the year of our **Lord** one thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven. Which we attest.

(Copy.) **EDWARD COOPER, Notary Public.**  
**WILLIAM ABBOT, Notary Public.**

**NOTE.**—*The letter of consecration of the Right Rev. Dr. Provost will be annexed to the next Journal of the General Convention.*

**JOURNAL**  
**OF THE PROCEEDINGS**  
**OF THE**  
**BISHOPS, CLERGY AND LAITY,**  
**OF THE**  
**PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH,**  
**IN THE**  
**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,**  
**IN A**  
**CONVENTION,**

**HELD IN**

**The City of Philadelphia, from Tuesday, September 29th, to  
Friday, October 16th, 1789.**

## PREFACE.

**AT** 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 July 28th to August 8th, 1789; upon the consideration of certain communications from the Bishop and Clergy of the church in Connecticut, and from the Clergy in the churches of Massachusetts and New Hampshire, it was resolved to adjourn to the 29th day of September following, in order to meet the said churches, for the purpose of settling articles of union, discipline, uniformity of worship, and general government among all the churches in the United States.

The following is a Journal of the Proceedings of both Houses, (viz. of Bishops, and of Clerical and Lay Deputies) in the said adjourned Convention.

# JOURNAL, &c.

CHRIST CHURCH, *Tuesday, September 29th, 1789.*

THE Right Rev. Dr. White, the Rev. Dr. William Smith, the Rev. Dr. Robert Smith, the Rev. Mr. Bend, Robert Andrews, esquire, and Dr. Gerardus Clarkson met at Christ Church; but, not being a sufficient number to proceed to business,

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

CHRIST CHURCH, *Wednesday, September 30th, 1789.*

The Convention met.

The Right Rev. Dr. White presided, ex officio.

The Rev. Mr. Bracken read prayers.

The Rev. Mr. Bracken, clerical deputy from the church in Virginia, produced\* testimonials of his appointment, which being read, and approved, he took his seat.

The Right Rev. Dr. Samuel Seabury, Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Connecticut, attended, to confer with the Convention, agreeably to the invitation given him, in consequence of a resolve passed at their late session: and the Rev. Dr. Samuel Parker, deputy from the churches in Massachusetts and New Hampshire, and the Rev. Mr. Bela Hubbard, and the Rev. Mr. Abraham Jarvis, deputies from the church in Connecticut, produced testimonials of their appointment to confer with the Convention, in consequence of a similar invitation.

These testimonials were read and deemed satisfactory.

The Right Rev. Dr. Seabury produced his letters of consecration to the holy office of a Bishop in this church, which were read, and ordered to be recorded. [See the Appendix.]

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Secretary, the Hon. Francis Hopkinson, esquire, be permitted and requested to appoint an assistant Secretary, who is not a member of this Convention.

*Resolved*, That this Convention will, to-morrow, go into a committee of the whole, on the subject of the proposed union with the churches in the states of New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Connecticut, as now represented in Convention.

*Resolved further*, That the hours of business in Convention shall be, from nine o'clock in the morning until three in the afternoon. Adjourned.

CHRIST CHURCH, *Thursday, October 1st, 1789.*

The Convention met.

The Rev. Mr. Rowe read prayers.

\* This being an adjourned Convention, testimonials were only required from new members.

The Rev. Dr. Beach, from New York, the Rev. Mr. Frazer, and James Parker, esquire, from New Jersey, and James Sykes, esquire, from Delaware, took their seats in Convention.

Mr. Joseph Borden Hopkinson was admitted an assistant Secretary.

Mr. John Rumsey produced credentials as a lay deputy from the state of Maryland, and was admitted to his seat.

The meeting in Christ Church being found inconvenient to the members, in several respects—

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Rev. Dr. William Smith and the Hon. Mr. Secretary Hopkinson, be appointed to wait upon his Excellency Thomas Mifflin, esquire, the President of the state, and to request leave for the Convention to hold their meeting in some convenient apartment in the State House.

The Convention then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, agreeably to the order of the day.

The Rev. Dr. Robert Smith in the chair;

And after some time rose, and reported the following resolve, viz:—

*Resolved*, That for the better promotion of an union of this church with the eastern churches, the general Constitution established at the last session of this Convention is yet open to amendments and alterations, by virtue of the powers delegated to this Convention.

The question being put on this report, and a division called for, it was determined in the affirmative.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to confer with the deputies from the eastern churches, on the subject of the proposed union with those churches: Whereupon,

The Rev. Dr. William Smith, Rev. Dr. Robert Smith, Rev. Dr. Benjamin Moore, Richard Harrison and Tench Coxe, esquires, were chosen for this purpose.

The Rev. Dr. William Smith and Hon. Mr. Hopkinson reported, that the President of the state had very politely given permission to the Convention to hold their meetings at the State House, in the apartments of the General Assembly, until they shall be wanted for the public service.

Adjourned, to meet at the State House to-morrow morning.

STATE HOUSE, in the City of Philadelphia,

Friday, October 2d, 1789.

The Convention met.

The Rev. Dr. Robert Smith read prayers.

The Rev. Dr. William Smith, from the committee appointed to confer with the deputies from the churches of New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Connecticut, concerning a plan of union among all the Protestant Episcopal Churches in the United States of America, reported as follows, viz:—

“ That they have had a full, free and friendly conference with the deputies of the said churches, who, on behalf of the church, in their several states, and by virtue of sufficient authority from them, have signified, that they do not object to the constitution; which was approved at the former session of this Convention, if the third article of that constitution may be so modified, as to declare explicitly the right of the Bishops, when sitting in a separate House, to originate and propose acts for the concurrence of the other House of Convention; and to negative such acts proposed by the other House, as they may disapprove.

“ Your committee, conceiving this alteration to be desirable in itself, as having a tendency to give greater stability to the constitution, without diminishing any security that is now possessed by the Clergy or laity; and being sincerely impressed with the importance of an union to the future prosperity of the church, do therefore recommend to the Convention a compliance with the wishes of their brethren, and that the third article of the constitution may be altered accordingly. Upon such alteration being made, it is declared by the deputies from the churches in the eastern states, that they will subscribe the Constitution, and become members of this General Convention.”

Upon special motion, the above report was read a second time; whereupon the following resolution was proposed, viz:—

*Resolved*, That this Convention do adopt that part of the report of the committee, which proposes to modify the third article of the constitution, so as to declare explicitly “ the right of the Bishops, when sitting in a separate House, to originate and propose acts for the concurrence of the other House of Convention; and to negative such acts proposed by the other House, as they may disapprove; provided they are not adhered to by four-fifths of the other House.”

After some debate, the resolution, with the proviso annexed, was agreed upon, and the third article was accordingly modified in the manner following, viz:—

Art. 3d. *The Bishops of this church, when there shall be three or more, shall, whenever General Conventions are held, form a separate House, with a right to originate and propose acts for the concurrence of the House of Deputies, composed of Clergy and Laity; and when any proposed act shall have passed the House of Deputies, the same shall be transmitted to the House of Bishops, who shall have a negative thereupon, unless adhered to by four-fifths of the other House; and all acts of the Convention shall be authenticated by both Houses. And, in all cases, the House of Bishops shall signify to the Convention their approbation or disapprobation, the latter, with their reasons in writing, within three days after the proposed act shall have been reported to them for concurrence; and in failure thereof, it shall have the operation of a law. But until there shall be three or more Bishops, as aforesaid, any Bishop attending a General Convention shall be a mem-*

*ber, ex officio, and shall vote with the clerical deputies of the state to which he belongs; and a Bishop shall then preside.*

On motion, *Resolved*, That it be made known to the several State Conventions, that it is proposed to consider and determine in the next General Convention, on the propriety of investing the House of Bishops with a full negative upon the proceedings of the other House.

*Ordered*, That the general constitution of this church, as now altered and amended, be laid before the Right Rev. Dr. Seabury, and the deputies from the churches in the eastern states, for their approbation and assent.

After a short time, they delivered the following testimony of their assent to the same, viz :

October 2d, 1789.

**WE** do hereby agree to the Constitution of the church, as modified this day in Convention.

**Samuel Seabury, D. D.** Bishop of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut.

|   |   |                          |
|---|---|--------------------------|
| Abraham Jarvis, A. M. Rector of Christ<br>Church, Middletown, | } | State of<br>Connecticut. |
| Bela Hubbard, A. M. Rector of Trinity<br>Church, New Haven,   |   |                          |

**Samuel Parker, D. D.** Rector of Trinity Church, Boston, and Clerical Deputy for Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

After subscribing as above, the Right Rev. Bishop Seabury, and the clerical deputies aforesaid, took their seats, as members of the Convention.

On motion, the Rev. Dr. Parker and Rev. Mr. Jarvis, were added to the committee for revising the canons. Adjourned.

STATE HOUSE, Saturday, October 3d, 1789.

The Convention met.

The Rev. Mr. Ogden read prayers.

Mr. Charles Goldsborough produced the credentials of his appointment as a lay deputy from the church in Maryland, and took his seat accordingly.

The Right Rev. Bishop White informed the Convention, that he had received certain letters from the Right Rev. Bishop Provost, with a request that they may be communicated to the Convention; which were read accordingly.

On motion, *Resolved*, That, agreeably to the constitution of the church, as altered and confirmed, there is now in this Convention a separate House of Bishops.

The Bishops now withdrawing, the President's chair was declared vacant; whereupon the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies proceeded to the election of a President by ballot, and the Rev. William Smith, D. D. clerical deputy from Maryland

(Provost of the college of Philadelphia) was duly chosen, and took the chair accordingly.

*Resolved*, That seats be provided on the right hand of the chair; for the accommodation of the Bishops, when they shall choose to be present at the proceedings and debates of this House.

Here ends the Journal of the proceedings of the Convention, as consisting of a Single House. The Journals of the two Houses will now follow, separately; to which will be prefixed the General Ecclesiastical Constitution, as subscribed and entered on the Book of Records, which will answer the intention, as well of exhibiting a list of the Members of both Houses in Convention, as of defining their separate rights and powers.

*The Constitution of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America.*

**ART. 1.** THERE shall be a General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, on the second Tuesday of September, in the year of our Lord 1792, and on the second Tuesday of September in every third year afterwards, in such place as shall be determined by the Convention; and special meetings may be called at other times, in the manner hereafter to be provided for; and this church, in a majority of the states which shall have adopted this constitution, shall be represented, before they shall proceed to business; except that the representation from two states shall be sufficient to adjourn; and in all business of the Convention, freedom of debate shall be allowed.

**ART. 2.** The church in each state shall be entitled to a representation of both the Clergy and the Laity, which representation shall consist of one or more deputies, not exceeding four of each order, chosen by the Convention of the state; and, in all questions, when required by the Clerical or Lay representation from any state, each order shall have one vote; and the majority of suffrages by states shall be conclusive in each order, provided such majority comprehend a majority of the states represented in that order: The concurrence of both orders shall be necessary to constitute a vote of the Convention. If the Convention of any state should neglect or decline to appoint clerical deputies, or if they should neglect or decline to appoint lay deputies, or if any of those of either order appointed should neglect to attend, or be prevented by sickness or any other accident, such state shall, nevertheless, be considered as duly represented by such deputy or deputies as may attend, whether lay or clerical. And if, through the neglect of the Convention of any of the churches which shall have adopted, or may hereafter adopt, this constitution, no deputies, either lay or clerical, should attend at any General Convention; the church in such state shall nevertheless be bound by the acts of such Convention.

**ART. 3.** The Bishops of this church, when there shall be three or more, shall, whenever General Conventions are held, form a



separate House, with a right to originate and propose acts, for the concurrence of the House of Deputies, composed of Clergy and Laity; and when any proposed act shall have passed the House of Deputies, the same shall be transmitted to the House of Bishops, who shall have a negative thereupon, unless adhered to by four-fifths of the other House; and all acts of the Convention shall be authenticated by both Houses. And, in all cases, the House of Bishops shall signify to the Convention their approbation or disapprobation (the latter, with their reasons in writing) within three days after the proposed act shall have been reported to them for concurrence; and, in failure thereof, it shall have the operation of a law. But until there shall be three or more Bishops, as aforesaid, any Bishop attending a General Convention shall be a member, *ex officio*, and shall vote with the clerical deputies of the state to which he belongs; and a Bishop shall then preside.

**ART. 4.** The Bishop or Bishops in every state shall be chosen agreeably to such rules as shall be fixed by the Convention of that state: And every Bishop of this church shall confine the exercise of his episcopal office to his proper diocese or district; unless requested to ordain, or confirm, or perform any other act of the episcopal office, by any church destitute of a Bishop.

**ART. 5.** A Protestant Episcopal Church in any of the United States, not now represented, may, at any time hereafter, be admitted, on acceding to this constitution.

**ART. 6.** In every state, the mode of trying clergymen shall be instituted by the Convention of the church therein. At every trial of a Bishop, there shall be one or more of the episcopal order present; and none but a Bishop shall pronounce sentence of deposition or degradation from the ministry on any Clergyman, whether Bishop, or Presbyter, or Deacon.

**ART. 7.** No person shall be admitted to holy orders, until he shall have been examined by the Bishop and by two Presbyters, and shall have exhibited such testimonials and other requisites, as the canons, in that case provided, may direct. Nor shall any person be ordained 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 in these United States." No person ordained by a foreign Bishop shall be permitted to officiate as a Minister of this Church, until he shall have complied with the canon or canons in that case provided, and have also subscribed the aforesaid declaration.

**ART. 8.** A book of common prayer, administration of the sacraments, and other rites and ceremonies of the church, articles of religion, and a form and manner of making, ordaining and consecrating Bishops, Priests and Deacons, when established by this or a future General Convention, shall be used in the Protestant

**Episcopal Church in those states which shall have adopted this constitution.**

**ART. 9.** This constitution shall be unalterable, unless in General Convention, by the church in a majority of the states, which may have adopted the same: and all alterations shall be first proposed in one General Convention, and made known to the several State Conventions before they shall be finally agreed to, or ratified, in the ensuing General Convention.

*Done in General Convention of the Bishops, Clergy and Laity of the Church, the second day of October, 1789, and ordered to be transcribed into the Book of Records, and subscribed, which was done as follows, viz.*

*In the House of Bishops.*

**Samuel Seabury, D. D.** Bishop of Connecticut.

**William White, D. D.** Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church, Pennsylvania.

*In the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies.*

**William Smith, D. D.** President of the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, and Clerical Deputy from Maryland.

*New Hampshire and Massachusetts.* **Samuel Parker, D. D.** Rector of Trinity Church, Boston.

*Connecticut.* **Bela Hubbard, A. M.** Rector of Trinity Church, New Haven.

**Abraham Jarvis, A. M.** Rector of Christ Church, Middletown.

*New York.* **Benjamin Moore, D. D.** } Assistant Ministers of  
**Abraham Beach, D. D.** } Trinity Church, city  
of New York.

**Richard Harrison,** Lay Deputy from the state of New York.

*New Jersey.* **Uzal Ogden,** Rector of Trinity Church, Newark.

**William Frazer, A. M.** Rector of St. Michael's Church, Trenton, and St. Andrew's Church, Amwell.

**Samuel Ogden,**  
**Robert Strettell Jones.** } Lay Deputies.

*Pennsylvania.* **Samuel Magaw, D. D.** Rector of St. Paul's, Philadelphia.

**Robert Blackwell, D. D.** Senior Assistant Minister of Christ Church and St. Peter's, Philadelphia.

**Joseph G. J. Bend,** Assistant Minister of Christ Church and St. Peters', Philadelphia.

**Joseph Pilmore,** Rector of the United Churches of Trinity, St. Thomas's, and All Saints.

- Gerardus Clarkson, }  
 Tench Coxe, } Lay Deputies from the state of Penn-  
 Francis Hopkinson, } sylvania.  
 Samuel Powell, }
- Delaware.* Joseph Cowden, A. M. Rector of St. Anne's.  
 Robert Clay, Rector of Emanuel and St. James's Churches.
- Maryland.* John Bisset, A. M. Rector of Shrewsbury Parish,  
 Kent county.
- John Rumsey, }  
 Charles Goldsborough. } Lay Deputies.
- Virginia.* John Bracken, Rector of Bruton parish, Williams-  
 burg.
- Robert Andrews, Lay Deputy.
- South Carolina.* Robert Smith, D. D. Rector of St. Philip's  
 Church, Charleston.
- William Smith, }  
 William Brisbane. } Lay Deputies from the State of South  
 Carolina.
- ☞ Sundry other members attended this Convention at different  
 times of sitting, but were absent on the day of signing the  
 Constitution. See the names occasionally entered on the Jour-  
 nal.

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## JOURNAL

OF THE

### HOUSE OF CLERICAL AND LAY DEPUTIES.

STATE HOUSE, *Saturday, October 3d, 1789.*

THE Bishops having withdrawn, and a President being chosen as aforesaid, the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies proceeded to business, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on the canons being called upon, reported progress, and had leave to sit again.

*Resolved,* That a committee be appointed to prepare a calendar, and tables of lessons for morning and evening prayer, throughout the year; also collects, epistles and gospels;—and Rev. Dr. Parker, Rev. Dr. Moore, Rev. Mr. Bend, Dr. Clarkson and Rev. Mr. Jarvis were chosen for this purpose.

*Resolved,* That a committee be appointed to prepare a morning and evening service for the use of the church.—The Rev. Mr. Hubbard, Rev. Dr. Robert Smith, Rev. Dr. Blackwell, Mr. Rumsey and Mr. Andrews were chosen.

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to prepare a **Litany**, with occasional prayers and thanksgivings; and **Rev. Dr. Beach**, **Rev. Mr. Bracken**, **Rev. Mr. Bisset**, **Mr. Hopkinson** and **Mr. Goldsborough** were chosen.

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed, to prepare an order for the administration of the **Holy Communion**;—and **Rev. Mr. Pilmore**, **Rev. Mr. Ogden**, **Col. Ogden**, **Rev. Mr. Frazer** and **Mr. Sykes** were appointed.

Adjourned to Monday morning.

STATE HOUSE, *Monday, October 5th, 1789.*

The House met.

The **Rev. Mr. Bisset** read prayers.

**William Smith**, Esq. from South Carolina, took his seat in the House.

The standing committee, appointed at the former session of this Convention, made report, as follows:—"That they had forwarded the address to the most Reverend the Archbishops of Canterbury and York; and that they prepared and forwarded answers to the Reverend **Dr. Parker**, and the clergy of Massachusetts and New Hampshire; that they answered, as far as was necessary, the letters of the Right Reverend Bishop Seabury; that they notified to the church in the several states, not included in this union, the time and place to which the Convention had adjourned, and requested their sending deputies to the same, for the good purposes of union and General Government; and that they inclosed, in each of the communications mentioned in this report, a copy of the minutes and proceedings of this Convention at their last session.

The **Rev. Mr. Bisset** and the **Rev. Mr. Bend** were appointed to assist the Secretary in preparing the minutes for the press.

The committee on the morning and evening service reported a morning service, which was read, and afterwards considered by paragraphs.

Adjourned.

STATE HOUSE, *Tuesday, October 6th, 1789.*

The House met.

The **Rev. Mr. Bend** read prayers.

The committee on the litany, &c. reported a litany, which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed, to report in what manner the **Psalms** should be used; whereupon the following members were elected, by ballot, for that service: **Mr. Andrews**, **Mr. Hopkinson**, **Rev. Dr. Moore**, **Rev. Dr. Parker**, and **Rev. Dr. Robert Smith**.

The Convention then resumed the consideration of the report on the morning service, and having made farther progress therein, Adjourned to Thursday morning.

**STATE HOUSE, Thursday, October 8th, 1789.**

The House met.

The Rev. Dr. Parker read prayers.

The Reverend Mr. Bloomer, from New York, Mr. Brisbane, from South Carolina, and the Rev. Dr. Magaw, from Pennsylvania, took their seats in the House.

The Rev. Mr. Hubbard was chosen Vice President of this House.

The Convention resumed the consideration of the report on the morning service, and completed the same.

*Ordered,* That it be transcribed, and authenticated by the President and Secretary, and that the Rev. Dr. R. Smith and Mr. Andrews carry it to the House of Bishops for their concurrence.

*Ordered,* That the Rev. Dr. Parker and Rev. Mr. Bend, of the committee on the lessons, calendar, &c. carry their report as far as they have prepared it, to the House of Bishops, for their consideration.

Mr. Harrison and Mr. Rumsey obtained leave of absence.

Adjourned.

**STATE HOUSE, Friday, October 9th, 1789.**

The House met.

The Rev. Dr. Magaw read prayers.

The committee on the morning and evening service reported an evening service, which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

The committee on the communion service made a report, which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The report on the Litany was then taken up, and some progress made in the consideration thereof,

Adjourned.

**STATE HOUSE, Saturday, October 10th, 1789.**

The House met.

The Rev. Mr. Frazer read prayers.

The committee on the calendar, &c. brought in the remainder of their report, which was ordered to be laid before the House of Bishops.

The House then resumed the consideration of the report on the litany, and completed the same.

*Ordered,* That the litany be transcribed, and authenticated by the President and Secretary.

The proposed tables of lessons for Sundays and other Holy Days were returned by the House of Bishops, with some amendments.

On motion, the tables of lessons for Sundays and other Holy Days, as amended by the House of Bishops, were re-committed to the committee appointed to prepare them.

The committee appointed to report in what manner the psalms shall be used, made a report, which was read, agreed to, and directed to be transmitted to the House of Bishops.

The evening service was then considered, amended, and ordered to be transcribed and authenticated; and the Rev. Dr. Beach and Rev. Mr. Bisset were appointed to carry it to the House of Bishops, for their concurrence.

The report on the communion service was taken up, and some progress made in the consideration thereof.

A message was received from the House of Bishops, with their assent to the calendar, the epistles and gospels, and proposing certain amendments to the collects laid before them; which amendments were agreed to.

Mr. Ogden had leave of absence.

It having been notified, that the public service of the state of Pennsylvania would require the use of the State house during the present week;

Adjourned to meet at Christ Church on Monday morning next.

CHRIST CHURCH, *Monday, October 12th, 1789.*

The Convention met, and it being represented that convenient apartments might be had in the College of Philadelphia for the meeting of both Houses of Convention, during the remainder of the present session;

Adjourned, to meet at the College immediately.

COLLEGE of Philadelphia, *Monday, October 12th, 1789.*

The House met.

The Rev. Mr. Frazer read prayers.

A message was received from the House of Bishops, returning the proposed litany and form of morning prayer, with amendments, and proposing a form of public baptism of infants.

The committee, appointed to consider the amendments of the House of Bishops to the tables of lessons for Sundays, &c. advised a concurrence of this house in the said amendments.

*Resolved*, That this report be agreed to, and that the said tables of lessons be authenticated.

The House then took up the amendments proposed by the House of Bishops to the form of morning prayer and the litany, some of which were adopted, and others non-concurred.

*Ordered*, That they be transmitted to the House of Bishops, with the determination of this house.

A message was received from the House of Bishops, proposing a form for the solemnization of matrimony; also amendments to the report concerning the psalms. These amendments were considered, some agreed to, and others non-concurred.

*Ordered*, That the House of Bishops be informed of the said determination.

A message was received from the House of Bishops, proposing an order for the visitation of the sick.

*Resolved*, That, in future, this house will meet at nine o'clock in the morning, and adjourn at two in the afternoon, to meet again at four.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning.

COLLEGE of Philadelphia, *Tuesday, October 13th, 1789.*

The House met.

The Rev. Dr. Beach read prayers.

The report on the communion service was resumed, considered by paragraphs, and agreed to.

A message was received from the House of Bishops, proposing a form of burial service, and the order in which the psalter shall be used; and also requesting a conference with this house on the proposed amendments of the morning prayer and litany.

It was agreed that this request should be complied with, at five o'clock this afternoon. The Secretary was ordered to inform the House of Bishops of this, and he returned with their concurrence. Adjourned.

*Four o'clock, P. M.*

The House met.

*Resolved*, That the intended conference with the House of Bishops be deferred to a future time.

The Rev. Dr. Parker and Rev. Dr. Moore, were desired to inform the House of Bishops of this resolution, and returned with the concurrence of that house.

Six additional collects, reported by the committee on the communion service, were considered and agreed to, and with the communion service, ordered to be transcribed, and transmitted to the House of Bishops.

A message was received from the House of Bishops, proposing the manner and form of setting forth the book of psalms in metre.

The committee on the litany, &c. reported certain occasional prayers and thanksgivings, which, with some few amendments, were adopted, and ordered to be transmitted to the House of Bishops.

The Convention then took up the form of public baptism of infants, which they amended, and returned to the House of Bishops.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the following clause be added to the seventh canon of this church.

Unless it shall be recommended to the Bishop, by two-thirds of the State Convention to which he belongs, to dispense with the aforesaid requisition, in whole or in part; which recommendation shall only be for good causes moving thereunto, and shall be in the following words, with the signature of the names of the majority of such Convention:—“*We, whose names are underwrit-*

“*ten, are of opinion, that the dispensing with the knowledge of the Latin and Greek languages (or either of them, as the case may be) in the examination of A. B. for holy orders, will be of use to the church of which we are the Convention, in consideration of other qualifications of the said A. B. for the gospel ministry.*”

The above clause being sent to the **House of Bishops**, received their concurrence. Adjourned.

**COLLEGE of Philadelphia, Wednesday, October 14th, 1789.**

The **House** met.

The **Rev. Dr. Parker** read prayers.

The form for the solemnization of matrimony was considered, and amended, and transmitted to the **House of Bishops**.

A message was received from the **House of Bishops**, informing, that they had passed the form of public baptism of infants, with the amendments of this house, and proposing a form for the private baptism of infants, and a form of baptism of those of riper years. Adjourned.

*Four o'clock, P. M.*

The **House** met.

The burial service was considered, amended, and transmitted to the **House of Bishops**.

A message was received from the **House of Bishops**, with amendments to the communion service, and with the form for the solemnization of matrimony, which they had passed, as amended by this house.

The amendments to the communion service were considered, amended, and transmitted to the **House of Bishops**; and the service, thus amended, was, with the six additional collects, assented to, and returned by the said house. Adjourned.

**COLLEGE of Philadelphia, Thursday, October 15th, 1789.**

The **House** met.

The **Rev. Mr. Pilmore** read prayers.

The order in which the psalter shall be read was considered, and agreed to.

The **House** then went into a conference with the **House of Bishops**, which continued till two o'clock. Adjourned.

*Four o'clock, P. M.*

The **House** met.

The constitution, as copied in the book of records, was read and compared, and, having received an alteration as to the time of the future meetings of the **Convention**, was signed by both houses of **Convention**.

The committee on the canons reported certain canons, which, being considered and amended, were ratified, and transmitted to the **House of Bishops**.



The House again went into a conference with the House of Bishops, in the course of which it was agreed, that the book of common prayer to be set forth by this Convention, shall be in use from the 1st day of October, 1790.

A message was received from the House of Bishops, proposing a catechism, confirmation, and forms of prayer for families, and containing their assent to the burial service, except the first rubric ; in their amendment to which this House concurred.

Dr. Parker obtained leave of absence after to-morrow noon.

On motion, the Rev. Dr. Blackwell, the Rev. Mr. Ogden, and Rev. Mr. Bisset, were appointed a committee, to report what farther measures are necessary to perpetuate the succession of Bishops in America. Adjourned.

COLLEGE of Philadelphia, *Friday, October 16th, 1789.*

The House met.

The Rev. Dr. Beach read prayers.

The House of Bishops returned the canons, with an amendment, in which this House concurred ; and they also proposed a title page to the book of common prayer, which was read, and passed.

The canons now passed, together with those passed at the last session, being collected into one body, and ratified by both Houses, were directed to be entered in the Book of Records, and printed with the Journal of this Convention.

[See the Appendix.]

The Reverend Mr. Bend proposed a table of proper psalms for certain days, which was passed and sent to the House of Bishops.

A preface and table of contents were sent to this House by the House of Bishops, which, with their concurrence, were referred to the committee to be appointed to superintend the publication of the book about to be issued by the Convention.

Tables for finding the Holy Days, and tables of the moveable and immoveable feasts, which had been proposed by the House of Bishops, were passed.

The House of Bishops returned the order of evening prayer, with an amendment, to which this House agreed.

They also transmitted to this House amendments to the occasional prayers and thanksgivings, and a form for the churching of women, a form of thanksgiving for the fruits of the earth, additional prayers for the visitation of the sick, and a form of ratification of the Prayer Book.

The amendments of the House of Bishops to the occasional prayers and thanksgivings were considered, and assented to.

A message was received from the House of Bishops, with their assent to the table of proper psalms ; and proposing a form of prayer to be used at sea, and a form of prayer for the visitation of prisoners ; also an order for the communion of the sick.

The manner and form of setting forth the book of psalms in metre was considered, amended, and returned to the House of Bishops.

The additional prayers for the visitation of the sick were considered, and passed with an amendment, to which the House of Bishops agreed.

The order for the visitation, and the order for the communion of the sick, were agreed to.

The form of the ratification of the book of common prayer was agreed to.

The House of Bishops proposed, for the adoption of this House, articles of religion, which, with the concurrence of the House of Bishops, were referred to a future Convention.

The form of the visitation of prisoners was then passed.

The form of thanksgiving for the fruits of the earth was assented to; also the form of prayer to be used at sea.

A message was received from the House of Bishops, with their assent to the amendments proposed to the manner and form of setting forth the book of psalms in metre.

The order for the administration of baptism of those of riper years was considered, and passed; also, the form of private baptism of infants.

A message was sent to the House of Bishops, proposing that the Ash Wednesday service, as set forth in the proposed book, should be adopted, instead of the commination formerly used; to which the House of Bishops assented.

The confirmation, and the forms of family morning and evening prayer, were considered, and adopted.

A message was received from the House of Bishops, proposing an alteration in the litany, which was sent back, with an amendment, in which the House of Bishops concurred.

A message was received from the House of Bishops, with their assent to the morning prayer, and the report on the psalms.

Adjourned.

*Four o'clock, P. M.*

The House met.

The catechism was considered, amended, and transmitted to the House of Bishops.

The form for the churching of women was agreed to; and it was resolved, with the concurrence of the House of Bishops, that the thanksgiving in the said form should be inserted among the occasional thanksgivings, and used, at the discretion of the Minister, instead of the whole office.

*Resolved*, That the Rev. Dr. William Smith, Rev. Dr. Magaw, Rev. Dr. Blackwell, Mr. Hopkinson, and Mr. Coxe, be a committee, to superintend the printing of the Book of Common Prayer, as set forth by this Convention, and that they advise with any person or persons who shall be appointed by the House of Bishops for the same purpose.

*Resolved*, That the committee appointed to superintend the printing of the **Book of Common Prayer, &c.** be instructed to have the selections of psalms, set forth by this church, printed immediately before the psalter; and, besides a full and complete edition of the said book, printed in folio or octavo, or in both, to have an edition published, to contain only the parts in general use and the collects of the day, with references to the epistles and gospels.

A message was received from the **House of Bishops**, with their assent to the catechism, as amended; and with information that the **Right Reverend Bishop White** consents to advise with the committee appointed by this **House** to superintend the printing of the **Book of Common Prayer, &c.**

**Mr. Tench Coxe** was elected **Treasurer** of the **Convention**.

The following gentlemen were appointed a standing committee, to act during the recess of the **Convention**: **The Reverend Dr. William Smith**, ex officio, **Reverend Dr. Parker**, **Reverend Mr. Hubbard**, **Reverend Dr. Beach**, **Mr. Harrison**, **Reverend Mr. Ogden**, **Mr. Jones**, **Reverend Dr. Blackwell**, **Mr. Hopkinson**, **Reverend Mr. Clay**, **Mr. Sykes**, **Reverend Mr. Bisset**, **Mr. Carmichael**, **Reverend Mr. Bracken**, **Mr. Andrews**, **Reverend Dr. Robert Smith**, and **Mr. Brisbane**.

*Resolved*, That this committee, or a majority of them, have power to recommend to the **Bishops** the calling of special meetings of the **Convention**, when they think it necessary.

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this **House**, that the **Bishops** have a right, when they think it necessary, to call special **Conventions**.

The committee on the means of perpetuating the **Episcopal succession** in the **United States of America**, made the following report, which was read and adopted, viz.

The committee on the means of perpetuating the **Episcopal succession** in these **United States**, are of opinion,—

That the standing committee, which, agreeably to the constitution, is chosen, as above, to act during the recess of the **General Convention**, ought, in the name of the **Convention**, to recommend for consecration any person, who shall appear to them to be duly elected and qualified for the episcopal office: That should any person, elected and qualified as above, be proposed, and should the answer from the **English Archbishops** be favourable to the intended plan of consecrating by the **Right Rev. the Bishops Seabury, White and Provoost**, the committee shall write to the said three **Bishops**, intimating that it is the will and desire of the **General Convention**, that such consecration should, as soon as convenient, take place: That should the answer from **England** be unfavourable, or any obstacle occur, by the death of either of the three **Bishops**, or otherwise, the said committee shall recommend any **Bishop** elect to **England**, for consecration.

*Resolved*, That, with the concurrence of the **House of Bishops**, the next meeting of the **Convention** be in the city of **New York**.

*Resolved*, That the Right Rev. Bishop Seabury be requested to preach a sermon at the opening of the next Convention.

*Signed by order of the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies.*

WILLIAM SMITH, President.

Francis Hopkinson, Secretary.

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## JOURNAL

OF

### THE HOUSE OF BISHOPS.

*In Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, held at the State House, in the city of Philadelphia, on Monday, the 5th day of October, in the year of our Lord 1789.*

**AFTER** divine service in the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, the House of Bishops met in the committee room of the honorable House of Assembly.

PRESENT.

The Right Reverend Samuel Seabury, D. D. and  
The Right Reverend William White, D. D.

*The following Rules are agreed on, and established, for the government of this House, viz :*

1st. The senior Bishop present shall be the President ; seniority to be reckoned from the dates of the letters of consecration.

2d. This House will authenticate its acts by the signing of the names of, at least, the majority of its members.

3d. There shall be a Secretary to this House.

In addition to the above, it is now established as a temporary rule, that this House will attend divine service, during the session, in the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies.

The Rev. Joseph Clarkson, A. M. is appointed the Secretary of this House.

This House went into a review of the morning and evening prayer, and prepared some proposals on that subject.

Adjourned till ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

STATE HOUSE, Tuesday, October 6th, 1789.

After divine service,

Adjourned till nine o'clock on Thursday morning.

STATE HOUSE, *Thursday, October 8th, 1789.*

Divine service being over,

This House went into the consideration of the litany, and of the other parts of the service connected with the morning and evening prayer, and completed their proposals on that subject, excepting a few particulars, which they have noted as queries for their further consideration.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the collects, epistles and gospels; and from them to the order for the administration of the holy communion; and having prepared their proposals on these parts of the service,

Adjourned till nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

STATE HOUSE, *Friday, October 9th, 1789.*

Divine service being over,

The House went into a review of the service for the public baptism of infants, and prepared proposals on that subject.

The House then received a message from the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, by the Rev. Dr. Parker, and the Rev. Mr. Bend, informing, that they had prepared tables of lessons for Sundays, and other holy days, to be laid before this House, which were accordingly presented.

This House went immediately into the consideration of the above, during which there was received a message from the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, by the Rev. Dr. Robert Smith and Robert Andrews, Esquire, with information, that they had prepared a form of morning prayer, to be laid before this House; which was accordingly presented.

The House then proceeded in their examination of the tables of lessons, and having prepared some amendments of the same,

Adjourned till nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

STATE HOUSE, *Saturday, October 10th, 1789.*

After divine service,

The House completed the instrument of amendments of the tables of lessons, and sent the same, by their Secretary, to the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies.

This House then received a message from the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, by the Rev. Dr. Parker, and the Rev. Mr. Bend, with information, that they had prepared proposals in regard to the calendar, and in regard to the collects, epistles and gospels; which were accordingly presented.

The House then went into the consideration of the proposed form of morning prayer, during which they received a message from the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, by the Rev. Dr. Beach and the Rev. Mr. Bisset, with information, that they had prepared the litany to be laid before this House; which was accordingly presented.

The House then went on with the consideration of the morning prayer, when they received another message from the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, by the Rev. Dr. Robert Smith and the Rev. Dr. Moore, with information, that they had prepared a selection of psalms ; which was laid before the House.

The House, after preparing their amendments of the morning prayer for engrossing, proceeded to the consideration of the proposed litany, and prepared their amendments of that service, also, for engrossing.

They then proceeded to the consideration of the proposed calendar, and having assented to the same, returned it by their Secretary.

The House then proceeded to consider the proposals respecting the collects, epistles and gospels, and having prepared their amendments, sent them, by their Secretary, to the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies.

A message was received by the Rev. Dr. Parker, from the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, representing, that if this House were prepared to originate any parts of the service, it would be agreeable to the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies to receive them on Monday morning.

Accordingly the Secretary is desired to prepare a copy of the proposed form of public baptism of infants.

The public service requiring the use of the room where this House sit,

Adjourned to the apparatus room of the College, there to meet on Monday morning, at nine o'clock.

COLLEGE of Philadelphia, *Monday, October 12th, 1789.*

Divine service being over,

The House of Bishops sent, by their Secretary, to the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, their amendments of the morning prayer, and of the litany, together with the alterations, originated in this House, of the ministration of the public baptism of infants.

This House received a message from the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, by the Rev. Dr. Parker, informing that they agree to the amendments proposed in regard to the tables of lessons for Sundays, and other holy days, excepting the fourth amendment, on which they desire a conference.

This House withdrew the said fourth amendment, and desired Dr. Parker to report the same to the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies.

This House then prepared alterations of the form of solemnization of matrimony, which were accordingly reported by their Secretary to the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies.

The House of Clerical and Lay Deputies returned to this House, by the Hon. Mr. Hopkinson, their amendments of the morning prayer and litany, with their concurrence in some articles, and non-concurrence in others.

This House prepared alterations of the order for the visitation of the sick, which were accordingly reported to the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies.

The House of Clerical and Lay Deputies returned to this House the proposed amendments of the selection of psalms, with their concurrence of some articles, and non-concurrence of others.

Adjourned till to-morrow at nine o'clock.

COLLEGE of Philadelphia, *Tuesday, October 13th, 1789.*

Divine service being over,

The House of Bishops proceeded to prepare—the order how the psalter is appointed to be read—the order how the rest of the holy scriptures is appointed to be read—and the order for the burial of the dead—which being prepared, were sent by the Secretary to the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, together with a message, requesting a conference with that House on the amendments of the proposed morning prayer and litany, at such time, and in such manner, as they shall agree upon.

The House then proceeded to prepare a commination service, &c. when they received a message from the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, by their Secretary, informing, that, agreeably to the request of this House, they had appointed five o'clock this afternoon for a conference on the proposed morning prayer and litany.

The room in which the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies meet was mutually agreed on, as most convenient for the business.

Adjourned till four o'clock this afternoon.

*Four o'clock, P. M.*

The House of Bishops received a message from the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, by the Rev. Dr. Parker and the Rev. Dr. Moore, with information, that, if agreeable to this House, the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies would postpone the conference, agreed to be held this afternoon, until further communication; with which this House concurred.

This House then prepared the form and manner of setting forth the psalms in metre, and sent the same, by their Secretary, to the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies; together with the form of commination, &c. and tables of moveable and immoveable feasts, with tables for finding the holy days.

The House then received a message from the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, by the Rev. Dr. Beach, with information, that they had to propose prayers and thanksgivings for several occasions; which were accordingly presented.

Adjourned till nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

COLLEGE of Philadelphia, *Wednesday, October 14th, 1789.*

Divine service being over,

This House received a message from the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, by the Rev. Dr. Parker, with amendments of the alterations of the burial service, originated in this House.

The amendments being concurred in, the alterations were passed, and returned.

This House then originated alterations of the services for private baptism, and for the baptism of adults, and sent the same, by their Secretary, to the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies.

A message from the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, by the Hon. Mr. Hopkinson, was received by this House, which accompanied amendments of the alterations of the marriage service, originated in this House; which amendments being concurred in, the alterations were passed, and returned.

This House received from the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies a proposed communion service, and made amendments.

Adjourned till four o'clock in the afternoon.

*Four o'clock, P. M.*

The House originated alterations of the catechism—of the order of confirmation—and a form of family prayer—and sent them to the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, with the amendments of the communion service; which last were concurred in, except one, which being withdrawn by this House, the service was passed, and returned.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

COLLEGE of Philadelphia, *Thursday, October 15th, 1789.*

Divine service being over,

This House had returned to them from the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, by the Rev. Dr. Parker, the order how the psalter is appointed to be read, and the order how the rest of the holy scripture is appointed to be read, with amendments; all of which were concurred in, except one, which was left for the conference, into which the house now went, agreeably to a former appointment, and in which they were employed during the morning of this day.

Adjourned till four o'clock this afternoon.

*Four o'clock, P. M.*

This House originated, and proposed to the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies—alterations of the title page—a form of ratification of the Book of Common Prayer—a table of contents—a form or manner of printing the former preface—and those called “Of the Service of the Church”—and “Of Ceremonies”—these, with the form of thanksgiving of women after child-birth, before prepared—and the amendments of the occasional prayers—were sent by the Secretary to the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies; after which the two houses proceeded in their conference.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.



COLLEGE, *Friday, October 16th, 1789.*

Divine service being over,

This House received from the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, by Dr. Blackwell, canons, as reported by a committee appointed at the former session.

This House acceded to the Canons proposed, except the amendment of one, in consequence of which it was proposed to withdraw the canon, which being acceded to, this House passed the canons.

This House received, by Robert Andrews, Esq. the proposed order for evening prayer, of which they made an amendment, by proposing the insertion of two hymns, as alternatives to the psalms already in the service; which being agreed to, the order for evening prayer was passed.

The House received, by the Rev. Mr. Bend, a table of proper psalms; which was passed.

The House received, by the Rev. Dr. Beach and Robert Andrews, Esq. the table of contents, and the other initial parts of the book of Common prayer, with a proposal, that they should be referred to a committee, to sit in the recess of this Convention; which was agreed to.

The House received, by the Rev. Mr. Ogden and Rev. Mr. Bend, amendments of the form of ratification of the book of common prayer, and also the form of churching of women, which are to lay over for consideration.

This House originated, and sent to the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, as follow—a proposed ratification of the thirty-nine articles, with an exception in regard to the thirty-sixth and thirty-seventh articles—a form for the communion of the sick—a form for the visitation of prisoners—a form for thanksgiving for the fruits of the earth—and prayers to be inserted in the visitation of the sick.

The House of Clerical and Lay Deputies returned, by the Rev. Mr. Bend, the proposed form of printing the psalms in metre, with hymns, and proposed amendments of the same, which were agreed to, and the whole passed.

This House received, by the Rev. Mr. Bend, the visitation office and additional prayers, which being concurred in, the whole were passed; as was also the form of the ratification of the book of common prayer.

This House received, by Robert Andrews, Esq. the ratification of the articles, with a proposal for postponement, which was agreed to, the proposal for the communion of the sick being first presented and passed.

This House received, by the Rev. Mr. Bisset, a proposal for retaining the service for Ash-Wednesday, as in the proposed book, with one alteration, which was agreed to.

This House returned the occasional prayers, passed.

The House then passed the morning and evening prayer, the

litany, the selection of the psalms, and the orders how the psalter and the rest of the holy scripture is appointed to be read.

*Four o'clock, P. M.*

The House received from the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, amendments of the catechism; which being agreed to, the service was passed.

This House returned to the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, the office for the churching of women, and the occasional prayers, the amendments mutually proposed having been agreed to.

It is understood, that the services originated in this House, and not returned with amendments, have been agreed to.

This House received from the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, a message, informing, that they had appointed a committee, to join with any person to be appointed by this House, in setting forth the Book of Common Prayer. In consequence of which, the Right Reverend Bishop White agrees to assist the committee in preparing the book for publication.

The House of Clerical and Lay Deputies signified to this House, that they were about to adjourn, to meet, the next stated time, in the city of New York, having previously appointed a committee to act, if necessary, in their recess. On which this House adjourned to the same time and place.

*Signed as the Journal of the Convention, the sixteenth day of October, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-nine.*

**SAMUEL SEABURY, D. D.** Bishop of Connecticut, President.

**WILLIAM WHITE, D. D.** Pennsylvania.

Attested. **JOSEPH CLARKSON,** Secretary.

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## APPENDIX.

### CANONS,

*For the Government of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, agreed on and ratified in the General Convention of said Church, held in the City of Philadelphia, from the 29th day of September to the 16th day of October, 1789, inclusive.*

**CANON I.** *Of the Orders of the Ministers in this Church.*

IN this church there shall always be three orders in the ministry, viz. Bishops, Priests and Deacons.

**CANON II.** *Certificates to be produced on the part of Bishops elect.*

Every Bishop elect, before his consecration, shall produce to the Bishops, to whom he is presented for that holy office, from the Convention by whom he is elected a Bishop, and from the General Convention, or a committee of that body, to be appointed to act in their recess, certificates, respectively, in the following words, viz.

*Testimony from the members of the Convention in the state from whence the person is recommended for consecration.*

**WE**, whose names are underwritten, fully sensible how important it is that the sacred office of a Bishop should not be unworthily conferred, and firmly persuaded that it is our duty to bear testimony on this solemn occasion without partiality or affection, do, in the presence of Almighty God, testify, that **A. B.** is not, so far as we are informed, justly liable to evil report, either for error in religion, or for viciousness of life; and that we do not know or believe there is any impediment or notable crime, for which he ought not to be consecrated to that holy office. We do moreover jointly and severally declare, that, having personally known him for three years last past, we do in our consciences believe him to be of such sufficiency in good learning, such soundness in the faith, and of such virtuous and pure manners and godly conversation, that he is apt and meet to exercise the office of a Bishop, to the honor of God, and the edifying of his church, and to be an wholesome example to the flock of Christ.

*Testimony from the General Convention.*

**WE**, whose names are underwritten, fully sensible how important it is that the sacred office of a Bishop should not be unworthily conferred, and firmly persuaded that it is our duty to bear our testimony on this solemn occasion, without partiality or affection, do, in the presence of Almighty God, testify, that **A. B.** is not, so far as we are informed, justly liable to evil report, either for error in religion, or for viciousness of life; and that we do not know or believe there is any impediment or notable crime, on account of which he ought not to be consecrated to that holy office, but that he hath, as we believe, led his life, for three years last past, piously, soberly and honestly.

**CANON III.** *Of Episcopal Visitation.*

Every Bishop in this church shall, as often as may be convenient, visit the churches within his diocese or district, for the purposes of examining the state of his church, inspecting the behaviour of the clergy, and administering the apostolic right of confirmation.

**CANON IV.** *Of the age of those who are to be ordained or consecrated.*

**Deacon's** orders shall not be conferred on any person until he shall be twenty-one years old, nor **Priest's** orders on any one until he shall be twenty-four years old; and, except on urgent occasions, unless he hath been a **Deacon** one year.—No man shall be consecrated a **Bishop** of this church until he shall be thirty years old.

**CANON V.** *Of the Titles of those who are to be ordained.*

No person shall be ordained either **Deacon** or **Priest**, unless he shall produce a satisfactory certificate from some church, parish or congregation, that he is engaged with them, and that they will receive him as their **Minister**, and allow him a reasonable support; or unless he be engaged as a professor, tutor, or instructor of youth, in some college, academy, or general seminary of learning, duly incorporated; or unless the standing committee of the church in the state, for which he is to be ordained, shall certify to the **Bishop** their full belief and expectation that he will be received and settled as a **Pastor**, by some one of the vacant churches in that state.

**CANON VI.** *The Testimonials to be produced on the part of those who are to be ordained.*

Every candidate for holy orders shall be recommended to the **Bishop** by a standing committee of the convention of the state wherein he resides, which recommendation shall be signed by the names of a majority of the committee, and shall be in the following words:

**WE**, whose names are here underwritten, testify, that **A. B.** for the space of three years last past, hath lived piously, soberly and honestly: Nor hath he at any time, as far as we know or believe, written, taught or held, any thing contrary to the doctrine or discipline of the **Protestant Episcopal Church**. And moreover we think him a person worthy to be admitted to the sacred order of ———. In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands. Dated the ——— day of ——— in the year of our **Lord** ———.

But, before a standing committee of any state shall proceed to recommend any candidate, as aforesaid, to the **Bishop**, such candidate shall produce testimonials of his good morals and orderly conduct for three years last past, from the minister and vestry of the parish where he has resided, or from the vestry alone, if the parish be vacant; a publication of his intention to apply for holy orders having been previously made by such minister or vestry. In every state, in which there is no standing committee, such committee shall be appointed at its next ensuing **Convention**; and in the mean time, every candidate for holy orders shall be recommended according to the regulations or usage of the church in each state, and the requisitions of the **Bishop** to whom he applies.

**CANON VII.** *Of the learning of those who are to be ordained.*

No person shall be ordained in this church until he shall have satisfied the Bishop and the two Presbyters, by whom he shall be examined, that he is sufficiently acquainted with the New Testament in the original Greek, and can give an account of his faith in the Latin tongue, either in writing or otherwise, as may be required; unless it shall be recommended to the Bishop, by two-thirds of the State Convention to which he belongs, to dispense with the aforesaid requisition, in whole or in part; which recommendation shall only be for good causes moving thereto, and shall be in the following words, with the signature of the names of the majority of such Convention.

WE, whose names are underwritten, are of opinion, that the dispensing with the knowledge of the Latin and Greek languages (or of either of them, as the case may be) in the examination of A. B. for holy orders, will be of use to the church of which we are the Convention, in consideration of other qualifications of the said A. B. for the gospel ministry.

**CANON VIII.** *Of the stated times of ordination.*

Agreeably to the practice of the primitive church, the stated times of ordination shall be on the Sundays following the Ember weeks; viz. the second Sunday in Lent, the Feast of Trinity, and the Sundays after the Wednesdays following the fourteenth day of September, and the thirteenth of December.

**CANON IX.** *Of those who, having been ordained by foreign Bishops, settle in this Church.*

No person, not a member of this church, who shall profess to be episcopally ordained, shall be permitted to officiate therein, until he shall have exhibited to the vestry of the church, in which he shall offer to officiate, a certificate, signed by the Bishop of the diocese or district, or, where there is no Bishop, by three clergymen of the standing committee of the Convention of that state, that his letters of orders are authentic, and given by some Bishop whose authority is acknowledged by this church, and also satisfactory evidence of his moral character.

**CANON X.** *Of the use of the Book of Common Prayer.*

Every minister shall, before all sermons and lectures, use the book of common prayer, as the same shall be set forth and established by the authority of this, or some future General Convention; and until such establishment of an uniform book of common prayer in this church, every minister shall read the book of common prayer directed to be used by the Convention of the church in the state in which he resides; and no other prayer shall be used besides those contained in the said book.

**CANON XI.** *Of the duty of Ministers, in regard to Episcopal Visitation.*

It shall be the duty of ministers to prepare children and others for the holy ordinance of confirmation. And on notice being received from the Bishop of his intention to visit any church, which notice shall be at least one month before the intended visitation, the minister shall be ready to present, for confirmation, those who shall have been previously instructed for the same; and shall deliver to the Bishop a list of the names of those presented.

And at every visitation it shall be the duty of the minister, and of the church wardens, to give information to the Bishop of the state of the congregation; under such heads as shall have been committed to them in the notice given as aforesaid.

And further, the ministers and church wardens of such congregations as cannot be conveniently visited in any year, shall bring or send to the Bishop, at the stated meeting of the Convention of the diocese or district, information of the state of the congregation, under such heads as shall have been committed to them, at least one month before the meeting of the Convention.

**CANON XII.** *Notorious Crimes and Scandals to be censured.*

If any persons within this church offend their brethren by any wickedness of life, such persons shall be repelled from the holy communion, agreeably to the rubric, and may be further proceeded against, to the depriving of them of all privileges of church membership; according to such rules or process as may be provided, either by the General Convention, or by the Conventions in the different states.

**CANON XIII.** *Sober Conversation required in Ministers.*

No ecclesiastical persons shall, other than for their honest necessities, resort to taverns, or other places most liable to be abused to licentiousness. Further, they shall not give themselves to any base or servile labour, or to drinking or riot, or to the spending of their time idly. And if any offend in the above, they shall be liable to the ecclesiastical censure of admonition, or suspension, or degradation, as the nature of the case may require, and according to such rules or process as may be provided, either by the General Convention, or by the Conventions in the different states.

**CANON XIV.** *Of the due celebration of Sundays.*

All manner of persons within this church shall celebrate and keep the Lord's day, commonly called Sunday, in hearing the word of God read and taught, in private and public prayer, in other exercises of devotion, and in acts of charity, using all godly and sober conversation.

**CANON XV.** *Ministers to keep a Register.*

Every minister of this church shall keep a register of baptisms, marriages and funerals within his cure, agreeably to such rules as may be provided by the ecclesiastical authority where his cure lies; and if none such be provided, then in such a manner, as, in his discretion, he shall think best suited to the uses of such a register.

And the intention of the register of baptisms is hereby declared to be, as for other good uses, so especially for the proving of the right of church membership of those, who may have been admitted into this church by the holy ordinance of baptism.

And further, every minister of this church shall, within a reasonable time after the publication of this canon, make out and continue a list of all adult persons within his cure; to remain for the use of his successor, to be continued by him, and by every future minister in the same parish.

And no minister shall place on the said list the names of any persons, except of those, who, on due enquiry, he shall find to have been baptised in this church; or who, having been otherwise baptised, shall have been received into this church, either by the holy rite of confirmation, or by receiving the holy communion, or by some other joint act of the parties and of a minister of this church; whereby such persons shall have attached themselves to the same.

**CANON XVI.** *A List to be made, and published, of the Ministers of this Church.*

The secretary of the General Convention shall keep a register of all the clergy of this church whose names shall be delivered to him, in the following manner; that is to say,—Every Bishop of this church, or, where there is no Bishop, the standing committee of that diocese or district, shall, at the time of every General Convention, deliver, or cause to be delivered to the secretary, a list of the names of all the ministers of this church in their proper diocese or district, annexing the names of their respective cures, or of their stations in any colleges or other incorporated seminaries of learning, or, in regard to those who have not any cures or such stations, their places of residence only. And the said list shall, from time to time, be published on the Journals of the General Convention.

And further, it is recommended to the several Bishops of this church, and to the several standing committees, that, during the intervals between the meetings of the General Convention, they take such means of notifying the admission of ministers among them, as, in their discretion respectively, they shall think effectual to the purpose of preventing ignorant and unwary people from being imposed on, by persons pretending to be authorised ministers of this church.

**CANON XVII.** *Notice to be given of the Induction and dismission of Ministers.*

It is hereby required, that on the induction of a minister into any church or parish, the parties shall deliver, or cause to be delivered to the Bishop, or to the standing committee of the diocese or district, notice of the same in the following form, or to this effect:

**WE**, the Church wardens (or in case of an Assistant Minister, we, the Rector and Church wardens) do certify to the Right Rev. (naming the Bishop) that (naming the person) has been duly chosen Rector (or Assistant Minister, as the case may be) of (naming the church or churches.)

Which certificate shall be signed with the names of those who certify.

And if the Bishop, or the standing committee, be satisfied that the person so chosen is a qualified minister of this church, he shall transmit the said certificate to the Secretary of the Convention, who shall record it in a book to be kept by him for that purpose.

But if the Bishop or the standing committee be not satisfied as above, he or they shall, at the instance of the parties, proceed to enquire into the sufficiency of the person so chosen, according to such rules as may be made in the states respectively, and shall confirm or reject the appointment, as the issue of that enquiry may be.

Passed October 16, 1789.

*House of Bishops,*

**SAMUEL SEABURY**, Bp. Connecticut, President.

**WILLIAM WHITE**, Pennsylvania.

*Attested.* Joseph Clarkson, Secretary.

*House of Clerical and Lay Deputies,*

**WILLIAM SMITH**, President,

*Attested.* Francis Hopkinson, Secretary.

*An Address to the President of the United States, published agreeably to the following order, viz:*

**IN CONVENTION, August 7th, 1789.**

The address to the President of the United States being read, and signed in Convention—

*Resolved*, That the said address, with the answer that may be received thereto, be printed in the Journals of the adjourned meeting of this Convention.

*To the President of the United States.*

**SIR**,—**WE**, the Bishops, Clergy and Laity of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the states of New York, New Jersey, Penn-



sylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia and South Carolina, in general Convention assembled, beg leave, with the highest veneration and the most animating national considerations, at the earliest moment in our power, to express our cordial joy on your election to the chief magistracy of the United States.

When we contemplate the short but eventful history of our nation ; when we recollect the series of essential services performed by you in the course of the revolution ; the temperate, yet efficient exertion of the mighty powers with which the nature of the contest made it necessary to invest you ; and especially when we remember the voluntary and magnanimous relinquishment of those high authorities at the moment of peace ; we anticipate the happiness of our country under your future administration.

But it was not alone from a successful and virtuous use of those extraordinary powers, that you were called from your honorable retirement, to the first dignities of our government. An affectionate admiration of your private character, the impartiality, the persevering fortitude, and the energy with which your public duties have been invariably performed, and the paternal solicitude for the happiness of the American people, together with the wisdom and consummate knowledge of our affairs, manifested in your last military communication, have directed to your name the universal wish, and have produced, for the first time in the history of mankind, an example of unanimous consent in the appointment of the governor of a free and enlightened nation.

To these considerations, inspiring us with the most pleasing expectations as private citizens, permit us to add, that as the representatives of a numerous and extended church, we most thankfully rejoice in the election of a civil ruler, deservedly beloved, and eminently distinguished among the friends of genuine religion ; who has happily united a tender regard for other churches with an inviolable attachment to his own.

With unfeigned satisfaction we congratulate you on the establishment of the new constitution of government of the United States, the mild, yet efficient operations of which, we confidently trust, will remove every remaining apprehension of those, with whose opinions it may not entirely coincide, and will confirm the hopes of its numerous friends. Nor do these expectations appear too sanguine, when the moderation, patriotism and wisdom of the honorable members of the federal legislature are duly considered. From a body thus eminently qualified, harmoniously co-operating with the executive authority in constitutional concert, we confidently hope for the restoration of order and of our ancient virtues,—the extension of genuine religion,—and the consequent advancement of our respectability abroad, and of our substantial happiness at home.

We devoutly implore the Supreme Ruler of the Universe to preserve you long in health and prosperity,—an animating example of all public and private virtues,—the friend and guardian of

a free, enlightened and grateful people,—and that you may finally receive the reward which will be given to those, whose lives have been spent in promoting the happiness of mankind.

**William White, D. D.** Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and President of the Convention.

**Samuel Provoost, D. D.** Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the state of New York.

*New York.* **Benjamin Moore, D. D.** Assistant Minister of Trinity Church, in the city of New York.

**Abraham Beach, D. D.** Assistant Minister of Trinity Church, in the city of New York.

*New Jersey.* **William Frazer, A. M.** Rector of St. Michael's Church, Trenton, and St. Andrew's Church, Amwell.

**Uzal Ogden,** Rector of Trinity Church, in Newark.

**Henry Waddel,** Rector of the churches in Shrewsbury and Middletown, New Jersey.

**George H. Spieren,** Rector of St. Peter's Church, Perth Amboy, New Jersey.

**John Cox.**

**Samuel Ogden.**

**Robert Strettell Jones.**

*Pennsylvania.* **Samuel Magaw, D. D.** Rector of St. Paul's, and Vice-Provost of the University of Pennsylvania.

**Robert Blackwell, D. D.** Senior Assistant Minister of Christ Church and St. Peter's, Philadelphia.

**Joseph Pilmore,** Rector of the United Churches of Trinity, St. Thomas's and All Saints.

**Joseph G. J. Bend,** Assistant Minister of Christ Church and St. Peter's, Philadelphia.

**Francis Hopkinson.**

**Gerardus Clarkson.**

**Tench Coxe.**

**Samuel Powel.**

*Delaware.* **Joseph Couden, A. M.** Rector of St. Anne's.

**Stephen Sykes, A. M.** Rector of the United Churches of St. Peter's and St. Matthew, in Sussex county.

**James Sykes.**

*Maryland.* **William Smith, D. D.** Provost of the College and Academy of Philadelphia; and Clerical Deputy for Maryland, as late Rector of Chester parish, in Kent county.

**Thomas John Clagget,** Rector of St. Paul's, Prince George county.

**Colin Ferguson, D. D.** Rector of St. Paul's, Kent county.

**John Bisset, A. M.** Rector of Shrewsbury parish, Kent county.

**William Frisby.**

**Richard B. Carmichael.**

*Virginia.* **Robert Andrews.**

*South Carolina.* Robert Smith, D. D. Rector of St. Philip's Church, Charleston.  
 W. W. Burrows.  
 William Brisbane.

THE PRESIDENT'S ANSWER.

*To the Bishops, Clergy and Laity of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in the States of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia and South Carolina, in General Convention assembled.*

GENTLEMEN,

I SINCERELY thank you for your affectionate congratulations on my election to the chief magistracy of the United States.

After having received from my fellow citizens in general the most liberal treatment—after having found them disposed to contemplate, in the most flattering point of view, the performance of my military services, and the manner of my retirement at the close of the war—I feel that I have a right to console myself, in my present arduous undertaking, with a hope, that they will still be inclined to put the most favourable construction on the motives which may influence me in my future public transactions.

The satisfaction arising from the indulgent opinion entertained by the American people, of my conduct, will, I trust, be some security for preventing me from doing any thing, which might justly incur the forfeiture of that opinion. And the consideration, that human happiness and moral duty are inseparably connected, will always continue to prompt me to promote the progress of the former, by inculcating the practice of the latter.

On this occasion it would ill become me to conceal the joy I have felt in perceiving the fraternal affection, which appears to increase every day among the friends of genuine religion. It affords edifying prospects indeed, to see christians of different denominations dwell together in more charity, and conduct themselves, in respect to each other, with a more christian like spirit, than ever they have done in any former age, or in any other nation.

I receive, with the greatest satisfaction, your congratulations on the establishment of the New Constitution of Government; because I believe its mild, yet efficient, operations will tend to remove every remaining apprehension of those, with whose opinions it may not entirely coincide, as well as to confirm the hopes of its numerous friends; and because the moderation, patriotism and wisdom of the present Federal Legislature seem to promise the restoration of order and our ancient virtues, — the extension of genuine religion — and the consequent advancement of our respectability abroad, and of our substantial happiness at home.

I request, Most Reverend and respectable Gentlemen, that you will accept my cordial thanks for your devout supplications to the Supreme Ruler of the Universe in behalf of me. May you, and

the people whom you represent, be the happy subjects of Divine Benediction both here and hereafter!

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

August 19, 1789.

## APPENDIX. No. II.

*An Address to the Most Reverend the Archbishops of Canterbury and York.*

Most Venerable and illustrious Fathers and Prelates :

WE, the Bishops, Clergy and Laity of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the States of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia and South Carolina, impressed with every sentiment of love and veneration, beg leave to embrace this earliest occasion, in General Convention, to offer our warmest, most sincere and grateful acknowledgements to you, and (by your means) to all the venerable Bishops of the church over which you preside, for the manifold instances of your former condescension to us, and solicitude for our spiritual welfare. But we are more especially called to express our thankfulness, for that particular act of your fatherly goodness, whereby we derive, under you, a pure Episcopacy and succession of the ancient order of Bishops, and are now assembled, through the blessing of God, as a church duly constituted and organized, with the happy prospect before us of a future full and undisturbed exercise of our holy religion, and its extension to the utmost bounds of this continent, under an ecclesiastical constitution, and a form of worship, which we believe to be truly apostolical.

The growing prospect of this happy diffusion of christianity, and the assurance we can give you that our churches are spreading and flourishing throughout these United States, we know, will yield you more solid joy, and be considered as a more ample reward of your goodness to us, than all the praises and expressions of gratitude which the tongues of men can bestow.

It gives us pleasure to assure you, that, during the present sitting of our Convention, the utmost harmony has prevailed through all our deliberations; that we continue, as heretofore, most sincerely attached to the faith and doctrine of the Church of England; and that not a wish appears to prevail, either among our Clergy or Laity, of ever departing from that church in any essential article.

The business of most material consequence which hath come before us, at our present meeting, hath been, an application from our sister churches in the eastern states expressing their earnest desire of a general union of the whole Episcopal Church in the United States, both in doctrine and discipline; and, as a primary means of such union, praying the assistance of our Bishops in the consecration of a Bishop elect for the states of Massachusetts and New Hampshire. We therefore judge it necessary to accompany this address with the papers, which have come before us on that very interesting subject, and of the proceedings we have had thereupon, by which you will be enabled to judge concerning the

particular delicacy of our situation, and, probably to relieve us from any difficulties which may be found therein.

The application from the church in the states of Massachusetts and New Hampshire is in the following words, viz.

**THE** good Providence of Almighty God, the fountain of all goodness, having lately blessed the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, by supplying it with a complete and entire ministry, and affording to many of her communion the benefit of the labours, advice and government of the successors of the Apostles ;

We, Presbyters of said church, in the states of Massachusetts and New Hampshire, deeply impressed with the most lively gratitude to the Supreme Governor of the Universe for his goodness in this respect, and with the most ardent love to his church, and concern for the interest of her sons, that they may enjoy all the means that Christ, the great Shepherd and Bishop of souls, has instituted, for leading his followers into the ways of truth and holiness, and preserving his church in the unity of the spirit and the bond of peace ; to the end that the people committed to our respective charges may enjoy the benefit and advantage of those offices, the administration of which belongs to the highest order of the ministry, and to encourage and promote, as far as in us lies, a union of the whole Episcopal Church in these states, and to perfect and compact this mystical body of Christ, do hereby nominate, elect and appoint the Reverend Edward Bass, a Presbyter of said church, and Rector of St. Paul's, in Newburyport, to be our Bishop ; and we do promise and engage to receive him as such, when canonically consecrated, and invested with the apostolic office and powers, by the Right Reverend the Bishops hereafter named, and to render him all that canonical obedience and submission, which, by the laws of Christ and the constitution of our church, is due to so important an office.

And we now address the Right Reverend the Bishops in the states of Connecticut, New York and Pennsylvania, praying their united assistance in consecrating our said brother, and canonically investing him with the apostolic office and powers. This request we are induced to make, from a long acquaintance with him, and from a perfect knowledge of his being possessed of that love to God and benevolence to men, that piety, learning and good morals, that prudence and discretion, requisite to so exalted a station, as well as that personal respect and attachment to the communion at large in these states, which will make him a valuable acquisition to the order, and, we trust, a rich blessing to the church.

Done at a meeting of the Presbyters, whose names are underwritten, held at Salem, in the county of Essex, and commonwealth of Massachusetts, the fourth day of June, Anno Salutis 1789.

Samuel Parker, Rector of Trinity Church, Boston.

T. Fitch Oliver, Rector of St. Michael's Church, Marblehead.

**John Cousens Ogden, Rector of Queen's Chapel, Portsmouth, New Hampshire.**

**William Montague, Minister of Christ's Church. Boston.**

**Tillotson Brunson, Assistant Minister of Christ's Church, Boston.**

A true copy.

*Attest.* Samuel Parker.

At the meeting aforesaid,

*Voted,* That the Rev. Samuel Parker be authorised and empowered to transmit copies of the foregoing act, to be by him attested, to the Right Reverend the Bishops in Connecticut, New York and Pennsylvania; and that he be appointed our agent, to appear at any convocation to be holden at Pennsylvania or New York, and to treat upon any measures that may tend to promote an union of the Episcopal Church throughout the United States of America, or that may prove advantageous to the interest of the said church.

**EDWARD BASS, Chairman.**

A true copy.

*Attest.* Samuel Parker.

This was accompanied with a letter from the Rev. Samuel Parker, the worthy Rector of Trinity Church, Boston, to the Right Rev. Bishop White, dated June 21st, 1789, of which the following is an extract:—"The clergy here have appointed me their agent, to appear at any convocation to be held at New York or Pennsylvania; but I fear the situation of my family and parish will not admit of my being absent so long as a journey to Philadelphia would take. When I gave you encouragement that I should attend, I was in expectation of having my parish supplied by some gentlemen from Nova Scotia; but I am now informed they will not be here till some time in August. Having, therefore, no prospect of attending in person at your General Convention next month, I am requested to transmit you an attested copy of an act of the clergy of this and the state of New Hampshire, electing the Rev. Edward Bass our Bishop, and requesting the united assistance of the Right Reverend Bishops of Pennsylvania, New York and Connecticut, to invest him with apostolic powers. This act I have now the honour of enclosing, and hope it will reach you before the meeting of your General Convention in July.

"The clergy of this state are very desirous of seeing an union of the whole Episcopal Church in the United States take place; and it will remain with our brethren at the southward to say, whether this shall be the case or not; whether we shall be an united or divided church. Some little difference in government may exist in different states, without affecting the essential points of union and communion."

In the like spirit, the Right Rev. Dr. Seabury, Bishop of the

church in Connecticut, in his letter to the Rev. Dr. Smith, dated July 23d, writes on the subject of union, &c. as followeth.—  
 “The wish of my heart, and the wish of the clergy and of the church people of this state, would certainly have carried me and some of the clergy to your General Convention, had we conceived we could have attended with propriety. The necessity of an union of all the churches, and the disadvantages of our present dis-union, we feel and lament equally with you; and I agree with you, that there may be a strong and efficacious union between churches, where the usages are different. I see not why it may not be so in the present case, as soon as you have removed those obstructions, which, while they remain, must prevent all possibility of uniting. The church of Connecticut consists, at present, of nineteen clergymen in full orders, and more than twenty thousand people, they suppose, as respectable as the church in any state in the union.”

After the most serious deliberation upon this important business, and cordially joining with our brethren of the eastern or New England churches in the desire of union, the following resolves were unanimously adopted in Convention, viz :

*Resolved*,—“1st. That a complete order of Bishops, derived as well under the English as the Scots line of succession, doth now subsist within the United States of America, in the persons of the Right Rev. William White, D. D. Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the state of Pennsylvania; the Right Rev. Samuel Provoost, D. D. Bishop of the said church in the state of New York; and the Right Rev. Samuel Seabury, D. D. Bishop of the said church in the state of Connecticut.

2d. That the said three Bishops are fully competent to every proper act and duty of the episcopal office and character in these United States; as well in respect to the consecration of other Bishops, and the ordering of Priests and Deacons, as for the government of the church, according to such canons, rules and institutions, as now are, or hereafter may be, duly made and ordained by the church in that case.

3d. That in christian charity, as well as of duty, necessity and expediency, the churches represented in this Convention ought to contribute, in every manner in their power, towards supplying the wants, and granting every just and reasonable request of their sister churches in these states; and therefore, *Resolved*,—

4th. That the Right Rev. Dr. White and the Right Rev. Dr. Provoost be, and they hereby are, requested to join with the Right Rev. Dr. Seabury, in complying with the prayer of the clergy of the states of Massachusetts and New Hampshire, for the consecration of the Rev. Edward Bass, Bishop elect of the churches in the said states; but that, before the said Bishops comply with the request aforesaid, it be proposed to the churches in the New England states to meet the churches of these states, with the said

three Bishops, in an adjourned Convention, to settle certain articles of union and discipline among all the churches, previous to such consecration.

5th. That if any difficulty or delicacy, in respect to the Archbishops and Bishops of England, shall remain with the Right Rev. Drs. White and Provoost, or either of them, concerning their compliance with the above request, this Convention will address the Archbishops and Bishops, and hope thereby to remove the difficulty."

We have now, most venerable Fathers, submitted to your consideration whatever relates to this important business of union among all our churches in these United States. It was our original and sincere intention to have obtained three Bishops, at least, immediately consecrated by the Bishops of England, for the seven states comprehended within our present union. But that intention being frustrated through unforeseen circumstances, we could not wish to deny any present assistance, which may be found in our power to give to any of our sister churches, in that way which may be most acceptable to them, and in itself legal and expedient.

We ardently pray for the continuance of your favour and blessing, and that, as soon as the urgency of other weighty concerns of the church will allow, we may be favoured with that fatherly advice and direction, which to you may appear most for the glory of God and the prosperity of our churches, upon the consideration of the foregoing documents and papers.

Done in Convention, this 8th day of August, 1789, and directed to be signed by all the members, as the act of their body, and by the President officially.

William White, D. D. Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and President of the Convention.

Abraham Beach, D. D. assistant Minister of Trinity Church, in the city of New York.

Benjamin Moore, D. D. assistant Minister of Trinity Church, in the city of New York.

Moses Rogers, Lay Deputy from New York.  
*New Jersey.*

William Frazer, A. M. Rector of St. Michael's Church, in Trenton, and St. Andrew's, in Amwell.

Uzal Ogden, Rector of Trinity Church, Newark.

Henry Waddell, Rector of the Churches of Shrewsbury and Middleton.

George H. Spieren, Rector of St. Peter's, Perth Amboy.

John Cox,  
Samuel Ogden, } Lay Deputies.  
Robert S. Jones, }

*Pennsylvania.*

Samuel Magaw, D. D. Rector of St. Paul's, Philadelphia, Vice Provost of the University.



**Robert Blackwell, D. D.** senior assistant Minister of Christ Church and St. Peter's, Philadelphia.

**Joseph Pilmore, Rector** of the United Churches of Trinity, St. Thomas's, and All Saints.

**Joseph G. J. Bend,** assistant Minister of Christ Church and St. Peter's, in Philadelphia.

Gerardus Clarkson, }  
Tench Coxe, } Lay Deputies.  
Francis Hopkinson, }

*Delaware.*

**Joseph Cowden,** Clerical Deputy.

**Stephen Sykes,** Clerical Deputy.

**James Sykes,** Lay Deputy.

*Maryland.*

**William Smith, D. D.** Provost of the College and Academy of Philadelphia, and Clerical Deputy, as late Rector of Chester Parish, Kent county, Maryland. And for

**Thomas John Claggett, D. D.** Rector of St. Paul's, Prince George's County.

**Colin Ferguson, D. D.** Rector of St. Paul's, Kent County.

**John Bisset, A. M.** Rector of Shrewsbury Parish.

Richard B. Carmichael, }  
William Frisby, } Lay Deputies.

*Virginia.*

**Robert Andrews,** Professor of Mathematics in the College of William and Mary.

*South Carolina.*

**Robert Smith, D. D.** Rector of St. Philip's Church, and Principal of Charleston College.

William Brisbane, }  
William Burrows, } Lay Deputies.

APPENDIX. No. III.

*Papers relating to the Scots Episcopacy, as connected with the English, and the consecration of Bishop Seabury.*

Extract from the Register of Archbishop Juxon, in the Library of his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, at Lambeth Palace.—*Fol.* 237.

IT appears that James Sharp was consecrated Archbishop of St. Andrew's—Andrew Fairfoull, Archbishop of Glasgow—Robert Leighton, Bishop of Doublenen (Dunblane)—and James Hamilton, Bishop of Galloway—on the 15th day of December, 1661, in St. Peter's Church, Westminster, by Gilbert, Bishop of London, Commissary to the Archbishop of Canterbury;—and

that the **Right Rev. George, Bishop of Worcester, John, Bishop of Carlisle, and Hugh, Bishop of Landaff,** were present and assisting.

*Extracted this 3d day of June, 1789, by me,*  
**William Dickes, Secretary.**

*London, June 3d, 1789.*

**THAT** the above is a true copy of an extract procured by order of **Archbishop Moore**, to be sent to **Bishop Seabury**, in Connecticut, is attested by us, **Bishops of the Scottish Church**, now in this place, on business of importance to the said Church.

**John Skinner, Bishop.**

**William Abernethy Drummond, Bishop.**

**John Stræchan, Bishop.**

*A List of the Consecration and succession of Scots Bishops, since the Revolution, 1688, under William the Third, as far as the Consecration of Bishop Seabury is concerned.*

1693. *Feb. 23.* **Dr. George Hickes**, was consecrated Suffragan of Thetford, in the **Bishop of Peterborough's** chapel, in the parish of Enfield, by **Dr. William Loyd, Bishop of Norwich, Dr. Francis Turner, Bishop of Ely, and Dr. Thomas White, Bishop of Peterborough.** **N. B.** **Dr. Loyd, Dr. Turner and Dr. White**, were three of the **English Bishops** who were deprived at the revolution, by the civil power, for not swearing allegiance to **William the Third**. They were also three of the seven **Bishops** who had been sent to the **Tower**, by **James the Second**, for refusing to order an illegal proclamation to be read in their diocesses.

1705. *Jan. 25.* **Mr. John Sage**, formerly one of the **Ministers of Glasgow**, and **Mr. John Fullarton**, formerly **Minister of Paisley**, were consecrated at **Edinburgh**, by **John Paterson, Archbishop of Glasgow, Alexander Rose, Bishop of Edinburgh, and Robert Douglas, Bishop of Dunblane.** **N. B.** **Archbishop Paterson, Bishop Rose and Bishop Douglas**, were deprived at the revolution, by the civil power, because they refused to swear allegiance to **William the Third**.

1709. *April 28.* **Mr. John Falconar, Minister at Cairnbee, and Mr. Henry Chrystie, Minister at Kinross**, were consecrated at **Dundee**, by **Bishop Rose of Edinburgh, Bishop Douglas of Dunblane, and Bishop Sage.**

1711. *Aug. 25.* The **Honourable Archibald Campbel** was consecrated at **Dundee**, by **Bishop Rose of Edinburgh, Bishop Douglas of Dunblane, and Bishop Falconar.**

1712. *Feb. 24.* **Mr. James Gadderar**, formerly **Minister at Kilmaurs**, was consecrated at **London**, by **Bishop Hickes, Bishop Falconar, and Bishop Campbel.**

1712. *Oct. 22.* **Mr. Arthur Millar**, formerly **Minister at Inveresk**, and **Mr. William Irvine**, formerly **Minister at Kirk-michael**, in **Carrick**, were consecrated at **Edinburgh**, by **Bishop Rose of Edinburgh, Bishop Fullarton and Bishop Falconar.**

After the Bishop of Edinburgh's death.

1722. *Oct. 7.* Mr. Andrew Cant, formerly one of the Ministers of Edinburgh, and Mr. David Freebairn, formerly Minister of Dunning, were consecrated at Edinburgh, by Bishop Fullarton, Bishop Millar and Bishop Irvine.

1722. *June 4.* Dr. Thomas Rattray of Craighall, was consecrated at Edinburgh, by Bishop Gadderar, Bishop Millar, and Bishop Cant.

1727. *June 18.* Mr. William Dunbar, Minister at Cruden, and Mr. Robert Keith, Presbyter in Edinburgh, were consecrated at Edinburgh, by Bishop Gadderar, Bishop Millar and Bishop Rattray. N. B. They who were deprived of their parishes at the revolution are, in this list, called Ministers; but they who have not been parish Ministers under the civil establishment are called Presbyters.

1736. *June 24.* Mr. Robert White, Presbyter at Cupar, was consecrated at Carsebank, near Forfar, by Bishop Rattray, Bishop Dunbar and Bishop Keith.

1741. *Sept. 10.* Mr. William Falconar, Presbyter at Forress, was consecrated at Alloa, in Clackmannanshire, by Bishop Rattray, Bishop Keith and Bishop White.

1742. *Oct. 4.* Mr. James Rait, Presbyter at Dundee, was consecrated at Edinburgh, by Bishop Rattray, Bishop Keith and Bishop White.

1743. *Aug. 19.* Mr. John Alexander, Presbyter at Alloa, in Clackmannanshire, was consecrated at Edinburgh, by Bishop Keith, Bishop White, Bishop Falconar and Bishop Rait.

1747. *July 17.* Mr. Andrew Gerard, Presbyter in Aberdeen, was consecrated at Cupar, in Fife, by Bishop White, Bishop Falconar, Bishop Rait and Bishop Alexander.

1759. *Nov. 1.* Mr. Henry Edgar was consecrated at Cupar, in Fife, by Bishop White, Bishop Falconar, Bishop Rait and Bishop Alexander, as Co-adjutor to Bishop White, then Primus. N. B. Anciently no Bishop in Scotland had the stile of Archbishop, but one of them had a precedency, under the title of, Primus Scotiæ Episcopus; And after the revolution they returned to their old stile, which they still retain; one of them being entitled Primus, to whom precedency is allowed, and deference paid in the synod of Bishops.

1762. *June 24.* Mr. Robert Forbes was consecrated at Forfar, by Bishop Falconar, Primus, Bishop Alexander and Bishop Gerard.

1768. *Sept. 21.* Mr. Robert Kilgour, Presbyter at Peterhead, was consecrated Bishop of Aberdeen, at Cupar, in Fife, by Bishop Falconar, Primus, Bishop Rait and Bishop Alexander.

1744. *Aug. 24.* Mr. Charles Rose, Presbyter at Down, was consecrated Bishop of Dunblane, at Forfar, by Bishop Falconar, Primus, Bishop Rait and Bishop Forbes.

1776. *June 27.* Mr. Arthur Petrie, Presbyter at Meikelfolla,

was consecrated Bishop Co-adjutor, at Dundee, by Bishop Falconar, Primus, Bishop Rait, Bishop Kilgour and Bishop Rose: And appointed Bishop of Ross and Caithness, July 8th, 1777. **N. B.** After the revolution, the Bishops in Scotland had no particular Diocess, but managed their ecclesiastical affairs in one body, as a college: But, finding inconveniencies in this mode, they took particular diocesses, which, though not exactly according to the limits of the diocesses under the former legal establishment, still retain their old names.

1778. *Aug.* 13. Mr. George Innes, Presbyter in Aberdeen, was consecrated Bishop of Brechen, at Alloa, by Bishop Falconar, Primus, Bishop Rose and Bishop Petrie.

1782. *Sept.* 25. Mr. John Skinner, Presbyter in Aberdeen, was consecrated Bishop Co-adjutor, at Luthermuir, in the diocess of Brechen, by Bishop Kilgour, Primus, Bishop Rose and Bishop Petrie.

(P The foregoing list is taken from an attested copy, in the possession of Bishop Seabury.

1784. *Nov.* 14. Dr. Samuel Seabury, Presbyter, from the State of Connecticut, in America, was consecrated Bishop, at Aberdeen, by Bishop Kilgour, Primus, Bishop Petrie and Bishop Skinner,—as by the deed of consecration, as follows, viz.

### IN DEI NOMINE. Amen.

*Omnibus ubique Catholicis per Presentes pateat,*

**NOS**, Robertum Kilgour, miseratione divina, Episcopum Aberdonien—Arthurum Petrie, Episcopum Rossen et Moravien—et Joannem Skinner, Episcopum Coadjutorem; Mysteria Sacra Domini nostri Jesu Christi in Oratorio supradicti Joannis Skinner apud Aberdoniam celebrantes, Divini Numinis Præsidio fretos (presentibus tam e Clero, quam e Populo testibus idoneis) Samuellem Seabury, Doctorem Divinitatis, sacro Presbyteratus ordinis jam decoratum, ac nobis præ Vitæ integritate, Morum probitate et Orthodoxia, commendatum, et ad docendum et regendum aptum et idoneum, ad sacrum et sublimem Episcopatus Ordinem promovisse, et rite ac canonice, secundum Morem et Ritus Ecclesiæ Scoticanæ, consecrasse, Die Novembris decimo quarto, Anno Æræ Christianæ Millesimo Septingentisimo Octagesimo Quarto.—

In cujus Rei Testimonium, Instrumento huic (chirographis nostris prius munito) Sigilla nostra apponi mandavimus.

Robertus Kilgour, Episcopus, et Primus. (L. S.)

Arthurus Petrie, Episcopus. (L. S.)

Joannes Skinner, Episcopus. (L. S.)