

Journal
of the Proceedings of the
Bishops, Clergy, and Laity
of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America
in a Convention
1799



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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, June 11th, to Wednesday, June 19th, 1799.

LIST OF THE MEMBERS
OF THE
HOUSE OF CLERICAL AND LAY DEPUTIES.

From the State of Massachusetts.

Rev. William Walter, D. D.

From the State of Rhode Island.

Rev. Abraham Lynsen Clarke.

From the State of Connecticut.

Rev. William Smith, D. D. Rev. Ashbel Baldwin, Benjamin Hall, Esquire.

From the State of New York.

Rev. John Bisset, Rev. Ammi Rogers.

From the State of New Jersey.

Rev. Uzal Ogden, D. D. Rev. Henry Waddell, Rev. John Croes, Rev. Menzies Rayner, John Rutherford, Esquire, Mr. Jeffery Clarke, Mr. John Dennis.

From the State of Pennsylvania.

Rev. William Smith, D. D. Rev. John Andrews, D. D. Rev. Samuel Magaw, D. D. Rev. Robert Blackwell, D. D. General Francis Gurney, John C. Stocker, Esquire, Mr. Joseph Sims, Mr. J. B. Gilpin.

From the State of Delaware.

Rev. Robert Clay, Rev. Joseph Clarkson, Rev. William Pryce, Rev. Walter C. Gardiner, Joseph Burn, Esquire.

From the State of Virginia.

Rev. John Bracken, D. D. Robert Andrews, Esquire.

JOURNAL

OF THE

HOUSE OF CLERICAL AND LAY DEPUTIES.

PHILADELPHIA, CHRIST CHURCH, *Tuesday, June 11, 1799.*

A SUFFICIENT number of Clerical and Lay Deputies, to form a Convention not appearing, the members present adjourned to meet at the State House, to-morrow morning at ten o'clock.

STATE HOUSE, *Wednesday, June 12.*

The members met agreeably to adjournment, and a quorum being formed,

The Right Rev. Dr. White read prayers.

Deputies from seven states appearing, the house proceeded to the appointment, by ballot, of a President, and a majority of votes were found for the Rev. William Smith, D. D.

The Rev. James Abercrombie, one of the assistant ministers of Christ Church and St. Peter's, was appointed Secretary to the Convention.

Resolved, That the Rev. Dr. Andrews inform the house of Bishops, that the house of Clerical and Lay Deputies is formed, and ready to proceed to business.

Resolved, That the rules of order established by the house of Clerical and Lay Deputies, of the two preceding General Conventions, be adopted.

The Rev. William Walter, D. D. clerical deputy from the state of Massachusetts; the Rev. Abraham Lynsen Clark, clerical deputy from the state of Rhode Island; the Rev. John Bisset, and the Rev. Ammi Rogers, clerical deputies from the state of New York; the Rev. Uzal Ogden, D. D. the Rev. Henry Waddell, and the Rev. John Croes, clerical deputies, and Mr. Jeffery Clarke, lay deputy, from the state of New Jersey; Rev. William Smith, D. D. the Rev. John Andrews, D. D. the Rev. Samuel Magaw, D. D. and the Rev. Robert Blackwell, D. D. clerical deputies, General Francis Gurney, and Mr. Joseph Sims, lay deputies, from the state of Pennsylvania; the Rev. Joseph Clarkson, the Rev. William Pryce, and the Rev. Walter C. Gardiner, clerical deputies, and Joseph Burn, Esquire, lay deputy, from the state of Delaware; and the Rev. John Bracken, D. D. clerical duty, and Robert Andrews, Esquire, lay deputy from the state of Virginia; delivered in at the Secretary's table, certificates of their appointment, which were read, and determined to be satisfactory.

Mr. Bisset proposed the following resolution. viz: "That a

committee consisting of _____ members, be appointed to revise the canons, to propose amendments, and to report the whole in one regular series." This resolution was read and ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

THURSDAY, *June 13.*

Prayers being read by the Secretary, the house proceeded to business.

The Rev. William Smith, D. D. and the Rev. Ashbel Baldwin, clerical deputies, and Benjamin Hall, Esquire, lay deputy from the state of Connecticut, presented their testimonials, which were approved, and they took their seats accordingly. Mr. John Dennis, a lay deputy from the state of New Jersey, and John C. Stocker, Esquire, a lay deputy, from the state of Pennsylvania, took their seats.

Mr. Bisset's proposed resolution of yesterday, was taken up, and carried, and the blank ordered to be filled up with the word "five."

The members appointed were,

Rev. Dr. Smith, of Connecticut,
 Rev. Mr. Bisset, of New York,
 Rev. Mr. Waddell, of New Jersey,
 Gen. Gurney, of Pennsylvania, and
 Mr. Hall, of Connecticut.

The house resolved itself into a committee of the whole, on the state of the church;

The Rev. Dr. Walter in the chair.

After some time the committee rose, and the chairman reported the following resolution, viz :

Resolved, That the consideration of the resolution, for an alteration in the constitution of this church, proposed in the last General Convention, in these words: "But if the church shall not be represented in both orders, by a majority of the states, then the votes shall be given by states, without regard to orders," be postponed to the next General Convention.

This resolution was disagreed to by the House.

Resolved, That this House will now go into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the second resolution of the General Convention of Friday, Sept. 18, 1795, and to report thereon.

The house resolved itself accordingly, Dr. Walter in the chair.

The chairman of the committee of the whole reported, that the committee had risen, and requested leave to sit again.

Resolved, That in the places of Dr. Moore and Mr. Bend, who are absent, Dr. Smith of Connecticut, and Mr. Bisset, be added to the other three members, viz: Dr. Smith of Pennsylvania, Dr. Andrews, and Dr. Magaw, the committee appointed by the

last General Convention to digest and report a course of study for candidates for holy orders, and that they be requested to report the same during the present session.

Resolved, That Dr. Andrews and Mr. Andrews be a committee, to bring in a canon prescribing the mode of calling special meetings of the General Convention.

Resolved, That the Secretary be requested to officiate as Chaplain to the Convention during the present session.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

FRIDAY, June 14.

The House met, and the Chaplain read prayers.

The Rev. Menzies Rayner, a clerical deputy from the state of New Jersey, and the Rev. Robert Clay, a clerical deputy from the state of Delaware, took their seats.

Mr. Andrews, from the committee appointed to report a canon for calling special Conventions, reported a canon, prescribing the mode of calling special Conventions; which was read the first time, and ordered for a second reading.

On motion, the canon prescribing the mode of calling special Conventions, was read a second time, amended, and ordered to be fairly transcribed for a third reading: it was then passed, and sent for concurrence, by the Secretary, to the house of Bishops.

Mr. Croes presented testimonials from the State Convention of New Jersey, recommending the Rev. Uzal Ogden, D. D. as Bishop of that state.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. Baldwin, the House resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the propriety of framing articles of religion. Dr. Walter in the chair.

The chairman of the committee reported the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the articles of our faith and religion, as founded on the holy scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, are sufficiently declared in our creeds and liturgy, as set forth in the book of common prayer established for the use of this church; and that further articles do not appear necessary.

This resolution was disagreed to by the House.

The house of Bishops, sent for concurrence a form of consecration of a church or chapel, which was ordered to lie on the table.

The Rev. Mr. Clarkson asked leave of absence till Tuesday, which was not granted.

Adjourned to 6 o'clock this evening.

FRIDAY EVENING, 6 o'clock.

The House met.

The canon, prescribing the mode of calling special Conventions,

was returned with amendments from the house of Bishops, which were agreed to.

The form of consecration of a church or chapel, sent to this House by the Bishops, was read, and referred to a committee of the whole house to-morrow morning.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the testimonials, respecting the Bishop elect of New Jersey, be read, which was done.

Resolved, That the consideration of this subject be postponed till to-morrow.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

SATURDAY, June 15.

The House met, and the Chaplain read prayers.

The House proceeded to the consideration of the testimonials in favour of the Bishop elect of New Jersey, and, after discussion, the subject was postponed.

A resolution was proposed by Mr. Bisset, that the Convention now proceed to the framing of articles of religion for this church.

The question was taken by yeas and nays as follows :

CLERGY.	LAITY.
Massachusetts—No.	Connecticut—Yea.
Connecticut—Yea.	New Jersey—Yea.
Rhode Island—Yea.	Pennsylvania—Yea.
New York—Yea.	Virginia—No.
New Jersey—Yea.	
Pennsylvania—No.	
Delaware—Yea.	
Virginia—No.	

So it was carried in the affirmative.

Resolved, That the committee shall consist of a member from each state now represented; who were chosen, and were as follows :

Massachusetts, Dr. Walter; Connecticut, Dr. Smith; New York, Mr. Bisset; New Jersey, Mr. Waddell; Pennsylvania, Dr. Andrews; Delaware, Mr. Clay; Virginia, Dr. Bracken.

Resolved, That leave be given to Mr. Baldwin to bring in a canon, to regulate the qualifications of ministers to vote in State and General Conventions.

A message was received from the house of Bishops, communicating "a resolution for altering the 1st article of the constitution;" and "a proposal of a prayer, to be used at the meetings of Conventions."

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the communications from the house of Bishops. Dr. Walter in the chair.

The committee rose, and reported certain amendments in the "Form of consecration of a church, or chapel;" also, amendments to the "resolution, for the time of meeting of future General Conventions;" together with an amendment to the "prayer.

to be used during the sitting of Convention :” all which were concurred in by the House.

Resolved, That leave be given to Mr. Andrews to bring in a canon, respecting the consecration of Bishops in the recess of the General Convention ; which was presented, read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock on Monday morning.

MONDAY MORNING, *June 17.*

The House met, and the Chaplain read prayers.

Mr. Baldwin presented “ a canon, to regulate the qualifications of ministers to vote in State and General Conventions ;” which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The proposed “ canon, respecting the consecration of Bishops in the recess of the Convention,” was read a second time, amended, and ordered to be sent to the house of Bishops.

The communications from the House of Bishops, with the amendments proposed by the house of Clerical and Lay Deputies, were returned by the House of Bishops, with their concurrence.

The chairman of the committee, for revising and amending the canons, made a report ; which was read, and ordered to be re-committed.

At 11 o'clock, the house adjourned for two hours, in order that the several committees might finish their reports.

MONDAY, 1 o'clock, P. M.

The House met.

Mr. Andrews solicited leave to bring in a canon, repealing in part the canon of 1795, “ concerning the learning of those who are to be ordained :” which was granted ; and the canon was read, approved, and sent for concurrence to the house of Bishops.

On motion of Mr. Bisset, *Resolved*, That the committee, appointed to review and arrange the canons, be discharged ; and that all the canons which have been passed in preceding General Conventions, together with those which may be passed during the present session, shall be arranged under the respective years in which they were enacted, and printed at the end of the Journal of this Convention. Provided, nevertheless, that, if any canon of the preceding Conventions has been repealed, it shall be mentioned by its number and title only, followed by a notification of its having been repealed.

A motion was made by Mr. Bisset, 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 following addition to the second article of the constitution, to be introduced in the 9th line, after the word “ Convention,” viz :

“ But if the church shall not be represented in both orders, in a majority of the states, then the votes shall be by states, without regard to orders.”

The previous question, " Shall the main question be put ?" was taken, and determined in the negative.

John Rutherford, Esquire, Lay Deputy from the state of New Jersey, took his seat.

On motion of Mr. Croes, the recommendation of the church in New Jersey, in favour of their Bishop elect, was taken up ; and, after some discussion, it was *Resolved*, That the consideration of the same be postponed till to-morrow.

The House of Bishops returned the canon, repealing in part the canon of 1795, " concerning the learning of those who are to be " ordained," with their approbation ; and " a substitute for the " canon, respecting the consecration of Bishops during the recess " of the General Convention," which was adopted.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

TUESDAY MORNING, *June 18.*

The House met, and the Chaplain read prayers.

The proposed canon, respecting the qualification of ministers to vote in state and General Conventions, was read, amended, and ordered to be sent for concurrence to the House of Bishops ; which was done.

Mr. J. B. Gilpin, a Lay Deputy, from the state of Pennsylvania, took his seat.

The chairman, of the committee on the articles, reported seventeen articles of religion, which were read : Whereupon, on motion of Mr. Bisset,

Resolved unanimously, That, on account of the advanced period of the present session, and the thinness of the Convention, the consideration of the articles, now reported and read, be postponed ; and that the Secretary transcribe the articles into the Journal of this Convention, to lie over for the consideration of the next General Convention.

Dr. Bracken asked leave to bring in a canon, supplementary to the 2d canon of 1795, " concerning the testimonials to be produced on the part of those who are to be ordained ;" which was read twice, and, upon the question for the third reading, was negatived.

The testimonials of the Bishop elect of New Jersey being called up, the following resolution passed :

" Whereas doubts have arisen in the minds of some members of the Convention, whether all the Priests who voted in the election of the Rev. Uzal Ogden, D. D. to the office of a Bishop in the state of New Jersey, were so qualified, as to constitute them a majority of the resident and officiating Priests, in the said state, according to the meaning of the canon in this case made and provided : and whereas, in a matter of so great importance to the interest of religion and the honour of our church, it is not only necessary, that they, who concur in recommending to an of-

vice so very sacred, should have a full conviction of the fitness of the person they recommend, but that they should also be perfectly satisfied with respect to the regularity of every step which had been taken in the business :

Resolved therefore, That in the opinion of the House of Deputies, all proceedings, respecting the consecration of the Rev. Uzal Ogden, D. D. ought to be suspended. until a future Convention of the state of New Jersey shall declare their sense of the subject."

The house of Bishops returned the canon, "to regulate the qualifications of Ministers, &c." with amendments. The amended title was adopted; the other proposed amendment was rejected.

The House of Bishops receded from their amendment of the canon, explanatory of the 1st canon of 1795.

Resolved, That the next general Convention, to be held agreeably to the constitution on the second Tuesday of September, 1801, shall meet in the city of Trenton.

Resolved, That the Right Rev. Dr. White be requested to preach, at the opening of the next General Convention.

Resolved, That the House of Bishops be informed, that this house is ready to adjourn.

Mr. Bisset was requested to communicate the two preceding resolves to the House of Bishops.

Resolved, That the thanks of this house be given to their President, the Rev. Dr. Smith, and to their Secretary and Chaplain, the Rev. Mr. Abercrombie, for their attention and services.

Mr. Bisset reported, "That the Right Rev. Dr. White would comply with the request of this house, and that the house of Bishops, having no further communications to make, concurred in the resolution of adjournment."

Ordered, That five hundred and seventy copies of the journal be printed.

The house adjourned, *sine die*.

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

WILLIAM SMITH, President.

JAMES ABERCROMBIE, Secretary.

APPENDIX.

Extract from the Journal of the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, in Convention met, 1799.

"**Resolved unanimously**, That on account of the advanced period of the present session, and the thinness of the Convention, the consideration of the articles, now reported and read, be postponed and that the Secretary transcribe the articles into

“the journal of this Convention, to lie over for the consideration of the next General Convention.”

The articles, referred to are as follows.

I. *Of faith in the Holy Trinity.*

There is but one living and true God, everlasting; of infinite power, wisdom, and goodness; the maker and preserver of all things visible and invisible. And in the unity of this Godhead, there are three persons; the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost: our Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier.

II. *Of the Holy Scripture.*

Holy Scripture containeth all things necessary to salvation; so that whatsoever is not read therein, and cannot be proved thereby, is not to be received as an article of faith, nor deemed necessary to salvation.

By Holy Scripture, we understand the canonical books of the Old and New Testament.

The names and number of the canonical books in the Old Testament.

CHAPTERS.			CHAPTERS.		
1. Genesis	having	50	21. Ecclesiastes	having	12
2. Exodus	- - -	40	22. The song of Solomon	- - -	8
3. Leviticus	- - -	27	23. Isaiah	- - -	66
4. Numbers	- - -	36	24. Jeremiah	- - -	52
5. Deuteronomy	- - -	34	25. Lamentations	- - -	5
6. Joshua	- - -	24	26. Ezekiel	- - -	48
7. Judges	- - -	21	27. Daniel	- - -	12
8. Ruth	- - -	4	28. Hosea	- - -	14
9. The 1st book of Samuel	-	31	29. Joel	- - -	3
10. The 2d book of Samuel	-	24	30. Amos	- - -	9
11. The 1st book of Kings	-	22	31. Obadiah	- - -	1
12. The 2d book of Kings	-	25	32. Jonah	- - -	4
13. The 1st book of Chronicles	-	29	33. Micah	- - -	7
14. The 2d book of Chronicles	-	36	34. Nahum	- - -	3
15. Ezra	- - -	10	35. Habakuk	- - -	3
16. Nehemiah	- - -	13	36. Zephaniah	- - -	3
17. The book of Esther	- - -	10	37. Haggai	- - -	2
18. The book of Job	- - -	42	38. Zechariah	- - -	14
19. The Psalms.	- - -	150	39. Malachi	- - -	4
20. The Proverbs	- - -	31			

The names and number of the canonical books of the New Testament.

CHAPTERS.			CHAPTERS.		
1. St. Matthew	having	28	15. 1st Epistle to Timothy	having	6
2. St. Mark	- - -	16	16. 2d Epistle to Timothy	- - -	4
3. St. Luke	- - -	24	17. Epistle to Titus	- - -	3
4. St. John	- - -	21	18. Epistle to Philemon	- - -	1
5. The Acts of the Apostles	-	28	19. Epistle to the Hebrews	- - -	13
6. Epistle to the Romans	-	16	20. Epistle of St. James	- - -	5
7. 1st Epistle to the Corinthians	-	16	21. 1st Epistle of St. Peter	- - -	5
8. 2d Epistle to the Corinthians	-	13	22. 2d Epistle of St. Peter	- - -	3
9. Epistle to the Galatians	-	5	23. 1st Epistle of St. John	- - -	5
10. Epistle to the Ephesians	-	6	24. 2d Epistle of St. John	- - -	1
11. Epistle to the Philipians	-	4	25. 3d Epistle of St. John	- - -	1
12. Epistle to the Colossians	-	4	26. Epistle of St. Jude.	- - -	1
13. 1st Epistle to the Thessalonians	-	5	27. Revelation of St. John the Divine	- - -	22
14. 2d Epistle to the Thessalonians	-	3			

The Apocryphal books are read by the church, for example of life, and instruction of manners, not for the establishment of discipline, or doctrine.

III. *Of the Old and New Testament.*

There is a perfect harmony and accordance between the Old and New Testament; for in both, "Pardon of sin and everlasting life are offered to mankind through Christ, who is the only mediator between God and man;" and although Christians are not bound to obey the civil and ceremonial precepts, yet are they obliged to observe all the moral commandments of the Mosaic dispensation.

IV. *Of the Creeds.*

The Nicene creed and the Apostles creed, ought to be retained and believed; because every article, contained in them may be proved by Holy Scripture.

V. *Of the transgression of our first parents.*

By the transgression of our first parents, they lost that primitive innocence and perfect holiness in which God had created them; and thus the nature of man became corrupted, and prone to evil; so that there is no man living, who sinneth not.

VI. *Of Justification.*

We are justified, or pardoned by God, not on account of our own good works, but only through the merits and mediation of our blessed redeemer and advocate, Jesus Christ. But although good works cannot put away our sins, nor appear perfect before God; yet are they pleasing and acceptable to God in Christ, and essentially necessary to salvation; for scripture assures us, that "faith, without works, is dead;" and that, "without holiness, no man shall see the Lord."

VII. *Of Predestination and Election.*

Being well assured, from holy scripture, of the eternal purpose or promise of redemption, according to which, God sent his Son to be the propitiation for the sins of the whole world, and Christ Jesus gave himself a ransom for all; we receive the doctrine of predestination as consistent with, and agreeable to, this most gracious and general scheme of salvation, which we believe to be universal in the intention, however partial the wickedness of mankind may render it in the application. Under the impression of this belief, it is the duty of christians to be satisfied with, and attend to, the promises of God, as they are generally set forth to us in holy scripture, without seeking to be "wise above what is written," or plunging into the unrevealed secrets of either past

or future eternity, but always remembering the distinction which in such cases Moses lays down : “ Secret things belong unto the Lord our God ; but the things which are revealed belong unto us, and to our children for ever ; that we may do all the words of this law.”

VIII. *Of salvation by Christ alone.*

Holy scripture declares, that “ there is none other name under Heaven given among men whereby we must be saved, but only the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.” But we are not authorised to assert, that men shall not be saved by the name of Jesus Christ, to whom his gospel has not been promulgated. We leave them to the uncovenanted mercies of God.

IX. *Of the Church.*

The visible church of Christ is the whole multitude of believers, of whatsoever nation or language, dwelling on the face of the earth, among whom the pure word of God is preached, the sacraments duly administered, and the order of the priesthood observed, according to Christ’s ordinance and appointment.

X. *Of the authority of the Church.*

The church hath power to ordain, change, and abolish, rites and ceremonies, and to determine controversies of faith : but it is not lawful for the church, to ordain or command any thing to be received or believed, which is contrary to the canon of scripture ; or to expound one part of the same, so as to be repugnant to another. The church, also, is the witness, or keeper of holy writ ; and must neither adulterate, nor add to, nor take from, the same.

XI. *Of ministering in the Church.*

It is not lawful for any man to take upon him the office of public preaching, or administering the holy sacraments, until he be regularly ordained, and sent to execute the same. And those we judge lawfully sent, who are ordained by the Bishops of the church.

XII. *Of the Sacraments.*

Sacraments were ordained by Christ, not only to be badges or tokens of christian profession, but to be outward and visible signs of inward and spiritual grace ; by which he doth work invisibly in us, and doth not only quicken, but also strengthen and confirm, our faith in him.

XIII. *Of Baptism.*

Baptism is an ordinance by which we are regenerated, and born

again of water and the Holy Ghost, received into Christ's church, and made living members of the same.

XIV. Of the Lord's Supper.

The Supper of the Lord is not only a token of the love that christians ought to have towards one another, but rather a pledge of our redemption by Christ's death. To such as worthily receive the same, the bread which is broken is a partaking of the body of Christ; and the cup of blessing is a partaking of the blood of Christ: both which are spiritually received, for the preservation of our souls and bodies unto everlasting life.

XV. Of the oblation of Christ.

The oblation of the body of Christ, once made, is that perfect sacrifice, propitiation, and satisfaction, which was offered for the sins of the whole world. And there is no other sacrifice, satisfaction, or atonement, for sin, but that only.

XVI. Of excommunicated Persons.

Whosoever is publicly excommunicated by the governors of the church, and cut off from the unity of the same, is to be considered as an alien from the promises of the gospel, until he be openly reconciled, and received again into communion.

XVII. Of the power of the Civil Magistrate.

The power of the civil magistrate extendeth to all men, as well clergy as laity, in all things temporal; but hath no authority in things purely spiritual. And we hold it to be the duty of all men who are professors of the gospel, to pay a respectful obedience to the civil authority, regularly and legitimately constituted.

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE OF BISHOPS.

PHILADELPHIA, CHRIST CHURCH, *Tuesday, June 11, 1799.*

THIS being the day of a special meeting of the General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church duly summoned, the **Right Rev. Bishop White**, of the **House of Bishops**, attended; and appointed to meet the next day at 10 o'clock, in the committee room of the **House of Assembly**: leave having been given to meet there, by his excellency the **Governor**.

Wednesday, June 12, 1799.

In the committee room of the **House of Assembly**,

Present as before, together with the **Right Rev. Bishop Provoost**, of the state of **New York**, and the **Right Rev. Bishop Bass**, of the state of **Massachusetts**.

This being a special meeting; and the **Bishop**, whose turn it would have been to preside agreeably to the rules of this **House**, not attending, **Bishop White**, the president of the last **Convention** was requested to preside.

Resolved, That, during the session of the **Convention**, the **House** will attend divine service in the **House of Clerical and Lay Deputies**.

The house received a message, by the **Rev. Dr. Andrews**, from the **House of Clerical and Lay Deputies**, informing, that they are organized and ready to proceed to business. This **House** declared, that they also are ready to proceed.

After some time, the **House** adjourned until to-morrow morning at ten o'clock.

Thursday, June 13.

The **House** met. Present as yesterday.

The **Rev. John Henry Hobart** was appointed **Secretary**.

The **Right Rev. Bishop Provoost** proposed to the consideration of this **House**, a form of consecration of a church or chapel, which was read, and made the order of the day for to-morrow.

The **House** adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

Friday, June 14.

The house met. Present as yesterday.

The **House of Clerical and Lay Deputies** presented, by their **Secretary** a proposed canon, prescribing the mode of calling special meetings of the **General Convention**.

The **House** went into the consideration of the "form of consecration of a church or chapel;" which, after amendment, they adopted, and sent to the **House of Clerical and Lay Deputies** for their concurrence.

The **House** returned to the **House of Clerical and Lay Deputies** the proposed "canon, prescribing the mode of calling special "meetings of the **General Convention**," with amendments.

The house then adjourned to 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Saturday, June 15.

The **House** met. Present as yesterday.

The **House** agreed to a resolve, respecting an alteration in the "first article of the general constitution," and sent it to the **House of Clerical and Lay Deputies** for their concurrence.

The **House** proposed to the **House of Clerical and Lay Deputies**, "a prayer, to be used at the meeting of the **Convention**," and to be printed with the **Journal** of the present **Convention**.

The **House** adjourned to **Monday** morning, 9 o'clock.

MONDAY, *June 17, 1799.*

The house met. Present as on Saturday.

The House of Clerical and Lay Deputies returned to this house, by their Secretary, the resolution for altering the "First article of the general constitution," with an amendment. Also the "Prayer to be used at meetings of the Convention," with an amendment. Also, the "Form of consecration of a church or chapel," with sundry amendments.

The house passed the resolution, respecting the alteration of the "First article of the General constitution," with the proposed amendment; which resolution is as follows, viz.

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 following alteration of the "First article of the constitution."

"Article I. There shall be a general convention of the Protestant Episcopal church, in the United States of America, on the third Tuesday in May, in the year of our Lord 1805, and on the third Tuesday in May, in every fifth year afterwards in such place, &c." as before.

The house passed the "Prayer to be used at meetings of the Convention," with the proposed amendment.

The house approved of the amendments to the "Form of consecration of a church or chapel," with an exception to one, which they ordered to be returned to the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies.

A message was received from the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies; that they had receded from their amendment to the "Form of consecration of a church or chapel;" which amendment had been disagreed to by this house.

The "Form of consecration," was then passed as amended.

A proposed canon was received from the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, respecting the consecration of Bishops in the recess of the General Convention.

The above canon was returned to the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, with a proposed substitute.

The house received from the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies a proposed canon, repealing in part, the "Fourth canon of 1795, concerning the learning of those who are to be ordained."

The house passed the above canon.

The Right Rev. Bishop Provoost obtained leave of absence.

The house adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

TUESDAY, *June 18, 1799.*

The house met. Present as yesterday, except the Right Rev. Bishop Provoost.

The House of Clerical and Lay Deputies informed the house, that they had agreed to the proposed substitute to the canon, re-

specting the "consecration of Bishops in the recess of the General Convention."

The House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, presented to this house a proposed canon, to regulate the qualification of Ministers to vote in the state and General Conventions.

The aforesaid canon was returned to the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, with a substitute for the title, and another proposed amendment.

The house concurred in the following resolution, which they received from the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, viz.

Resolved, That Trenton in New Jersey, be the place of meeting of the next General Convention.

The House of Clerical and Lay Deputies informed this house, that they had concurred in the amendments to the proposed canon, prescribing the "mode of calling special meetings of the General Convention."

The house then passed the above canon.

The House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, informed this house, that they had concurred in the proposed "substitute to the title of a canon," which originated in their house; and that they had disagreed to the proposed amendment.

The house receded from the amendment, and passed the canon, in title as follows.

"A canon explanatory, of part of the 'First canon of 1795.'"

The House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, informed this house, that they had finished the business before them, and were ready to rise.

The house declared that they also are ready to rise.

The house rose.

Signed by order of the House of Bishops,

WILLIAM WHITE, Presiding Bishop.

Attested, JOHN HENRY HOBART, Secretary.

CANONS

For the government of the Protestant Episcopal church, in the United States of America.

The following canons were 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.*

Repealed by canon I. of 1795.

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

Repealed by canon III. of 1795.

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.*

Repealed by canon 2, of 1795.

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

Repealed by canon 4, of 1795.

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 Visitations.*

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 person 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 them of all privileges of church membership; according to such rules or process as may be provided, either by 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 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 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 acts 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 authorized Ministers of this church.

CANON XVII. *Notice to be given of the induction and dismissal 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 16th, 1789.

House of Bishops,
SAMUEL SEABURY, Bp. Connect. Pres.
WILLIAM WHITE, Pennsylvania.

Attested. JOSEPH CLARKSON, Secretary.

House of Clerical and Lay Deputies,
WILLIAM SMITH, President.

Attested, FRANCIS HOPKINSON, Secretary.

ADDITIONAL CANONS—Passed 1792.

I. *Of Clergymen claiming to be ministers of this church.*

FOR a more full accomplishment of the good purposes to be answered by the 16th canon, enacted by the last General Conven-

tion, it is hereby required, that every Clergyman, claiming to be a Minister of this church, shall deliver in his name to the Bishop, or, if there be no Bishop, to the chairman, or some member of the standing committee, of the church in the state in which he resides, on or before Easter Monday, 1793; or, if he be not within any of the states which have acceded to the constitution of this church, then within three months after he shall come to reside in any of the said states. And every Clergyman, during his neglect of conformity to this canon, shall not be known as a Clergyman of this church, or be admitted to minister in any office of the same.

II. Of a Clergyman in any diocese, chargeable with misdemeanor in any other.

If a clergyman of the church, in any diocese or district within this union, shall, in any other diocese or district, conduct himself in such a way as is contrary to the rules of this church, and disgraceful to his office; the Bishop, or, if there be no Bishop, the standing committee, shall give notice thereof to the ecclesiastical authority of the diocese or district to which such offender belongs, exhibiting, with the information given, the proofs of the charges made against him.

III. Of publishing the sentence of degradation against a Clergyman.

Whenever a Clergyman shall be degraded, agreeably to the canons of any particular church in the union, the Bishop who pronounces sentence, shall, without delay, cause the sentence of degradation to be published from every pulpit where there may be an officiating minister, throughout the diocese or district in which the degraded minister resided; and also shall give information of the sentence to all Bishops of this church; and, where there is no Bishop, to the standing committee.

IV. Of the declaration which may be prefixed to certain signatures.

In regard to the first certificate required in favour of a Bishop elect, by the 2d canon of the last General Convention, and the certificate required in favour of a candidate for Priest's or Deacon's orders, by the 6th canon; if there be any members of the bodies respectively concerned, who have not the requisite personal knowledge of the parties, such persons may prefix the following declaration to their signatures:

WE believe the testimony contained in the above Certificate; and we join in the recommendation of A. B. to the office of — on sufficient evidence offered to us of the facts set forth.

Provided, That in the case of a Priest or Deacon, two at least of the standing committee sign the same; as being personally acquainted with the candidate.

V. *Of the officiating of strangers.*

No stranger shall be permitted to officiate in any congregation of this church, without first producing the evidences of his being a minister thereof to the minister, or, in case of vacancy or absence, to the church wardens, vestrymen, or trustees of the congregation. And in case any person not regularly ordained shall assume the ministerial office, and perform any of the duties thereof in this church, the minister, or in case of vacancy or absence, the church wardens, vestrymen, or trustees of the congregation, where such offence may be committed, shall cause the name of such person, together with the offence, to be published in as many of the public papers as may be convenient.

VI. *Repealed by canon V. of 1795.*

Of one Clergyman officiating within the parochial cure of another Clergyman.

House of Bishops,

SAMUEL PROVOOST, President.

Attest. L. Cutting, Secretary.

House of Clerical and Lay Deputies,

WILLIAM SMITH, President.

Attest. J. Bisset, Secretary.

CANONS—Passed 1795.

CANON. I. *Of Episcopal visitation.*

EVERY Bishop in this church shall visit the churches within his diocese or district, for the purpose of examining the state of his church, inspecting the behaviour of the Clergy, and administering the Apostolic rite of confirmation. And it is deemed proper, that such visitations be made once in three years, at least, by every Bishop to every church within his diocese or district, which shall make provision for defraying the necessary expenses of the Bishop at such visitation. And it is hereby declared to be the duty of the Minister and vestry of every church or congregation, to make such provision accordingly.

The Bishop of any diocese, state, or district, may, on the invitation of the Convention, or standing committee of the church in any state where there is not a Bishop, visit and perform the Episcopal offices in that state, or part of the state, as the case may be, provision being made for defraying his expenses as aforesaid: and such state, or part of a state shall be considered as annexed to the district or diocese of such Bishop, until a Bishop is duly elected and consecrated for such state, or until the invitation given by the convention or standing committee be revoked. But it is

to be understood, that to enable the **Bishop** to make the aforesaid visitations, it shall be the duty of the **Clergy**, in such reasonable rotation as may be devised, to officiate for him in any parochial duties which belong to him. And no state shall proceed to the election or appointment of a **Bishop**, unless there be at least six **Presbyters** residing and officiating therein, a majority of whom, at least, shall concur in such election. But the **Conventions** of two or more states, having together nine or more settled and officiating **Presbyters**, may associate, and join in the election of a **Bishop**.

The third canon of the year 1789 is hereby rescinded.

CANON II. *Of 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 appointed by the **Convention** of the church in that 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.** hath laid before us satisfactory testimonials, that for the space of three years last past, he hath lived piously, soberly, and honestly ; and hath not 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 this ——— day of ——— in the year of our Lord ———.”

But before a standing committee in any state shall proceed to recommend any candidate, as aforesaid, to the **Bishop**, such candidate shall produce from the **Minister** and vestry of the parish where he resides, or from the vestry alone, if the parish be vacant, or if there be no vestry, from at least twelve respectable persons of the **Protestant Episcopal Church** of the neighbourhood in which he resides, testimonials of his good morals and orderly conduct for three years last past, and that he has not, so far as they know and believe, written, taught or held any thing contrary to the doctrine or discipline of the **Protestant Episcopal Church** ; a publication of his intention to apply for holy orders having been previously made by such minister or vestry. He shall also lay before the standing committee, testimonials to the same effect, signed by at least one respectable **Clergyman** of the **Protestant Episcopal Church** in the **United States**, from his personal knowledge of the candidate for at least one year.

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.

The 6th canon, passed in October, 1789, concerning the "testimonials" to be produced on the part of those who are to be ordained, and so much of the 4th canon, passed in 1792, as relates to the subject of this canon, are hereby rescinded.

CANON III. *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 unless he shall have been a Deacon one year. No man shall be consecrated a Bishop of this church until he shall be thirty years old.

The fourth canon of the year 1789 is hereby rescinded.

CANON IV. *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 well acquainted with the holy scriptures, can read the New Testament in the original Greek, and give an account of his faith in the Latin tongue; and that he hath a competent knowledge of natural and moral philosophy and church history, and hath paid attention to composition and pulpit eloquence, as means of giving additional efficacy to his labours; [unless the Bishop shall judge it proper to dispense with the above requisites in part, in consideration of certain other qualifications in the candidate peculiarly fitting him for the gospel ministry.]

The 7th canon of the year 1789, is hereby rescinded.

N. B. *The last clause of this canon marked thus [] was repealed by the 4th canon of 1799.*

CANON V. *Of the officiating of Ministers of this Church in the Churches, or within the Parochial Cures of other Clergymen.*

No clergyman belonging to this church shall officiate, either by preaching or reading prayers, in the parish or within the parochial cure of another clergyman, unless he have received express permission for that purpose from the minister of the parish or cure, or, in his absence, from the church wardens and vestrymen, or trustees of the congregation. But if any minister of a church shall, from inability, or any other cause, neglect to perform the regular services to his congregation, and shall refuse his consent to any other minister of this church to officiate within his cure, the church wardens, vestrymen, or trustees of such congregation, shall, on proof of such neglect and refusal before the Bishop of the diocese, or, if there be no Bishop, before the standing committee, or before such persons as may be deputed by him, or them, or before such persons as may be, by the regulations of this church in any state, vested with the power of

hearing and deciding on complaints against clergymen, have power to open the doors of their churches to any regular minister of the Protestant Episcopal Church.

The 6th canon of 1792, is hereby recinded.

CANON VI. *Of the preparatory exercises of a Candidate for the Ministry.*

Every candidate for the ministry shall give notice of his intention to the Bishop, or to such body as the church in the state in which the candidate resides may have appointed to superintend the instruction of candidates for holy orders, at least one year before his ordination. And if there be a Bishop within the state or district where the candidate resides, he shall apply to no other Bishop for ordination, without the permission of the former. And the said candidate shall pass through the preparatory exercises which the Bishop, or such body aforesaid, may appoint; such as composing of theses, homilies, or sermons, one or more, to be delivered, either publicly or privately, in his or their presence, at such time or times as may be appointed by the authority aforesaid.

And this canon shall be in force from and after the first day of January next.

CANON VII. *For the better accomplishing of the objects of the 6th Canon of 1792.*

Whereas there is no provision made in the "6th canon of 1792," for the case of such a vicinity of two or more churches, as that there can be no local boundaries drawn between their respective cures, it is hereby ordained, that in every such case, no minister of this church, other than the parochial clergy of the said cures, shall preach within the common limits of the same, in any other place than in one of the churches thereof, without the consent of the major number of the parochial clergy of the said churches.

CANON VIII. *To prevent a Congregation in any Diocese or State, to unite with a Church in any other Diocese or State.*

Whereas a question may arise, whether a congregation within the diocese of any Bishop, or within any state in which there is not yet any Bishop settled, may unite themselves with the church in any other diocese or state; it is hereby determined and declared, that all such unions shall be considered as irregular and void; and that every congregation of this church shall be considered as belonging to the body of the church of the diocese, or of the state, within the limits of which they dwell; or within which there is seated a church to which they belong. And no clergyman having a parish or cure in more than one state, shall have a seat in the Convention of any state, other than that in which he resides.

CANON IX. *To empower the Bishop in each Diocese or District to compose forms of Prayer or Thanksgiving for extraordinary occasions.*

The Bishop of each diocese or district may compose forms of prayer or thanksgiving, as the case may require, for extraordinary occasions, and transmit them to each clergyman within his diocese or district, whose duty it shall be to use such forms in his church on such occasions. And the clergy in those states in which there is no Bishop, may use the form of prayer or thanksgiving composed by the Bishop of any other state.

Done in Convention, and signed by order of the House of Bishops.

WILLIAM WHITE, D. D. presiding Bishop.
WILLIAM SMITH, D. D. President of the
House of Clerical and Lay Deputies.

CANONS—PASSED 1799.

CANON I. *Of the mode of calling Special Meetings of the General Convention.*

THE right of calling special meetings of the General Convention, shall be in the Bishops; this right shall be exercised by the presiding Bishop, or, in the case of his death, by the Bishop, who, according to the rules of the House of Bishops, is to preside at the next General Convention; provided, that the summons shall be with the consent, or on the requisition of a majority of the Bishops, expressed to him in writing.

The place of holding any special Convention, shall be that fixed on by the preceding General Convention, for the meeting of the next General Convention, unless circumstances to be judged of by the Bishops, shall render a meeting at such place unsafe; in which case, the Bishops shall appoint some other place.

CANON II. *Of the consecration of Bishops in the recess of the General Convention.*

If, during the recess of the General Convention, the church in any state should be desirous of the consecration of a Bishop, the standing committee of the church in such state, may, by their president, or by some other person or persons, specially appointed, communicate the desire to the standing committees of the churches in the different states, together with copies of the necessary testimonials: and if the major number of the standing committees shall consent to the proposed consecration, the standing committee of the state concerned, may communicate the evidences of such consent, together with the other testimonials, to

any three Bishops of this church, who may thereon proceed to the consecration. The evidences of the consent of the different standing committees shall be in the form prescribed for the General Convention in the "2d canon of 1789:" and without the aforesaid requisites, no consecration shall take place, during the recess of the General Convention.

CANON III. *Explanatory of part of the "1st canon of 1795."*

No clergyman employed by the year, or for any limited time, shall be considered as a regularly officiating and resident Minister of the church in any state, for the purpose expressed in the two concluding sentences of the "1st canon of 1795," entitled "a canon concerning Episcopal visitation."

CANON IV. *Repealing in part the "IVth canon of 1795," concerning the "Learning of those who are to be ordained."*

Whereas, by the "Canon of 1795," entitled "Of the learning of those who are to be ordained;" a power is vested in the Bishops of dispensing with certain enumerated requisites in part, which power is not only too indefinitely expressed, but may be abused, so much therefore of the said canon, as authorises Bishops to dispense with any of the qualifications required in candidates for holy orders, is hereby repealed.

By order of the House of Bishops.

WILLIAM WHITE, D. D. Presiding Bishop.

By order of the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies,

WILLIAM SMITH, D. D. President.

A PRAYER

To be used at the meetings of the Convention.

"**ALMIGHTY** and everlasting God, who, by thy holy spirit, didst preside in the council of the blessed Apostles, and hast promised, through thy son Jesus Christ, to be with thy church to the end of the world; we beseech thee to be present with the council of thy church here assembled in thy name and presence. Save them from all error, ignorance, pride, and prejudice; and of thy great mercy vouchsafe we beseech thee, so to direct, sanctify, and govern us in our present work, by the mighty power of the Holy Ghost, that the comfortable gospel of Christ may be truly preached, truly received, and truly followed, in all places, to the breaking down the kingdom of sin, satan, and death; till at length the whole of thy dispersed sheep, being gathered into one fold, shall become partakers of everlasting life through the merits and death of Jesus Christ our Saviour. *Amen.*"

List of the Clergy of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in the different States, 1799.

CLERGY.

New Hampshire.

- The Rev. Joseph Willard, Rector of St. John's church, Portsmouth.
 — Robert H. Fowle, Rector of — church, Haldernesse.
 — Daniel Barber, Rector of — church, Clairmont.

Massachusetts.

- The Right Rev. Edward Bass, D. D. Bishop
 The Rev. W. W. Wheeler, Rector of — church, Scituate.
 — William Walter, D. D. Rector of Christ church, Boston
 — Samuel Parker, D. D. Rector of Trinity church, Boston.
 — John Sylvester J. Gardner, assistant Minister of Trinity church, Boston.
 — Nathaniel Fisher, Rector of — church, Salem.
 — William Harris, Rector of St. Michael's church, Marblehead.
 — Wm. Montague, Rector of — church, Dedham.
 — Daniel Burhans, Rector of — church, Lanesborough.
 — Bradlee, Rector of — church, Barrington.
 — James Bowers, Deacon, Pittston.

Rhode Island.

- The Rev. Abraham Lynsen Clarke, Rector of St. John's church, Providence.
 — John Usher, Rector of St. Michael's church, Bristol.
 — Joseph Warren, Rector of St. Paul's church, North Kingstown.
 — Theodore Dehon, Deacon, Rector of Trinity church, Newport.

Connecticut.

- The Right Rev. Abraham Jarvis, D. D. D. D. Bishop.
 The Rev. Jeremiah Leaming, residing at New Haven.
 — John Bowden, D. D. Principal of the Episcopal academy at Cheshire.
 — Richard Mansfield, D. D. Rector of Christ's church, at Derby, and of the churches of Oxford and Great Hill.
 — Bela Hubbard, Trinity church, New Haven, and Christ's church, West Haven.
 — John Tyler, Christ church, Norwich.
 — Daniel Fogg, Rector of — church, Pomphret.
 — William Smith, D. D. Rector of St. Paul's church, Norwalk.

- The Rev. Philo Shelton, Rector of Trinity church, Stratfield, St. John's, Fairfield, and a church in Weston.
 — Ashbel Baldwin, Rector of Christ's church, Stratford, and Trinity church, Trumbul.
 — Chauncey Prindle, Rector of Christ's church, Watertown, and St. Peter's, Plymouth.
 — Reuben Jors, Rector of St. Peter's church, Cheshire, and the churches at Hamden, and Southington.
 — Tillotson Brownson, Rector of St. Peter's church at Waterbury, and of the churches at Salem.
 — Truman Marsh, Rector of St. John's church, New Milford, and the churches of Roxbury, and New Preston.
 — Ambrose Todd, Rector of St. Andrew's church, Symsbury, and St. Peter's church, Granby.
 — Solomon Blakesley, Rector of St. Stephen's church, in East Had-dam.
 — Seth Hart, Rector of St. Paul's church, Wallingsford, and a church in Berlin.
 — Charles Seabury, Rector of St. James's church, New London.
 — Smith Miles, Rector of the churches at Chatham, and middle Had-dam.
 — David Butler, Rector of Christ's church, Reading, and the church at Ridgfield.
 — Alexander V. Griswold, Rector of St. Matthew's church, Bristol, St. Mark's, Harwington, and a church in Northfield.
 — William Green, Rector of St. John's church, Seabrook.
 — Calvin White, Deacon, St. John's church, Stanford, and a church at Horseneck.
 — Evan Rogers, Deacon, the churches of Hebron, and Pomphret.
 — Bethel Judd, Deacon.

New York.

- The Right Rev. Samuel Provoost, D. D. Bishop.
 The Rev. Benjamin Moore, D. D. Assistant Minister of Trinity church, New York.
 — Abraham Beach, D. D. Assistant Minister of Trinity church, New York.
 — John Bisset, assistant Minister of Trinity church, New York.

- The Rev. Thomas Ellison**, Rector of St. Peter's church, Albany.
- **Ammi Rogers**, Rector of Christ church, Battstown, St. James's, Milton, St. John's, Stillwater and Trinity Church, Waterford.
- **Robert G. Wetmore**, Rector of St. George's church, Schenectady, and Christ church, Duanesborough.
- **John Urquhart**, Rector of St. John's church, Johnstown, and — church, Fort Hunter.
- **Richard C. Moore**, Rector of St. Andrew's church, Staten Island.
- **Elias Cooper**, Rector of St. John's church, Philipsburgh.
- **Theodosius Bartow**, Rector of Trinity church, New Rochelle.
- **Elijah D. Rattoone**, Rector of Grace church, Jamaica, and St. George's Flushing.
- **John Ireland**, Rector of St. Ann's church, Brooklyn.
- **Frederick Van Horne**, Rector of St. Andrew's church, Ulster county.
- **Amos Pardee**, Rector of — church, Hampton.
- **Philander Chase**, Missionary of the Protestant Episcopal church in the state of New York.
- **Samuel Nesbit**, resident Minister in New York.
- **John J. Sands**, Minister of the churches in Islop and Brookhaven.
- **Samuel Haskill**, Rector of Christ church, in Rye.
- **Henry Van Dyke**, Rector of St. James's church, Newtown.
- **Daniel Nash**, minister of the churches in Otsego.
- New Jersey.*
- The Rev. Charles H. Wharton**, D. D. Rector of St. Mary's church, Burlington.
- **Uzal Ogden**, D. D. Rector of Trinity church, Newark.
- **Henry Waddell**, Rector of St. Michael's church, Trenton.
- The Rev. John Croes**, Rector of Trinity church, Swedesborough.
- **Menzies Rayner**, Rector of St. John's church, Elizabethtown.
- **Andrew Fowler**, Rector of St. Peter's church, Spotswood.
- **John Henry Hobart**, Deacon of Christ Church, New Brunswick.
- Pennsylvania.*
- The Right Rev. William White**, D. D. Bishop.
- The Rev. William Smith**, D. D.
- **Samuel Magaw**, D. D. Rector of St. Paul's church, Philadelphia.
- **John Andrews**, D. D. Vice Provost of the University of Pennsylvania.
- **Robert Blackwell**, D. D. Assistant Minister of Christ church and St. Peter's, in the city of Philadelphia.
- **Joseph Hutchins**, D. D.
- **John Campbell**, Rector of the Episcopal churches of York and Huntingdon.
- **Slator Clay**, Rector of St. David's, Radnor; St. Peter's in the Valley; and St. James's, Perkiomen.
- **Joseph Clarkson**, Rector of St. James's, Lancaster, and of Pequea and Carnarvon, Lancaster county.
- **Robert Ayres**, Rector of Emanuel church, and St. Peter's church, in Washington and Fayette counties.
- **Francis Reno**, Westmoreland county.
- **Joseph Turner**, Rector of St. Paul's church, Chester, and St. Martin's church, Marcus Hook.
- **Caleb Hopkins**, Rector of Christ church, Derry township, and Christ church, Turbut township, Northumberland county.
- **Thomas Davis**, Washington county.
- **James Abercrombie**, Assistant Minister of Christ church and St. Peter's, in the city of Philadelphia.
- **Absalom Jones** (a black man) Deacon in the African church of St. Thomas's, Philadelphia.
- Delaware.*
- The Rev. Robert Clay**, Emanuel church, New Castle.
- **Walter C. Gardiner** Christ church, Dover.
- **William Pryce**, Christ church, Kent county.
- **James Wiltbank**, St. Peter's church, Sussex.
- Maryland.*
- The Right Rev. Thomas J. Claggett**, D. D. Bishop.
- The Rev. Charles Smoot**, Rector of William and Mary Parish, St. Mary's.
- **Henry Lyon Davis**, St. Mary's.
- **John Weems**, Port Tobacco, Charles.
- **Mr. —**, William and Mary, Charles.
- **Hatch Dent**, Trinity, Charles.
- **Edward Gant, jun.** Christ church, Calvert.
- **Nicholas W. Lane**, All Saints, Calvert.
- **Francis Walker**, residing in Calvert.
- ***George Ralph**, Rector of Queen Anne's parish, Prince George's county.
- **John Mesinger**, St. John's, Prince George's county.

- The Rev. Andrew M'Cormick, Wash-
 ington, Prince George's county.
 — Clement Brook, residing in Prince
 George's county.
 — Walter D. Addison, residing in
 Prince George's county.
 — John W. Compton, St. James's,
 Anne Arundel.
 — Ralph Higinbotham, St. Anne's,
 Anne Arundel.
 — Owen F. Magrath, residing in An-
 ne Arundel.
 — Henry Moscrop, residing in Anne
 Arundel.
 — *Thomas Read, Prince George's,
 Montgomery.
 — William Swan, St. Peter's, Mont-
 gomery.
 — Edward Gant, residing in Montgo-
 mery.
 — George Bower, All Saints, Frederic
 county.
 — Joseph G. J. Bend, and John Ire-
 land, associate Rectors of St. Paul's,
 Baltimore.
 — John Coleman, St. Thomas', Balti-
 more.
 — John Allen, St. George's, Hart-
 ford.
 — Jeremiah Cosden, St. Stephen's,
 Cecil.
 — George Dashiell, Shrewsbury.
 — Archibald Walker, D. D. Chester,
 Kent.
 — Colin Ferguson, D. D. residing in
 Kent
 — William Duke, residing in Kent.
 — Samuel Keene, D. D. St. Luke's,
 Queen Anne's.
 — *Elisha Rigg, St. Paul's, Queen
 Anne's.
 — Joseph Jackson, St. Peter's, Tal-
 bot.
 — John Bowie, D. D. St. Michaels,
 Talbot.
 — *James Kemp, Great Choptank,
 Dorchester.
 — Joshua Reece, Stepney, Somerset.
 — Thomas Scott, Somerset, Somer-
 set.
 — *Isaac Foster, Coventry, Somerset.
 — Samuel Sloan, residing in Somer-
 set.
 — *David Ball, All Hallows, Wor-
 cester.
 — Samuel Tingley, Worcester, Wor-
 cester.
 Virginia.
 The Right Rev. James Madison, D. D.
 Bishop.
 The Rev. Charles O'Neil, Rector of Am-
 herst parish.
- Alexander Hay, Antrim.
 — Devereux Jarratt, Bath.
 — Gray Bottetourt.
 — Hugh Corran Boggs, Berkeley.
 — Benjamin Brown, Blisland.
 — Andrew Syme, Bristol.
 — John Cameron, Rector of —
 — Alexander M'Farland, Brunswick.
 — Henry Spiering,
 — John Bracken, D. D. Bruton.
 — John Camm, Charles.
 — — Heffernan, Christ church.
 — James Elliott, Cople.
 — Needler Robinson, Dale.
 — Spence Grayson, Dettingen.
 — Jesse Carter, Drysdale.
 — Daniel M'Naughton, Christ Church.
 — John I. Spooner, Elizabeth city.
 — James Whitehead, Elizabeth river.
 — Thomas Davis, Fairfax.
 — Alexander Balmain, Frederick.
 — John V. Weylie, Lecturer, Frede-
 rick.
 — Matthew Maury, Fredericksville.
 — James Craig, Hamilton.
 — John Buchanan, D. D. Henrico.
 — Samuel S. M'Croskey, D. D. Hun-
 gars.
 — John Thompson, Leeds.
 — Charles Crawford, Lexington.
 — William Crawford, —
 — James Dickinson, Littleton.
 — — Young, Lunenburg.
 — Anthony Walke, Lynhaven.
 — John Dunn, Manchester.
 — William Hubbard, Newport.
 — Jacob Keeling, Nanscomd.
 — Robert Buchan, Overwharton.
 — Arthur Emerson, Portsmouth.
 — John Brunskill, Raleigh.
 — Alexander Lundie, St. Andrew's.
 — John Matthews, St. Bride's.
 — Reuben Clopton,
 — Cave Jones, St. George's.
 — James Stevenson, St. George's.
 — Charles Hopkins, St. James Nor-
 tham.
 — James Price, St. John's.
 — Thomas Hughes, St. David.
 — Archibald Dick, St. Margaret's.
 — John Woodville, St. Mark's.
 — Abner Waugh, St. Mary's.
 — William Stewart, St. Paul's.
 — John Parsons.
 — John Seward, St. Stephen's.
 — John Hyde Saunders, Southam.
 — Samuel Butler, Southwark.
 — Samuel Chapin, Westover.
 — James Evans, Yorkhampton.
 — John O'Donnel, Hampshire.
 — Lee Massey, Truro.
 — Armistead Smith, Matthews.

* Members of the standing committee this year.

- The Rev. John C. Brockenboroug,** Washington.
- Duncan M'Naughton, Wicomico.
- Joseph Wilson,
- Stephen Thomson,
- John Wade.
- Cornelius Carvert,
cures not known.
- South Carolina.*
- The Right Rev. Robert Smith, D. D.**
Bishop.
- The Rev. Thomas Frost, St. Philip's.**
- Henry Purcell, D. D. St. Michael's,
Charleston.
- Edward Jenkins, St. Michael's,
Charleston.
- Milwood Pogson, St. James',
Goose creek, St. George's, Dorches-
ter.
- Peter M. Parker, St. John's, Berk-
ley.
- John Thompson, St. Thomas's.
- Thomas Mills, St. Andrews, James'
Island, St. Andrew's, Main.
- Edmund Matthews, St. John's,
Edisto.
- Mr. — Nixon, St. Bartholomew's.
- Thomas D. Bladen, St. James',
Santee.
- James Connor, St. Stephen's.
- George H. Spierin, Prince George's.
- John O'Donnel, All Saints.
- Frazier, Prince Frederick's.
Residents in the state, without cures.
- Dr. Gates,
- Mr. Cotton, teacher in Charleston
college.
- Mr. M'Culley, Master of an Aca-
demy, Beaufort.
- Mr. Blackwall.
- Mr. Best, Master of an Academy,
Charleston.