

**Journal**  
**of the Proceedings of the**  
**Bishops, Clergy, and Laity**  
**of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America**  
**in a Special General Convention**  
**1821**



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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  
**SPECIAL GENERAL CONVENTION,**

Held in St. Peter's Church, in the City of Philadelphia,  
from the 30th day of October, to the 3d of November,  
inclusive,

A. D. 1821.

**PHILADELPHIA:**  
S. POTTER & Co. No. 87, CHESNUT-STREET.

1821.

**LIST OF MEMBERS PRESENT.**

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**HOUSE OF BISHOPS.**

- The Right Rev. William White, D. D. of Pennsylvania,  
presiding bishop.  
The Right Rev. John Henry Hobart, D. D. of New York.  
The Right Rev. Alexander Viets Griswold, D. D. of the  
Eastern Diocess.  
The Right Rev. James Kemp, D. D. of Maryland.  
The Right Rev. John Croes, D. D. of New Jersey.  
The Right Rev. Thomas C. Brownell, D. D. L. L. D. of  
Connecticut.

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**HOUSE OF CLERICAL AND LAY DEPUTIES.**

**CLERICAL DEPUTIES.**

<i>Massachusetts.</i>	{	Rev. Samuel F. Jarvis, D. D. Thomas Carlile.
<i>Rhode Island.</i>	{	Salmon Wheaton, Nathan B. Crocker.
<i>Connecticut.</i>	{	Daniel Burhans, Ashbel Baldwin, Birdsey G. Noble, Harry Crosswell.
<i>New York.</i>	{	David Butler, Thomas Lyell, Benjamin T. Onderdonk, Orin Clark.
<i>New Jersey.</i>	{	Charles H. Wharton, D. D. John C. Rudd, John Croes, Jun. Abiel Carter.
<i>Pennsylvania.</i>	{	Frederic Beasley, D. D. Bird Wilson, D. D. Jackson Kemper, George Boyd.
<i>Delaware.</i>		Richard D. Hall.

<i>Maryland.</i>	{	Rev. Wm. E. Wyatt, D. D. John P. K. Henshaw.
<i>Virginia.</i>	{	Wm. H. Wilmer, D. D. Wm. Meade, Simon Wilmer.
<i>North Carolina.</i>	{	Richard S. Mason, Gregory T. Bedell.
<i>South Carolina.</i>	{	Christopher E. Gadsden, D. D. John I. Tschudy, Christian Hanckell, Maurice H. Lance.

LAY DEPUTIES.

<i>Rhode Island.</i>	{	Col. Alexander Jones, Stephen T. Northam, Esq. Jeremiah Lippitt, Esq.
<i>Connecticut.</i>	{	Hon. Sam. Wm. Johnson, Nathan Smith, Esq.
<i>New York.</i>	{	Richard Harison, Esq. Hon. Morris S. Miller, John Wells, Esq.
<i>New Jersey.</i>	{	Peter Kean, Esq. Joseph V. Clark, Esq. Daniel Garritson, Esq.
<i>Pennsylvania.</i>	{	Wm. Meredith, Esq. Thos. M <sup>o</sup> Euen, Esq. Walter Kerr, Esq. Levi Pauling, Esq.
<i>Delaware.</i>	{	George Read, Esq. John Cummins, Esq.
<i>Maryland.</i>	{	Hon. John C. Herbert, Tench Tilghman, Esq.
<i>Virginia.</i>	{	Col. Wm. Mayo, Philip Nelson, Esq. Edmund I. Lee, Esq.
<i>North Carolina.</i>	{	Duncan Cameron, Esq. Josiah Collins, Esq.
<i>South Carolina.</i>	{	Wm. Heyward, Esq. Lewis L. Gibbes, Esq. Col. Lewis Morris.

*Clergy who attended the sittings of the convention.*

- |                           |   |                                                   |
|---------------------------|---|---------------------------------------------------|
| Rev. James Milnor, D. D.  | } | <i>New York.</i>                                  |
| Henry U. Onderdonk, M. D. |   |                                                   |
| Jonathan M. Wainwright,   |   |                                                   |
| Wm. Richmond,             |   |                                                   |
| Lawson Carter,            |   |                                                   |
| James Cotter.             |   |                                                   |
| J. M. Douglass,           | } | <i>New Jersey.</i>                                |
| R. F. Cadle.              |   |                                                   |
| Robert Blackwell, D. D.   | } | <i>Pennsylvania.</i>                              |
| Joseph Pilmore, D. D.     |   |                                                   |
| Joseph Hutchins, D. D.    |   |                                                   |
| James Abercrombie, D. D.  |   |                                                   |
| James Wiltbank,           |   |                                                   |
| Benjamin Allen,           |   |                                                   |
| Charles M. Dupuy,         |   |                                                   |
| Manning B. Roche,         |   |                                                   |
| Samuel Sitgreaves, Jr.    |   |                                                   |
| Peter Van Pelt, Jr.       |   |                                                   |
| Wm. Hawley.               |   | <i>Maryland.</i>                                  |
| John Read, Esq.           | } | <i>Trustees of the Theological Seminary.</i>      |
| Isaac Lawrence, Esq.      |   |                                                   |
| Gulian C. Verplank, Esq.  |   | <i>Manager of the New York Education Society.</i> |



# JOURNAL

OF THE

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE HOUSE OF CLERICAL AND LAY DEPUTIES.

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*Philadelphia, Tuesday, Oct. 30, 1821.*

Pursuant to notice from the presiding bishop, calling a special General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States of America, agreeably to the provisions of the 42nd canon, several clerical and lay deputies attended in St. Peter's Church at 12 o'clock, and a quorum being present, the Rev. Wm. H. Wilmer, D. D. was requested to take the chair pro tempore, and the Rev. J. C. Rudd was requested to act as secretary pro tempore.

The House then proceeded to read the testimonials of the clerical and lay deputies, which were severally approved, and the following gentlemen took their seats in the House.

### CLERICAL DEPUTIES.

From Massachusetts.	{	Rev. Sam. F. Jarvis, D. D. Thos. Carlile.
Rhode Island.	{	Salmon Wheaton, Nathan B. Crocker.
Connecticut.	{	Daniel Burhans, Ashbel Baldwin, Birdsey G. Noble.
New York.	{	David Butler, Thomas Lyell, Benj. T. Onderdonk, Orin Clark.
New Jersey.	{	Chas. H. Wharton, D. D. John C. Rudd, John Croes, Jr. Abiel Carter.

From Maryland.	{	Rev. Wm. E. Wyatt, D. D. John P. K. Henshaw.
Virginia.	{	Wm. H. Wilmer, D. D. Wm. Meade, Simon Wilmer.
North Carolina.	{	Richard S. Mason, Gregory T. Bedell.
South Carolina.	{	Chris. E. Gadsden, D. D. John J. Tschudy, Christian Hanckell, Maurice H. Lance.

## LAY DEPUTIES.

From Rhode Island.	{	Col. Alexander Jones, Stephen T. Northam, Esq. Jeremiah Lippitt, Esq.
Connecticut.	{	Hon. Sam. Wm. Johnson, Nathan Smith, Esq.
New York.	{	Richard Harison, Esq. Hon. Morris S. Miller, John Wells, Esq.
New Jersey.	{	Peter Kean, Esq. Joseph V. Clark, Esq. Daniel Garritson, Esq.
Maryland.		Hon. John C. Herbert.
Virginia.	{	Col. Wm. Mayo, Mr. Philip Nelson, Edmund I. Lee, Esq.
North Carolina.	{	Duncan Cameron, Esq. Josiah Collins, Esq.
South Carolina.	{	William Heyward, Esq. Lewis L. Gibbes, Esq.

The house proceeded to the election of a president, secretary and assistant secretary, when it appeared that the Rev. William H. Wilmer, D. D. was chosen president, the Rev. Ashbel Baldwin, secretary, and the Rev. J. C. Rudd, assistant secretary.

The Rev. Dr. Wharton was appointed to inform the house of bishops that this house was organized, and ready to proceed to business.



The house of bishops returned for answer, that they also were organized, and ready to proceed to business.

On motion, the rules of order adopted by the last General Convention, were adopted as the rules of this convention.

The house adjourned until 10 o'clock A. M. to-morrow.

*Wednesday, Oct. 31—10 o'clock, A. M.*

The house attended divine service in St. Peter's church. Service was performed by the Rev. Dr. Wyatt, and a sermon preached by the right Rev. bishop Kemp.

After divine service the house met.

The minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

The clerical and lay deputies from Pennsylvania, presented the certificate of their appointment, and the following gentlemen took their seats, viz.

Rev. Frederic Beasley, D. D.	William Meredith,
Bird Wilson, D. D.	Thomas M'Euen,
Jackson Kemper,	Walter Kerr,
George Boyd,	Levi Pauling, Esqrs.

Col. Lewis Morris, a lay deputy from South Carolina, the Rev. H. Crosswell, a clerical deputy from Connecticut, the Rev. Richard D. Hall, a clerical deputy from Delaware, George Read and John Cummins, Esqrs. lay deputies from Delaware, and Tench Tilghman, Esq. a lay deputy from Maryland, appeared and took their seats.

On motion, resolved, that clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal church, the trustees of the Theological Seminary, and the managers of the New York Education Society, who may be in the city of Philadelphia, during the session of this convention, and not members thereof, be admitted to the sittings of this house.

On motion, resolved, that the seat on the right of the chair be reserved for the use of the right Rev. the bishops, whenever they may choose to attend the sittings of this house. This resolution was sent to the house of bishops, who presented their thanks to this house for their attention.

The report of the trustees of the Theological Seminary was read. (*See Appendix, No. 1.*)

A message was received from the house of bishops, relative to the call of this special convention, and accompanied by certain documents relating to the same subject, which were read. (*See Appendix, No. 1.*)

On motion, resolved, that the papers received from the house of bishops relative to the Theological Seminary, and

the report of the trustees of the seminary, be referred to a committee of seven on the part of this house, and that the house of bishops be respectfully requested to appoint such number of their own body as they may think proper, to be, with the members appointed on the part of this house, a joint committee on the said papers and the matters therein contained.

The following gentlemen were appointed the committee: Duncan Cameron, Esq. Richard Harison, Esq. Col. Alexander Jones, Rev. Daniel Burhans, Rev. David Butler, Rev. Dr. Wharton, Rev. Dr. Gadsden. This resolution was sent to the house of bishops.

A message was received from the house of bishops, informing this house of their concurrence with the resolution, proposing a joint committee, and that the Right Rev. bishops Hobart and Kemp had been appointed on the part of their house.

A message was received from the house of bishops, with a report of the presiding bishop on the subject of a standard copy of the book of Common Prayer, which was ordered to lie on the table, and the house adjourned until 6 o'clock this evening.

*Wednesday Evening, 6 o'clock.*

The house met.

The report of the presiding bishop on the subject of a standard copy of the book of Common Prayer, was read, and referred to a select committee, consisting of Peter Kean, Esq. Rev. R. S. Mason, and William Meredith, Esq. (*See Appendix, No. 2.*)

The house adjourned until one o'clock, P. M. to-morrow.

*Thursday, Nov. 1—1 o'clock, P. M.*

This being thanksgiving day, the members attended divine service in the different churches.

The house met.

The minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

The report of the managers of the Missionary Society was presented, and read. (*See Appendix, No. 3.*)

On motion of the Rev. Simon Wilmer, it was referred to a committee.

The Rev. Mr. Boyd, Rev. Dr. Jarvis, and Rev. Simon Wilmer, were appointed the committee.

On motion, resolved, that when this house adjourn, it will

adjourn until to-morrow, 10 o'clock, A. M., and that this resolution be communicated to the house of bishops.

A communication was received from the house of bishops, on the subject of the last rubric in the communion service, which was laid upon the table, and the house adjourned.

*Friday, Nov. 2—10 o'clock, A. M.*

Morning prayers were read by the Rev. Mr. Mason. After divine service, the house met.

The minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

The Rev. Mr. Boyd, from the committee on the report of the board of managers of the Missionary Society, made report, and offered as an amendment the following, as a fifth article under the first head of the constitution.

“The president and vice presidents of this society shall be ex officio members of the board of managers, and when present shall preside at its meetings.”

This amendment was adopted, and sent to the house of bishops.

Duncan Cameron, Esq. from the committee on the Theological Seminary, made the following report, which was read.

The committee to whom was referred the communications relative to the General Theological Seminary, having had the same under consideration, report the following constitution for the General Theological Seminary of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America.

Submitted.

DUNCAN CAMERON, *Chairman of the Committee of the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies.*

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

I. The Theological Seminary of the Protestant Episcopal church in the United States of America, shall be permanently established in the state of New York. The trustees of the said seminary shall have power, from time to time, to establish one or more branch schools in the state of New York, or elsewhere. to be

under the superintendance and control of the said trustees.

II. The management of the said seminary shall be vested in a board of trustees, who shall have power to constitute professorships, and to appoint the professors, and to prescribe the course of study in the respective schools, and to make rules and regulations and statutes for the government thereof; and generally to take such measures as they may deem necessary to its prosperity; provided, that such rules and regulations, and course of study, and measures be not repugnant to the constitution and canons of the church, and to the course of study for candidates for orders which is or may be established by the house of bishops.—The bishops in their individual and collective capacity, shall be visitors of the seminary, and shall see that the course of instruction and discipline be conducted agreeably to the foregoing provision.—The trustees shall make report to every general convention of their proceedings, and of the state of the seminary.

III. The board of trustees shall be permanently constituted, as follows:—The bishops of the church shall be *ex-officio* members of the board. Every diocese shall be entitled to one trustee, and one additional trustee for every eight clergymen in the same; and to one additional trustee for every two thousand dollars of monies in any way given or contributed in the same to the funds of the seminary, until the sum amounts to 10,000 dollars; and one additional trustee for every 10,000 dollars of contributions and donations, as aforesaid, exceeding that sum. The trustees shall be resident in the diocesses for which they are appointed. They shall be nominated by the diocesan conventions respectively, to every stated general convention, who may confirm or reject such nominations. The senior bishop present shall preside at every meeting of the board of trustees; and whenever demanded by a majority of the bishops present, or a majority of the cle-

rical and lay trustees present, the concurrence of a majority of the bishops present, and a majority of clerical and lay trustees present, shall be necessary to any act of the board. Eleven trustees shall constitute a quorum. The trustees shall continue in office until their successors are appointed. In the interval between the stated meetings of the general convention, the board shall have power to supply all vacancies, from the diocesses respectively in which they may have occurred.

IV. For the present, and until the next stated general convention, the board of trustees shall consist of the bishops of the church, and of the 24 trustees of the general Theological Seminary, heretofore established by the General Convention, and of 14 trustees chosen by the managers of the Protestant Episcopal Theological Education Society in the state of New York. These trustees shall exercise the powers of the permanent board, as detailed in the foregoing article, and agreeably to the provisions thereof.

The board of trustees shall always meet in the diocess where the seminary is established, at such stated periods as they may determine; and special meetings may be called by the bishop of the said diocess, and shall be called by him at the requisition of a majority of the bishops.

V. The professors of the General Theological Seminary heretofore established by the General Convention, and the professors in the Theological Seminary in the diocess of New York, shall be professors in the General Theological Seminary hereby established in that diocess.

The board of trustees shall have power to remove professors and other officers; but no professor shall be removed from office, except at a special meeting of the board called to consider the same; nor unless notice of an intended motion for such removal, and of the grounds thereof shall have been given at a previous

meeting of the board. The nomination of professors shall be made at one meeting of the board of trustees, and acted upon at a subsequent meeting; due notice being given of the object of the said meeting to every member of the board.

VI. The funds and other property and claims to funds or property of the General Theological Seminary, heretofore established by the General Convention, shall be vested in, and transferred to the General Seminary hereby established, as soon as an act of the board of managers of the Protestant Episcopal Theological Education Society, in the state of New York, shall vest in and transfer to the same Seminary, all their funds, and other property and claims to funds and property—and all engagements and responsibilities entered into, or assumed by either of the said institutions, for the purpose of their foundation, consistent with the other provisions of this constitution, shall be considered as binding upon the General Seminary, so established within the state of New York.

VII. This constitution shall be unalterable, except by a concurrent vote of the board of trustees, and of the General Convention.

The house proceeded to the consideration of the proposed constitution, which passed a first and second reading.

A message was received from the house of bishops, informing this house that they had unanimously adopted the constitution of the General Theological Seminary of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, as reported by the committee to whom were referred all papers relative to the subject.

The further consideration of the subject was postponed until evening.

The communication from the house of bishops on the subject of the last rubric in the communion service, was read and returned to that house. (*See Appendix, No. 4.*)

A message was received from the house of bishops, informing this house that they had disagreed to the proposed amendment of the constitution of the Missionary Society, and proposing a substitute for the present constitution.

The house adjourned until 6 o'clock, P. M.

*Friday evening, 6 o'clock.*

The house met.

On motion, resolved, that with the consent of the house of bishops, the next convention shall meet on the day and at the place appointed, at the hour of 10, A. M. in order to attend the services usually performed at the opening of the convention.

The house resumed the consideration of the constitution of the general Theological Seminary, which was read a third time, and adopted as reported by the committee, and notice sent to the house of bishops.

Mr. Meredith, from the committee on the subject of a standard copy of the book of Common Prayer, reported the following resolution, which was adopted and sent to the house of bishops.

Resolved, by the house of clerical and lay deputies, the house of bishops concurring, that a joint committee of one or more bishops to be appointed by the house of bishops, and of three members of the house of clerical and lay deputies to be appointed by the house last mentioned, be authorized during the recess of the General Convention, to superintend the printing of an edition of the Book of Common Prayer, correcting and supplying therein any errors and omissions in the edition heretofore established as the standard Book, and introducing a table of the days on which Easter will fall for 38 years, being the time of two cycles of the moon, as reported by the presiding bishop to this convention; and that in the choice of an edition for this purpose, the said committee for the sake of greater accuracy, give a preference to one to be printed from stereotype plates, and authenticate the same by their certificate.

The committee also proposed a canon, "providing for a new and more complete and correct, standard of the Book of Common Prayer," which was adopted and sent to the house of bishops. (*See Appendix, No. 6.*)

Mr. Meredith, Rev. Dr. Beasley, and Rev. Dr. Wilson were appointed the committee on the part of this house, for superintending the printing of a standard copy of the Book of Common Prayer—Notice of this appointment was sent to the house of bishops.

The Rev. Mr. Onderdonk, from the committee appointed by the last General Convention to consider the practicability of providing a fund to be at the disposal of the General Con-

vention, reported a canon, which was ordered to lie on the table.

A message was received from the house of bishops, concurring in the resolution adopted by this house relative to the convention attending service on the first day of the session.

A message was received from the house of bishops, informing this house, that they had concurred in the resolution and canon relative to a standard Book of Common Prayer, and that they had appointed the presiding bishop the committee on the part of their house.

The message from the house of bishops, with the proposed substitute for the present constitution of the Missionary Society was read, and referred to a committee consisting of the Rev. Mr. Henshaw, Rev. Mr. Boyd, and Rev. Mr. Kemper.

On motion, resolved, that when this house adjourn, it will adjourn until 9 o'clock, A. M. to-morrow.

The Rev. Dr. Wharton, Rev. Mr. Burhans, Mr. Smith, Mr. Cummins, and Mr. Garrison asked and obtained leave of absence for the remainder of the session.

The house adjourned.

*Saturday, Nov. 3—9 o'clock, A. M.*

Morning prayers were read by the Rev. Mr. Carlile.

After divine service the house met.

The minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

The Rev. Mr. Henshaw, from the committee on the proposed substitute for the present constitution of the Missionary Society, reported the substitute sent from the house of bishops, with some amendments, which were considered, and the constitution as amended was sent to the house of bishops.

The Rev. Mr. Rudd, and the Rev. Mr. Kemper, were appointed a committee to superintend the printing of the Journals, and notice of this appointment was sent to the house of bishops, who returned for answer that they had appointed the presiding bishop, to unite with the committee of this house, and that they had resolved that 1200 copies of the Journal should be printed and distributed in the several diocesses, according to the number of churches in each.

In this resolution the house concurred, and notice of concurrence was sent to the house of bishops.

A message was received from the house of bishops, proposing further amendments to the constitution of the Missionary Society, which were concurred in by this house, and



notice of concurrence sent to the house of bishops, and the constitution as amended was finally adopted. (*See Appendix, No. 5.*)

The house proceeded to the choice of 24 directors and 2 secretaries of the Missionary Society.

Mr. Meredith and Mr. Tilghman were appointed tellers.

The election having been made, notice thereof was sent to the house of bishops, who returned for answer that they had concurred in the election made by this house, and the following persons were declared duly chosen, by the concurrent vote of both houses.

*Pennsylvania*—Rev. Jackson Kemper, Rev. James Montgomery, Rev. Benjamin Allen, Messrs. Richard North, Richard Dale, Thomas Hale, John Claxton, Charles Wheeler, Israel Kinsman, Hugh de Haven, Jr. and James Nixon.

*Delaware*—Rev. Richard D. Hall.

*Maryland*—Rev. Dr. Wyatt, Rev. J. P. K. Henshaw.

*Virginia*—Rev. Dr. Wilmer, Rev. Wm. Meade.

*North Carolina*—Rev. G. T. Bedell.

*South Carolina*—Rev. Christian Hanckell, Lewis L. Gibbes.

*New Jersey*—Rev. Abiel Carter.

*New York*—Rev. Dr. Milnor, Rev. B. T. Onderdonk.

*Rhode Island*—Rev. Salmon Wheaton.

*Massachusetts*—Rev. Thomas Carlile.

*Secretaries*—Rev. George Boyd, Samuel J. Robbins.

On motion, resolved, that the thanks of this house be presented to the president and secretaries for the services rendered by them respectively, during the present session.

The house of bishops informed this house that they were ready to rise, and proposed closing the session by prayer. This house informed the house of bishops that they were ready to unite in the proposed devotions. The house of bishops then attended in this house, and prayer was performed by the presiding bishop, after which he addressed the convention in the following words:

*Brethren of this Convention,*

I take the liberty of giving vent to the feeling which possesses me, at the conclusion of our session.

I have attended all the meetings of the General Conventions, from the beginning of our organization. On some of those occasions, we assembled with apprehensions in the minds of many judicious men who had the interests of the

church at heart, that the deliberations would be disturbed by angry passions, and end in disunion. In every instance, the reverse was the issue: which led me to hope, that there was in this matter a verifying of the promise of the great Head of the church, of being with her to the end of the world.

The reason of this call of your attention to the fact stated, is the harmony with which we are concluding the present session; after having met with diversity of sentiment on some important points; on which, in consequence of mutual concession, and the merging of local attachments in the great object of general good, we are now separating with confirmed zeal for the great cause in which we are engaged; to be followed, it is to be hoped, by renewed endeavours for its advancement, each of us in his proper sphere.

With this prospect before me, I invite you to lift your hearts and your voices, in singing to the praise and glory of God, a psalm appropriate to the occasion.\*

The members of both houses then united in singing the 133d psalm—after which the benediction was pronounced, and the house adjourned, sine die.

Signed by order of the house of clerical and lay deputies.

WILLIAM H. WILMER, *President.*

Attested, ASHBEL BALDWIN, *Secretary.*

\* The address of the presiding bishop was inserted in the Journal by request of the house of clerical and lay deputies.

**JOURNAL**  
**OF THE**  
**HOUSE OF BISHOPS.**

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*Tuesday, Oct. 30, 1821.*

This being the day appointed for a special convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church, the Rt. Rev. Wm. White, D. D. bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the state of Pennsylvania, the Rt. Rev. John Henry Hobart, D. D. bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the state of New York, the Rt. Rev. John Croes, D. D. bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the state of New Jersey, and the Rt. Rev. Thomas C. Brownell, D. D. L. L. D. bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the state of Connecticut, assembled in the vestry room of St. Peter's Church, in the city of Philadelphia.

The Rev. Wm. Augustus Muhlenberg was chosen secretary to the house.

A message was received from the house of clerical and lay deputies, that they were organized and ready to proceed to business, whereupon this house returned for answer that they were also ready to proceed to business, and had agreed to attend divine service every day during the session.

Adjourned.

*Wednesday, Oct. 31.*

The bishops attended divine service. Prayers were read by the Rev. Dr. Wyatt, and a sermon was delivered by the Rt. Rev. bishop Kemp. The holy communion was administered by the Rt. Rev. the presiding bishop, assisted by the other bishops present.

The house met. Present as yesterday. The Rt. Rev. bishop Kemp of Maryland, appeared and took his seat.

The minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

The presiding bishop stated to the house that in consequence of the request of the major number of the bishops, grounded on an application made to them by the trustees of the Theological Seminary, herewith presented, (*See Appendix, No. 1.*) and agreeably to authority vested in him, he had called this special convention. The bishops who made the request were, bishops Griswold, Moore, Kemp, Bowen, and Brownell. The statement was communicated to the house of clerical and lay deputies.

A message was received from the house of clerical and lay deputies, that they had provided seats for the Rt. Rev. the bishops, whenever they might please to attend in the same. The house returned their thanks.

The presiding bishop made a report "on certain matters referred to him by the last General Convention, to take order." (*See Appendix, No. 2.*) Whereupon the house adopted the proposal in the said report with regard to a standard book—and appointed the presiding bishop on the part of this house, a committee to carry the same into effect. Notice thereof was given to the house of clerical and lay deputies.

The report of the trustees of the Theological Seminary was read. (*See Appendix, No. 1.*)

A message was received from the house of clerical and lay deputies, that they had adopted a resolution to refer all papers relative to the General Theological Seminary to a committee of seven members; whereupon this house concurred in the resolution, and appointed bishops Hobart and Kemp to act on the part of this house, with the aforesaid committee.

Adjourned to meet at 7 P. M.

7 P. M.

The house met, and adjourned.

*Thursday, Nov. 1st.*

This being Thanksgiving day, the bishops attended divine service in the several churches.

The house met. Present as yesterday.

The minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

The presiding bishop made a communication relative to the Missionary Society. (*See Appendix, No. 3.*)

The house adopted an opinion on the use of part of the communion service, which was sent to the house of clerical and lay deputies. (*See Appendix, No. 4.*)

A message was received from the house of clerical and lay deputies, that they had adjourned until to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock; whereupon this house adjourned to the same hour.

*Friday, November 2nd.*

The bishops attended divine service. The house met—present as yesterday. The minutes of the preceding meeting were read and approved.

The report of the committee, to whom were referred all papers relative to the Theological Seminary, was read; whereupon the house unanimously resolved to adopt the constitution of the General Theological Seminary of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, as reported by the committee—and gave notice thereof to the house of clerical and lay deputies.

The report of the managers of the General Missionary Society was read. (*See Appendix, No. 3.*)

A message was received from the house of clerical and lay deputies, with an alteration of the constitution of the General Missionary Society; whereupon this house disagreed to the proposed alteration, and adopted a substitute for the present constitution, and sent it to the house of clerical and lay deputies.

Adjourned to 6 o'clock P. M.

*6 P. M.*

The house met. Present as this morning.

A resolution was received from the house of clerical and lay deputies, that the convention would hereafter commence business on the first day of the session, which was concurred and returned.

The house adopted a resolution and a canon respecting a standard book, received from the house of clerical and lay deputies, and appointed the presiding bishop on the part of this house, a committee to carry the resolution into effect. (*See Appendix, No. 6.*)

Adjourned to 9 A. M. to morrow.

*Saturday, November 3d.*

The bishops attended divine service. The house met—present as yesterday. The minutes of the preceding meeting were read and approved.

The house returned thanks to the Rt. Reverend Bishop Kemp for his discourse, delivered at the opening of the convention, and requested a copy of the same for publication.

The constitution of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, after undergoing amendments proposed

by the house of clerical and lay deputies, was finally adopted. (*See Appendix, No. 5.*)

Resolved, that 1200 copies of the Journal of this Convention be printed and distributed in the different diocesses, according to the number of churches in each—and that the presiding bishop be a committee on the part of this house, to carry the resolution into effect.

The house of clerical and lay deputies sent the names of certain persons chosen directors and officers of the Missionary Society, which this house concurred in by ballot.

“Resolved, that the thanks of the house be given to the secretary for the attention and ability with which he has discharged the duties of his office.”

The convention being ready to rise, the house adjourned to the house of clerical and lay deputies. The presiding bishop after reading several appropriate prayers from the liturgy, addressed the members of the convention, and invited them to join in singing the 133d Psalm—after which the convention adjourned, sine die.

WM. WHITE, *Presiding Bishop.*

WM. AUGUSTUS MUHLENBERG, *Secretary.*

## APPENDIX.

### NO. I.

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#### *Report of the Trustees of the Theological Seminary.*

The committee appointed by the board of trustees of the Theological Seminary, to prepare a "Report of the proceedings of the Board, and of the state of the Seminary," and lay the same before the General Convention, beg leave respectfully to offer the following statement:

The board of trustees met at New Haven on the 13th day of July, 1820, and pursuant to the powers vested in them by the General Convention, proceeded to form a plan for the organization of the Seminary. A copy of this plan is herewith presented to the convention.

On the 7th of September, 1820, the seminary was publicly opened, with an inaugural discourse by the Rev. professor Turner. Ten students presented themselves at the opening of the institution, and four others joined it in the course of the first session. Two of these were obliged to retire before the close of the session, on account of ill health, and another obtained leave of absence, and has not since returned.

During the second session, which terminated in July last, there was an accession of seven new students, though one of the former number was obliged to leave the institution early in the session, on account of ill health. Since the close of the session, two of the students who had spent a year in the institution, and had been for two years previous engaged in their theological studies, have been admitted to the holy order of deacons.

During the present session, which commenced in September, seven new students have entered the seminary;—so that, at present, the institution numbers twenty-two pupils. The following is an alphabetical list of the names of all who have entered the institution, and of the diocesses from which they came.

From Connecticut,	David Botsford.*
New Hampshire,	Franceway R. Cossit.†
New York,	Augustus L. Converse.
New Jersey,	Robert Croes.
Vermont,	Palmer Dyer.
New York,	Manton Eastburn.
	John M. Garfeild,‡
	Bennet Glover,*
Connecticut, }	Richard Haughton,§
	Lemuel Hull,
	Edward Ives,
	William Jarvis.
	Wm. L. Johnson,
New York, }	Saml. R. Johnson,
	Isaac Low.
	Henry M. Mason,
Pennsylvania, }	Samuel Marks,
	Matthew Matthews.
Virginia,	Sylvester Nash.
Connecticut,	Seth B. Paddock.
Massachusetts,	William Potter.
S. Carolina,	Francis Rutledge.§
Connecticut,	William Shelton.
Maryland,	Frederick Schroeder.
S. Carolina, }	Martin Snell,
	Edward Thomas.
Pennsylvania,	Peter Van Pelt, Jr.§
New York,	J. Lawrence Yvonnet.

The course of studies pursued by the students has been conformable to that prescribed by the house of bishops. The progress which they have made in this course, will be seen by the following extracts from the reports of the professor.

“During the first session,” he says, “the pupils of the institution have pursued the following course of studies:—The criticism of the Greek and Hebrew texts, comprehending accounts of the most important versions and editions of the Bible, together with discussions on the vowel points, targums, talmuds, &c.—All those parts of Jewish antiquities which tend to illustrate the Pentateuch—The Pentateuch it-

\* Admitted to Orders.

† Had leave of absence, and has not returned.

‡ Not a regular student, being engaged in teaching a school.

§ Left the institution on account of ill health.



self, which has been carefully read in the Septuagint version, and compared with the Hebrew text; the variations having been, in general, pointed out, and where it was found practicable, accounted for. Besides various commentators and critics, the works of *Marsh, Prideaux, Gray* and *Jennings*, have been used as text books. In addition to these studies, some of the pupils have read *Pearson on the Creed*. Their wish to pursue systematic theology, at this time, was acceded to, from the consideration that they had been pursuing studies in divinity, between one and two years before they entered the seminary."

At the close of the second session, the professor reports as follows:—"The historical books of the Old Testament, from Joshua to Esther inclusive, have been examined, and the more important difficulties carefully considered. The canonical authority of the different works has been investigated, *Gray's Key* having been used as a text book; the imperfections of which I have attempted to supply by a reference to other authorities, and principally to the very valuable work of Carpvov. When the students had advanced to the period where *Prideaux* commences his useful connection, this work was used, and the first part of it has been studied by them with attention. Thus the history has been brought down to the time of Simon the Just, when according to the Jews the canon of the Old Testament was completely settled. The chief points of difference between *Prideaux* in his account of the Assyrian empire, and others who prefer the authority of *Herodotus* to that of *Ctesias*, and particularly between him and *Dr. Hales*, have been made known to the students. Some notice, although not very considerable, has also been taken of the book of *Job*, and of the *Psalms*. In the New Testament, the four gospels, in Greek, have been the subject of study—*Greisbach's* edition having been used as the text, and *Schleusner* principally as the lexicographer. Besides the commentators recommended in the prescribed course, other critics have been used, among whom *Middleton*, whose work on the article corrects so ably many of the errors of *Wakefield*, holds a conspicuous rank. The first three Evangelists were reviewed, and *St. John's* gospel read in *archbishop Newcome's Greek Harmony*. The authority of each gospel has been examined, and particular attention has been paid to certain parts, the authenticity of which has by some been doubted on insufficient grounds. The work of *Dr. Campbell* has been used by the pupils, and his first six dissertations have been made the subject of study and recitation."

The professor continues—and the observation applies equally to the preceding, and to the present session—“It has been my endeavour to accompany the exercises with such remarks as appeared beneficial, and once a week a written lecture, on some subject connected with the course of studies, has been delivered.”

It may be proper to add, that all the students have attended the instructions of the Rt. Rev. Bishop Brownell, one day in each week, in the department of pulpit eloquence, and the composition of sermons, and that he has given these instructions gratuitously.

At the close of each session, public examinations have been held, in the presence of the trustees and the clergy. On these occasions the students have acquitted themselves in such a manner as to meet the approbation of the board of trustees, who have also expressed their sense of the ability, fidelity and zeal of the Rev. Professor.

At the annual meeting of the trustees, held at New Haven, the 24th of July last, the necessity of an additional professor became so apparent, that the board were induced to take measures to effect so desirable an object. They accordingly resolved to open a subscription, by which each subscriber should become responsible for \$50 per annum, for the term of three years, for the purpose of supporting a professor of systematic theology. The salary was to be fixed at \$1000 a year; and if more than that sum should be subscribed, the surplus was to be devoted towards the support of the present professor. Thirteen subscriptions were immediately obtained from the persons present; and the trustees were so fully confident that the requisite sum would be made up, that they appointed the Rev. Bird Wilson to the professorship. As this gentleman has not yet accepted the appointment, the matter rests till his determination shall be communicated to the board of trustees.

From the approbation with which this plan of support has been received, there is but little doubt that a sum can be obtained in this way, equal to the temporary support of two professors; while the money obtained in other ways, may be expected to accumulate to such a fund, before the temporary support shall fail, as to render it no longer necessary.

Immediately on the organization of the seminary, it became a primary object of the board of trustees, to make arrangements for obtaining the requisite funds for its support and endowment. This must, of necessity, be a gradual and progressive work. The resolutions passed by the board on

this subject, may be seen in the appendix to the "Plan of the Seminary," page 20. Some progress has already been made towards carrying this object into effect; enough, indeed, to show that the seminary meets the general approbation of the church, and will receive a liberal patronage; and to warrant the trustees in saying, that if the objects of the General Convention in the establishment of it, should by any means be defeated, it will not be from any impracticability of obtaining the necessary funds for its support.

At the period, however, when the measures in progress for obtaining subscriptions, were, by the arrangements made, to have become general throughout the union, the legacy of the late Mr. Sherrerd, for the advancement of theological learning, became known to the public. This circumstance has had the effect of suspending all further efforts till the intention of the General Convention in relation to it, shall be expressed. What has already been done in the several dioceses, may be estimated from the following view.

*South Carolina.*

This diocess took an early interest in the cause of a general Theological Seminary, and gave a proof of that interest in the liberal subscriptions obtained there, in the year 1818. The sum of \$1675, of this subscription, remained due when the institution was removed from New York to New Haven. This sum, (with the exception of \$25,) the agent there informs the trustees will be collected without difficulty. Two hundred and ten dollars has been added by new subscribers, and of the whole sum, \$710 has already been collected and forwarded to the treasurer. The ladies of South Carolina have also raised a further sum of \$2000, for the purpose of founding a *scholarship*, to take the name of the late bishop of that diocess.

The friends of the institution have thought it best to defer any further, or general effort, to obtain subscriptions till the ensuing winter.

*North Carolina.*

North Carolina, which has but within a few years assumed the rank of a diocess, has manifested a distinguished zeal and liberality in the cause of the seminary. Nearly \$10,000 has already been subscribed in this diocess, towards the endowment of a professorship. The subscriptions are payable in five annual instalments, commencing the first of May last,

with the condition that till the whole sum is subscribed, the interest of the monies in the hands of the trustees of the fund shall be devoted to the support of necessitous students in the seminary. The principal agent in procuring these subscriptions assures the board of trustees, that he has the fullest confidence that the remainder of the sum necessary to constitute the professorship, will be subscribed within a reasonable period.

*Virginia.*

In the year 1818 there were subscriptions obtained in this diocess, for the general seminary, to the amount of more than \$1400; about 1200 of which remained unpaid when the institution was transferred to New Haven. During the last winter an agent was appointed to visit this state, for the purpose of collecting these subscriptions, and soliciting further patronage, but the depression of the times deterred him from prosecuting his object. He collected little more than \$100 of the former subscriptions, and obtained other subscriptions to the amount of about \$300, chiefly in the District of Columbia.

*Maryland.*

A public meeting of the Episcopalians was called at Baltimore, in this diocess, in January last, by the trustees residing there. The bishop presided, and warmly recommended the seminary to the patronage of his diocess. The subject was taken up with much zeal, and a board of agents was appointed from among the most respectable citizens. But before the time appointed for commencing the subscriptions, the bequest of the late Mr. Sherred became known, and it was determined to postpone the collections to the present autumn. The liberal spirit with which the subject has been met in this diocess, affords a pledge that whenever the subscription books shall be opened there, no reasonable expectations of the church will be disappointed.

*Pennsylvania.*

A meeting of the friends of the seminary had also taken place at Philadelphia, previous to the meeting at Baltimore, on the call of the bishop and other trustees residing in Pennsylvania. A board of agents was appointed, which was subsequently divided into four committees, for the purpose of

soliciting subscriptions. Only one of these committees has yet acted to any extent: the others thought it expedient to defer acting till the present autumn. The sum actually obtained by this board is understood to be about 1260 dollars. The ladies of Philadelphia took an early interest in the prosperity of the seminary, and originated a subscription for the purpose of founding a *scholarship*, to take the name of the present venerable bishop of the diocese. More than \$1800 were raised and invested for this object some months ago, and it is understood that nearly the whole amount is now raised.

*New Jersey.*

No efforts have yet been made to obtain subscriptions in this diocese. One gentleman has manifested his good will towards the seminary by a donation of \$20, and another has contributed \$10.

*New York.*

A board of agents has been constituted in this diocese, but owing to peculiar circumstances, they have not yet thought it expedient to make any considerable effort to obtain subscriptions. For themselves, they have subscribed with great liberality, and they have also collected a few subscriptions from their friends—chiefly among those who had subscribed while the institution was at New York. In this way, upwards of \$3,200 have been obtained, exclusive of 1175 dollars subscribed out of the city; the greater part of which has been paid directly to the treasurer. Several gentlemen in this diocese have contributed liberally towards the establishment of a theological library; and the value of the books transmitted from the city of New York, cannot be estimated at less than \$3,000.

*Connecticut.*

Arrangements have been commenced in this diocese to endow a professorship, to take the name of the first bishop of the diocese. Agents were appointed to collect subscriptions for this object, during the last winter, but owing to the indisposition of one of them, and sickness in the family of another, the business was delayed till spring. When this period arrived, the fact of Mr. Sherred's bequest became pub-

lic, and it was thought proper, under such circumstances, to defer collections till the intention of the General Convention should be declared. One gentleman had subscribed \$1000 towards the professorship, and had aided in obtaining about 700 dollars more in his immediate vicinity. Four other gentlemen had tendered 500 dollars each. From the knowledge which the committee possess, they feel confident in assuring the convention that if the institution should remain where it now is, the sum necessary to constitute the professorship will be made up in this diocess, within a reasonable period.

*Massachusetts.*

An agent was appointed to visit Boston during the last spring, who obtained subscriptions there to the amount of 1815 dollars—1715 dollars of which have been paid. Besides this sum, a generous individual made a proffer of 1500 dollars—the interest to be paid semi-annually, till the donation shall be paid into the hands of the treasurer. Another individual has promised a donation of 1000 dollars. The agent being unable to prolong his stay in Boston, the business was undertaken by a committee there, but from which no report has yet been received.

No application has yet been made for subscriptions in the other parts of the eastern diocess, though assurances of patronage have been given, whenever the effort shall be made.

*Recapitulation.*

<i>Diocesses.</i>	<i>Sums promised, or subscribed since the removal.</i>
<i>South Carolina,</i> - - -	\$3,810.
<i>North Carolina, (about)</i> - - -	10,000.
<i>Virginia, (about)</i> - - -	400.
<i>Maryland and Delaware,</i> no application.	
<i>Pennsylvania,</i> - - -	3,060.
<i>New York,</i> - - -	4,375.
<i>New Jersey,</i> no application.	30.
<i>Connecticut,</i> - - -	3,700.
<i>Massachusetts,</i> - - -	4,315.
<i>Vermont, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Maine,</i> no application.	
	<hr/>
Value of the library, say - - -	29,690.
Funds when removed, - - -	4,000.
	<hr/>
	37,390.

Only a small proportion of the above funds has yet come into the hands of the treasurer. A part has been invested by agents abroad—some remains in the hands of agents; and there must be a trifling deduction for the expenses of agents. It results, therefore, that the convention must seek for a just estimate of the funds of the institution in the foregoing statement at large, and not in the account of the treasurer. The following report of his receipts and expenditures was presented to the board of trustees, at their annual meeting in July last.

“ A summary statement of the receipts and expenditures of the treasurer of the Episcopal Theological Seminary, from Sept. 8, 1820, to July 26, 1821.

Amount received applicable to current expenses; consisting of sundry subscriptions, interest and dividends on stock,	-	-	-	\$2435	15
Amount received on account of Massachusetts Professorship,	-	-	-	800	
Do. Do. Do. Seabury Professorship,	-	-	-	110	
				<hr/>	
				\$3345	15

*Disbursements—viz.*

Paid Rev. Dr. Jarvis balance of salary,	-	1000	00
Professor Turner on account of salary,	-	900	00
Sundry bills for rent of rooms, furniture, stationary, printing, &c.	-	351	74
For ten shares Eagle Bank,	-	1000	00
Balance in treasury,	-	93	41
		<hr/>	
		\$3345	15

Of the aforesaid balance there is applicable to current expenses,	-	83	41
Seabury Professorship,	-	10	00
		<hr/>	
		\$93	41

Of the aforesaid 10 shares in Eagle Bank, 8 belong to the Massachusetts Professorship,	-	800	00
1 Seabury Professorship,	-	100	00
1 General Fund,	-	100	00
		<hr/>	
		\$1000	00

*New Haven, July 26, 1821.*

(Signed,) CHARLES DENNISON, *Treasurer.*”

No express provision was made by the last convention for the formation of a Theological library, but the trustees are happy to report that a valuable foundation has already been laid for one, which it is hoped may soon be commensurate with the wants of the institution. This has been chiefly effected by the liberality of a few individuals. A few books, for which there was a pressing necessity, have been purchased from the donation of a gentleman, who directed that it might be subject to such an expenditure. The library of the institution consists, at present, of more than 900 volumes—upwards of 300 of which are folios, and many of the books extremely rare and valuable. This is exclusive of a valuable collection of theological books, deposited for the use of the students, by a gentleman of Connecticut.

The legislature of Connecticut has passed an act, upon the petition of the trustees of the seminary, by which the institution is incorporated within that state, upon the same principles on which it was established by the convention, and with leave to hold funds to the amount of 200,000 dollars.

In concluding this report, the committee beg leave to express their hopes that the course which has been pursued by the board of trustees may meet the approbation of the convention, and that the progress and present state of the seminary may not be thought to have come short of the expectations which were entertained at the time of its establishment at New Haven.

*By the Committee,*

THOMAS C. BROWNELL, *Chairman,*

HARRY CROSWELL, *Secretary.*

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*Circular to the Bishops requesting a call of a Special Meeting  
of the General Convention.*

NEW HAVEN, MAY 25th, 1821.

*Right Reverend Sir,*

Mr. Jacob Sherred, late of the city of New York, died in March 1821, leaving by his will, dated the 28th of January 1820, to his executors, the Rev. John Cornelison, George Arcularius, and Jacob Lorillard, the residuum of his estate, after the payment of certain legacies, in trust for purposes which will appear from the following extract:



“ Item,—I give and bequeath unto my sister Elizabeth, the sum of ten thousand dollars of lawful money aforesaid, and in case my sister Elizabeth should not be living at my decease, then I give and bequeath the aforesaid legacy or sum of ten thousand dollars to the children or child of my said sister Elizabeth, living at my decease if any there shall be; to be equally divided among them, share and share alike, if more than one, and if but one child of my said sister Elizabeth shall be living at my decease, then the whole of the said legacy or sum of ten thousand dollars, to go to such child, to whom I give and bequeath the same accordingly. But inasmuch as I am ignorant whether my said sister Elizabeth is now living, and whether she hath, or hath not, left any children or child now living, not having heard from or of her in many years, and being ignorant of her place of residence, *my will is that unless the said legacy shall be claimed of my said Executors, by the said legatee or legatees, within the period or space of five years from and next immediately after my decease, the said legacy shall lapse,* and I do hereby absolutely revoke the same: and *the said sum of ten thousand dollars, together with any accumulation thereof as hereinafter mentioned, shall be subject to the residuary bequest hereinafter by me made.* And I do hereby order and direct my said executors, as soon as conveniently may be after my decease, to place at interest in their own name upon real security, or invest in the purchase of six per cent. or other public stocks of the United States, or of the state of New York, or the stock or stocks of banking or other incorporated companies, at their discretion, the aforesaid sum of ten thousand dollars, if the same shall not then yet be claimed by the aforesaid legatee or legatees, and in like manner, from time to time to invest or place at interest in like stock or securities, the interest or dividends of such stock or securities, in or upon which the said capital sum shall be so invested, until the said legacy shall be claimed by the said legatee or legatees as aforesaid, or until the expiration of the said period of five years from and next immediately after my decease as aforesaid, whichever shall first happen, so as to produce as great an accumulation of capital, as reasonably may be in the nature of compound interest, and if the said legacy shall be claimed by the said legatee or legatees within the said period of five years as aforesaid, then the same, together with such accumulation thereof shall be paid or transferred to such legatee or legatees as aforesaid, and if the same shall not be claimed, by the said legatee or legatees within such period as

aforesaid, then *the same, together with such accumulation thereof shall sink into and become part of my residuary estate, and shall go and be applied, according to the disposition hereinafter by me made of the same.* And as to all the rest, residue and remainder of my personal estate and effects, not otherwise disposed of by this my will, I give and bequeath the same, and every part thereof unto my said executors, their executors administrators and assigns, upon the trusts, and for the intents and purposes herein after expressed and declared of and concerning the same; that is to say, upon trust that they do and shall place the same to interest upon real security, or invest the same in the purchase of six per cent. or other public stock of the United States, or of the state of New York, or in the stock or stocks of banking or other incorporated companies at their discretion, and that they do and shall in like manner from time to time invest or place at interest in like stocks or securities, the interests or dividends arising thereon, so as to produce as great an accumulation of capital, as reasonably may be in the nature of compound interest *until there shall be established within the state of New York, under the direction, or by the authority of the General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, or of the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the state of New York, a college, academy, school or seminary, for the education of young men designed for holy orders in the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, and upon such college, academy, school or seminary being so established, then upon further trust, that they do and shall pay or transfer all such stock or securities to the trustees, directors or managers, for the time being of such college, academy, school or seminary, or their treasurer or other officer thereto authorised for the use and purposes of such college, academy, school or seminary, and for which the receipt of any three or more of such trustees, directors, or managers as my said executors shall in their discretion deem it expedient to require, or of such treasurer or other officer thereto authorised, shall be a sufficient discharge to my executors. Provided always, and my will is, and I do hereby declare that it shall and may be lawful to and for my said executors from time to time at their discretion, to call in the amount of, and to sell and transfer all or any such stocks or securities wherein or upon which the before mentioned legacies or bequests any or either of them shall be placed out or invested in pursuance of this my will or any part thereof respectively and again to*

place at interest or invest the same in other securities or stocks, as aforesaid, to vary, alter or transpose all or any such stocks or securities when were and so often as it shall by them be deemed expedient so to do. And that they or any of them shall not be answerable or accountable for the insufficiency or deficiency of any such stocks or securities.”

The amount of this residuary bequest, exclusive of the ten thousand dollars which may at the expiration of five years lapse and become a further endowment, is estimated at not less than seventy thousand dollars.

As soon as the conditions of this will were made known, the trustees of the General Theological Seminary resident in New York, in connexion with the agents appointed in that city for the purpose of obtaining subscriptions to the funds of the institution, deemed it their duty to take immediate measures to ascertain whether it was the intention of the testator to endow the institution with which they were connected. They accordingly sent exemplifications of the will to gentlemen learned in the law in various parts of the United States, requesting them to give their opinions on the matters at issue. A request was also made to the bishop of Connecticut by three Trustees, that he would summon a special meeting of the board for the purpose of receiving and comparing such opinions and taking such proper measures, as were or might be suggested by the same, in order to secure the bequest to the General Seminary. The Trustees have accordingly met, and have received the opinions, some written and some verbal, of many of the most distinguished jurists in the United States.

The two questions which are chiefly to be considered, are, First, whether a Seminary to be established within the state of New York, by the General Convention, will be entitled to the bequest, *in preference* to a Seminary established by the Convention of the state of New York; and if so, Secondly, what measures the General Convention ought to adopt to secure the bequest to its own Seminary.

Two constructions of the will are contended for. One is that the testator intended his bounty for a Seminary to be established within the state of New York, by the authority and under the direction of the General Convention; and that *in default* of that Convention to establish and assume the direction of such a Seminary, then that it should go to a Seminary there to be established, by the authority and under the direction of the Convention of the state of New York. The other construction is that the testator intended the bequest

for the Seminary which should be *first established* within the state of New York by the authority and under the direction of either Convention, whichever it might be that should first make the establishment.

The most obvious reasons assigned for the first construction are that the General Convention is first named, and may therefore reasonably be presumed to have been first and principally in the mind of the testator. The General Convention is the superior body, whose duty it is to prescribe the course of education and the qualifications of candidates for holy orders, and may well be supposed to have possessed the greatest share of the testator's confidence. A donation in trust to the superior body is more likely to be in accordance with the views and considerations which commonly influence donors than one to the inferior body. Any other construction leaves the testator's intention entirely doubtful on this point, and it is not probable that he named the two bodies, one of which was to establish and superintend the charity without intending a preference of one over the other.

On the other hand, it is contended, that the naming of the General Convention first does not denote a preference, because where two objects are mentioned for which there is no common term, one must necessarily be named before the other. The language also of the will is that the executors are to retain the fund in their hands and to reinvest the interest etc. "*until* there shall be established under the authority of the General Convention, *or* of the State Convention, a College or Seminary etc. and *upon* such College or Seminary being established, *then* to pay over to its Trustees."—The literal meaning it is contended of such language is, that whichever Convention should first establish a Seminary conformable to the description in the will, acquires a right to the legacy which cannot be taken away by the subsequent establishment of another. To this it is replied that from the very terms of the bequest it evidently appears that the Testator was in no hurry to establish a Seminary, since he speaks not only of an accumulation of interest, while the property continues in the hands of the executors, but also of an accumulation in the rate of compound interest, which implies its continuance in their hands at least two years after it is vested in the manner required by the testator.—And further it cannot reasonably be supposed that one who was so well known to love the prosperity and peace of the Church meant

to hold out his bequest as an invitation to the two Conventions to run a race, or enter into any contest, for the priority.

If a Seminary established by the General Convention within the state of New York be in equity entitled to the bequest, the second question which remains to be considered respects the measures to be adopted in order to secure it: Whether it be necessary or expedient to call a special meeting of the General Convention as soon as may conveniently be done.

As to the necessity of this measure, there is some diversity of opinion, among those who advocate the rights of the General Convention. Some are of opinion that the right will not lapse, unless the Convention at their next regular triennial meeting, should neglect to act upon the bequest; others on the contrary, think that the Convention is bound to assemble as soon as can conveniently be done.

But though there is a diversity of opinion as to the necessity of the measure of calling a special meeting of the General Convention, with regard to its expediency there seems to be little or no doubt. Some express themselves in stronger language than others; but most, if not all agree that a special meeting should immediately be called, and a Theological Seminary established under its direction and authority within the state of New York. This opinion has been greatly strengthened in the view of the Trustees, by the consideration that the interests of the present General Seminary, as well as those of all other parties concerned, require as speedily a decision of the question as possible. The exertions which have hitherto been made with considerable success for increasing the funds of the Institution, are now paralyzed, and must continue to be so, till it is known what course the General Convention will pursue. The Trustees therefore have felt it to be their duty, a duty which they owe to the Seminary of which they are the Guardians, a duty which they owe to their Brethren, to the Convention, and to the Church at large, to suggest the propriety of calling a special meeting of the General Convention in the manner prescribed by the 42. Canon, and as soon as can conveniently be done. In consequence of this conviction they have passed the following resolution, which they have directed us to transmit to you, with the present circular.

“Resolved, That in the opinion of the Board of Trustees it is expedient that a special meeting of the General Convention be called for the purpose of ascertaining whether any,

and what measures shall be taken in relation to the bequest of the late Jacob Sherred, Esq.”

T. C. BROWNELL, Chairman.

HARRY CROSWELL, Secretary.

\*.\* It being the opinion of Counsel that the requisition of the several Bishops for the call of a special meeting of the Convention should be uniform and should state the special object of such meeting, and that they should be preserved in the archives of the General Convention, therefore

Resolved, That the following form of a requisition be respectfully proposed to each of said Bishops as that which may be proper to send for the aforesaid purpose.

[DATE.]

*To the Rt. Rev. William White, D. D. presiding Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States.*

RT. REVEREND SIR,

In consequence of a communication received by me from the Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary of our Church, agreed to at a meeting of that body held at New Haven on the 24th and 25th days of May last, I have deemed it proper to request that a special meeting of the General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States may be called agreeably to the Forty-Second Canon of said Church; and that such special meeting be held at Philadelphia, at as a early a period as may be practicable, for the purpose of taking into consideration the last Will and Testament of Jacob Sherred Esq. and determining whether any, and what measures should be taken for the purpose of obtaining the legacy bequeathed by him for the purpose of educating Candidates for Holy Orders in said Church.

No. II.

*The Report of the Presiding Bishop, on certain Matters referred to him by the last General Convention, to take order.*

The house of clerical and lay deputies of the last General Convention, having requested of the house of bishops "to take measures for making known any errors or omissions in the octavo edition of the Book of Common Prayer, published by Hugh Gaine, in 1793, which was established by the 43d. Canon as the standard book, so that they may be avoided or supplied in future editions; and that they be also respectfully requested to correct and supply any errors or omissions in the calendar and tables prefixed thereto, and to extend the Table of the days on which Easter will fall for two cycles of the moon from the year of our Lord 1823 [erroneously in the printed journal 1813.]"

And the house of bishops having requested the presiding bishop, with such persons as he may think proper to associate with him, to take order on the said subject;

The presiding bishop respectfully reports to the house of bishops, as follows:

1st. He has carefully prepared and appends to this report a table for finding Easter extended through two cycles of the moon, from 1824 to 1861 inclusive.

2d. In the 3d. paragraph of the first of the tables for finding the holidays, to "1799," he has inserted 1899, omitting "and also the number 1." Consequently the 4th. paragraph has been omitted.

3d. In "the table of fasts," he has changed "the season of lent" to "the forty days of lent." The corrected error was not begun in Gaine's book, but may be found in that published by Hall & Sellers, in 1790, under the direction of a committee of the convention of 1789. In the proposed book, published by them, it was agreeable to the English editions. The error must have been an oversight of the committee, and makes an inconsistency of the table of fasts with that of feasts: the latter comprehending the sundays in lent, agreeably to the practice of the christian church in all ages.

4th. It was stated to the reporter by a member of the late and of the present convention [Wm. Meredith, Esq.] that in all our prayer books there was the omission of a note found in the English books, underneath the months of March and April, in the calendar, intended to show the use of the golden

numbers, in a column attached to the said months only. On investigating the subject, we found that the note was wanting in the prayer books edited before the adoption of the Gregorian style in 1751, but was found in all the succeeding editions consulted. From these circumstances it seems probable, that in making out the calendar for the American church, there was taken a book prior to the said date. The column, with the golden numbers, may have been called for at the crisis of the change of style; but, as it is insufficient for the finding of Easter, from its not showing how the golden numbers are to be found; and as this, with the whole process for the finding of the said festival, is provided for by a table appropriated to that object; it was thought proper to omit the column and the figures included in it.

5th. In ascertaining errors in Mr. Hugh Gaine's book of 1793, your reporter has been kindly assisted by Mr. Wm. Hall, who printed the proposed book in 1785 & 6. He has furnished the list of errors appended to this report, besides noting various places, in which the sense may suffer from the want of stops, or from their being injudiciously placed.

6th. In addition to sundry errors in editions proposed to be made according to H. Gaine's book, some of the editions have framed the tables of contents, according to their respective judgments, and not according to the standard, which ends with "The Psalter, or Psalms of David," not including the metre Psalms. It must be evident, that the comprehending of any document under the same cover with the *Book of Common Prayer*, does not constitute it a part thereof, although set forth under the same authority. As much misunderstanding and inconvenience may arise from the misnomers stated, the matter is noticed, with the hope of its being a caution against the like mistake in future.

7th. In consequence of information received of several editions now proceeding from presses, it has been thought proper to communicate to the printers what the reporter has done, under the authority given to him to take order.

He concludes with submitting to the house the propriety of establishing a standard book, to supersede that of H. Gaine, of which the known copies are very few. In the event of such a measure, he proposes to the house, that an edition be taken from the stereotype plates, belonging to the *Common Prayer Book Society of Pennsylvania*. A committee to be appointed by both houses, to act during the recess, for the accomplishing of this object.

WM. WHITE, Pres. Bp.



**A TABLE**

Of the Days on which Easter will fall for 38 years, being the Time of two Cyclea of the Moon.

Year of our Lord.	Golden Number.	Epact.	Sunday Letter.	Easter Day.
1824	1	0	DC	April 18
5	2	11	B	3
6	3	22	A	March 26
7	4	3	G	April 15
8	5	14	FE	6
9	6	25	D	19
30	7	6	C	11
1	8	17	B	3
2	9	28	AG	22
3	10	9	F	7
4	11	20	E	March 30
5	12	1	D	April 19
6	13	12	CB	3
7	14	23	A	March 26
8	15	4	G	April 15
9	16	15	F	March 31
40	17	26	ED	April 19
1	18	7	C	11
2	19	18	B	March 27
3	1	0	A	16
4	2	11	GF	April 7
5	3	22	E	March 23
6	4	3	D	April 12
7	5	14	C	4
8	6	25	BA	23
9	7	6	G	8
50	8	17	F	March 31
1	9	28	E	April 20
2	10	9	DC	11
3	11	20	B	March 27
4	12	1	A	April 16
5	13	12	G	8
6	14	23	FE	March 23
7	15	4	D	April 12
8	16	15	C	4
9	17	26	B	24
60	18	7	AG	8
1	19	18	F	March 31

## CORRECTIONS OF H. GAINÉ'S BOOK.

*Contents*, 2d. column, last line, for instruction—instruction.

*Prayers, &c.* Prayer in Time of Dearth and Famine, after “behold,” for “We”—“we.”

*Collects, &c.* 1st. in Advent, for “ought”—“ought”

Wednesday before Easter 7th. column, 5th. and 4th. line, from bottom, for “ye” — “you.”

Thursday before Easter, for “to day”—“to-day.”

Tuesday in Easter week, for “witensses”—“witnesses.”

4th. Sunday of Easter, Gospel, line 3, for “him”—“me.”

St. John the Evangelist. Epistle, line 21, for “by”—“be.”

St. John Baptist. Epistle. line 3, before “loved”—“have.”

Psalm 18. 10 for “road”—“rode.”

“ 33. 8. for “goldly”—“godly.”

“ 44. 1. for “ast”—“cast.”

“ 45. 17. for “in stead”—“instead.”

“ 47. 5. before “let”—“yea.”

“ 74. 16. for “rocks”—“rock.”

“ 78. 15. for “day time”—“daytime.”

“ “ 71. for “choose”—“chose.”

“ 90. 5. for “a sleep”—“asleep.”

“ 144. 4. for “nought”—“naught.”

“ 147. 14. before “flour”—“the.”

No. III.

The presiding bishop reports to the house of bishops, in reference to the society for foreign and domestic missions, instituted at the last general convention, that owing as he supposes, to the state in which the business of that body was concluded, neither were the intended managers constitutionally chosen, nor had any bishop a right to a seat or a vote at their board: although doubtless, the contrary was supposed to have been provided for by the convention generally.

The intended managers perceived these defects, and have not carried the design into effect. They have reported their proceedings to the house of clerical and lay deputies; and the presiding bishop judges it to be sufficient to refer this house to their report.

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*To the house of clerical and lay deputies, of the General Convention, of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in the United States of America,*

THE MANAGERS OF THE MISSIONARY SOCIETY

*Respectfully report,*

That soon after the adjournment, of the last General Convention, they proceeded to organize themselves, as a board for the transaction of business. At this time it was discovered with regret, that although the constitution, intended for the government of the Missionary Society, provided, that the presiding bishop of the church should be its president, and the other bishops vice presidents, in the order of seniority, yet no provision had been made, by which the bishops were authorized, either to sit, or vote, with the board of managers. This circumstance could only be regarded as an oversight, unintended on the part of the house of clerical and lay deputies, and overlooked by the house of bishops, when the constitution was before them, and received their approbation. The embarrassment of the managers in relation to this subject, was much relieved, when it was ascertained, that the presiding bishop, viewed the subject in the same light, and that he was willing to sit with the board, and preside at its meetings.

Among the first acts of the managers, after they began to execute the highly responsible trust reposed in them, was to announce the formation of the society, to those institutions in England, belonging to our own church, which are employed in different ways in promoting the interest of the Redeem-

er's kingdom. Letters were written, to the secretaries of the three following societies. "The Society for propagating the Gospel in foreign parts." "The Society for promoting Christian knowledge." "And the Church Missionary Society." Answers have been received, from the Rev. Anthony Hamilton, secretary of the Society for propagating the gospel in foreign parts, and from the Rev. Josiah Pratt, secretary of the church Missionary Society. Both of the Rev. Gentlemen, in behalf of the societies which they represent, express great satisfaction in the establishment of a society, for missionary purposes in the American branch of the Episcopal Church. Accompanying the letter of the Rev. Mr. Hamilton, the six last reports of the society, of which he is the secretary, were received. And at different times, several packages, have come to hand, from the Church Missionary Society, containing their reports, Missionary Registers, and other publications calculated to give information upon the subject of Missions. In one of these parcels were contained several complete sets of the Reports of the society, and of the Missionary Register, from the commencement of its publication, intended for the use of the bishops in the United States--which have been forwarded to them accordingly. It will no doubt be gratifying to the convention, as it was to the managers to learn, that the last mentioned society, as an evidence of its good wishes, for our success, has voted an appropriation of two hundred pounds sterling (supposing the society here to be in operation) which awaits the order of those, who may be authorized to receive it. As these letters may be interesting to the convention, they are herewith submitted.

At an early period, the managers appointed a committee, to devise a plan by which, the designs of the convention, might most effectually be attained. After due deliberation upon the subject, it was thought advisable, to prepare an address, to the members of the church, informing them of the measures, which had been adopted; urging by suitable considerations the important duty of sending the gospel to the destitute, and requesting their co-operation, by the formation of auxiliary societies and associations. Such an address was prepared, and printed in one or two periodical publications, when it was discovered, that by reason of an informality in the mode of our appointment, we had been acting without authority. The informality referred to, will be perceived, upon referring to the Journal of the last convention.

When this circumstance was known, the managers were at a loss, to determine whether, they should continue to act,

under an informal appointment, or suspend all further proceedings—To pursue the one course might subject them to censure, to adopt the other, seemed like abandoning an object, in which they believed, the members of the church felt much interested. At this time letters were written, to the Rt. Rev. the bishops, requesting their opinion upon the subject. Answers were received from all except the bishop of New York. Some of them were decidedly in favour of our proceeding, while a majority thought it in-expedient; this decided the matter, and all thought of continuing to act as a board, under the authority of the convention, was given up.

Under the circumstances above described, the managers would probably have stayed all further proceedings, had not an idea been suggested, which appeared to promise a happier result—It was thought that if the members of the board would consent to form themselves, into an association, and could obtain the sanction of the bishops, they might at least make some preparation for their more efficient action, at a future day. Letters were accordingly written to the absent members of the board, all of whom except judge Washington, readily consented to the proposition, and he requested that if the unanimous consent of the board of managers, was deemed essential, that his might be considered as given. Nothing now seemed wanting but the approbation of the Rt. Rev. the bishops, to the proposed plan. They were written to with a view of obtaining it, but in this the managers were not successful. From this time the board have not met, until within a few days, when they were called together, to prepare this their report, all of which is respectfully submitted to the house of clerical and lay deputies, in convention assembled.

JOHN READ, *President.*

R. S. SMITH, *Secretary.*

*Philadelphia, October 30th 1821.*

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*To the Rev. George Boyd.*

*Church Missionary House.*

*London, Sept 21st 1820.*

DEAR SIR,

I feel much satisfaction in acknowledging your letter of the 9th ultimo, and a copy of the Journal of the General Convention of the American Church.

“Our committee cordially rejoice in the formation of the Protestant Episcopal Society in the United States for Domestic and Foreign Missions.” They accept with pleasure your invitation to carry on a correspondence and interchange of publications with you. Feeling as we do the extent and arduousness of the work in which we are engaged, to extend the blessings of the Gospel to a world that lieth in error and in sin, we hail with gratitude every auxiliary which comes forward to take part in it. It is, however, with peculiar feelings of satisfaction that we witness the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States embodying itself into a Society, for the purpose of concentrating its strength and rendering its exertions more efficient in this Holy Cause. Though we wish well to the labours of other bodies of Christians to extend the Redeemer’s Kingdom; yet, as Episcopalians, we especially rejoice in the prospect of seeing the Churches gathered from among the Heathen settled on those foundations, which, we are persuaded, are at once more scriptural and better suited to promote the best interests of mankind.

In testimony of our disposition to impart to your Society all the missionary information in our power, we are preparing a package of our publications for your use. One parcel is addressed to each of the Bishops, which the committee request their acceptance of; and the remainder we place at the disposal of the Managers of the Society to be made use of, in such manner as they deem most subservient to its interests.

Copies of a work containing a summary view of the Society for the propagation of the Gospel in Foreign parts are also sent; as it supplies most conclusive and eloquent arguments in behalf of missions, from authorities which members of an Episcopal Church will be likely to respect. It was compiled by me, chiefly from documents in the library of our own Society; and we were glad of the opportunity of putting forth a work which might serve the Society in its collections throughout the Kingdom, and at the same time testify our respect and regard to the elder body among us.

We have received the Episcopal Magazine of the United States from January to April inclusive, and shall be thankful for the numbers in continuation.

A single pamphlet forwarded through the post office, so done up that the parcel is open at the ends, will not be subjected to the full postage. I mention this circumstance, as we

have been subject to very heavy charges at the post office, in consequence of our friends in America not being aware of it.

I remain, Dear Sir,  
with much respect,  
ever faithfully yours,

JOSIAH PRATT.

P. S. I should have stated above, that any number of the "Quarterly papers" may be obtained of Mr. Seeley, No 169 Fleet Street, should you wish for more than we have forwarded to you. I would just add, that when your Society comes into active operation, you will, probably, find it advantageous yourselves to prepare and put forth some such paper.

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REV. SIR,

I am instructed by the Society for the propagation of the Gospel in foreign parts to acknowledge the receipt of your letter announcing the foundation of the Protestant Episcopal Missionary Society in the United States.—The board are anxious to express their earnest wishes for the success of your Society in their laudable endeavours; and to invite further communications as opportunities may present themselves. They beg you to accept for the use of the Protestant Episcopal Missionary Society in the United States copies of their six last reports, with an assurance of the satisfaction they have derived from your important communication.

I am Rev. Sir,

Your obedient servant

ANTHONY HAMILTON,  
*Secretary of the Society, P. G. F.*

No 42 Castle Street, Leicester Square.

November 23d 1820.

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*To the Rev. George Boyd.*

*Church Missionary House,  
London, July 10th 1821.*

DEAR SIR,

Bishop Griswold having suggested to me in a letter under date of the 16th November last, but which did not reach me till the 12th ultimo, that the Protestant Episcopal Missionary Society in the United States for foreign and domestic missions, is desirous to avail itself of the offer, conveyed in a letter of mine to the Bishop under date of July 31st 1817, to afford pecuniary aid to such an Institution on its formation,

the Bishop's letter was laid before our committee yesterday; and they came to a unanimous resolution to grant L200sterling to the Institution for its effective establishment.

You will therefore have the kindness to inform the Directors of the Society that that sum awaits their appropriation, at such period and in such manner as they may deem expedient.

I have much pleasure in making this communication, and in assuring you of the cordial satisfaction felt by our committee in thus co-operating with their Episcopal Brethren in the United States, in promoting the extension of the Redeemer's Kingdom among the Heathen.

We hope you receive our registers and other publications regularly. They are forwarded monthly to your address, through Messrs. Morrall and Watson, Liverpool.

We shall at all times be glad to hear of the plans and operations of your Society.

I remain, Dear Sir,  
faithfully yours,

JOSIAH PRATT.

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#### NO. IV.

##### *Concerning the last Rubric in the Communion Service.*

The house of bishops being informed of what they consider as a great misunderstanding, in various places, of the rubric at the end of the communion service, think it their duty to declare their sense of the same, and to communicate it to the house of clerical and lay deputies.

In the Common Prayer Book of the church of England, the words in the parenthesis are—"if there be no communion." In the review of 1789, it was put—"if there be no sermon or communion"—and this has been interpreted to mean, that if there be a sermon, what has been called the ante-communion service is to be omitted—Against this construction the bishops object as follows—

1st. The construction rests on inference; deduced in contrariety to the positive direction—"Then shall follow the sermon." Had an exception been intended, it would doubtless have been expressed positively, as in other rubrics. Further; the rubric in question prescribes, that "when there is a communion, the minister shall return to the Lord's table:" which presumes him to have been there before, in the ante-communion service, unless in the permitted alternative of some other place.



2d. The argument on the other side proves too much, and therefore nothing. It is said of those who urge it, that they conceive themselves bound to use the whole service on a communion day: whereas it should be dispensed with, on the same principle on which it is supposed to be superseded by the sermon. On the other hand, if there being either a sermon or the communion should be thought to warrant the omission; can it be, that the convention designed to leave in the book the ante-communion service, with all the collects, the gospels, and the epistles attached to them, to be little more than dead letter; never to be used, except on the few occasions, when the said service is unconnected with either of the said provisions? For, it is not required to be used, either with the morning or with the evening prayer.

3d. There is a rubric, prescribing the place in the service, at which notice shall be given of holidays, &c. Can it be supposed, that a provision of this sort, was intended to be done away, not professedly, but indirectly? and that even there should be no provision for notifying the communion?

4th. It is understood, that the morning prayer, and the administration, of the communion were designed to be distinct services, to be used at different times of the day. Probably, at the time of the reformation, the practice was generally conformable to the provision; and it is said to prevail at present in some places in England. Now, although there is probably no church in the United States of which the same can be affirmed; yet, why raise a bar against so reasonable and so godly a practice? an effort for which, would reduce the whole to the sermon; except, when the communion were to be administered: and then, there would be the latter part of the service only.

5th. The construction casts a blemish on the observance of every festival of our church. To speak in particular of Easter Sunday, Whitsunday, and Christmas day: can it be supposed, that the convention intended to abrogate the reading of the portions of scripture, the most pertinent of any in the Bible? or that the members of the body were so careless, as not to perceive the effect of the word introduced by them into the parenthesis? Neither of these was the case; although they had not the sagacity to foresee the use which would be made of their superaddition: a use, which may be applied hereafter to the abandoning of the observance of those festivals. For why should the church retain them, after dispensing with whatever is attached to them in the respective services. The remark applies equally to the two days of fasting or abstinence

—Good Friday and Ash Wednesday. It is here supposed, that on the former, there are the service and sermons in all our churches furnished with the ministry. But according to the opposite opinion, the sermon dispenses with the recital of the consummation of our Saviour's sufferings, and not only on Good Friday, but on every day of passion week, if there be sermons. Could this have been intended?

6th. There is the magnitude of the change thus made in the liturgy, without the subjecting of the resulting consequences to the consideration of any General Convention: for this is here affirmed, without the apprehension of contradiction from any of the surviving members. The most obvious of the consequences, and such as could not have escaped the notice of the least attentive, were, the dispensing with the reading of the Ten Commandments; the weekly return of which may well be thought to have a beneficial effect on morals; and the deranging of a selection of passages of scripture, always supposed to have been made with great judgment, and suited to the different seasons of the year. They were of like use in the church, before the prevalence of the corruptions of the Papacy; have withstood, in some measure, its systematic hostility to a general knowledge of the scriptures; and, probably, have prevented a greater enormity of unevangelical error, than what we now find: for although the selections were in Latin, they were at least instructive to the many who understood the language, at a time when even among that description of people, the possession of a Bible was rare. To the present day, they are held in high esteem, not only by our parent church, but by the Lutheran churches of Sweden, of Denmark, of sundry German principalities, and of this country. In some of the European States, the subject of the sermon is expected to be taken from the epistle, or from the gospel for the Sunday. There seems no reasonable objection, in any future review of the Liturgy, to the making of some abbreviation, suited to the joining of services designed to be distinct: but there may be doubted the expediency of making so great an inroad as that projected on the service now in question.

7th. The ante-communion service continued to be used as before, by the clergy who were present in the convention, in which it is now imagined to have been dispensed with. It is confidently believed, that there was not an exception of an individual; although, on the other side, the major number must be supposed to have been desirous of the innovation. In the interpretation of a law, immediate practice

under it has been held to be a good expositor: especially when, as in the present case, a contrary sense had not been heard of for a long course of years.

The question may occur—why did the convention introduce the words, “Sermon or,” into the parenthesis? It was to reconcile the other rubric referred to, with frequent and allowable practice. The said rubric says—“then shall follow the sermon.” Perhaps, when the service was compiled there was a sermon on every saint’s day, as well as on every principal festival. In modern usage, it has been otherwise: which made it convenient to provide for the ministers proceeding to the blessing. The parenthesis means, that although there be no sermon, or although there be no communion, the minister shall act as directed by the rubric.

The bishops therefore deem it their duty to express the decided opinion, that the rubrics of the communion service, as well as other general considerations enjoin the use of that part which precedes the sermon, on all occasions of sermon or communion, as well as on those festivals and fasts, when neither sermon nor communion occurs.



## NO. V.

*The Constitution of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in the United States of America.*

### ART. I.

This institution shall be denominated the *Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in the United States of America.*

### ART. II.

It shall be composed of the bishops of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and of the members of the house of clerical and lay deputies of the General Convention of said church, for the time being; and of such other persons, as shall contribute, by subscription, three dollars, or more, annually to the objects of the institution, during the continuance of such contributions; and of such as shall contribute at once thirty dollars, which contribution shall constitute them members for life.

Members who pay fifty dollars, on subscribing, shall be denominated patrons of the society.

It shall be the privilege of the subscribers, to designate, on their subscriptions, to which of the objects, domestic, or foreign, they desire their contributions to be applied. If no specification be made, the board of directors, may apply them to either, or both, at their discretion.

### ART. III.

The society shall meet triennially, at the place, in which the General Convention, shall hold its session. The time of meeting shall be on the first day of the session, at five o'clock, P. M.

A sermon shall be preached, and a collection made in aid of the funds of the society, at such time, during the session of the Convention, as may be determined at the annual meeting: the preacher to be appointed by the house of bishops.

### ART. IV.

The presiding bishop of this church, shall be president of the society; the other bishops, according to seniority, vice presidents. There shall be two secretaries, and twenty-four directors, who shall be chosen, by ballot, at each meeting.

### ART. V.

The directors, together with the president, vice presidents, and patrons of the society—who shall, *ex officio*, be directors—shall compose a body to be denominated the Board of Directors of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in the United States of America. They shall meet annually in the city of Philadelphia, except in the year of the meeting of the General Convention, when they shall assemble at the place of the meeting thereof. *Nine* members of the board of directors shall be necessary to constitute a quorum to do business.

The meetings of the board of directors shall always be opened with using a form of prayer to be set forth by the house of bishops for that purpose, or one or more suitable prayers selected from the liturgy.

### ART. VI.

At the annual meetings, all missionary stations, appointments of missionaries, and appropriations of money, and all

by-laws necessary for their own government, and for conducting the affairs of the missions, shall be made; provided, that all appointments of missionaries shall be with the approbation of the bishops present. Special meetings may be called by the president, or by one of the vice presidents, as often as may be necessary to carry into effect, the resolutions adopted at the annual meetings of the board; at which special meetings, *seven* members, including the president or one of the vice presidents, shall be a quorum to transact business.

The board of directors, whether at their annual or special meetings, may appoint such committees as may be necessary or useful.

#### ART. VII.

There shall be annually appointed a treasurer and two members of the society, who together shall be termed trustees of the permanent fund.

The treasurer shall receive all contributions which shall be made to the society, and enter them in detail, distinguishing between what may be contributed for domestic, and what for foreign purposes, if any such distinction should be made; and present a statement of his accounts annually, or oftener, if required, to the board of directors. He shall not pay monies unless on an order from the board, signed by the president, or in his absence, by the senior vice president, who may attend the meeting, when such order is given.

Twenty per cent of all monies, which shall be contributed, to carry into effect the objects of the institution, shall be vested by the trustees, in their own name, as officers of the society, in some safe and productive stock, to constitute a permanent fund. The residue of the contributions, with the interest arising from the permanent fund, shall be appropriated to the objects, for which the society was formed.

#### ART. VIII.

The board of directors, at their annual meetings, shall take such measures as they may deem proper, to establish auxiliary societies in any diocese, with the advice and consent of the bishop of the same; to secure patronage, and to enlarge the funds of the institution. The bishop of every diocese shall be president of the auxiliary societies organized within it.

**ART. IX.**

In any diocese or district where there is a bishop or an ecclesiastical body duly constituted under the authority of the convention of the same for missionary purposes, aid may be given in money; but the appointment of the missionary shall rest with the bishop or ecclesiastical body aforesaid. He shall act under their direction; and shall render to them a report of his proceedings, copies of which shall be forwarded to this society.

**ART. X.**

The board of directors shall, at every meeting of the society, present a detailed report of their proceedings; which, if approved and adopted by the society, shall, on the next day, be presented by their president, to the General Convention, as the report of the society.

**ART. XI.**

The present convention shall elect, by ballot, the twenty-four directors and the two secretaries, provided for, by the 4th article, to act till the first stated meeting of the society; and the first meeting of the board of directors shall take place at Philadelphia, on the third Wednesday in November instant.

**ART. XII.**

It is recommended to every member of this society, to pray to Almighty God, for his blessing upon its designs, under the full conviction, that unless he direct us in all our doings, with his most gracious favour, and further us, with his continual help, we cannot reasonably hope, either to procure suitable persons to act as missionaries, or expect that their endeavours will be successful.

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**NO. VI.**

**CANON PASSED IN GENERAL CONVENTION, IN 1821.**

**CANON.**

*Providing for a new, more complete and correct standard of the Book of Common Prayer.*

The edition of the Book of Common Prayer to be chosen by the committee appointed by this Convention, and authenti-

ated by their certificate shall, after the publication thereof, be taken and received as the standard with which all new editions are thereafter to be compared, for the purpose of correction, agreeably to the xliii canon—and so much of the said canon as establishes another standard of the Book of Common Prayer, shall thereafter be and remain repealed.

Done in General Convention, in the city of Philadelphia, in the year of our Lord, 1821.

*By order of the House of Bishops.*

WILLIAM WHITE, *Presiding Bishop.*

*Attested, WM. AUGUSTUS MUHLENBERG, Secretary.*

*By order of the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies.*

WM. H. WILMER, *President.*

*Attested, ASHBEL BALDWIN, Secretary.*

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#### ERRATA.

Accidentally omitted, p. 19, at the first meeting of the House of Bishops, the Rt. Rev. Alexander V. Griswold, Bishop of the Eastern Diocess.

Page 21, line 25, for “concurréd,” read *concurréd in.*