

MINUTES  
OF THE  
**Shiawassee Baptist Association.**

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THE Thirtieth annual meeting of the Shiawassee Baptist Association convened with the Church in Ovid, Wednesday, June 2d, 1869, at 10½ o'clock A. M.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator, Rev. H. A. Rose.

Prayer was offered by Rev. A. T. Rose.

The Introductory sermon was then preached by Rev. L. Church, from Isaiah 43:10—"Ye are my witnesses."

After the sermon, a collection was taken up for the general fund of the Baptist State Convention, amounting to \$14.02.

The following officers were chosen for the ensuing year :

*Moderator*—Rev. Geo. H. Hickox.

*Clerk*—Rev. Theo. Nelson.

*Assistant Clerk*—Dea. John O. Palmer.

*Corresponding Secretary*—Rev. H. A. Rose.

*Treasurer*—Dea. John O. Palmer.

The Moderator announced the committee on Religious Services, as follows :

Revs. H. A. Rose, L. Church and G. W. Jenks.

A letter was then read from the Ovid Church, extending a welcome to the Association.

The committee on Religious Services reported in part : That the Association meet at 1½ o'clock P. M., to listen to the letters from the churches ; that we have preaching at 3½ o'clock P. M.

Prayer by Rev. D. W. Robertson ; and the Association took a recess until 1½ o'clock P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Association called to order by the Moderator.

Prayer by Bro. Geo. Foreman.

The rules of order were then read.

On motion, visiting brethren were invited to a seat with the Associ-

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ation; accepted by Rev. J. T. Hough, Sacramento City, Cal.; Rev. L. B. Fish, of Baptist Publication Society; Rev. A. T. Rose, Burmah Baptist Mission; Rev. A. E. Mather, Superintendent of Missions; Rev. R. B. Stanton, of N. Y.; Prof. H. L. Wayland, of Kalamazoo; and Rev. J. N. Dayton, of the Methodist Church, Ovid.

The committee on Religious Services reported further:

1st. That Rev. R. B. Stanton preach at 3½ o'clock P. M.

2d. That Rev. A. E. Mather, Superintendent of Missions, be allowed so much of the evening session as he shall desire, to present the cause of Home Missions; to be followed by Rev. A. T. Rose, of the Burmah Mission, in a presentation of the claims of Foreign Missions.

The letters from the different churches represented in the Association, were then read.

The following committees were announced by the Moderator:

*Circular Letter*—A. McLean, J. O. Palmer, E. Cook.

*Digest of Letters*—T. Nelson, L. West, O. B. Call.

*Resolutions*—G. M. Reynolds, B. J. Boynton, T. W. Merrill, E. E. White, D. W. Robertson, J. McLeod.

*Nominations*—A. P. Sutterley, D. Place, T. Nelson, Geo. Foreman, J. Kanouse, L. Hayes, N. Lyman, D. W. Robertson, L. Church, T. W. Merrill, H. Ousterhout, E. Cook, C. A. Osborn, E. M. Potter, E. Comstock, L. F. Burr, Wm. Bancroft, H. Miner, A. M. Parmater.

Business suspended for religious service.

Prayer by Rev. H. A. Rose; sermon by Rev. R. B. Stanton, from 2 Cor. 5:21.

A Collection was taken up for the Publication Society, amounting to \$16.31.

Adjourned to meet at 7½ o'clock P. M.

Prayer by Rev. J. T. Hough.

#### EVENING SESSION.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment, and was called to order by the Moderator.

Prayer by Rev. B. J. Boynton.

Rev. A. E. Mather then made an appeal in behalf of Home Missions, followed by Rev. A. T. Rose in behalf of Foreign Missions.

Collection taken for Home Missions, amounting, in cash and pledges, to \$138.55.

Committee on Religious Services reported further, That we meet to-morrow morning at 8½ o'clock for devotional exercises; business at 9 o'clock; sermon at 11 o'clock, by Rev. T. Nelson.

Association adjourned.

Prayer by Bro. C. A. VanDorn.

## THURSDAY MORNING SESSION.

Association called to order by the Moderator.

Prayer by Dea. E. Comstock.

Committee appointed to visit the church at Wacousta reported, that they had been unable to attend to that duty, and recommended that another committee be appointed for that purpose.

Report accepted.

The following resolutions, reported by the committee, were then adopted :

*Resolved*, That other conditions being the same, the power of the gospel ministry is in proportion to its cultivation, and, therefore, we earnestly commend our College and Theological Seminary, at Kalamazoo, and our Michigan Baptist Educational Society, to the sympathy and support of the Association.

*Resolved*, That the American Baptist Publication Society, which is scattering the good seed of the Kingdom broad-cast throughout this Association, this state and the wide world, with a consecration and efficiency equalled only in the primitive age, demands from us our unceasing and ardent prayers, and our most enlarged liberality.

*Resolved*, That the essential and characteristic spirit of the gospel is a missionary spirit, and therefore, the best measure of individual or collective love of Christ is the effort made and the money given to save men to Christ; therefore, we should redouble our efforts to encourage and sustain our Home and Foreign missionary societies.

*Resolved*, That we earnestly recommend the *Macedonian* and *Record* to the cordial support of all our churches.

*Resolved*, That Sunday school temperance societies are the best instrumentalities by which to save the coming generations from the curse of intemperance; and, therefore, we recommend the organization of such societies in connection with all our Sunday schools.

*Resolved*, That we ask the Baptist Publication Society to publish a weekly Sunday school paper.

*Resolved*, That we earnestly recommend that each church of the Association support a Baptist Sunday school.

*Resolved*, That our hearty thanks and gratitude are due our brethren and friends of Ovid, for their generous Christian hospitality and kindness.

*Resolved*, That we tender our heartfelt thanks to our Methodist brethren for the use of their beautiful and commodious house of worship on this occasion.

Rev. H. A. Rose presented the following resolutions, which were adopted :

*Resolved*, That it is no part of the work of the Superintendent of Missions to use the influence of his position to crush our home paper.

*Resolved*, That we have a deep sense of the value of Ministers' Institutes, and that we express the hope that the next Institute may be held at some point on the line of the D. & M. R. R.

On motion, a committee was appointed to make arrangements for a Ministers' Institute, consisting of the following brethren: T. Nelson, H. A. Rose, B. J. Boynton.

Dea. J. O. Palmer presented the following resolutions, which were adopted :

*Resolved*, That we appoint a committee on Sunday School Work, who shall, if practicable, procure a suitable person to labor within the bounds of the Asso-

ciation as S. S. Missionary, under the patronage of the American Baptist Publication Society.

*Resolved*, That the committee on Sunday School Work make the necessary arrangements for holding three S. S. Institutes during the year, within the bounds of the Association.

G. H. Hickox, H. A. Rose and J. O. Palmer were appointed such committee.

The committee on Nominations made the following report, which was adopted :

1. That the Association meet next year with the church at DeWitt.
2. That Rev. G. W. Reynolds preach the introductory sermon, and that Rev. B. J. Boynton be his alternate.
3. That Rev. Geo. H. Hickox write the circular letter.
4. That the semi-annual meeting be held at Okemos, on the first Wednesday in November, and that Rev. D. W. Robertson preach the sermon.
5. That Brethren O. B. Call, D. W. Robertson, A. M. Parmater and G. W. Reynolds be our delegates to the state convention.

Business suspended to listen to preaching. Introductory service conducted by Rev. B. J. Boynton and Prof. H. L. Wayland. Sermon by Rev. T. Nelson, from Mathew 10:38.

After sermon, Rev. A. T. Rose was called upon to speak in behalf of Foreign Missions ; but, owing to the lateness of the hour, declined to make any extended remarks.

A collection was taken up for Foreign Missions amounting to \$9.30.

The Moderator thanked the members of the Association for their hearty co-operation in preserving order and dispatching business.

Adjourned to meet with the Baptist Church at Dewitt, on the first Wednesday of June, 1870, at 10½ o'clock A. M.

Benediction by Rev. A. T. Rose.

#### *STANDING RESOLUTIONS.*

*Resolved*, That the Treasurer be instructed to pay over all moneys that are, or may come into into his hands, to the several agents to whom said money belongs, and take a receipt thereof.

*Resolved*, That any member of this Association, whose name is in the minutes, present at the meeting of any Association with which we correspond, shall be a delegate to that body.

*Resolved*, That the Corresponding Secretary be instructed to forward the minutes to each Association and corresponding body in the state.

## DIGEST OF LETTERS.

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**ALMA.**—Have enjoyed a year of peace. Though weak, are trusting still in God. Sustain preaching each alternate Sabbath. Are engaged in an interesting union Sunday school.

**ANTRIM.**—Rejoice in temporal and spiritual blessings. Covenant meetings quite well attended. Preaching every Lord's day by Elder Lowden. Two converts recently added to their number by baptism.

**BINGHAM.**—Have great reason to be thankful to the "Father of all Mercies" for his preserving care. Their own efforts have been attended with too little zeal and glowing love, and hence their progress is slow. Enjoy the labors of Bro. George Foreman, who preaches quite acceptably to them, once in two weeks.

**BENGAL.**—Have passed through trials and darkness; but their confidence in God remains unshaken. Bro. George Foreman preaches for them once in two weeks. Sustain a prayer meeting and have organized a Sunday school.

**BURNS AND CONOCTAH.**—Have had the benefit of the faithful labors of Rev. G. W. Jenks, which have been attended with evident tokens of divine favor. By the invitation of the Presbyterian brethren of Byron, occupy their house of worship one half the time, but are expecting to build a meeting house of their own soon. Aid in four union Sunday schools.

**BATH.**—Have not been blessed with a revival, but enjoy the presence of the Spirit in their meetings. Are building a house of worship which they hope to complete this year. Rev. D. W. Robertson labors with them one half the time.

**DEWITT.**—Death has taken another faithful member, Bro. Watson Cronkrite. Have had some trials, but God has graciously poured out his Spirit, and numbers have been added to the church by baptism and experience. Pastor, Rev. D. W. Robertson.

**EMERSON.**—Last January, commenced a series of meetings under the leadership of their pastor, Rev. L. Church, which resulted in the addition of twenty-two to their membership—many of them heads of families. Covenant meetings well attended, and are seasons of joy to their hearts. Are aiding in two union Sunday schools, one of which is mainly sustained by their efforts.

**ITHACA.**—Have a convenient and commodious house of worship nearly ready for dedication; have occupied the basement since last January. Enjoy harmony and fellowship in the gospel of Christ. Have a flourishing Sunday school.

**CORUNNA.**—The past year has been one of prosperity. Under the direction of Rev. H. A. Rose their church organization was more fully completed. A series of meetings, last winter, resulted in some conversions. A Sunday school, organized by Rev. L. B. Fish, now numbers one hundred and forty members. Death has removed from them two faithful members, Dea. Wheden and Bro. Perrin.

**LANSING.**—Express their love for the cause of Christ. Cannot go back from the mission of truth in which they are called of God to labor. During the past year their strength, faith and hope have been tried; but by the grace of God have been enabled to endure. Send Christian greeting to all the churches, and bid the Association God speed in all its duties.

**OVID.**—Cordially welcome the Association to their house of worship and their homes. Though their pastor, Rev. A. W. Barker, has been prostrated by sickness, and unable to labor a portion of the time, they have sustained regular worship. Have visited the baptismal waters two or three times. Owing to failing health, Bro. Barker has been obliged to resign, and Rev. H. A. Rose is supplying them until they can settle a pastor. Expect to enlarge their meeting house this year. Sustain an interesting Sunday school.

**Owosso.**—For two years have had no settled pastor. Have been most of the time acceptably supplied with preaching on the Sabbath, yet the cause has languished, and covenant and prayer meetings have been thinly attended. Have recently settled Rev. B. J. Boynton as pastor. Sustain a Sunday school which has an average attendance of sixty scholars.

**OKEMOS.**—Have enjoyed no special revival influence, yet are making some progress. Rev. G. H. Hickox preaches each alternate Sunday afternoon. Have an interesting Sunday school, of which Rev. O. B. Call is superintendent. Are building a meeting house 50 by 32 feet.

**NEWARK AND NEW HAVEN.**—Are striving to maintain the purity of the gospel in doctrine and in practice. Covenant meetings generally well attended and interesting. Rev. W. S. Everest, pastor.

**NEWBERG.**—Say that they still live by the mercy of a covenant keeping God. Rev. H. Miner preaches for them once in two weeks. They are doing what they can to sustain the gospel.

**NORTH STAR.**—Have had some trials and difficulties. Have been compelled to withdraw the hand of fellowship from two. Are engaged in an interesting union Sunday school. Rev. L. Church preaches for them once in four weeks.

**PERRY.**—Are "contending for the faith once delivered to the saints." Have preaching once in two weeks by Elder McLeod. Are engaged in a union Sunday school.

**MAPLE RIVER.**—Have had no special work of grace, but enjoy a comfortable measure of general prosperity. Prayer meetings are kept alive by a faithful few. Have engaged the labors of Rev. G. M. Reynolds for the entire time. Are progressing slowly, but surely, with their new house of worship, believing that "pay as they go" is the best policy.

**LAINGSBURG.**—Are living in union and in love, and in this way endeavoring to exhibit the power of the gospel of Christ. Their much esteemed pastor, Rev. G. M. Reynolds, left them on the first of January, and they at once secured the services of Rev. J. McLeod. The preaching of the gospel is regularly maintained and listened to by large and attentive congregations. Have an interesting Sunday

school, also a Youth's Temperance Society, numbering 140 members.

ST. JOHNS.—The past year has been one of trial and discouragement. Have been without a pastor most of the time, but early last spring secured the labors of Rev. A. McLean, since which time their prospects have been brightening. Have sustained a Sunday school with considerable interest during the year.

ST. LOUIS.—During the winter were blessed with refreshings, which gave a new impulse to the spiritual life of the church, and resulted in some additions. Rev. T. Nelson preaches for them each alternate Sabbath afternoon. Are connected with a union Sunday school.

VERNON.—Are greatly scattered. The working force in bearing burdens and paying expenses is less than one third reported in minutes. Elder Robson left them last September, and in October they called Elder H. Miner to the pastorate. Are embarrassed with a debt which they hope soon to lift.

WILLIAMSTOWN.—Dedicated their house of worship May 29th. Have called Bro. A. M. Parmater to labor with them in the ministry. Are trusting in Him who will never forsake his people.

# NAMES OF MINISTERS

RESIDING OR LABORING WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF THE ASSOCIATION, WITH  
POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.

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NAMES.	ADDRESS.
B. J. BOYNTON, - - - - -	Owosso.
P. C. BASSETT, - - - - -	Ovid.
O. B. CALL, - - - - -	Okemos.
L. CHURCH, - - - - -	Alma.
D. A. DAVIS, - - - - -	DeWitt.
W. S. EVEREST, - - - - -	Bloomer.
L. B. FISH, - - - - -	Lansing.
G. FOREMAN,* - - - - -	DeWitt.
G. H. HICKOX, - - - - -	Lansing.
G. W. JENKS, - - - - -	Howell.
A. B. KINNEE, - - - - -	Williamston.
T. LOWDEN, - - - - -	Glass River.
T. W. MERRILL, - - - - -	Lansing.
J. MCLEOD, - - - - -	Laingsburg.
J. MARTIN, - - - - -	Ovid.
H. MINER, - - - - -	Vernon.
A. MCLEAN, - - - - -	St. Johns.
T. NELSON, - - - - -	Ithaca.
A. H. PARSONS,- - - - -	Lansing.
A. M. PARMATER, - - - - -	Williamston.
H. A. ROSE, - - - - -	St. Johns.
D. W. ROBERTSON, - - - - -	DeWitt.
GEO. M. REYNOLDS, - - - - -	Corunna.
W. WHITE, - - - - -	Linden.

\*Licentiate.



# STATISTICAL TABLE.

Churches, Clerks and Post-offices.	Pastors and Delegates.	Baptized.	Experience.	Letter.	Dismissed.	Excluded.	Died.	Present No.	Money for Minutes.
ALMA.....	Rev. T. Nelson.....	2	1	1	1	1	12	\$1 00	
S. D. Yerington.....	Rev. Thomas Lowden, A. P. Sutterley.....	2	1	1	2	1	46	1 50	
ANTRIM.....	Daniel Place, John O. Palmer, J. O. Palmer, St. Johns.						2	21	
BINGHAM.....	George Foreman, John S. Sturgis, Benjamin Stanton.....								
BENGAL AND RILEY.....	Rev. George W. Jenks, H. Wiltse, J. Kanouse, D. Wiltse.....	3	8	1			31		
BURNS AND COBOCTAH.....	Rev. D. W. Robertson, Phineas June, S. Hayes.....	2	3	5	4		27	1 00	
BATH.....	Rev. B. J. Boynton, N. Lyman, J. Credit.....	5	3	11	2		40	1 00	
H. Tooker.....	Last communication, 1864.....						27		
CORUNNA.....	Rev. D. W. Robertson, Dea. Lyman West, John Reynolds, Charles Blomberg, Andrew Granger.....	7	9	7		2	86	2 16	
EMERSON.....	Rev. L. Church, John M. Thissell.....	19	3	1			59	1 76	
J. A. Guthrie.....	Rev. Theo. Nelson, Mrs. J. Jeffery.....	2	2	4			23	2 00	
ITHACA.....	Revs. G. H. Hickox, T. W. Merrill, L. B. Fish.....	7	9	9	1		153	1 75	
W. C. Beckwith.....	Last communication, 1868.....						8		
LANSING.....	Rev. J. McLeod, Joseph Place, H. Ousterhout, W. H. McLeod.....	3	5	1			51	1 16	
J. A. Crosman.....	Rev. G. M. Reynolds, Dea. E. Cook, T. M. Waugh, J. Castle.....	2	2		1		61	2 00	
LEROY.....	.....		1	1			21		
LAINGSBURG.....	.....								
H. Ousterhout.....	.....								
MAPLE RIVER.....	.....								
C. Flint.....	.....								
NEWARK AND NEW HAVEN	.....								
S. Y. Dickerson.....	.....								
NORTH NEWBURG.....	.....								
C. Deaveroux.....	Rev. H. Miner, C. A. Osborn.....	2	2	1			22	2 00	
NORTH STAR.....	Rev. L. Church.....			3	2		24	1 50	
OVID.....	Rev. H. A. Rose, P. C. Bassett, J. Martin, E. M. Potter, T. L. Travis.....	4	8	8	5		76	2 00	
P. C. Bassett.....	Rev. B. J. Boynton, E. E. White, Dea. E. Comstock, Dea. Simmons, P. D. White, A. Brewer.....	2		9	5		76	2 00	
OWOSSO.....	.....								
E. E. White.....	.....								
OKEMOS.....	.....								
Geo. C. Young.....	Rev. O. B. Call, Geo. C. Young ..	3					29	1 35	
PERRY.....	Rev. J. McLeod, L. F. Burr, G. Smith, H. Howard.....	1		5	5	1	60	1 60	
H. A. Roberts, Pittsburg	Rev. A. McLean, W. Bancroft, H. W. Hale, Mrs. Swegles.....			5	5	8	87	1 50	
ST. JOHNS.....	.....								
H. L. Lamb.....	.....								
ST. LOUIS.....	.....								
Preston Case.....	Rev. T. Nelson.....	2			2		34	1 50	
VERNON.....	.....								
Jno. McLean.....	Rev. H. Miner, Dea. Wilkinson..	3	1	5	7		96	2 00	
WACOUSTA.....	Last communication, 1866.....						40		
WILLIAMSTON.....	A. M. Parmater, Thomas H. Colby, Wallace Horr.....	1	1			2	41	1 80	
Jefferson Pierce.....	.....								
<b>Totals,</b> .....		<b>72</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1271</b>	<b>\$38 52</b>

# BENEVOLENT CONTRIBUTIONS.

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<b>BINGHAM.</b>	
Home Missions.....	\$ 3 00
Foreign Missions.....	2 00
<b>BURNS AND COHOCTAIL.</b>	
Home Missions.....	14 00
<b>EMERSON.</b>	
Foreign Missions.....	14 00
<b>ITHACA.</b>	
Home Missions.....	56 00
Foreign Missions.....	8 00
Kalamazoo College.....	200 00
Theological Seminary.....	40 00
<b>LANSING.</b>	
Home Missions.....	20 00
Home Missions (French Church Detroit).....	20 00
American Baptist Publication Society.....	31 50
Foreign Missions.....	35 00
Endowment Kalamazoo College.....	980 00
Church Building.....	50 00
To the Freedmen.....	5 00
Support of the Poor.....	15 00
Other objects.....	29 00
Bible Union.....	200 00
<b>OVID.</b>	
Bible Union.....	10 00
<b>OWOSSO.</b>	
Benevolent objects (not specified).....	9 00
Bible Union.....	15 50
<b>OKEMOS.</b>	
Kalamazoo College.....	160 00
Home Missions.....	26 00
Bible Union.....	6 00
Publication Society.....	2 64
<b>NORTH STAR.</b>	
Foreign Missions.....	10 00
<b>ST. LOUIS.</b>	
Home Missions.....	20 00
Foreign Missions.....	7 50
<b>VERNON.</b>	
Home Missions.....	10 00
Foreign Missions.....	19 00
<b>ST. JOHNS.</b>	
Bible Union.....	15 08
<b>LAINSBURG.</b>	
Bible Union.....	8 00
<b>PERRY.</b>	
Bible Union.....	16 00

# RULES OF ORDER.

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I. In the absence or any of the officers of the Association, others shall be chosen to fill their places, *pro tempore*.

II. The Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by nomination or by ballot, as the Association may direct.

III. Brethren invited to a seat in the Association may debate on all questions, but vote on none.

IV. No person shall speak more than once on any subject, unless by special permission from the Moderator.

V. Every proposition submitted to the Association for discussion must be put in the form of a motion, and not debated until seconded.

VI. No motion shall be discussed if such discussion be opposed by a majority of the members present. A motion to suspend business shall always be in order.

VII. The Moderator shall appoint all committees, unless the Association otherwise direct.

VIII. The minutes of the meeting shall be read and corrected before the rising of the Association.

IX. At every sitting, business shall be opened and concluded with prayer under the direction of the Moderator.

X. The order of business at each annual meeting of the Association shall be as follows :

1ST—The introductory service and organization.

2D—The Rules of Order read.

3D—A committee on Religious Services appointed.

4TH—Letters from the Churches read.

5TH—Applications for Admission into the Association received.

6TH—The appointment of the following committees :

1. A committee of three on the Circular Letter.

2. A committee of three on Digest of Letters.

3. A committee on Resolutions.

4. A committee on Nominations, of one from each Church, which committee shall designate the place of the next Annual Meeting, the preacher of the Introductory Sermon, the writer of the Circular Letter, and the delegates to the Baptist State Convention.

7TH—Communications from Corresponding Bodies received.

8TH—Reports of Committees called for.

9TH—Miscellaneous Business.

10TH—Reading the Minutes of the Association.

11TH—All Churches neglecting to represent themselves to this body for two years in succession, shall be visited by a committee chosen for that purpose, who shall report at the next annual meeting.

12TH—Any article of this order may be suspended for consideration of other business, by a vote of the Association.

# REPORT

OF THE

## FIRST BAPTIST SABBATH, SCHOOL OF LANSING,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 1ST, 1869.

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Largest number scholars on register,	-	-	-	93
Largest number of officers,	-	-	-	3
Largest number of teachers,	-	-	-	13
Largest number in Bible classes,	-	-	-	43
Number of sessions,	-	-	-	47
Average attendance of scholars,	-	-	-	50
Average attendance in Bible classes,	-	-	-	31
Average attendance of officers,	-	-	-	2
Average attendance of teachers,	-	-	-	10
Whole attendance for the year,	-	-	-	3,898
At an average each Sabbath of	-	-	-	82
Number of Additions to school,	-	-	-	53

### COLLECTIONS.

Penny collections for the year,	-	-	\$53 00
Collection for Home Missions,	-	-	3 00

## PARLIAMENTARY RULES.

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The following rules, taken from "Pendleton's Church Manuel," are, in the absence of the usual circular letter, published for convenient reference. They will be found useful in church and associational meetings :

Where the spirit of Christian love and courtesy prevails, very few rules are necessary in the transaction of church business. The pastor of a church, by virtue of his office, is its Moderator. He therefore presides at its meetings, which should be opened with singing, reading a suitable portion of Scripture, and prayer. The clerk then reads the minutes of the last meeting, and the pastor states, that if there is no motion to amend, the minutes will stand approved. If corrections are necessary, they are made, that the records may show exactly what has been done. The items of business should be taken up thus: 1. Unfinished business; 2. Reports from committees; 3. New business. It is not necessary to make a motion to take up unfinished business. It is before the church and must be acted on, unless a motion to postpone its consideration prevails. So of reports from committees. Under the item of new business any brother can mention what, in his judgment, claims the consideration of the church; but in all matters of importance it is desirable that there should be some previous consultation among the most prudent brethren as to what new business shall be introduced. Nothing has been said as to the time of receiving members, because that some churches prefer that this shall be done directly after devotional exercises; others that it shall be done after all other business is transacted; while others, still receive members, not at business, but at covenant and prayer meetings.

### CONCERNING MOTIONS.

A motion made, and not seconded, does not claim the Moderator's notice; but if seconded he must state it to the meeting. This must be done before there is any discussion.

When a motion is undergoing discussion no new motion can be presented. But it is in order to move to amend a motion by adding or striking out words, phrases, and sentences. It is even parliamentary to move to amend by striking all after the word *Resolved*, and introducing new matter in conflict with the original proposition. This, however, is not an amendment, but a substitute. An amendment must be germane to the matter embraced in the motion; a substitute is intended to supersede it.

Some suppose a motion can be withdrawn by the mover any time before the vote is taken. Others think that after a motion comes regularly before the meeting it can not be withdrawn except by consent of the body. The practice of deliberative bodies is conforming more and more to the latter view. Unanimous consent, however, is not necessary.

When an amendment to a motion is accepted by the mover no vote on the amendment is to be taken; if the mover does not accept it, a separate vote must be taken on the amendment, and then on the original proposition.

It is in order to move an amendment to an amendment to an amendment, but this is the utmost limit to which the matter can go, and seldom should go so far.

### PRIVILEGED QUESTIONS.

These embrace motions to adjourn, to lay on the table, to have the previous question, to amend, to commit, to postpone. They are called privileged because, it is supposed, they can be made at any time. This, however, is not

strictly true; for even the question of adjournment, which takes precedence of all other questions, can not be presented while a member is speaking, or a vote is being taken; nor can a motion to adjourn, which has been negatived, be renewed until some other proposition is made, or other business is transacted.

It will rarely be necessary in the transaction of business in churches, associations, etc., to call for the previous question. When, however, a motion for the previous question is made and seconded, the Moderator will say, "Shall the main question now be put?" If the decision is affirmative, the meeting votes, without further discussion, on the original motion. If the meeting decides that the main question shall not be put—it indicates a desire that the discussion shall go on.

#### NOT DEBATABLE.

Certain motions, are not debatable, such as the motion to *adjourn*, to have the *previous question*, to *lay on the table*, etc.

But when these motions are modified by some condition of *time*, *place*, or *purpose*, they become debatable.

#### MOTIONS TO RECONSIDER.

A motion to reconsider a proposition formerly adopted must be made by one who voted with the majority. If such a motion prevails, the original matter is before the body, as if it had never been acted on.

#### POINTS OF ORDER, APPEAL.

If a member in debate violates any recognized rule of order, it is the business of the Moderator to call him to order. Or, any other member may present a point of order, which the Moderator must decide. If the decision is unsatisfactory, an appeal may be taken to the body: but this should be done only in particular cases.

#### MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS.

In stating a motion or taking a vote the Moderator should rise from his seat.

If there is an equal division of votes, the Moderator may give the casting vote, or he may, more prudently in most cases, decline voting. If he declines, the matter is decided in the negative. It is not desirable for any question that comes before a church to be decided by a majority of *one* vote, and for that vote to be the pastor's.

No member can speak except on some definite subject before the body unless he wishes to explain why he is about to make a motion. It is generally better to make a motion and then, after it is seconded, speak in explanation and defense of it.

When blanks are to be filled, if different numbers are proposed, the vote must be taken first on the largest number, the longest time, etc.

If a deliberative body decides beforehand to adjourn at a certain hour, when that hour comes the Moderator, without waiting for a motion to adjourn, must pronounce the meeting adjourned.